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SERVICE DATE - OCTOBER 17, 1997

DO

FR-4915-00-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 33489]

Georgia Northeastern Railroad Company, Inc.—Lease and Operation Exemption—Georgia
Department of Transportation

Georgia Northeastern Railroad Company, Inc., a Class III rail common carrier, has filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1150.41 to lease from the Georgia Department of Transportation and operate three rail lines in the State of Georgia as follows: (i) from Valuation Station 20975+35 (milepost 382.47), at McCaysville, to Valuation Station 21726+83 (milepost 396.7), at Blue Ridge, a distance of 14.23 miles in Fannin County; (ii) from Valuation Station 21726+83 (milepost 396.7), at Blue Ridge, to Valuation Station 22154+46 (milepost 404.8), at White Path, a distance of 8.1 miles in Fannin and Gilmer Counties; and (iii) from Valuation Station 21556+55 (milepost 393.47) on the north leg of the wye including the south leg of the wye, at Murphy Junction, to Valuation Station 21706+72 (milepost 396.32), in Mineral Bluff, a distance of 2.85 miles in Fannin County.

The transaction is expected to be consummated on or after the effective date of the exemption. Because the notice of exemption was filed on October 3, 1997, the transaction can be consummated no sooner than October 10, 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. 33489, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on Kevin R. Armbruster, Esq., Cushing, Morris, Armbruster & Jones, LLP, Suite 2110, International Tower, 229 Peachtree Street, N.E., Atlanta, GA 30303.

Decided: October 8, 1997.

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

Vernon A. Williams

Secretary