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BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Finance Docket No. 34501



216702

JAMES RIFFIN, dba THE NORTHERN CENTRAL RAILROAD – ACQUISITION AND
OPERATION EXEMPTION–ON USRA LINE 145, BETWEEN THE MARYLAND /
PENNSYLVANIA LINE (MP 35.6) AND HYDE (MP 54.6), A DISTANCE OF
APPROXIMATELY 19 MILES--ALL LINE LOCATED IN YORK COUNTY, PA.

FEE RECEIVED

APR 28 2004

SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION BOARD

VERIFIED NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

FILED

APR 28 2004

SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION BOARD

James Riffin dba The Northern Central Railroad (Applicant), a Non-Carrier, provides the following as his verified exemption notice to acquire and operate exemptions of approximately 19 miles of line within York County, PA, pursuant to 49 U.S.C. §10901. This action comes within the class of transactions which are exempt from regulations under 49 U.S.C. §10901.

1. The following 49 CFR §1150.33 details are provided:

(a) and (b): **APPLICANT** and representative to whom correspondences should be sent:

James Riffin dba The Northern Central Railroad
1941 Greenspring Drive
Timonium, MD 21093
Phone: (443) 414 - 6210 Fax: (410) 667-3533

(c): No agreement has been reached. York County, PA, the owner of the right-of-way, has sent a lease proposal to Riffin, which Riffin is reviewing.

(d): James Riffin dba The Northern Central Railroad will be the operator of the property.

(e): The following is a brief summary of the proposed activity:

The Applicant proposes to acquire (via a lease) and operate approximately 19 miles of line, known as USRA Line 145, extending between MP 35.6 (at the Maryland / Pennsylvania line) and MP 54.6 (Hyde, PA), all line in York County, PA. Applicant proposes to interchange with the Genesee and Wyoming Railroad. Applicant proposes to commence these activities within 90 days from the date this Verified Notice of Exemption is filed. The transferors of the line are the Commissioners of York County, PA.(Non-carriers). (The right-of-way was acquired by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, a non-carrier. Penn DOT then transferred its interests to the York County Commissioners.)

(f): A map is attached hereto.

(g): The Petitioner certifies that the projected annual revenues of the carrier to be created by this transaction, will not exceed the Class III carrier threshold, nor are they expected to exceed \$5,000,000.00.

2. Caption Summary required by 49 CFR §1150.34 is attached.

3. Environmental and Historical Impact:

Petitioner certifies that these activities will not exceed the thresholds established in 49 CFR §§1105.7 (e) (4) or (5), that per 49 CFR §1105.6 (c) (2) no environmental documentation need be prepared, and that the proposed activities will not affect any historic structures.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James Riffin dba The Northern Central Railroad".

Date: April 22, 2004

James Riffin dba The Northern Central Railroad,

VERIFICATION

I, James Riffin dba the Northern Central Railroad, having been duly sworn, state that I am the majority owner of James Riffin dba the Northern Central Railroad, that I have read the foregoing Notice of Exemption, and that its contents are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

