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BEFORE THE  
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

ENTERED  
Office of Proceedings  
June 9, 2016  
Part of  
Public Record

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Finance Docket No. 36025

TEXAS CENTRAL RAILROAD AND INFRASTRUCTURE, INC. &  
TEXAS CENTRAL RAILROAD, LLC  
-AUTHORITY TO CONSTRUCT AND OPERATE-  
PETITION FOR EXEMPTION FROM 49 U.S.C. § 10901 AND SUBTITLE IV -  
PASSENGER RAIL LINE BETWEEN DALLAS, TX AND HOUSTON, TX

---

MOTION FOR PROTECTIVE ORDER

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& Texas Central Railroad, LLC

Dated: June 9, 2016

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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

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**Finance Docket No. 36025**

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**MOTION FOR PROTECTIVE ORDER**

Texas Central Railroad & Infrastructure, Inc. ("TCRI") and Texas Central Railroad, LLC ("TCRR") (collectively, "Petitioners" or "Texas Central"), hereby move for the entry of a protective order in substantially the form attached hereto as Appendix A. 49 C.F.R. § 1114.21(c).

On April 19, 2016, Petitioners filed a Petition for Exemption ("Petition") from the prior approval requirements of 49 U.S.C. § 10901 for Petitioners to construct and operate an approximately 240-mile high-speed passenger rail line between Dallas and Houston, Texas (the "Texas Central Line"). Petitioners also requested an exemption from ongoing regulation under Subtitle IV of Title 49 once construction is completed and passenger service commences.

In response to a Motion filed by the Delta Troy Interests (to which Texas Central consented), the Board extended the deadline for filing responses to the Petition for

Exemption to May 31, 2016. The Board has received comments from numerous parties regarding the Petition.

On May 25, 2016, Texans Against High Speed Rail (“TAHSR”) served a “First Request for Production of Documents and First Set of Interrogatories” on Petitioners. Much of the information sought by TAHSR is in the public domain and available to them. Furthermore, most of TAHSR’s discovery requests address topics (including the number of parking spaces that will be available at Texas Central stations, the fares that TCRR will charge, and whether passengers will be allowed to carry firearms on board) that are not relevant to the Board’s well-established exemption criteria.

Nevertheless, Texas Central is willing to respond to discovery propounded by TAHSR (or other parties), pursuant to the Board’s established discovery procedures. Texas Central requests that the Board issue a protective order, in the form set forth in Appendix A, to govern the exchange of confidential information during the discovery process, and the use of such information in filings in this proceeding. A protective order is necessary to protect proprietary and commercially sensitive information, including Texas Central’s analysis of potential ridership, business plans and other confidential information regarding the project, the public disclosure of which could have an adverse competitive impact on Texas Central. During the course of this proceeding, Petitioners and other interested parties may file evidence that includes (or is based on) such proprietary and commercially sensitive information. In particular, Texas Central intends to respond to comments challenging the Board’s jurisdiction and

the use of the exemption process on June 20, 2016, and may file commercially sensitive documents under seal at that time.

Issuance of a protective order at this stage of the proceeding will facilitate the discovery process and the exchange of information, and will establish appropriate procedures for the submission of evidence containing proprietary and commercially sensitive information, while protecting such information from unnecessary public disclosure.

Accompanying this Motion are a draft Protective Order and Undertakings similar to those issued by the Board in other recent proceedings. *See, e.g., Ohio River Partners LLC – Acquisition & Operation Exemption – Hannibal Development, LLC*, Docket NO. 35984 (served Jan. 13, 2016); *Tongue River R.R. Co., Inc. – Rail Construction & Operation – in Custer, Powder River and Rosebud Counties, MONT.*, Docket No. 30186 (served Aug. 27, 2013).

