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SERVICE DATE - DECEMBER 11, 1998

DO

FR-4915-00-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 33679]

SierraPine--Lease and Operation Exemption--Sierra Pacific Industries

SierraPine, a noncarrier, has filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1150.31 to lease and operate approximately 12 miles of rail line known as the Amador Branch, which is owned by Sierra Pacific Industries (Sierra Pacific),¹ between milepost 0.0 at Ione and milepost 12.0 at Martell,² in Amador County, CA.

Although there was another planned and approved transaction involving the sale of this same rail line to Sierra Railroad Company (Sierra),³ SierraPine indicates in its notice that Sierra Pacific and Sierra have mutually agreed not to complete this sale. Therefore, Sierra Pacific retains control and ownership of the above-described rail line.

The transaction was scheduled to be consummated on or shortly after November 25, 1998.

¹ See Sierra Pacific Industries--Acquisition and Operation Exemption--Amador Central Railroad Company, STB Finance Docket No. 33378 (STB served Apr. 9, 1997).

² The Amador Branch includes a yard and repair shops at Martell as well as additional spur trackage at the Sierra Pacific mill and particle board plant located at milepost 11.6.

³ See Sierra Railroad Company--Acquisition and Operation Exemption--Sierra Pacific Industries, STB Finance Docket No. 33525 (STB served Dec. 2, 1997).

If the verified notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void ab initio. Petitions 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. 33679, 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, one copy of each pleading must be served on James F. Flint, Grove, Jaskiewicz and Cobert, 1730 M Street, N.W., Suite 400, Washington, DC 20036.

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

Decided: December 4, 1998.

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

Vernon A. Williams

Secretary