

*minimis*, it should consult the agency before preparing and submitting a petition to modify.

Issued in Washington, DC under authority delegated in 49 CFR 1.95.

**Raymond R. Posten,**

*Associate Administrator for Rulemaking.*

[FR Doc. 2015-30930 Filed 12-8-15; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-59-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Surface Transportation Board

[Docket No. AB 331 (Sub-No. 2X)]

#### The Bi-State Development Agency of the Missouri-Illinois Metropolitan District—Abandonment Exemption—in the City of St. Louis, MO

The Bi-State Development Agency of the Missouri-Illinois Metropolitan District (Metro) has filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR part 1152 subpart F—*Exempt Abandonments* to abandon 1.43 miles of rail line extending from milepost 1.8 to milepost 3.23 within the City of St. Louis, Missouri (the Line). The Line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Codes 63110 and 63108.

Metro has certified that: (1) No local traffic has moved over the Line for at least two years; (2) no overhead traffic has moved over the Line for at least two years, and if there were any overhead traffic, it could be rerouted over other lines; (3) no formal complaint filed by a user of rail service on the Line (or by a state or local government entity acting on behalf of such user) regarding cessation of service over the line either is pending with the Surface Transportation Board (Board) or with any U.S. District Court, or has been decided in favor of complainant within the two-year period; and (4) the requirements at 49 CFR 1105.7(c) (environmental report), 49 CFR 1105.11 (transmittal letter), 49 CFR 1105.12 (newspaper publication), and 49 CFR 1152.50(d)(1) (notice to governmental agencies) have been met.

As a condition to this exemption, any employee adversely affected by the abandonment shall be protected under *Oregon Short Line Railroad—Abandonment Portion Goshen Branch Between Firth & Ammon, in Bingham & Bonneville Counties, Idaho*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979). To address whether this condition adequately protects affected employees, a petition for partial revocation under 49 U.S.C. 10502(d) must be filed.

Provided no formal expression of intent to file an offer of financial

assistance (OFA) has been received, this exemption will be effective on January 8, 2016, unless stayed pending reconsideration. Petitions to stay that do not involve environmental issues,<sup>1</sup> formal expressions of intent to file an OFA under 49 CFR 1152.27(c)(2),<sup>2</sup> and interim trail use/rail banking requests under 49 CFR 1152.29 must be filed by December 21, 2015. Petitions to reopen or requests for public use conditions under 49 CFR 1152.28 must be filed by December 29, 2015, with the Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street SW., Washington, DC 20423-0001.

A copy of any petition filed with the Board should be sent to Metro's representative: James C. Hetlage, Lashly & Baer, P.C., 714 Locust Street, St. Louis, MO 63101.

If the verified notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void ab initio.

Metro has filed a combined environmental and historic report that addresses the effects, if any, of the abandonment on the environment and historic resources. OEA will issue an environmental assessment (EA) by December 14, 2015. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the EA by writing to OEA (Room 1100, Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423-0001) or by calling OEA at (202) 245-0305. Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through the Federal Information Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Comments on environmental and historic preservation matters must be filed within 15 days after the EA becomes available to the public.

Environmental, historic preservation, public use, or trail use/rail banking conditions will be imposed, where appropriate, in a subsequent decision.

Pursuant to the provisions of 49 CFR 1152.29(e)(2), Metro shall file a notice of consummation with the Board to signify that it has exercised the authority granted and fully abandoned the line. If consummation has not been effected by Metro's filing of a notice of consummation by December 9, 2016, and there are no legal or regulatory barriers to consummation, the authority to abandon will automatically expire.

<sup>1</sup> The Board will grant a stay if an informed decision on environmental issues (whether raised by a party or by the Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) in its independent investigation) cannot be made before the exemption's effective date. See *Exemption of Out-of-Serv. Rail Lines*, 5 I.C.C. 2d 377 (1989). Any request for a stay should be filed as soon as possible so that the Board may take appropriate action before the exemption's effective date.

<sup>2</sup> Each OFA must be accompanied by the filing fee, which is currently set at \$1,600. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).

Board decisions and notices are available on our Web site at “[WWW.STB.DOT.GOV](http://WWW.STB.DOT.GOV).”

Decided: December 4, 2015.

By the Board, Rachel D. Campbell, Director, Office of Proceedings.

**Brendetta S. Jones,**

*Clearance Clerk.*

[FR Doc. 2015-31006 Filed 12-8-15; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

[Docket Number: RITA-2008-0002]

#### Office of the Assistant Secretary for Research and Technology (OST-R); Agency Information Collection Activity; Notice of Renewal To Continue To Collect Information: Confidential Close Call Reporting for a Transit System

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS), Office of the Assistant Secretary for Research Technology (OST-R), U.S. Department of Transportation.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the requirements of section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the intention of the BTS to request the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to approve the continuation of the following information collection: Confidential Close Call Reporting for a Transit System. This data collection effort supports a multi-year program focused on improving transit safety by collecting and analyzing data and information on close calls and other unsafe occurrences in the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) system. The program is co-sponsored by WMATA's Office of the Deputy General Manager Operations (DGMO) and the President/Business Agent of the Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU) Local 689. It is designed to identify safety issues and propose preventative safety actions based on voluntary reports of close calls submitted confidentially to the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS), U.S. Department of Transportation. This information collection is necessary to aid WMATA/ATU in systematically collecting and analyzing data to identify root causes of potentially unsafe events.

**DATES:** Comments must be received by January 8, 2016.

**ADDRESSES:** *BTS seeks public comments on its proposed continuation of information collection.* Comments