

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DECISION

STB Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 163X)¹

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY
— ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION —
IN LAMAR AND FANNIN COUNTIES, TX

Decided: June 18, 2003

Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP) filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F-Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuances of Service for UP to abandon and Texas Northeastern Division, Mid-Michigan Railroad, Inc. (TNER), to discontinue service over a 33.5-mile portion of the Bonham Subdivision between milepost 94.0, near Paris, and milepost 127.5, east of Bonham, in Lamar and Fannin Counties, TX (the line). Notice of the exemption was served and published in the Federal Register on May 19, 2003 (68 FR 27142). Under 49 CFR 1152.50(d)(3), the exemption was scheduled to become effective on June 18, 2003, but a formal expression of intent to file an offer of financial assistance (OFA) was timely filed by Fannin Rural Rail Transportation District (FRRTD), to purchase the line, which stayed the effective date of the exemption until June 28, 2003. FRRTD also requested UP to provide the financial data and information prescribed in 49 CFR 1152.27(a).

On June 13, 2003, FRRTD filed a request to toll the time period for submitting its OFA. FRRTD states that UP provided the needed information on or about June 11, 2003, but that additional time is needed to evaluate it and prepare the OFA.

Under the circumstances, a short extension of the OFA filing deadline is warranted. The OFA filing deadline will be extended by 5 days to June 23, 2003, and the effective date of the exemption will be postponed until July 3, 2003.

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

¹ The notice served in this proceeding embraced STB Docket No. AB-364 (Sub-No. 8X), Texas Northeastern Division, Mid-Michigan Railroad, Inc. — Discontinuance of Service Exemption — in Lamar and Fannin Counties, TX.

It is ordered:

1. The time period for FRRTD to file an OFA is extended until June 23, 2003.
2. The effective date of the exemption is further postponed to July 3, 2003.
3. This decision is effective on its service date.

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

Vernon A. Williams
Secretary