

**BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

STB Docket No. AB 1337

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
June 26, 2024
Part of
Public Record

**THE COMMUTER RAIL DIVISION OF THE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION
AUTHORITY AND THE NORTHEAST ILLINOIS REGIONAL COMMUTER
TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY D/B/A METRA—ADVERSE ABANDONMENT—
OMNITRAX/CHICAGO RAIL LINK**

JOINT STATUS UPDATE

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Date: June 26, 2024

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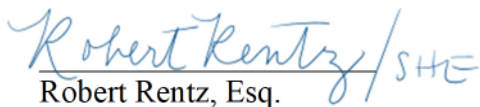
The Commuter Rail Division of the Regional Transportation Authority, an Illinois municipal corporation, and Northeast Illinois Regional Commuter Railroad Corporation, an Illinois public corporation (collectively, “Metra”), and Chicago Rail Link, L.L.C., a Class III common carrier (“CRL”), submit this joint status update in response to the February 27, 2024, decision of the Surface Transportation Board (“STB” or “Board”).

CRL is the owner of a portion of a 3,246-foot-long line of railroad known as the Root Street Wye located in Chicago, Illinois. On December 11, 2023, Metra filed a Petition for Partial Waiver of Abandonment Regulations with the Board for the portion of the Root Street Wye located at the level of East 40th Street on Chicago’s South Side extending from S. Princeton Avenue on the west side to Metra’s Rock Island Branch at the I-90 Expressway on the east side (the “Line”). Petition, *The Commuter Rail Division of the Regional Transportation Authority d/b/a Metra- Petition for Waiver-OmniTRAX, Inc.*, STB Docket No. AB 1337 (filed December 11, 2023).

On February 22, 2024, CRL, with Metra’s concurrence, filed a motion requesting that the Board hold the proceeding in abeyance. CRL stated that the parties had begun negotiations in

the hope of avoiding litigation. The Board granted the motion and directed the parties to file a status report every 120 days.

The parties remain committed to the negotiation of a resolution of this matter. They continue to evaluate the status of the line and have engaged in productive exchanges of information and discussions regarding the resolution of this matter. The parties plan to continue negotiations and request that the STB continue to hold this proceeding in abeyance.

Handwritten signature of Robert Rentz in blue ink, with the letters "SHE" written to the right of the signature.

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Handwritten signature of Charles A. Spitulnik in blue ink.

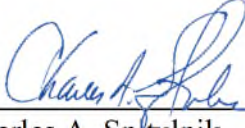
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*Counsel for The Commuter Rail Division of
the Regional Transportation Authority and
the Northeast Illinois Regional Commuter
Transportation Authority D/B/A Metra*

Dated: June 26, 2024

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I have, this 26th day of July 2024, served by email a copy of the foregoing Joint Status Update on all parties of record in this proceeding.



Charles A. Spitulnik