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SERVICE DATE – OCTOBER 28, 2014

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DECISION

Docket No. AB 1117X

ST. LAWRENCE & ATLANTIC RAILROAD COMPANY—DISCONTINUANCE OF
SERVICE EXEMPTION—IN CUMBERLAND COUNTY, ME.

Decided: October 27, 2014

By decision served on February 25, 2014, the Board granted the petition of St. Lawrence & Atlantic Railroad Company (SLR) for an exemption under 49 U.S.C. § 10502 from the prior approval requirements of 49 U.S.C. § 10903 to discontinue service over approximately 24.23 miles of rail line owned by the State of Maine located between milepost 1.74 near Deering, Me., and milepost 25.97 at the town line between New Gloucester and Auburn, Me. (the Line).

On February 27, 2014, B&G Foods North America, Inc. (B&G), the only active shipper on the Line, filed an agreed-to motion to extend the deadline for submitting an Offer of Financial Assistance (OFA) to subsidize continued rail service over the Line, until 14 days after SLR provided B&G information SLR requested relevant to the OFA.¹ The Board granted that motion on March 6, 2014.

By letter dated October 22, 2014, SLR notified the Board that it provided the OFA information to B&G that day. Accordingly, pursuant to the Board's March 6, 2014 decision, OFAs to subsidize continued rail service over the Line are due on or before November 5, 2014. If no OFA is received, this exemption will be effective on November 25, 2014.

It is ordered:

1. An OFA under 49 C.F.R. § 1152.27(b)(2) to subsidize continued rail service must be received by the railroad and the Board by November 5, 2014. The offeror must comply with 49 U.S.C. § 10904 and 49 C.F.R. § 1152.27(c)(1). Each OFA must be accompanied by the filing fee of \$1,600. See 49 C.F.R. § 1002.2(f)(25).

2. OFAs and related correspondence to the Board must refer to this proceeding. The following notation must be typed in bold face on the lower left-hand corner of the envelope: **“Office of Proceedings, AB-OFA.”**

¹ See 49 C.F.R. § 1152.27(c)(1)(i)(C).

3. Provided no OFA to subsidize continued rail service has been received, this exemption will be effective on November 25, 2014.

By the Board, Rachel D. Campbell, Director, Office of Proceedings.