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March 31, 2016

2402392

Cynthia T. Brown
Chief of the Section of Administration, Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
March 31, 2016
Part of
Public Record

Re: **Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 758X), CSX Transportation, Inc.—
*Discontinuance of Service Exemption—in Dickenson County, VA***

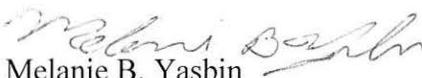
Dear Ms. Brown,

Enclosed are the original and 10 copies of a Verified Notice of Exemption for CSX Transportation, Inc. (“CSXT”) to discontinue service over an approximately 2.2-mile rail line on its Southern Region, Huntington Division, Kingsport Subdivision, Engineering Appalachian Division, also known as the Nora Branch from milepost ZN 0.0 to milepost ZN 2.2 in Nora, Dickenson County, VA. Also enclosed are a check for the filing fee of \$3,900 and a CD containing the Notice in WORD and pdf format.

Please time and date stamp the additional copy of this letter and return it in the self-addressed prepaid envelope.

Thank you for your assistance. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely yours,


Melanie B. Yasbin
Attorney for CSX Transportation, Inc.

Enclosure

FEE RECEIVED
March 31, 2016
SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION BOARD

FILED
March 31, 2016
SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION BOARD

BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 758X)

CSX TRANSPORTATION, INC.–DISCONTINUANCE OF SERVICE EXEMPTION–
IN DICKENSON COUNTY, VA

VERIFIED NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

Steven C. Armbrust, Esq.
CSX Transportation, Inc.
500 Water Street
Jacksonville, FL 32202
(904) 359-1229

Louis E. Gitomer, Esq.
Melanie B. Yasbin, Esq.
Law Offices of Louis E. Gitomer, LLC
600 Baltimore Avenue, Suite 301
Towson, MD 21204
(410) 296-2250
Lou@lgrailaw.com

Attorneys for: CSX TRANSPORTATION,
INC.

Dated: March 31, 2016

BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 758X)

CSX TRANSPORTATION, INC.– DISCONTINUANCE OF SERVICE EXEMPTION–
IN DICKENSON COUNTY, VA

VERIFIED NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

CSX Transportation, Inc. (“CSXT”) files this Verified Notice of Exemption pursuant to the class exemption at 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50 for CSXT to discontinue service over an approximately 2.2-mile rail line on its Southern Region, Huntington Division, Kingsport Subdivision, Engineering Appalachian Division, also known as the Nora Branch from milepost ZN 0.0 to milepost ZN 2.2 in Nora, Dickenson County, VA (the “Line”). No local rail traffic has moved over the Line during the past two years. Any overhead traffic on the Line can be and has been rerouted.

Based on information in the possession of CSXT, the Line does not contain federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in the railroad’s possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it.

1. Proposed consummation date. The proposed consummation date is May 20, 2016.
2. Certification required by 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(b). *See* Exhibit A.
3. Information required by 49 C.F.R. § 1152.22(a)(1) through (4), (7), and (8), and (e)(4).

(a) General.

(1) Exact name of applicant. CSX Transportation, Inc.

(2) Whether applicant is a common carrier by railroad subject to 49 U.S.C.

Subtitle IV, Chapter 105. CSXT is a common carrier by railroad subject to 49 U.S.C. Subtitle IV, Chapter 105.

(3) Relief sought. CSXT seeks to use the class exemption at 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50 to discontinue service over an approximately 2.2-mile rail line on its Southern Region, Huntington Division, Kingsport Subdivision, Engineering Appalachian Division, also known as the Nora Branch from milepost ZN 0.0 to milepost ZN 2.2 in Nora, Dickenson County, VA. There is one station that serves the Line, Nora at milepost Z 26 (FSAC 50026/OPSL 24600).¹

(4) Map. *See* Exhibit B.

(7) Name, title, and address of representative of applicant to whom correspondence should be sent. Louis E. Gitomer, Law Offices of Louis E. Gitomer, LLC, 600 Baltimore Avenue, Suite 301, Towson, MD 21204, (410) 296-2250, Lou@lgraillaw.com.

(8) List of all United States Postal Service ZIP Codes that the line proposed for discontinuance traverses. The Line traverses U.S. Postal ZIP Codes 24272.

(e) Rural and community impact.

(4) Statement of whether the properties proposed to be discontinued are appropriate for use for other public purposes, including roads and highways, other forms of mass transportation, conservation, energy production or transmission, or recreation. If the applicant is aware of any restriction on the title to the property, including any reversionary interest, which

¹ The station is located on the main line at railroad milepost Z 26 where the Nora Branch connects to the main line at milepost ZN 0.0.

would affect the transfer of title or the use of property for other than rail purposes, this shall be disclosed.