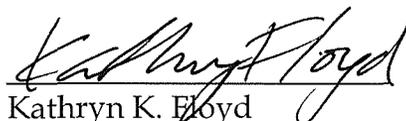
**CONCLUSION**

For the foregoing reasons, Petitioners respectfully request that the Board grant this Motion for Protective Order.

Respectfully submitted,



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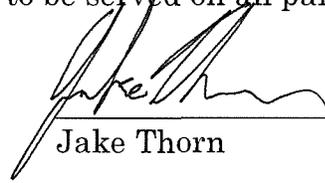
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Counsel to Texas Central Railroad and Infrastructure, Inc.  
& Texas Central Railroad, LLC

Dated: June 9, 2016

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 9th day of June 2016, I caused a copy of the foregoing Motion for Protective Order to be served on all parties of record by first class mail, postage prepaid.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jake Thorn

## APPENDIX A PROTECTIVE ORDER

1. For purposes of this Protective Order:
  - (a) “Confidential Documents” means documents and other tangible materials containing or reflecting Confidential Information.
  - (b) “Confidential Information” means traffic data (including but not limited to waybills, abstracts, study movement sheets, market studies, and any documents or computer tapes containing data derived from waybills, abstracts, study movement sheets, or other data bases, and cost work papers), the identification of specific customers or potential customers, the confidential terms of contracts with customers, suppliers, carriers or other entities, confidential financial and cost information, and other confidential or proprietary business or personal information.
  - (c) “Designated Material” means any documents designated or stamped as “CONFIDENTIAL” or “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL” in accordance with Paragraph 2 or 3 of this Protective Order, and any Confidential Information contained in such materials.
  - (d) “Proceedings” means those before the Surface Transportation Board (“Board”) concerning the Petition for Exemption filed in Docket No. FD 36025 and any related proceedings before the Board, and any judicial review proceedings arising from Docket No. FD 36025, or from any related proceedings before the Board.
2. If any party to these Proceedings determines that any part of a document it submits, discovery request it propounds, or a discovery response it produces, or a transcript of a deposition or hearing in which it participates, or of a pleading or other paper to be submitted, filed or served in these Proceedings contains Confidential Information or consists of Confidential Documents, then that party may designate and stamp such Confidential Information and Confidential Documents as “CONFIDENTIAL.” Any information or documents designated or stamped as “CONFIDENTIAL” shall be handled as provided for hereinafter.
3. If any party to these Proceedings determines that any part of a document it submits, discovery request it propounds, or a discovery response it produces, or a transcript of a deposition or hearing in which it participates, or of a pleading or other paper to be submitted, filed or served in these Proceedings contains rate or cost data, marketing or financial materials or other competitively sensitive or proprietary Information, then that party may designate and stamp such Confidential Information as “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL.” Any Information or documents so designated or stamped shall be handled as provided hereinafter.

4. Information and documents designated or stamped as “CONFIDENTIAL” may not be disclosed in any way, directly or indirectly, or to any person or entity except to an employee, counsel, consultant, or agent of a party to these Proceedings, or an employee of such counsel, consultant, or agent, who, before receiving access to such information or documents, has been given and has read a copy of this Protective Order and has agreed to be bound by its terms by signing a confidentiality undertaking substantially in the form set forth at Exhibit A to this Order.

5. Information and documents designated or stamped as “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL” may not be disclosed in any way, directly or indirectly, to any employee of a party to these Proceedings, or to any other person or entity except to an outside counsel or outside consultant to a party to these Proceedings, or to an employee of such outside counsel or outside consultant, who, before receiving access to such information or documents, has been given and has read a copy of this Protective Order and has agreed to be bound by its terms by signing a confidentiality undertaking substantially in the form set forth at Exhibit B to this order.

6. Any party to these Proceedings may challenge the designation by any other party of information or documents as “CONFIDENTIAL” or as “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL” by filing a motion with the Board or with an administrative law judge or other officer to whom authority has been lawfully delegated by the Board to adjudicate such challenges.

