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SERVICE DATE – APRIL 17, 2007

DO

FR-4915-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Docket No. AB-534 (Sub-No. 3X)]

Lake State Railway Company—Abandonment Exemption—Rail Line in Otsego County, MI

On March 28, 2007, the Lake State Railway Company (Lake State) filed with the Surface Transportation Board a petition under 49 U.S.C. 10502 for exemption from the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 10903 to permit the abandonment of 4.15 miles of rail line in Otsego County, MI. The line includes the northernmost portion of the carrier's main line Mackinaw Subdivision extending from milepost MP 116.8 (where the line crosses East McCoy Road) to the end of the line at milepost MP 120.95. The line traverses U.S. Postal Service Zip Code 49735.

The line does not contain Federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in Lake State's possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it.

The interest of railroad employees will be protected by the conditions set forth in Oregon Short Line R. Co.—Abandonment—Goshen, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979).

By issuance of this notice, the Board is instituting an exemption proceeding pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 10502(b). A final decision will be issued by July 16, 2007.

Any offer of financial assistance (OFA) under 49 CFR 1152.27(b)(2) will be due no later than 10 days after service of a decision granting the petition for exemption. Each OFA must be accompanied by a \$1,300 filing fee. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).

All interested persons should be aware that, following abandonment of rail service and salvage of the line, the line may be suitable for other public use, including interim trail use. Any request for a public use condition under 49 CFR 1152.28 or for trail use/rail banking under 49 CFR 1152.29 will be due no later than May 7, 2007. Each trail use request must be accompanied by a \$200 filing fee. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(27).

All filings in response to this notice must refer to STB Docket No. AB-534 (Sub-No. 3X), and must be sent to: (1) Surface Transportation Board, 395 E. Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20423-0001; and (2) Andrew B. Kolestar, 1224 Seventeenth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. Replies to the petition are due on or before May 7, 2007.

Persons seeking further information concerning abandonment procedures may contact the Board's Office of Public Services at (202) 245-0230 or refer to the full abandonment or discontinuance regulations at 49 CFR part 1152. Questions concerning environmental issues may be directed to the Board's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) at (202) 245-0305. [Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.]

An environmental assessment (EA) (or environmental impact statement (EIS), if necessary) prepared by SEA will be served upon all parties of record and upon any agencies or other persons who commented during its preparation. Other interested persons may contact SEA to obtain a copy of the EA (or EIS). EAs in these abandonment proceedings normally will be made available within 60 days of the filing of the petition. The deadline for submission of comments on the EA will generally be within 30 days of its service.

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

Decided: April 6, 2007.

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

Vernon A. Williams

Secretary