

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

Conrail has filed an environmental report which addresses the abandonment's effects, if any, on the environment and historic resources. The Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) will issue an environmental assessment (EA) by December 10, 1996. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the EA by writing to SEA (Room 3219, Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423) or by calling Elaine Kaiser, Chief of SEA, at (202) 927-6248. 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.

Decided: November 26, 1996.

By the Board, David M. Konschnik,  
Director, Office of Proceedings.

Vernon A. Williams,  
*Secretary*.

[FR Doc. 96-30718 Filed 12-4-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

[STB Docket No. AB-227 (Sub-No. 8X)]

**Wheeling & Lake Erie Railway  
Company—Abandonment Exemption—  
in Huron County, OH**

AGENCY: Surface Transportation Board.

**ACTION:** Notice of exemption.

**SUMMARY:** Under 49 U.S.C. 10502, the Board exempts from the requirements of 49 U.S.C. 10903 the abandonment by Wheeling & Lake Erie Railway Company of a 2.3-mile rail line extending from milepost 0.0 at Huron Junction in Norwalk, to milepost 2.3 near Milan, all in Huron County, OH, subject to an environmental condition and standard labor protective conditions.

**DATES:** The exemption will be effective December 20, 1996 unless it is stayed or a statement of intent to file an offer of financial assistance (OFA) is filed. Statements of intent to file an OFA<sup>1</sup> under 49 CFR 1152.27(c)(2) and requests for a notice of interim trail use/rail banking under 49 CFR 1152.29 must be filed by December 16, 1996; petitions to stay must be filed by December 16, 1996; requests for a public use condition under 49 CFR 1152.28 must be filed by December 16, 1996; and petitions to reopen must be filed by December 26, 1996.

**ADDRESSES:** An original and 10 copies of all pleadings referring to STB Docket No. AB-227 (Sub-No. 8X) must be filed with: Office of the Secretary, Case Control Branch, Surface Transportation Board, 1201 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20423; a copy of all pleadings must be served on petitioner's representatives: William A. Collison,

<sup>1</sup> See *Exempt. of Rail Abandonment—Offers of Finan. Assist.*, 4 I.C.C. 2d 164 (1987).

Wheeling & Lake Erie Railway Company, 100 East First Street, Brewster, OH 44613 and William C. Sipple, Oppenheimer Wolff and Donnelly, Two Prudential Plaza, 45th Floor, 180 North Stetson Avenue, Chicago, IL 60601.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Joseph H. Dettmar, (202) 927-5660. [TDD for the hearing impaired: (202) 927-5721.]

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

Additional information is contained in the Board's decision. To purchase a copy of the full decision, write to, call, or pick up in person from: DC NEWS & DATA, INC., 1201 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Room 2229, Washington, DC 20423. Telephone: (202) 289-4357/4359. [Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through TDD services (202) 927-5721.]

Decided: November 27, 1996.

By the Board, Chairman Morgan, Vice Chairman Simmons, and Commissioner Owen.

Vernon A. Williams,  
*Secretary*.

[FR Doc. 96-30960 Filed 12-4-96; 8:45 am]

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