

ENTERED
Office of Chief Counsel
March 20, 2026
Part of
Public Record

BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

FD 35217 (SUB-NO. 1)

STILLWATER CENTRAL RAILROAD, L.L.C.
—LEASE AND OPERATION EXEMPTION—
HOLLIS & EASTERN RAILROAD, L.L.C.

**VERIFIED NOTICE OF EXEMPTION OF
STILLWATER CENTRAL RAILROAD, L.L.C.
PURSUANT TO 49 C.F.R. PART 1150, SUBPART E**

Stephen J. Foland
Fletcher & Sippel LLC
29 North Wacker Drive, Suite 800
Chicago, Illinois 60606-3208
(312) 252-1500
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FEE RECEIVED
March 20, 2026
SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION BOARD

Dated: March 19, 2026.

**ATTORNEY FOR STILLWATER
CENTRAL RAILROAD, L.L.C.**

**FILED
March 20, 2026
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**VERIFIED NOTICE OF EXEMPTION OF
STILLWATER CENTRAL RAILROAD, L.L.C.
PURSUANT TO 49 C.F.R. PART 1150, SUBPART E**

Stillwater Central Railroad, L.L.C. (“SLWC”), a Class III rail carrier, hereby files this Verified Notice of Exemption (the “Notice”) pursuant to 49 C.F.R. part 1150, subpart E, to authorize SLWC’s updated and continued lease from Hollis & Eastern Railroad, L.L.C. (“HE”), and operation of, approximately 14.0 miles of railroad line extending from milepost 0.0 at Duke, and milepost 14.0, at Altus (the “Line”), located in Jackson County, Oklahoma.

Pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1150.43, SLWC submits the following information:

Name and Address of Applicant: 49 C.F.R. § 1150.43(a)

Stillwater Central Railroad, L.L.C.
315 West Third Street
Pittsburg, Kansas 66762

Applicant's Representative: 49 C.F.R. § 1150.43(b)

Stephen J. Foland
Fletcher & Sippel LLC
29 North Wacker Drive, Suite 800
Chicago, Illinois 60606
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sfoland@fletcher-sippel.com

Statement Concerning Agreement: 49 C.F.R. § 1150.43(c)

SLWC and HE have concluded an Amended and Restated Lease and Transportation Services Agreement, dated February 27, 2026, (the "Agreement"), updating and extending the current and long-standing arrangement for SLWC's lease and operation of the Line. The Agreement will take effect upon appropriate authorization from the Board.

Operator of the Property: 49 C.F.R. § 1150.43(d)

SLWC will continue to provide common carrier railroad freight service to all freight customers located along the Line.

Background and Summary of the Transaction: 49 C.F.R. § 1150.43(e)

The Line is located in Jackson County, Oklahoma. It extends from milepost 0.0, at the town of Duke (indicated as "East Duke" on some maps), to milepost 14.0, at the town of Altus. SLWC has leased the Line from HE since 2010. *See Stillwater Cent. R.R., Inc.—Lease and Operation Exemption—Hollis & E. R.R. L.L.C.*, FD 35217 (STB served Feb. 12, 2010). SLWC and HE have recently agreed to updated terms governing SLWC's continued lease from HE, and operation of, the Line. SLWC intends to consummate the proposed transaction upon the

effectiveness of the subject class exemption. The name and address of the railroad leasing the Line to SLWC is:

Hollis and Eastern Railroad, L.L.C.
c/o American Gypsum Company, L.L.C.
5960 Berkshire Lane, Suite 800
Dallas, Texas 75225

Map: 49 C.F.R. § 1150.43(f)

See Exhibits A-1 and A-2.

Certification of Eligibility: 49 C.F.R. § 1150.43(g)

See Certification and Verification.

Interchange Commitments: 49 C.F.R. § 1150.43(h)(1)

The Agreement contains no commitments or provisions prohibiting or limiting SLWC from interchanging traffic with a third-party carrier.

Advance Labor Notice: 49 C.F.R. § 1150.42(e)

SLWC's annual revenues are projected to exceed \$5 million, therefore triggering the sixty (60)-day labor notice requirement of 49 C.F.R. § 1150.42(e). SLWC has filed a petition for a waiver of the present labor notice requirements concurrently with this Notice, considering SLWC's continuous and exclusive operation of the Line for more than fifteen (15) years.

