

will be published in the Federal Register pursuant to the authority indicated below.

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 30141(a)(1)(A) and (b)(1); 49 CFR 593.8; delegations of authority at 49 CFR 1.50 and 501.8.

Issued on: June 13, 1996.

Marilynne Jacobs,

Director, Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance.

[FR Doc. 96-15529 Filed 6-18-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-59-P

Surface Transportation Board¹

[STB Finance Docket No. 32960]

The Locomotive Preservation & Operating Group, Inc., d/b/a The Sheffield Station Junction Railway—Lease and Operation Exemption—Armco Asset Management

The Locomotive Preservation & Operating Group, Inc., doing business as The Sheffield Station Junction Railway, a noncarrier, has filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1150.31 to lease and operate approximately 20 miles of rail lines located within the Sheffield Station Industrial Park, Kansas City, MO, and owned by Armco Asset Management, a unit of Armco, Inc. The proposed transaction was to be consummated on the date of final agreement of the parties, but not sooner than May 27, 1996 (the effective date of the exemption).

If the notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void *ab initio*. Petitions to revoke the exemption under 49 U.S.C. 10502(d) may be filed at any time. The filing of a petition to revoke will not automatically stay the transaction.

An original and 10 copies of all pleadings, referring to STB Finance Docket No. 32960, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Branch, 1201 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20423 and served on: D. J. Roberts, Sheffield Station Junction Railway, P. O. Box 266217, Kansas City, MO 64126-6217.

Decided: June 11, 1996.

¹ The ICC Termination Act of 1995, Pub. L. No. 104-88, 109 Stat. 803, which was enacted on December 29, 1995, and took effect on January 1, 1996, abolished the Interstate Commerce Commission and transferred certain functions to the Surface Transportation Board (Board). This notice relates to functions that are subject to Board jurisdiction pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 10901.

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

Vernon A. Williams,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96-15591 Filed 6-18-96; 8:45 am]

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[STB Docket No. AB-3 (Sub-No. 135X)]

Missouri Pacific Railroad Company—Abandonment Exemption—in Henry County, MO

[STB Docket No. 456 (Sub-No. 2X)]

Missouri and Northern Arkansas Railroad—Discontinuance of Service Exemption—in Henry County, MO
Missouri Pacific Railroad Company (MP) and Missouri and Northern Arkansas Railroad (MNA) have filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F—*Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuances* for MP to abandon and MNA to discontinue service over approximately 2.65 miles of the FPE Spur-North Clinton Line (portion of the Clinton Branch) from milepost 262.6 at the end of the line near FPE Spur to milepost 265.25 near North Clinton, in Henry County, MO.²

MP and MNA certify that: (1) no local traffic has moved over the line for at least 2 years; (2) there is no overhead traffic to be rerouted from the line; (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 Board or with any U.S. District Court or has been decided in favor of complainant within the 2-year period; and (4) the requirements at 49 CFR 1105.7 (environmental reports), 49 CFR 1105.8 (historic reports), 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 use of this exemption, any employee adversely affected by the abandonment shall be protected under *Oregon Short Line R. Co.—Abandonment—Goshen*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979). To address whether this condition adequately protects affected

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² The Board vacated a shorter segment previously sought in a joint exemption filed by MP and MNA, *See Missouri Pacific Railroad Company—Abandonment Exemption—in Henry County, MO*, STB Docket No. AB-3—Sub-No. 128X, et al. (ICC served Feb. 6, 1996).

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 July 19, 1996, unless stayed pending reconsideration. Petitions to stay that do not involve environmental issues,³ formal expressions of intent to file an OFA under 49 CFR 1152.27(c)(2),⁴ and trail use/rail banking requests under 49 CFR 1152.29⁵ must be filed by July 1, 1996. Petitions to reopen or requests for public use conditions under 49 CFR 1152.28 must be filed by July 9, 1996, with: Office of the Secretary, Case Control Branch, Surface Transportation Board, 1201 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20423.

A copy of any petition filed with the Board should be sent to applicant's representative: Joseph D. Anthofer, General Attorney, Missouri Pacific Railroad Company, 1416 Dodge Street, Room 830, Omaha, NE 68179; and Henry W. Weller, General Manager, Missouri and Northern Arkansas Railroad, 514 Orner Street, P.O. Box 776, Carthage, MO 64836.

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

MP and MNA have 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 June 24, 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: June 11, 1996.

³ The Board will grant a stay if an informed decision on environmental issues (whether raised by a party or by the Board's Section of Environmental Analysis in its independent investigation) cannot be made before the exemption's effective date. *See Exemption of Out-of-Service 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.

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

⁵ The Board will accept late-filed trail use requests so long as the abandonment has not been consummated and the abandoning railroad is willing to negotiate an agreement.