

Norfolk Southern Corporation  
Law Department  
Three Commercial Place  
Norfolk, Virginia 23510-9241

**James R. Paschall**  
**Senior General Attorney**

Writer's Direct Dial Number

(757) 629-2759

April 7, 2006

Mr. Vernon A. Williams, Secretary  
Surface Transportation Board  
1925 K Street, N.W.  
Washington, D. C. 20423



Re: STB Docket No. AB-290 (Sub-No. 254X), Norfolk Southern Railway Company - Petition for Exemption - Discontinuance of Service - Between Halls Ferry Junction, NC and Badin, NC, in Stanly County, North Carolina; STB Docket No. AB-290 (Sub-No. 274X), Yadkin Railroad Company - 216218 Petition for Exemption - Abandonment of Operating Rights Under Lease - Between Halls Ferry Junction, NC and Badin, NC, in Stanly County, North Carolina; STB Docket No. AB-149 (Sub-No. 2), Winston-Salem Southbound - 216219 Railway Company - Petition for Exemption - Abandonment of Operating Rights Under Lease - Between Whitney, NC and Badin, NC, in Stanly County, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Williams:

Enclosed please find the original Affidavit of Publication from *The Stanly News & Press*, to be included with the original filing of the above referenced petition.

Yours very truly,

*James R Paschall / JRP*

James R. Paschall

JRP:kch

Enclosure

ENTERED  
Office of Proceedings

APR 11 2006

Part of  
Public Record

The Stanly News & Press  
P.O. Box 488  
Albemarle NC 28002  
(704) 982-2121

AFFIDAVIT OF INSERTION  
DATE: 03/17/06

STARTDATE	CLASS	DESCRIPTION	WORDS	INS	CHG
01104358-000					
03/14/2006	380	NOTICE OF INTENT TO			

NORFOLK SOUTHERN CORPORATION  
THREE COMMERCIAL PLACE  
NORFOLK VA 23510

NORTH CAROLINA, STANLY COUNTY

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

Before the undersigned, a Notary Public of said County and State, duly commissioned, qualified, and authorized by law to administer oaths, personally appeared: Rex A. Maynor, who being first duly sworn, deposes and says: that he is Publisher of a newspaper known as THE STANLY NEWS AND PRESS, published, issued, and entered as second class mail in the City of Albemarle, in said County and State; that he is authorized to make this affidavit and sworn statement; that the notice or other legal advertisement, a true copy of which is attached hereto, was published in THE STANLY NEWS AND PRESS on the dates specified on the copy attached and that the said newspaper in which such notice, paper, document or legal advertisement was published was, at the time of each and every such publication, a newspaper meeting all of the requirements and qualifications of Section 1-597 of the General Statutes of North Carolina and was a qualified newspaper within the meaning of Section 1-597 of the General Statutes of North Carolina.

**NOTICE OF INTENT  
TO DISCONTINUE RAIL SERVICE  
AND ABANDON OPERATING  
RIGHTS UNDER RAILROAD  
LINE LEASES.**

Norfolk Southern Railway Company, Yadkin Railroad Company and Winston Salem Southbound Railway Company, give notice that on or about March 30, 2006, they intend to file with the Surface Transportation Board (STB), Washington, DC 20423, a petition for exemption under 49 U.S.C. 10502 and 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F- Exempt Abandonments, from the prior approval requirements of 49 U.S.C. 10903, permitting, as to Norfolk Southern Railroad Company, the discontinuance of rail service between milepost WF-0.00 at Halls Ferry Junction and milepost WF-11.11 at Badin, in Stanly County, North Carolina; as to Yadkin Railroad Company, the abandonment of operating rights under a lease over the line between milepost WF- 0.00 at Halls Ferry Junction and milepost WF-11.11 at Badin, in Stanly County, North Carolina; and as to Winston-Salem southbound Railway Company, the abandonment of operating rights under a lease over the line between milepost WF- 5.90 at Whitney and milepost WF-11.11 at Badin, in Stanly County, North Carolina; which traverses through United States Postal Service Zip Code 28001 in Stanly County, North Carolina. The proceeding will be docketed as No. AB-290 (Sub-No 254X) as to Norfolk Southern Railway Company, No AB-290 (SUB-No 274X) as to Yadkin Railroad Company, and No. AB-149 (Sub No.2) as to Winston Salem Southern Southbound Railway Company.

The STB's section of Environment Analysis generally will prepare an environment assessment in abandonment or discontinuance proceeding which will be served upon all parties of record and upon any agencies or other persons who commented during its preparation. Any other persons who would like to obtain a copy of the EA may contact the Section of Environmental Analysis, Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K. Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20423-0001 or by calling that office at 202-565-1545. The EA normally will be made available within 60 days of the filing of the petition. The deadline for submission of comments on the environmental and energy matters in the EA will generally be within 30 days if its service. Comments will be addressed in an STB decision.

The line does not contain federally granted rights-of-way. In connection with any offer of financial assistance, public use condition request of trail use condition request, parties should be aware that the right-of-way is owned by Alcoa, Inc.

The interest of railroad employees, will be protected by the employee protective conditions set forth in Oregon Short Line R. Co.- Abandonment-Goshen, 260 I.C.C. 91 (1979).

Any offer of financial assistance will be due no later than 10 days after service of a decision granting the petition for exemption.

All interested persons should be aware that following abandonment of rail service and salvage of the line, the line may be suitable for other public use, including interim trail use.

Any request for a public use condition and any request for trail use (rail banking) will be due no later than 20 days after notice of the filing of the petition for exemption is published in the Federal Register.

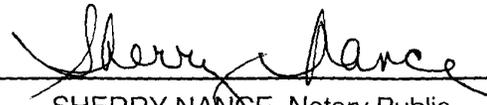
An original and 10 copies of any pleading that raises matters other than environmental issues (such as trails use, public use, and offers of financial assistance) must be filed directly with the STB's office of the Secretary, 1925 K. Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20423-0001 (See 19 CFR 1104.1 (a) and 1104.3 (a)). Questions regarding offers of financial assistance, public use or trails use may be directed to the STB's Office of Public Assistance at 202-927-7597. Copies of any comments or requests for conditions should be served on the applicant's representative: James R. Paschall, Senior General Attorney, Norfolk Southern Corporation, Three Commercial Place, Norfolk, VA 23510-9241, 757-629-2759.

Persons seeking further information concerning abandonment procedures may contact the Surface Transportation Board of refer to the full abandonment or discontinuance regulations at 49 CFR Part 1152. Questions concerning environmental issues may be directed to the Board's Section of Environmental Analysis.

March 14, 2006.

Sworn to and subscribed to before me this 17th day of March, 2006

  
Rex A. Maynor  
Publisher

  
SHERRY NANCE, Notary Public  
My commission expires April 01, 2006