Environmental and Historical Preservation Data: 49 C.F.R. § 1105

Under 49 C.F.R. § 1105.6(c)(2), the proposed transaction is exempt from environmental reporting requirements. The proposed transaction will not

result in significant changes in carrier operations, *i.e.*, changes that exceed the thresholds established in 49 C.F.R. § 1105.7(e)(4) or (5).

Under 49 C.F.R. § 1105.8(b)(1), SLWC's lease of the Line is also exempt from historic preservation reporting requirements. The proposed transaction is for the purpose of continued rail operations. Additional Board approval would be required to discontinue any service, and there are no plans to dispose of or alter properties subject to Board jurisdiction that are fifty (50) years old or older.

Caption Summary: 49 C.F.R. § 1150.42(a)

A caption summary in appropriate form is attached as Exhibit B.

Respectfully submitted,

By: *Stephen J. Foland*

Stephen J. Foland
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Chicago, Illinois 60606-3208
(312) 252-1500
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**ATTORNEY FOR STILLWATER
CENTRAL RAILROAD, L.L.C.**

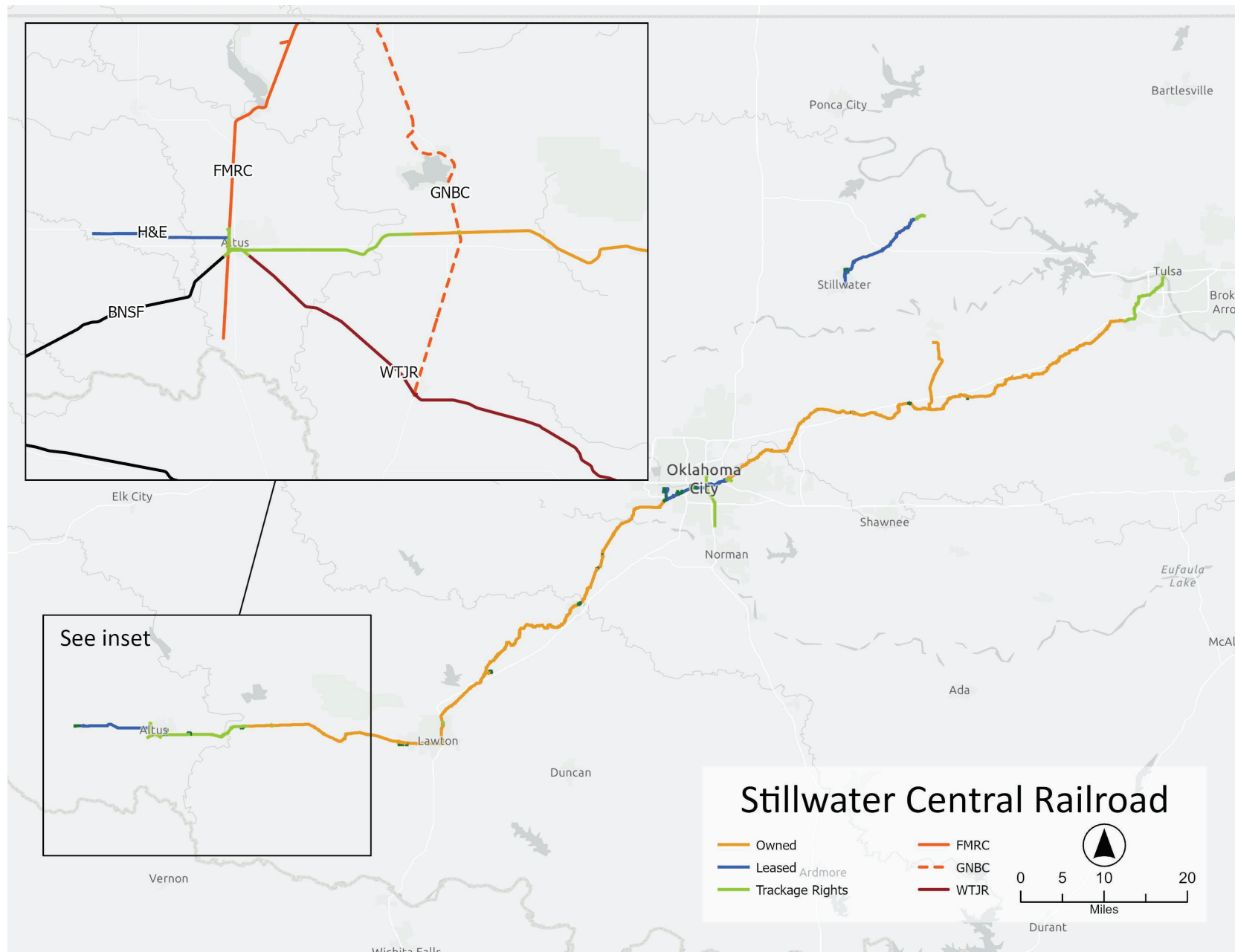
Dated: March 19, 2026.

