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SERVICE DATE - JULY 17, 1997

DO

FR-4915-00-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 33423]

Pickens Railway Company—Acquisition and Operation Exemption—Norfolk Southern
Railway Company

Pickens Railway Company, a Class III rail common carrier, has filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1150.41 to acquire and operate 18.47 miles of rail line in Anderson County, SC, from Norfolk Southern Railway Company from milepost V - 109.5, near Honea Path, to milepost V - 117.77, near Belton, and from milepost Z - 0.0, near Belton, to milepost Z - 10.2, near Anderson.

The transaction was expected to be consummated on or after July 8, 1997.

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. 33423, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case

STB Finance Docket No. 33423

Control Unit, 1925 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on Jo A. DeRoche, Esq., Weiner, Brodsky, Sidman & Kider, P.C., 1350 New York Avenue, N.W., Suite 800, Washington, DC 20005-4797.

Decided: July 10, 1997.

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

Vernon A. Williams

Secretary