CSXT is discontinuing service over the Line because no traffic has moved over the Line in more than two years. Once discontinuance of service is authorized, CSXT will close the two (2) road crossings. CSXT will leave the infrastructure in place to preserve the corridor in case the coal reserves become active. Since service on the Line is being discontinued and not abandoned and CSXT is retaining the Line for future reactivation if demand for rail service resumes, the Line is not available for public use purposes. *See, Central Illinois Railroad Company—Discontinuance of Service Exemption—in Cook County, Ill., Docket No. AB 1066 (Sub-No. 2X) slip op. at 3 (STB served November 16, 2010).*

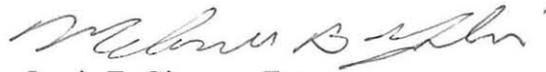
4. The level of labor protection. The interests of any railroad employees who may be adversely affected by the proposed discontinuance of service will be adequately protected by the labor protective conditions in *Oregon Short Line R. Co. –Abandonment–Goshen*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979).

5. Certification. Certificates of compliance with the notice requirements of 49 C.F.R. §§ 1152.50(d)(1) and 1105.11 are attached as Exhibit C.

6. Environmental Report. CSXT is not salvaging the track and materials on the Line. Because the Line has not been used in several years, there will be no diversion of traffic from rail to truck. Therefore, CSXT does not have to prepare or file an Environmental Report. 49 C.F.R. §1105.6(c)(2).

7. Historic Report. CSXT is discontinuing service over the Line. It is not salvaging the track and materials on the Line. There will be no impact on historic properties. Therefore, CSXT does not have to prepare or file an Historic Report. 49 C.F.R. §1105.8(a).

Respectfully submitted,



Louis E. Gitomer, Esq.
Melanie B. Yasbin, Esq.
Law Offices of Louis E. Gitomer
600 Baltimore Avenue, Suite 301
Towson, MD 21204
(410) 296-2250
Lou@lgraillaw.com

Attorneys for: CSX TRANSPORTATION,
INC.

Steven C. Armbrust, Esq.
CSX Transportation, Inc.
500 Water Street
Jacksonville, FL 32202
(904) 359-1229

Dated: March 31, 2016

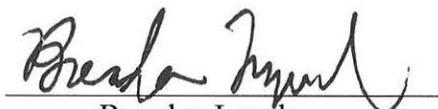
EXHIBIT A-VERIFICATION AND CERTIFICATION

**VERIFICATION AND CERTIFICATION THAT RAIL LINE MEETS
CRITERIA OF 49 C.F.R. SECTION 1152.50(b)**

STATE OF FLORIDA)
)
COUNTY OF DUVAL) ss.

I, Brendan Lynch, state that I am the Finance Leadership Development Associate for Transportation, Inc. ("CSXT"); that I am authorized to make this verification; and that I have read the foregoing Notice of Exemption and know the facts asserted therein are true and accurate as stated, to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

I hereby certify that no local freight traffic has moved over CSXT's two and two tenths (2.2) mile rail line on its Southern Region, Huntington Division, Kingsport Subdivision, Engineering Appalachian Division from Railroad Milepost ZN 0.0 to ZN 2.2 also known as Nora Branch located in Nora, Dickenson County, Virginia for two years prior to the date hereof. Since this is not a through line, no overhead traffic has operated; therefore, none needs to be rerouted over other lines. Further, no formal complaint filed by a user of rail service on the line (or a State or local government entity acting on behalf of such user) regarding cessation of service over the line either is pending 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. The foregoing certification is made on behalf of CSXT by the undersigned after due and careful investigation of the matters herein certified and based on the best of the knowledge, information, and belief of the undersigned.


Brendan Lynch

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me this 10th day of March 2016.

My Commission Expires: 9-11-2016

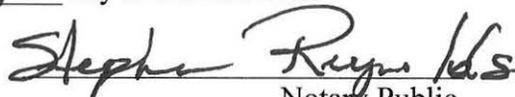
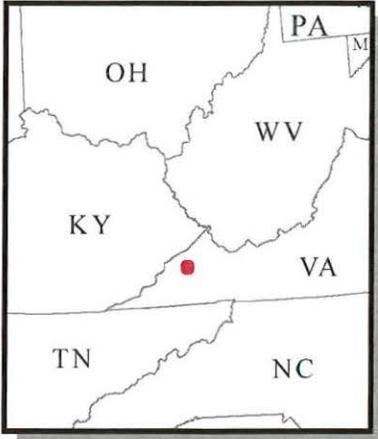

Notary Public



EXHIBIT B-MAP



Start Discontinuance
ZN 0.0

63

Z 26

ZN 0

Z 27

Z 28

ZN 1

ZN 2

End Discontinuance
ZN 2.2

-  Engineering Mileposts
-  Proposed Discontinuance
-  Previously Abandoned/Reclassified Industrial Track
-  CSX Operating Track

VA-051-1076698



CSX Real Property, Inc.

