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SERVICE DATE – MAY 27, 2022

DO

FR-4915-01-P

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

[Docket No. AB 314 (Sub-No. 9X)]

Chicago Central & Pacific Railroad Company—Abandonment Exemption—in Black Hawk County, Iowa

Chicago Central & Pacific Railroad Company (CCP) has filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 C.F.R. part 1152 subpart F—Exempt Abandonments to abandon an approximately 0.08-mile segment of rail line, totaling approximately 419 feet, situated from approximately 100 feet east of the CCP crossing with 11th Street at the location of the point of switch turnout through and including 51 feet of track in the 11th Street crossing and continuing west to the end of the line approximately 268 feet, in Waterloo, Black Hawk County, Iowa (the Line). The Line traverses U.S. Postal Service Zip Code 50703.

CCP has certified that: (1) no local traffic has moved over the Line for at least two years; (2) there is no overhead traffic on the Line that cannot be rerouted over other lines; (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 Surface Transportation Board (Board) or with any U.S. District Court or has been decided in favor of a complainant within the two-year period; and (4) the requirements at 49 C.F.R. §§ 1105.7(b) and 1105.8(c) (notice of

environmental and historic reports), 49 C.F.R. § 1105.12 (newspaper publication), and 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(d)(1) (notice to governmental agencies) have been met.

As a condition to this exemption, any employee adversely affected by the abandonment shall be protected under Oregon Short Line Railroad—Abandonment Portion Goshen Branch Between Firth & Ammon, in Bingham & Bonneville Counties, Idaho, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979). To address whether this condition adequately protects affected 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,¹ this exemption will be effective on June 26, 2022, unless stayed pending reconsideration. Petitions to stay that do not involve environmental issues,² formal expressions of intent to file an OFA under 49 C.F.R. § 1152.27(c)(2), and interim trail use/rail banking requests under 49 C.F.R. § 1152.29 must be filed by June 6, 2022.³ Petitions to reopen and requests for public use conditions under 49 C.F.R. § 1152.28 must be filed by June 16, 2022.

¹ Persons interested in submitting an OFA must first file a formal expression of intent to file an offer, indicating the type of financial assistance they wish to provide (i.e., subsidy or purchase) and demonstrating that they are preliminarily financially responsible. See 49 C.F.R. § 1152.27(c)(2)(i).

² The Board will grant a stay if an informed decision on environmental issues (whether raised by a party or by the Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) in its independent investigation) cannot be made before the exemption's effective date. See Exemption of Out-of-Serv. 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.

³ Filing fees for OFAs and trail use requests can be found at 49 C.F.R. § 1002.2(f)(25) and (27), respectively.

All pleadings, referring to Docket No. AB 314 (Sub-No. 9X), must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board either via e-filing on the Board's website or in writing addressed to 395 E Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on CCP's representative, Audrey E. Lane, Fletcher & Sippel LLC, 29 North Wacker Drive, Suite 800, Chicago, IL 60606.

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

CCP has filed a combined environmental and historic report that addresses the potential effects, if any, of the abandonment on the environment and historic resources. OEA will issue a Draft Environmental Assessment (Draft EA) by June 3, 2022. The Draft EA will be available to interested persons on the Board's website, by writing to OEA, or by calling OEA at (202) 245-0294. Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Comments on environmental or historic preservation matters must be filed within 15 days after the Draft 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.

Pursuant to the provisions of 49 C.F.R. § 1152.29(e)(2), CCP shall file a notice of consummation with the Board to signify that it has exercised the authority granted and fully abandoned the Line. If consummation has not been effected by CCP's filing of a notice of consummation by May 27, 2023, and there are no legal or regulatory barriers to consummation, the authority to abandon will automatically expire.

Board decisions and notices are available at www.stb.gov.

Decided: May 23, 2022.

By the Board, Scott M. Zimmerman, Acting Director, Office of Proceedings.