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SERVICE DATE - AUGUST 4, 1998

DO

FR-4915-00-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 33635]

Bellingham International Railroad LLC--Acquisition and Operation Exemption--The  
Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company

Bellingham International Railroad LLC (BIR), a noncarrier, has filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1150.31 to acquire the exclusive rail freight easement and all track, track materials, and related structures and facilities from The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company (BNSF) and to operate 2.0 miles of rail line between milepost 2.98 and milepost 4.98 in Bellingham, Washington.<sup>1</sup>

The transaction was expected to be consummated on or shortly after July 22, 1998.

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. 33635, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case

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<sup>1</sup> BIR certifies that the projected revenues will not exceed those that would qualify it as a Class III rail carrier and its revenues are not projected to exceed \$5 million.

Control Unit, 1925 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, one copy of each pleading must be served on Karl Morell, Esq., BALL JANIK LLP, 1455 F Street, N.W., Suite 225, Washington, DC 20005.

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

Decided: July 27, 1998.

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

Vernon A. Williams

Secretary