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SERVICE DATE - APRIL 10, 1998

DO

FR-4915-00-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 33577]

Minnesota Commercial Railway Co.--Lease and Operation Exemption--Burlington Northern
Santa Fe Railway Co.

Minnesota Commercial Railway Co. (MC), a Class III rail carrier, has filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1150.41 to lease from The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company (BNSF), its "Hugo Line" between Roseville and Hugo, MN, a total of 16 miles of track. MC has been operating over the Hugo Line and related BNSF track under local trackage rights. The lease will supersede the trackage rights on the Hugo Line, and MC will become exclusive operator of the line, assuming all maintenance and common carrier duties on that line.

The transaction is expected to be consummated on or shortly after April 24, 1998.

If the 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 does not automatically stay the transaction.

An original and 10 copies of all pleadings, referring to STB Finance Docket No. 33577, 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

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copy of each pleading must be served on Eugenia Langan, Esq., Shea & Gardner, 1800
Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036

Decided: April 2, 1998.

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

Vernon A. Williams

Secretary