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SEC

SERVICE DATE – MAY 14, 2007

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DECISION

STB Finance Docket No. 34992

ITASCA COUNTY REGIONAL RAIL AUTHORITY—PETITION FOR
EXEMPTION—CONSTRUCTION OF A LINE OF RAILROAD IN ITASCA
COUNTY, MN

Decided: May 11, 2007

By petition filed on March 9, 2007, the Itasca County Regional Rail Authority, a political subdivision and noncarrier, seeks an exemption under 49 U.S.C. 10502 from the prior approval requirements of 49 U.S.C. 10901 to construct a 9-mile rail line from a connection with an existing rail line at Taconite, MN, to the site of a new steel mill to be built by Minnesota Steel Industries LLC at Nashwauk, MN, all located in Itasca County. Petitioner intends to enter into a contract with an existing short line railroad to provide common carrier rail service over the line to the steel mill and any other future customers.

The petition for exemption raises issues that require consideration by the Board. By this decision, the Board is instituting a proceeding under 49 U.S.C. 10502(b).

It is ordered:

1. Under 49 U.S.C. 10502(b), a proceeding is instituted.
2. This decision is effective on its date of service.

By the Board, Vernon A. Williams, Secretary.

Vernon A. Williams
Secretary