7. Designated Material may not be used for any purposes, including without limitation any business, commercial or competitive purposes, other than the preparation and presentation of evidence and argument in Docket No. FD 36025, any related proceedings before the Surface Transportation Board, and/or any judicial review proceedings in connection with Docket No. FD 36025, and/or with any related proceedings.

8. Any party who receives Designated Material in discovery shall destroy such materials and any notes or documents reflecting such materials (other than file copies of pleadings or other documents filed with the Board and retained by outside counsel for a party to these Proceedings) at the earlier of (1) such time as the party receiving the materials withdraws from these Proceedings, or (2) the completion of these Proceedings, including any petitions for reconsideration, appeals or remands.

9. No party may include Designated Material in any pleading, brief, discovery request or response, or other document submitted to the Board, unless the pleading or other document is submitted under seal, in a package clearly marked on the outside as "Confidential Materials Subject to Protective Order." *See* 49 C.F.R. 1104.14. All pleadings and other documents so submitted shall be kept confidential by the Board and shall not be placed in the public docket in these Proceedings

except by order of the Board or of any administrative law judge or other officer in the exercise of authority lawfully delegated by the Board.

10. No party may present or otherwise use any Designated Material at a Board hearing in these Proceedings, unless that party has previously submitted, under seal, all proposed exhibits and other documents containing or reflecting such Designated Material to the Board, to an administrative law judge or to another officer to whom relevant authority has been lawfully delegated by the Board, and has accompanied such submission with a written request that the Board, administrative law judge or other officer (a) restrict attendance at the hearing during any discussion of such Designated Material, and (b) restrict access to any portion of the record or briefs reflecting discussion of such Designated Material in accordance with this Protective Order.

11. If any party intends to use any Designated Material in the course of any deposition in these Proceedings, that party shall so advise counsel for the party producing the Designated Material, counsel for the deponent, and all other counsel attending the deposition. Attendance at any portion of the deposition at which any Designated Material is used or discussed shall be restricted to persons who may review that material under the terms of this Protective Order. All portions of deposition transcripts or exhibits that consist of, refer to, or otherwise disclose Designated Material shall be filed under seal and be otherwise handled as provided in Paragraph 9 of this Protective Order.

12. To the extent that materials reflecting Confidential Information are produced by a party in these proceedings, and are held and/or used by the receiving person in compliance with Paragraphs 1, 2 or 3 above, such production, disclosure, holding, and use of the materials and of the data that the materials contain are deemed essential for the disposition of this and any related proceedings and will not be deemed a violation of 49 U.S.C. § 11904 or of any other relevant provision of the ICC Termination Act of 1995.

13. All parties must comply with all of the provisions of this Protective Order unless the Board or an administrative law judge or other officer exercising authority lawfully delegated by the Board determines that good cause has been shown warranting suspension of any of the provisions herein.

14. Nothing in this Protective Order restricts the right of any party to disclose voluntarily any Confidential Information originated by that party, or to disclose voluntarily any Confidential Documents originated by that party, if such Confidential Information or Confidential Documents do not contain or reflect any Confidential Information originated by any other party.

15. All parties must file simultaneously a public version of any Highly Confidential or Confidential submission filed with the Board whether the

submission is designated a Highly Confidential Version or Confidential Version. When Filing a Highly Confidential Version, the filing party does not need to file a Confidential Version with the Board, but must make available (simultaneously with the party's submission to the Board of its Highly Confidential Version) a Confidential Version reviewable by any other party's in-house counsel. The Confidential Version may be served on other parties in electronic format only. In lieu of preparing a Confidential Version, the filing party may (simultaneously with the party's submission to the Board of its Highly Confidential Version) make available to outside counsel for any other party a list of all "highly confidential" information that must be redacted from its Highly Confidential Version prior to review by in-house personnel, and outside counsel for any other party a list of all "highly confidential" information that must be redacted from its Highly Confidential Version prior to review by in-house personnel, and outside counsel for any other party must then redact that material from the Highly Confidential Version before permitting any clients to review the submission.