James Riffin dba the Northern Central Railroad

James Riffin dba the Northern Central Railroad

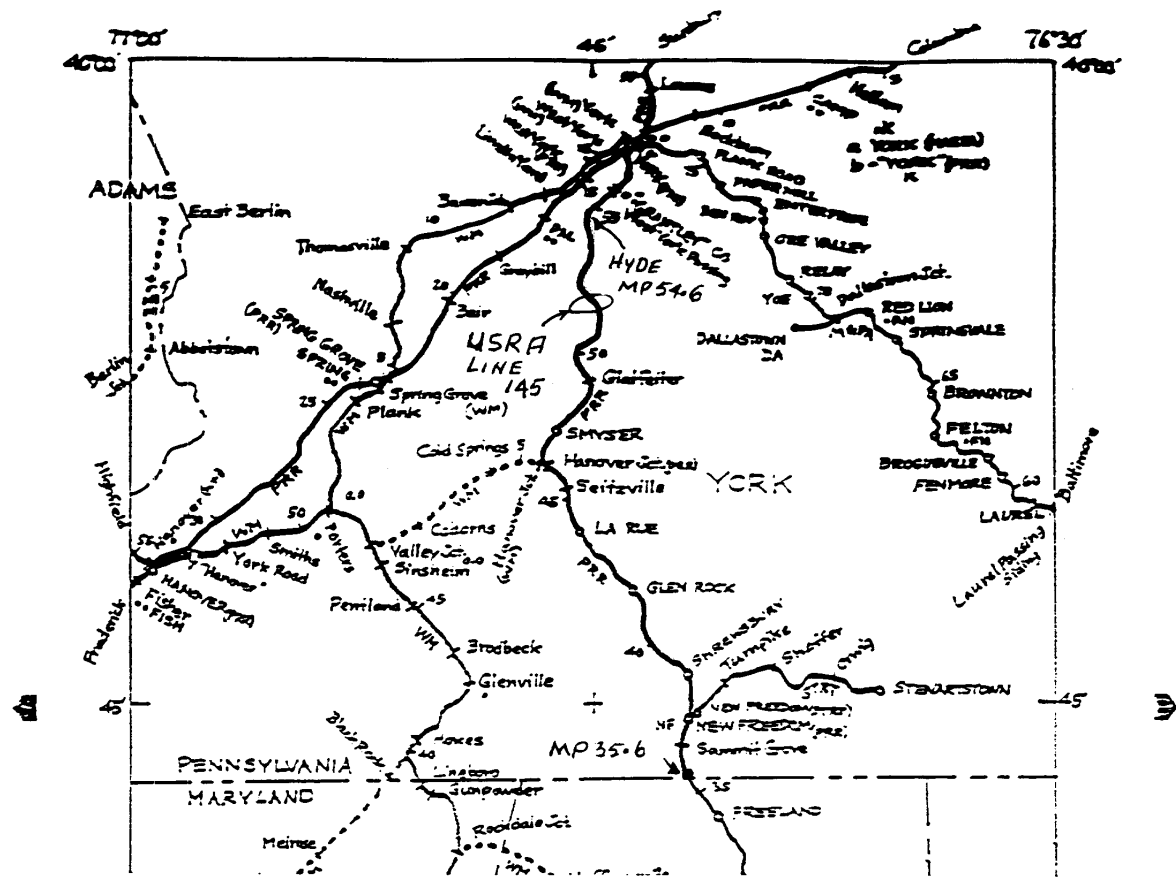
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 22nd day of April, 2004.

Lois V. Lowe

Notary Public

(SEAL)

LOIS V. LOWE
NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF MARYLAND
My Commission Expires March 28, 2006



NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

Finance Docket No. 34501

CAPTION SUMMARY

JAMES RIFFIN, dba THE NORTHERN CENTRAL RAILROAD – ACQUISITION AND OPERATION EXEMPTION—ON USRA LINE 145, BETWEEN THE MARYLAND / PENNSYLVANIA LINE (MP 35.6) AND HYDE (MP 54.6), A DISTANCE OF APPROXIMATELY 19 MILES--ALL LINE LOCATED IN YORK COUNTY, PA.

James Riffin, dba the Northern Central Railroad, a Non-Carrier, has filed a Notice of Exemption under 49 U.S.C. §10901 to acquire and operate 19 miles of line in York County, PA. This action comes within the class of transactions which are exempt from regulations under 49 U.S.C. §10901.

Comments must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board and served on James Riffin dba The Northern Central Railroad, 1941 Greenspring Drive, Timonium, MD 21093, telephone (443) 414-6210.

This Notice conforms to the format in 49 CFR §1150.34. If the notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void *ab initio*. Petitions to revoke the exemptions under 49 U.S.C. §10505 (d) may be filed at any time. Filing petitions to revoke will not automatically stay the transaction.

Dated:

By the Board: Vernon A. Williams

Secretary