

BEFORE THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

ENTERED  
Office of Proceedings  
MAR 10 2004

DOCKET NO. AB-6-408X

210274



Part of  
Public Record BURLINGTON NORTHERN & SANTA FE RAILWAY CO.

ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION  
HAMILTON and MERRICK COUNTIES, NEBRASKA

NOTICE OF INTENT TO FILE

OFFER OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANANCE

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The Garden City Western Railway, Inc.  
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Dated: March 9, 2004.

BEFORE THE  
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DOCKET NO. AB-6-408X



ABANDONMENT OF A LINE OF RAILROAD  
BETWEEN AURORA AND CENTRAL CITY, NEBRASKA

NOTICE OF INTENT TO FILE  
OFFER OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

To the Secretary of the Board:

Pursuant to the Surface Transportation Board Notice of Exemption filed March 2, 2004, The Garden City Western Railway, Inc. ("GCW") hereby advises the Board and parties of record of its intent to file an Offer of Financial Assistance ("OFA") under 49 CFR 1152.27. The OFA is to purchase all of the Burlington Northern & Santa Fe Railway ("BNSF") rail line between Aurora and Central City, Nebraska, being approximately MP 1.90, near Aurora to approximately MP 17.50, near Central City, a distance of approximately 15.60 miles.

In connection with this notice of intent to file an OFA, GCW requests that the applicant carrier provide the information set forth in 49 CFR 1152.27 (a) including the minimum purchase price required to acquire the line. We also request that BNSF provide its most recent report on the physical condition of the involved line and traffic, revenue and other data necessary to determine BNSF's estimate of net liquidation value of the line together with supporting data reflecting available real estate appraisal, assessments of the quality and the quantity of track

material in the line and removal cost estimate used to obtain the net liquidation value.

Offeror also requests that the Board toll period for submitting offers of financial assistance for an additional 30 days in order to provide GCW with an adequate opportunity to review and analyze the material provided by BNSF and submit their OFA. This will not prejudice the interests of BNSF or any other party.

Respectfully submitted,



Daniel A. LaKemper, Esq.  
General Counsel  
The Garden City Western Railway, Inc.  
Peoria, Illinois 61607  
Tel.: (309) 697-1400

#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing instrument was served by United States Mail, first class, postage fully pre-paid, this 8<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2004 upon:

Michael Smith  
Freeborn & Peters  
311 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 3000  
Chicago, Illinois 60606