**Exhibit A**  
**UNDERTAKING- CONFIDENTIAL MATERIAL**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, have read the Protective Order served \_\_\_\_\_, 2016 governing the production and use of Confidential Information and Confidential Documents in Docket No. FD 36025, understand the same, and agree to be bound by its terms. I agree not to use or permit the use of any Confidential Information or Confidential Documents obtained pursuant to that Protective Order, or to use or to permit the use of any methodologies or techniques disclosed or information learned as a result of receiving such data or information, for any purpose, other than the preparation and presentation of evidence and argument in Docket No. FD 36025, any related proceedings before the Surface Transportation Board, and/or any judicial review proceedings in connection with Docket No. FD 36025, and/or with any related proceedings. I further agree not to disclose any Confidential Information, Confidential Documents, methodologies, techniques, or data obtained pursuant to the Protective Order except to persons who are also bound by the terms of the Order and who have executed Undertakings in the form hereof, and that at the conclusion of this proceeding (including any proceeding on administrative review, judicial review, or remand), I will promptly destroy any documents containing or reflecting materials designated or stamped as "CONFIDENTIAL", other than file copies, kept by outside counsel, of pleadings and other documents filed with the Board.

I understand and agree that money damages would not be a sufficient remedy for breach of this Undertaking and that parties producing Confidential Information or Confidential Documents shall be entitled to specific performance and injunctive and/or other equitable relief as a remedy for any such breach, and I further agree to waive any requirement for the securing or posting of any bond in connection with such remedy. Such remedy shall not be deemed to be the exclusive remedy for breach of this Undertaking but shall be in addition to all remedies available at law or equity.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dated:

**Exhibit B**  
**UNDERTAKING- HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL MATERIAL**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, am outside [counsel] [consultant] for \_\_\_\_\_, for whom I am acting in this proceeding. I have read the Protective Order served on \_\_\_\_\_, 2016, governing the production and use of Confidential Information and Confidential Documents in Docket No. FD 36025, understand the same, and agree to be bound by its terms. I agree not to use or to permit the use of any Confidential Information or Confidential Documents obtained pursuant to that Protective Order, or to use or to permit the use of any methodologies or techniques disclosed or information learned as a result of receiving such data or information, for any purpose other than the preparation and presentation of evidence and argument in Docket No. FD 36025, any related proceedings before the Surface Transportation Board, or any judicial review proceedings in connection with Docket No. FD 36025, and/or with any related proceedings. I further agree not to disclose any Confidential Information, Confidential Documents, methodologies, techniques, or data obtained pursuant to the Protective Order except to persons who are also bound by the terms of the Order and who have executed undertakings in the form hereof.

I also understand and agree, as a condition precedent to my receiving, reviewing, or using copies of any information or documents designated or stamped as "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL", that I will take all necessary steps to assure that said information or documents be kept on a confidential basis by any outside counsel or outside consultants working with me, that under no circumstances will I permit access to said materials or information by employees of my client or its subsidiaries, affiliates, or owners, and that at the conclusion of this proceeding (including any proceeding on administrative review, judicial review, or remand), I will promptly destroy any documents containing or reflecting information or documents designated or stamped as "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL", other than file copies, kept by outside counsel, of pleadings and other documents filed with the Board.

I understand and agree that money damages would not be a sufficient remedy for breach of this undertaking and that other parties producing Confidential Information or Confidential Documents shall be entitled to specific performance and injunctive and/or other equitable relief as a remedy for any such breach, and I further agree to waive any requirement for the securing or posting of any bond in connection with such remedy. Such remedy shall not be deemed to be the exclusive remedy for breach of this Undertaking but shall be in addition to all remedies available at law or equity.

\_\_\_\_\_  
OUTSIDE [COUNSEL] [CONSULTANT]

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_