



655 Fifteenth Street, NW, Suite 225  
Washington, DC 20005

balljanik.com

t 202.638.3307  
f 202.783.6947

236026

May 9, 2014

ENTERED  
Office of Proceedings  
May 9, 2014  
Part of  
Public Record

Karl Morell  
Of Counsel  
kmorell@balljanik.com

E-FILE

Cynthia Brown  
Chief, Section of Administration  
Surface Transportation Board  
Office of Proceedings  
395 E Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20423

Re: Finance Docket No. 35820, Blue Ridge Southern Railroad,  
L.L.C. -- Acquisition Exemption – Norfolk Southern Railway  
Company

Dear Ms. Brown:

Blue Ridge Southern Railroad, L.L.C. ("BLUE"), hereby certifies that on May 8, 2014, BLUE had posted the attached Notice at the workplace of the employees of Norfolk Southern Railway Company ("NSR") working on the rail lines being acquired by BLUE. Also, on May 9, 2014, BLUE served a copy of the Notice on the national offices of all labor unions with employees working on the rail lines being acquired by BLUE.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Karl Morell  
Of Counsel

Enclosure

## NOTICE

**Blue Ridge Southern Railroad, L.L.C. ("BLUE")** will acquire certain Tracks owned by Norfolk Southern Railway Company, a Virginia corporation, including sidings and yard tracks. These Tracks are located between: (1) Milepost T0.0 at Murphy Jct., NC and Milepost T47.0 at Dillsboro, NC; (2) Milepost W1.0 at Asheville, NC and Milepost W26.0 at East Flat Rock, NC; and (3) Milepost TR0.0 at Hendersonville, NC and Milepost TR19.8 at Pisgah Forest, NC.

Total Route Miles of 91.8.

**As a result of operating the freight portion of the rail line, BLUE expects to have employment opportunities in the following areas:**

### ***Freight Operation:***

Approximately 32 positions in Canton, NC and Arden/Hendersonville, NC. These positions require the following minimum skills and/or qualifications:

### ***General Manager:***

1 Position located in Canton, NC. This position requires the following minimum skills and/or qualifications:

- Prefer College degree in Management.
- Must have at least 5 - 10 years of railroading experience in a supervisory and/or managerial role.
- Ability to enhance and/or develop, implement and enforce policies and procedures of the organization by way of systems that will improve the overall operation and effectiveness of the corporation.
- Plan, develop, organize, implement, direct and evaluate the organization's fiscal function and performance.
- Ensure sound operating procedures according to FRA and Corporate Safety rules.
- A decisive individual who possesses a "big picture" perspective and is well versed in operational standards.
- Must ensure that emphasis is placed on a strong Customer Focus.

### ***Train Masters:***

Approximately 1 position as follows: Canton, NC. These positions require the following minimum skills and/or qualifications:

- Supervises and coordinates activities of train crews engaged in switching/RR operations.
- Must possess a high school education or GED, and a minimum of 6 months job-related experience; or equivalent combination of education and experience.
- Must possess a valid Engineer's certificate issued by a program in compliance with 49 CFR Part 240.
- Must be able to meet all hearing and vision requirements of 49 CFR Part 240.

- Must have an understanding of air brake and mechanical systems of a train and locomotives, and pass a written test to verify competency.

***Conductor:***

Approximately 10 positions in Canton, NC and Arden/Hendersonville, NC. These positions require the following minimum skills and/or qualifications:

- At least 1 year experience as a Conductor/Brakeman.
- Must have Qualifications on the General Code of Operating Rules (GCOR) and have passed a written test in the past 18 months.
- Must have an understanding of air brake and mechanical systems of a train and locomotives, and pass a written test to verify competency.

***Engineer:***

Approximately 10 positions in Canton, NC and Arden/Hendersonville, NC. These positions require the following minimum skills and/or qualifications:

- At least 1 year experience as a Locomotive Engineer.
- Must possess a valid Engineer's certificate issued by a program in compliance with 49 CFR Part 240.
- Must be able to meet all hearing and vision requirements of 49 CFR Part 240.
- Must have an understanding of air brake and mechanical systems of a train and locomotives, and pass a written test to verify competency.

***Clerks:***

Approximately 1 position located in Canton, NC. This position requires the following minimum skills and/or qualifications:

- Involved in day to day record keeping, billing, filing, and typing and general office duties.
- Must possess a high school education or GED, and a minimum of 6 months job-related experience; or equivalent combination of education and experience.
- This position will be accountable to all managers within the operation and is responsible for office coordination of activities.
- Other duties as assigned.

***Chief Mechanical Officer:***

1 position located in Canton, NC. This position requires the following minimum skills and/or qualifications:

- Directly supervise shop craft employees to safely execute shop operating plan.
- Ensure labor and equipment is positioned to inspect, test and repair equipment to meet the needs of the daily plan.
- Must have previous mechanical department or equivalent industry experience.

