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SEC

SERVICE DATE - DECEMBER 6, 1999

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DECISION

STB Finance Docket No. 33810

WISCONSIN CHICAGO LINK LTD.--LEASE EXEMPTION--PENNSYLVANIA LINES LLC

Decided: November 29, 1999

On October 21, 1999, Wisconsin Chicago Link Ltd. (WCLL) filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1150.31 to lease from Pennsylvania Lines LLC (PRR) approximately 1.9 miles of rail line (the Panhandle Line) of the former Pittsburgh Cincinnati, Chicago & St. Louis Railroad Company (PCC&StL) in Chicago, Cook County, IL. The Panhandle Line extends between (1) a connection with CSX Transportation, Inc. (CSXT) via the Altenheim Subdivision of The Baltimore and Ohio Chicago Terminal Railroad Company at Ogden Junction near Rockwell Street (approximately PCC&StL milepost 309.8), and (2) a point (approximately PCC&StL milepost 307.9) 600 feet north of the north bank of the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal, near the Ash Street Interlock. The exemption also embraced certain incidental, overhead trackage rights. Notice of the exemption was served and published in the Federal Register on November 8, 1999 (64 FR 60876).

By letter filed November 19, 1999, WCLL has requested that the notice of exemption be withdrawn. WCLL indicated that completion of the transaction has been delayed, and that, as a result, another transaction involving WCLL (the Forest Park Line acquisition) that was filed concurrently with this withdrawal request will now occur before the Panhandle Line lease. WCLL therefore states that it will shortly file in a new docket for an exemption to lease the Panhandle line as a carrier, rather than as a noncarrier. The request will be granted and the proceeding will be dismissed.

It is ordered:

1. The request to withdraw the notice of exemption is granted and the proceeding in STB Finance Docket No. 33810 is dismissed.

STB Finance Docket No. 33810

2. This decision is effective on its date of service.

By the Board, Vernon A. Williams, Secretary.

Vernon A. Williams
Secretary