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OCC

SERVICE DATE – FEBRUARY 2, 2026

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DECISION

Docket No. AB 511 (Sub-No. 8X)

CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY OF INDIANAPOLIS—
ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION—IN HOWARD COUNTY, IND.

Decided: February 2, 2026

Central Railroad Company of Indianapolis (CERA) has filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR part 1152 subpart F—Exempt Abandonments to abandon two rail lines extending approximately 1.77 miles in the City of Kokomo, Howard County, Ind., consisting of the Tipton Industrial Lead from milepost 54.3 to milepost 55.6, and a segment of the Marion Subdivision from milepost 180.87 to milepost 181.26. Notice of the exemption was served and published in the Federal Register on January 23, 2026 (91 Fed. Reg. 2987). The notice indicated that the exemption would become effective on February 22, 2026, unless stayed by the Board or unless a formal expression of intent to file an offer of financial assistance (OFA) was filed by February 2, 2026. The notice also indicated that interim trail use/railbanking requests would be due by February 2, 2026, and petitions to reopen and requests for public use conditions would be due by February 12, 2026.¹ The Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) issued a Draft Environmental Assessment (Draft EA) on January 30, 2026.

Completion of environmental review and, if necessary, consideration of any conditions on CERA's abandonment exemption, could be delayed by the current lapse in the Board's appropriation and resulting cessation of operations. For that reason, the abandonment exemption will not become effective, and any relevant filing or Board deadlines on or after February 2, 2026, will be postponed, until further order of the Board.

It is ordered:

1. CERA's abandonment exemption will not become effective, and any relevant filing or Board deadlines on or after February 2, 2026, are postponed, until further order of the Board.

2. This decision is effective on its service date.

By the Board, Anika S. Cooper, Chief Counsel, Office of Chief Counsel.

¹ The City of Kokomo, Ind. filed a request for a public use condition on January 28, 2026.