

236016

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THOMAS F. MCFARLAND

May 7, 2014



By UPS overnight mail

Ms. Cynthia T. Brown, Chief
Section of Administration
Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20024

**ENTERED
Office of Proceedings**

MAY - 8 2014

**Part of
Public Record**

Re: Finance Docket No. 35826, *Geaux Geaux Railroad, LLC -- Acquisition and Operation Exemption -- Illinois Central Railroad Company*

Dear Ms. Brown:

Hereby transmitted is the original and 10 copies of a Verified Notice Of Exemption Under 49 C.F.R. § 1150.31 for filing with the Board in the above referenced matter.

Also enclosed is a check in the amount of \$1,900 for the filing fee.

Very truly yours,

Thomas F. McFarland
Attorney for Applicant

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FEE RECEIVED

MAY - 8 2014

**SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

FILED

MAY - 8 2014

**SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

GEAUX GEAUX RAILROAD, LLC --)
ACQUISITION AND OPERATION) FINANCE DOCKET
EXEMPTION -- ILLINOIS CENTRAL) NO. 35826
RAILROAD COMPANY)

**VERIFIED NOTICE OF EXEMPTION
UNDER 49 C.F.R. § 1150.31**

GEAUX GEAUX RAILROAD, LLC
One North Federal Highway, Suite 400
Boca Raton, FL 33432

Applicant

BEATRIZ BELTRANENA
General Counsel
Geaux Geaux Railroad, LLC
One Federal Highway, Suite 400
Boca Raton, FL 33432

THOMAS F. McFARLAND
THOMAS F. McFARLAND, P.C.
208 South LaSalle Street, Suite 1890
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mcfarland@aol.com

Attorneys for Applicant

Date Filed: May 8, 2014

BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

GEAUX GEAUX RAILROAD, LLC --)	
ACQUISITION AND OPERATION)	FINANCE DOCKET
EXEMPTION -- ILLINOIS CENTRAL)	NO. 35826
RAILROAD COMPANY)	

**VERIFIED NOTICE OF EXEMPTION
UNDER 49 C.F.R. § 1150.31**

Pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 10502(a) and 49 C.F.R. § 1150.31 *et seq.*, GEAUX GEAUX RAILROAD, LLC (GGRL), a noncarrier, hereby provides notice of its class exemption from 49 U.S.C. § 10901 for its acquisition from Illinois Central Railroad Company (ICR) and operation of a rail line that extends between: (1) Milepost 9.69 at or near Zee, LA and Milepost 0.0 at or near Slaughter, LA, a distance of approximately 9.69 miles; and (2) Milepost 345.84 at or near Slaughter, LA and Milepost 358.1 at or near Maryland, LA, a distance of approximately 12.26 miles, for a total distance of approximately 21.95 miles, all in East Baton Rouge Parish, LA (commonly known and hereinafter referred to as the Zee Line). The Zee Line is shown on a map that is attached to this Notice as Exhibit A. As reflected in that map, GGRL would operate over ICR between Milepost Nos. 358.1 and 363.6 solely for purposes of interchange of traffic at ICR's Baton Rouge, LA Yard.

INFORMATION REQUIRED BY 49 C.F.R. § 1150.33

(a) The full name and address of the applicant;

Applicant is Geaux Geaux Railroad, LLC, One Federal Highway, Suite 400, Boca Raton, FL 33432.

b) The name, address, and telephone number of the representative of the applicant who should receive correspondence;

Applicant's representatives are Beatriz Beltranena, Geaux Geaux Railroad, LLC, One Federal Highway, Suite 400, Boca Raton, FL 33432, and Thomas F. McFarland, Thomas F. McFarland, P.C. 208 South LaSalle Street, Suite 1890, Chicago, IL 60604-1112, ph (312) 236-0204, fax (312) 201-9695, mcfarland@aol.com.

(c) A statement that an agreement has been reached or details about when an agreement will be reached;

An agreement is imminent for GGRL to purchase the Zee Line from ICR. In the very unlikely event that such an agreement is not to be executed, GGRL would seek to withdraw this Notice voluntarily.

(d) The operator of the property;

GGRL intends to contract with an experienced rail operator for operation of the Zee Line. That operator will seek Board authorization or exemption for such operation. GGRL will have a residual common carrier obligation to operate the Zee Line.

(e) A brief summary of the proposed transaction, including:

(1) The name and address of the railroad transferring the subject operating authority,

The entity transferring the Rail Line is Illinois Central Railroad Company, 17641 South Ashland Avenue, Homewood, IL 60430

(2) The proposed time schedule for consummation of the transaction,

The transaction will be consummated no sooner than 30 days after filing of this notice with the Board, subject to a purchase agreement having been executed at that time.

