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SERVICE DATE - JULY 9, 1997

DO

FR-4915-00-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 33418]

The Texas Mexican Railway Company--Trackage Rights Exemption--Southern Pacific  
Transportation Company

Southern Pacific Transportation Company (SP) has agreed to grant bridge trackage rights to The Texas Mexican Railway Company over trackage located between a point in Houston, TX, at or near SP's milepost 360.42, and a point in Beaumont, TX, at or near SP's milepost 282.4, a distance of approximately 78.02 miles.

The transaction is expected to be consummated on June 26, 1997, the effective date of the exemption.

The purpose of the trackage rights is to enable SP to implement directional operations between Houston and Beaumont.

As a condition to this exemption, any employees affected by the trackage rights will be protected by the conditions imposed in *Norfolk and Western Ry. Co.--Trackage Rights--BN*, 354 I.C.C. 605 (1978), as modified in *Mendocino Coast Ry., Inc.--Lease and Operate*, 360 I.C.C. 653 (1980).

This notice is filed under 49 CFR 1180.2(d)(7). If the notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void *ab initio*. Petitions to revoke the exemption

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under 49 U.S.C. 10502(d) may be filed at any time. The filing of a petition to revoke will not stay the transaction.

An original and 10 copies of all pleadings, referring to STB Finance Docket No. 33418, 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 Richard A. Allen, Zuckert, Scutt, & Rasenberger LLP, 888 17th Street, N.W., Suite 600, Washington, DC 20006-3959.

Decided: June 27, 1997.

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

Vernon A. Williams

Secretary