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SERVICE DATE - NOVEMBER 19, 1998

DO

FR-4915-00-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 33677]

St. Lawrence & Atlantic Railroad (Quebec) Inc.--Acquisition and Operation

Exemption--Line of Canadian National Railway Company

St. Lawrence & Atlantic Railroad (Quebec) Inc. (SL&AQ), a noncarrier, has filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1150.31 to acquire overhead trackage rights from Canadian National Railway Company (CN) over approximately 15.83 miles of rail line owned by St. Lawrence & Atlantic Railroad Company (SL&A) between Island Pond, VT (MP 0.00 on CN's Sherbrooke Subdivision), and the United States/Canada border, near Norton, VT (MP 15.83 on CN's Sherbrooke Subdivision).

This transaction is related to Emons Transportation Group, Inc., and Emons Railroad Group, Inc.--Continuance in Control Exemption--St. Lawrence & Atlantic Railroad (Quebec) Inc., STB Finance Docket No. 33678, wherein Emons Transportation Group, Inc. and Emons Railroad Group, Inc. have filed a petition for exemption to continue in control of SL&AQ once it acquires CN's overhead trackage rights and becomes a Class III rail carrier.¹ The petition is currently pending.

¹ Emons Transportation Group, Inc. and Emons Railroad Group, Inc., noncarriers, currently control through stock ownership four Class III rail common carriers: Maryland and Pennsylvania Railroad Company (M&P), Yorkrail, Inc. (YRK), Penn Eastern Rail Lines, Inc. (PERL), and SL&A. Emons Transportation Group, Inc. controls all four carriers; Emons Railroad Group, Inc. controls YRK, PERL, and SL&A.

SL&AQ intends to consummate the transaction and begin operations on or soon after the effective date of this notice, i.e., on or after November 5, 1998, and upon approval and effectiveness of the related petition for exemption in STB Finance Docket No. 33678.

SL&AQ has requested that the petition be granted effective November 30, 1998.

If the notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void ab initio. Petitions to reopen the proceeding to revoke the exemption under 49 U.S.C. 10502(d) may be filed at any time. The filing of a petition to revoke will not automatically stay the transaction.

An original and 10 copies of all pleadings, referring to STB Finance Docket No. 33677, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on Kevin M. Sheys, Oppenheimer Wolff Donnelly & Bayh LLP, 1350 Eye Street, N.W., Suite 200, Washington, DC 20005.

Board decisions and notices are available on our website at “WWW.STB.DOT.GOV.”

Decided: November 12, 1998.

By the Board, David M. Konschnik, Director, Office of Proceedings.

Vernon A. Williams

Secretary