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SERVICE DATE - SEPTEMBER 22, 2000

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DECISION

STB Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 112X)

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY--ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION--
IN LANCASTER COUNTY, NE

Decided: September 21, 2000

A decision and notice of interim trail use or abandonment (NITU) served on September 24, 1997, authorized the Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP) to abandon a 1.88-mile segment of its Lincoln Branch between milepost 494.76 near 10th Street and milepost 492.88 near 33rd Street in Lincoln, Lancaster County, NE. By decisions served July 7, 1998, and June 30, 1999, UP was granted extensions until September 24, 2000, to exercise the abandonment authority.

In a letter dated September 20, 2000, UP requests a 45-day extension until November 8, 2000 to exercise the abandonment authority for that portion of the line from just east of 18th Street to 33rd Street. UP indicates that it needs additional time to conclude negotiating the sale of the segment between the west edge of 24th Street and 18th Street to Lincoln Lumber Company under the Offer of Financial Assistance (OFA) procedures. UP states that it hopes to conclude negotiations within that time, or it will seek to vacate the OFA process to allow abandonment of that portion.

UP states further that it is in the process of conveying the portion between 10th Street and 18th Street to the University of Nebraska. UP states that it is in a position to consummate abandonment of that segment, and is notifying the Board separately of consummation of abandonment of that portion.

UP has shown good cause to extend the time to consummate abandonment and for filing a notice of consummation for the portion of the line from just east of 18th Street to 33rd Street in this proceeding. Accordingly, the request will be granted.

This action will not significantly affect either the quality of the human environment or the conservation of energy resources.

It is ordered:

1. UP's request for a 45-day extension of the time to exercise abandonment authority for the portion of the line from just east of 18th Street to 33rd Street is granted.

2. The authority to abandon is scheduled to expire on November 8, 2000.
3. This decision is effective on its service date.

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

Vernon A. Williams
Secretary