(3) The mile-posts of the subject property, including any branch lines, and

The Zee Line extends between: (1) Milepost 9.69 at or near Zee, LA and Milepost 0.0 at or near Slaughter, LA, a distance of approximately 9.69 miles; and (2) Milepost 345.84 at or near Slaughter, LA and Milepost 358.1 at or near Maryland, LA.

(4) The total route miles being acquired;

A total of approximately 21.95 miles of rail line will be acquired and operated.

(f) A map that clearly indicates the area to be served, including origins, termini, stations, cities, counties, and States; and

The required map is attached as Exhibit A.

(g) A certificate that applicant's projected revenues do not exceed those that would qualify it as a Class III carrier.

Attached to this Notice as Exhibit B is a verification that GGRL's projected revenues do not exceed those that would qualify it as a Class III rail carrier.

VERIFICATION

The verification attached to this Notice as Exhibit B includes a verification of all facts contained in this Notice.

REVENUES LESS THAN \$5 MILLION PER YEAR

The verification attached as Exhibit B includes a verification that the projected revenues of GGRL will not exceed \$5 million per year.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND HISTORIC CONSIDERATIONS

Pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1105.6(c)(2), no environmental documentation or report is required for the proposed transaction. Pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1105.8(b)(2), no historic documentation or report is required for the proposed transaction.

LABOR PROTECTION

Pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 10901(c), no labor protection is required for the proposed transaction.

CAPTION SUMMARY

Attached to this Notice as Exhibit C is a caption summary required by 49 C.F.R. § 1150.34.

LAND GRANT RIGHT-OF-WAY

Applicant is not aware of any land grant right-of-way in the Zee Line. Any documentation in GGRL's possession would be provided on request.

NO INTERCHANGE COMMITMENTS

There are no interchange commitments between ICR and GGRL.

CONCLUSION

WHEREFORE, the Board should publish notice of the exemption in the *Federal Register* within 16 days of its filing.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas F. McFarland

GEAUX GEAUX RAILROAD, LLC
One North Federal Highway, Suite 400
Boca Raton, FL 33432

Applicant

BEATRIZ BELTRANENA
General Counsel
Geaux Geaux Railroad, LLC
One Federal Highway, Suite 400
Boca Raton, FL 33432

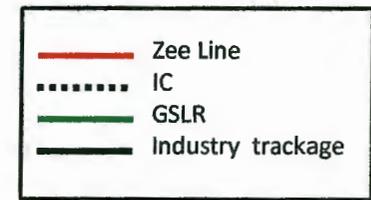
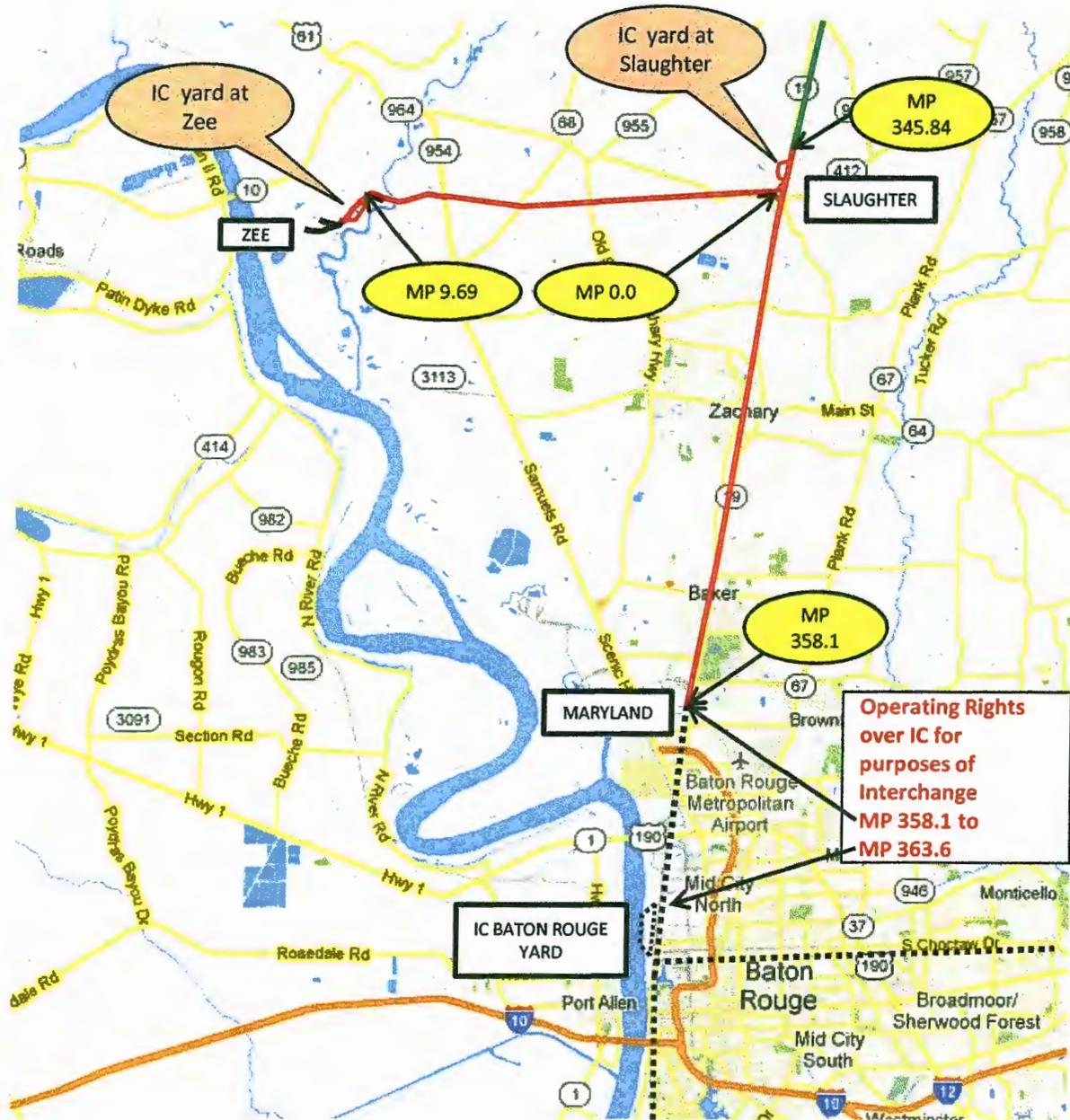
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Attorneys for Applicant

