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SEC

SERVICE DATE - MARCH 23, 2001

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DECISION

STB Docket No. AB-290 (Sub-No. 212X)

NORFOLK SOUTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY—DISCONTINUANCE
EXEMPTION—IN HUDSON COUNTY, NJ

STB Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 584X)

CSX TRANSPORTATION, INC.—DISCONTINUANCE
EXEMPTION—IN HUDSON COUNTY¹

Decided: March 22, 2001

In a decision served on March 13, 2001, the Board determined that Norfolk Southern Railway Company (NS) and CSX Transportation, Inc. (CSXT), had premised their exemption requests entirely on the abandonment applications filed in Conrail—Abandonment of the Weehawken Branch—in Hudson County, NJ, STB Docket No. AB-167 (Sub-No. 766N), and Conrail—Abandonment of the River Line—in Hudson County, NJ, STB Docket No. AB-167 (Sub-No. 1067N). Specifically, the Board observed that NS and CSXT had responded to many of the concerns raised by Cognis Corporation, one of the two shippers using the line at issue in these proceedings, but had not submitted their own financial data or operational considerations and had not otherwise explained why such information was not relevant to the Board's analysis. To ensure a proper record for making findings under 49 U.S.C. 10502, the Board directed NS and CSXT to file supplemental information and to submit environmental reports consistent with the requirements of 49 CFR 1105 by April 2, 2001.

On March 21, 2001, NS and CSXT individually requested that the due date for filing their supplemental information and environmental reports be extended to May 4, 2001. They contend that additional time is necessary to compile their revenue and cost data and that even more time is necessary to prepare their environmental reports and obtain comments. The extension requests are reasonable and will be granted.

This action will not significantly affect either the quality of the human environment or the conservation of energy resources.

¹ These proceedings are not consolidated. They are being considered together because the lines at issue are being operated as a single line as a result of changes made to track alignment and operations.

It is ordered:

1. The due date for NS and CSXT to file supplemental information and environmental reports is extended to May 4, 2001.
2. This decision is effective on its service date.

By the Board, Vernon A. Williams, Secretary.

Vernon A. Williams
Secretary