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SERVICE DATE – APRIL 4, 2016

DO

FR-4915-01-P

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

[Docket No. AB 55 (Sub-No. 759X)]

CSX Transportation, Inc.—Discontinuance of Service Exemption—in Greenbrier and Fayette Counties, W. Va.

CSX Transportation, Inc. (CSXT), filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 C.F.R. part 1152 subpart F—Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuances of Service to discontinue service over an approximately 6.0-mile rail line on its Southern Region, Huntington Division, Sewell Valley Subdivision, Engineering C&O Division, from milepost CAF 21.0 to milepost CAF 27.0, near Rainelle, in Greenbrier and Fayette Counties, W. Va. (the Line). The Line traverses U.S. Postal Service Zip Code 25962, and includes the station of Rainelle Jct., at milepost CAF 21.0 (FSAC 83044/OPSL 62375).

CSXT has certified that: (1) no local freight traffic has moved over the Line for at least two years; (2) because the Line is not a through line, no overhead traffic has operated or needs to be rerouted; (3) no formal complaint filed by a user of rail service on the Line (or by a state or local government entity acting on behalf of such user) regarding cessation of service over the Line is pending either with the Surface Transportation Board or any U.S. District Court or has been decided in favor of a complainant within the two-year period; and (4) the requirements at 49 C.F.R. § 1105.12 (newspaper publication) and 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(d)(1) (notice to governmental agencies) have been met.

As a condition to this exemption, any employee adversely affected by the discontinuance of service shall be protected under Oregon Short Line Railroad—Abandonment Portion Goshen Branch Between Firth & Ammon, in Bingham & Bonneville Counties, Idaho, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979). To address whether this condition adequately protects affected employees, a petition for partial revocation under 49 U.S.C. § 10502(d) must be filed.

Provided no formal expression of intent to file an offer of financial assistance (OFA) to subsidize continued rail service has been received, this exemption will become effective on May 4, 2016,¹ unless stayed pending reconsideration. Petitions to stay that do not involve environmental issues and formal expressions of intent to file an OFA to subsidize continued rail service under 49 C.F.R. § 1152.27(c)(2)² must be filed by April 14, 2016.³ Petitions to reopen must be filed by April 25, 2016, with the Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20423-0001.

A copy of any petition filed with the Board should be sent to CSXT's representative: Louis E. Gitomer, Law Offices of Louis E. Gitomer, LLC, 600 Baltimore Avenue, Suite 301, Towson, MD 21204.

¹ Pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(d)(2), the railroad must file a verified notice with the Board at least 50 days before an abandonment or discontinuance is to be consummated. CSXT has indicated a proposed consummation date of May 3, 2016, but, because the verified notice was filed on March 15, 2016, the earliest this transaction may be consummated is May 4, 2016.

² Each OFA must be accompanied by the filing fee, which is currently set at \$1,600. See 49 C.F.R. § 1002.2(f)(25).

³ Because this is a discontinuance proceeding and not an abandonment, interim trail use/rail banking and public use conditions are not appropriate. Because there will be an environmental review during abandonment, this discontinuance does not require an environmental review.

If the verified notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void ab initio.

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

Decided: March 24, 2016.

By the Board, Joseph H. Dettmar, Acting Director, Office of Proceedings.