- Must possess a high school education or GED, and a minimum of 12 months job-related experience; or equivalent combination of education and experience.
- Comply with all FRA and Watco safety standards.
- Other duties as assigned.

***Locomotive Electrical:***

Approximately 1 position located in Canton, NC. This position requires the following minimum skills and/or qualifications:

- Make repairs and perform scheduled maintenance to both inbound and outbound locomotives.
- Must have knowledge of and comply with FRA standards.
- Must possess a high school education or GED, and a minimum of 12 months job-related experience; or equivalent combination of education and experience.
- Prefer background in technical training in Electrical maintenance/repair.
- Demonstrated knowledge and ability in using required hand and power tools.

***Locomotive Mechanical:***

Approximately 1 position located in Canton, NC. This position requires the following minimum skills and/or qualifications:

- Make repairs and perform scheduled maintenance to both inbound and outbound locomotives.
- Must have knowledge of and comply with FRA standards.
- Must possess a high school education or GED, and a minimum of 12 months job-related experience; or equivalent combination of education and experience.
- Prefer background in technical training in Diesel maintenance/repair.
- Demonstrated knowledge and ability in using required hand and power tools.

***Roadmaster:***

1 position located in Canton, NC. This position requires the following minimum skills and/or qualifications:

- Supervises all track, structure and signal maintenance on railroad.
- Plan and implement maintenance programs and capital projects.
- Instructs work force on safety compliance and mandated programs.
- Must possess 5 years experience in Railroad Track Maintenance.

***Track Inspector:***

1 position located in Canton, NC. This position requires the following minimum skills and/or qualifications:

- Responsible for supervision of rail car inspection and maintenance in accordance with FRA standards.
- Inspect railroad track structure for compliance with railroad policy and federal/state regulations.
- Implement remedial action on defects pending repair.
- Oversee/direct production gang work.
- Inspect completed work to verify conformance to government regulations.

- Prepare inspection reports for management and government compliance.
- Must possess 3 years supervisory experience in Railroad Track Maintenance.

***MoW laborer:***

Approximately 2 positions as follows: Canton, NC. These positions require the following minimum skills and/or qualifications:

- Perform tasks associated with track work including but not limited to, pulling and driving spikes, replacing ties, surfacing track, changing rail, bars, and other track apparatus.
- Must be willing to learn and apply FRA rules and regulations and be able to perform maintenance in a timely manner.
- Must be willing to learn to operate in a safe and efficient manner, all equipment and tools associated with track maintenance.
- Must possess a high school education or GED, and a minimum of 12 months job-related experience; or equivalent combination of education and experience.

***MoW Operator:***

Approximately 1 position as follows: Canton, NC. This position requires the following minimum skills and/or qualifications:

- Perform tasks associated with track work including but not limited to, pulling and driving spikes, replacing ties, surfacing track, changing rail, bars, and other track apparatus.
- Must be willing to learn and apply FRA rules and regulations and be able to perform maintenance in a timely manner.
- Must be willing to learn to operate in a safe and efficient manner all equipment and tools associated with track maintenance.
- Must possess a high school education or GED, and a minimum of 12 months job-related experience; or equivalent combination of education and experience.

***Carmen:***

Approximately 1 position as follows: Canton, NC. This position requires the following minimum skills and/or qualifications:

- Maintain, replace and/or repair air brake pipes, valves, gaskets, air hoses and other equipment as required.
- Inspect outlet gates on hopper cars and air dumps for defects and ensures they are properly secured.
- Operate electrical and gas welding equipment to join a variety of metals and alloys; operate acetylene torches for cutting and/or shaping metal parts such as aluminum, cast iron, steel, bronze, etc. Operate specialized off-highway motor vehicles including forklift trucks, mobile cranes, trackmobiles, and ship tractors.
- Familiar with AAR office manual, ability to identify AAR/FRA when present on railcars.
- Must possess a high school education or GED, and a minimum of 12 months job-related experience; or equivalent combination of education and experience.

The most qualified candidates will be selected from the available pool of applicants without regard to race, creed, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, disability or veteran

status. The selection criteria will be job-related skills and attributes as outlined above. Successful candidates must have a stable work record and exhibit safe work practices. The ability to work in a team environment with a focus on customer service is critical. Applicants must be able to read and comprehend regulations and instructions in English, as well as possess good oral communication skills. Successful applicants will be required to pass a pre-employment drug and alcohol screen and complete a medical questionnaire. Every employee is an at-will employee. All employees are expected to know and abide by the standard code of Employee Conduct.

All jobs will be posted at [www.watcocompanies.com](http://www.watcocompanies.com) or information can be obtained by calling Human Resource department at (866) 479-2826.

**Blue Ridge Southern Railroad**  
**315 W. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street**  
**Pittsburg, Kansas 66762**