Date Filed: May 8, 2014

Zee Line

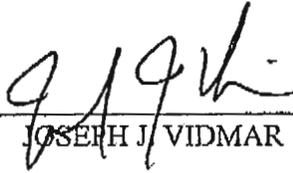
Exhibit A



F.D. No. 35826
Exhibit B

VERIFICATION

JOSEPH J. VIDMAR, being duly sworn, states that he is an authorized representative of Geaux Geaux Railroad, LLC (GGR); that the projected annual revenue of GGR resulting from its acquisition from Illinois Central Railroad Company (IC), and operation of the rail line involved in STB Docket No. FD 35826 will not exceed \$5 million; that GGR's projected revenues do not exceed those that would qualify it as a Class III rail carrier; and that all statements in GGR's Notice of Exemption for such acquisition and operation are true and correct.



JOSEPH J. VIDMAR



STATE OF FLORIDA)
) SS:
COUNTY OF PALM BEACH)

SUBSCRIBED and SWORN to before me this 1 day of MAY, 2014.



Notary Public (SEAL)

My Commission expires: April 15, 2018

CAPTION SUMMARY

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

(Finance Docket No. 35826)

**GEAUX GEAUX RAILROAD, LLC -- ACQUISITION
AND OPERATION EXEMPTION -- ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY**

Geaux Geaux Railroad, LLC (GGRL), a noncarrier, has filed a notice of its class exemption from 49 U.S.C. § 10901 for its acquisition from Illinois Central Railroad Company (ICR) and operation of a rail line extending between: (1) Milepost 9.69 at or near Zee, LA and Milepost 0.0 at or near Slaughter, LA, a distance of approximately 9.69 miles; and (2) Milepost 345.84 at or near Slaughter, LA and Milepost 358.1 at or near Maryland, LA, a distance of approximately 12.26 miles, for a total distance of approximately 21.95 miles, all in East Baton Rouge Parish, LA (the Zee Line). The transaction was to be consummated no sooner than 30 days after the filing of the notice of exemption, subject to an agreement having been executed at that time.

Any comments must be filed with the Board and must be served on applicant's representative, Thomas F. McFarland, Thomas F. McFarland, P.C., 208 South LaSalle Street, Suite 1890, Chicago, IL 60604-1112, ph (312) 236-0204, fax (312) 201-9695, mcfarland@aol.com.

This notice of exemption is filed under 49 C.F.R. § 1150.31. If the notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void *ab initio*. Petitions to revoke the exemption under 49 U.S.C. § 10502(d) may be filed at any time. The filing of a petition to revoke will not automatically stay the transaction.

(SEAL)

By the Board

Dated: _____