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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

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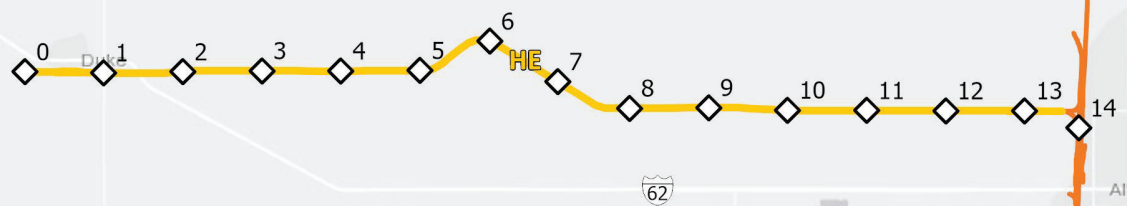
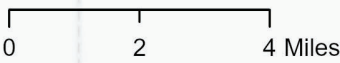
STILLWATER CENTRAL RAILROAD, L.L.C.
—LEASE AND OPERATION EXEMPTION—
HOLLIS & EASTERN RAILROAD, L.L.C.

EXHIBIT A
MAPS



Hollis & Eastern Railroad Map

- Hollis & Eastern Track
- FMRC Track
- Milepost
- BNSF Track



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EXHIBIT B
CAPTION SUMMARY

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HOLLIS & EASTERN RAILROAD L.L.C.

Stillwater Central Railroad, L.L.C. (“SLWC”), a Class III carrier, has filed a verified Notice of Exemption pursuant to 49 C.F.R. part 1150, subpart E, to authorize its updated and continued lease from Hollis & Eastern Railroad, L.L.C. (“HE”), and operation of, approximately 14.0 miles of railroad line extending from milepost 0.0 at Duke, and milepost 14.0, at Altus (the “Line”), located in Jackson County, Oklahoma.

Comments must be filed with the Board and served on: Stephen J. Foland, Fletcher & Sippel LLC, 29 North Wacker Drive, Suite 800, Chicago, Illinois 60606-3208, (312) 252-1500, sfoland@fletcher-sippel.com.

This Notice has been filed pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1150.41. If the Notice contains false or misleading information, the Exemption is void *ab initio*. Petitions to revoke the Exemption under 49 U.S.C. § 10502(d) may be filed at any time. The filing of a Petition to revoke will not stay the transaction automatically.

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**CERTIFICATION AND
VERIFICATION**

CERTIFICATION AND VERIFICATION

I, Rachael Peterson, hereby certify and verify the following under penalty of perjury:

1. I am the Executive Vice President and Chief Business Officer of Stillwater Central Railroad, L.L.C. ("SLWC");
2. I am authorized to execute this certification and verification on SLWC's behalf;
3. SLWC's agreement with Hollis & Eastern Railroad, L.L.C. ("HE") contains no commitments or provisions prohibiting or limiting SLWC from interchanging traffic with a third-party carrier;
4. SLWC's annual operating revenues, although projected to exceed \$5 million, have not and will not exceed the threshold of a Class I or Class II rail carrier; and
5. I have read the foregoing Verified Notice of Exemption, and know the facts stated therein to be true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

By: /s/



Dated: March 9, 2026