**CSX Transportation, Inc.
Proposed Discontinuance of Service
Nora Branch**

**Milepost ZN 0.0 to ZN 2.2
Dickenson County, VA
Huntington Division - Kingsport Subdivision
STB Docket No. AB 55 (Sub-No. 758X)**

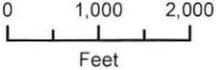


EXHIBIT C-CERTIFICATES OF SERVICE AND PUBLICATION

Pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50 (d) (1), the undersigned hereby certifies that notice of the proposed abandonment in Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 758X) was mailed via first class mail on March 21, 2016, to the following parties:

State Public Service Commission

Commonwealth of Virginia
State Corporation Commission
Division of Utility and Railroad Safety
P.O. Box 1197
Richmond, VA 23218

Military Traffic Management Command

Headquarters
Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command
Transportation Engineering Agency
ATTN: SDTE-SA (Railroads for National Defense)
1 Soldier Way, Building 1900W
Scott AFB, IL 62225

National Park Service

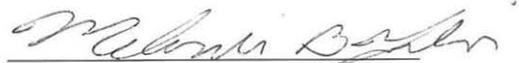
Mr. Rick Potts
Chief, Conservation and Outdoor Recreation Division
Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program National Park Service
1849 C Street, N.W. (Org Code 2220)
Washington, DC 20240

National Park Service

U.S. Department of Interior
National Park Service
Land Resources Division
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20240

U.S. Department of Agriculture

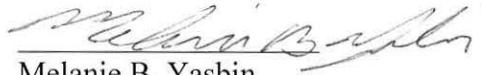
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Chief of the Forest Service
1400 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, DC 20250-0003



Melanie B. Yasbin
March 31, 2016

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION

The undersigned hereby certifies that notice of the proposed abandonment in Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 758X) in the following form was advertised on March 23, 2016, in the Dickenson Star, a newspaper of general circulation in Harlan County, KY, as required by 49 C.F.R. § 1105.7(c) and .12.



Melanie B. Yasbin

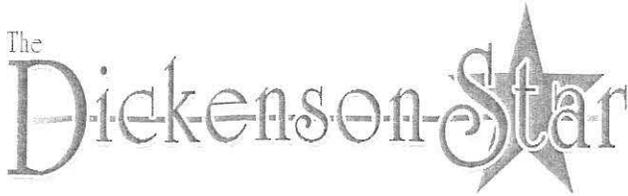
March 31, 2016

Notice of Intent To Discontinue Service

CSX Transportation, Inc. (“CSXT”) gives notice that on or about March 31, 2016, it intends to file with the Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423, a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F—Exempt Abandonments permitting the discontinuance of service over an approximately 2.2-mile rail line known as the Nora Branch from milepost ZN 0.0 to milepost ZN 2.2, which traverses through United States Postal Service ZIP 24272, in Dickenson County, VA. The proceeding will be docketed as No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 758X).

The Board’s Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) will generally prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA), which will normally be available 25 days after the filing of the notice of exemption. Comments on environmental and energy matters should be filed no later than 15 days after the EA becomes available to the public and will be addressed in a Board decision. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the EA or make inquiries regarding environmental matters by writing to the OEA, Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423 or by calling that office at (202) 245-0295.

Appropriate offers of financial assistance to continue rail service can be filed with the Board. Requests for environmental conditions also can be filed with the Board. An original and 10 copies of any pleading that raises matters other than environmental issues (such as offers of financial assistance) must be filed directly with the Board’s Section of Administration, Office of Proceedings, 395 E Street, SW, Washington, DC 20423–0001 [*See* 49 CFR 1104.1(a) and 1104.3(a)], and one copy must be served on applicant’s representative [*See* 49 CFR 1104.12(a)]. Questions regarding offers of financial assistance may be directed to the Board’s Office of Public Assistance, Governmental Affairs, and Compliance at (202) 245-0238. Copies of any comments or requests for conditions should be served on the applicant’s representative: Louis E. Gitomer, 600 Baltimore Avenue, Suite 301, Towson, MD 21204, (410)296-2250, Lou@lgrailaw.com.



P.O. Box 707
Clintwood, VA 24228
276-926-8816

Certificate of Publication

I, Jenay Tate, Publisher of The Dickenson Star, a weekly newspaper published in the Town of Clintwood, Virginia, Dickenson County, do hereby certify that the forgoing Notice of Intent to Discontinue Service was duly published in The Dickenson Star for 1 successive week(s) beginning the 23rd day of March 2016

Publisher's Fee \$ 113⁶⁰

By Jenay Tate
Publisher

NOTICE OF INTENT TO DISCONTINUE SERVICE
CSX Transportation, Inc. ("CSXT") gives notice that on or about March 31, 2016, it intends to file with the Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423, a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F-Exempt Abandonments permitting the discontinuance of service over an approximately 2.2-mile rail line known as the Nora Branch from milepost ZN 0.0 to milepost ZN 2.2, which traverses through United States Postal Service ZIP 24272, in Dickenson County, VA. The proceeding will be docketed as No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 758X).
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3-23-16 s3-23

**EXHIBIT D- ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT
NONE REQUIRED**

**EXHIBIT E- HISTORIC REPORT
NONE REQUIRED**