

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Surface Transportation Board****[Docket No. AB 384 (Sub-No. 3X)]****Delta Southern Railroad, Inc.—
Abandonment Exemption—in Desha
and Chicot Counties, Ark.**

On December 6, 2010, Delta Southern Railroad, Inc. (DSR), filed with the Surface Transportation Board (Board) a petition under 49 U.S.C. 10502 for exemption from the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 10903 to abandon a 24.1-mile rail line between milepost 408.9 at or near McGehee and milepost 433.0 at or near Lake Village, in Desha and Chicot Counties, Ark. The line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Codes 71638, 71653, and 71654. There are no rail stations on the line.

The line does not contain federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in DSR's possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it.

The interest of railroad employees will be protected by the conditions set forth in *Oregon Short Line Railroad—Abandonment Portion Goshen Branch Between Firth & Ammon, In Bingham & Bonneville Counties, Idaho*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979).

By issuing this notice, the Board is instituting an exemption proceeding pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 10502(b). A final decision will be issued by March 25, 2011.

Any offer of financial assistance (OFA) under 49 CFR 1152.27(b)(2) will be due no later than 10 days after service of a decision granting the petition for exemption. Each OFA must be accompanied by a \$1,500 filing fee. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).

All interested persons should be aware that, following abandonment of rail service and salvage of the line, the line may be suitable for other public use, including interim trail use. Any request for a public use condition under 49 CFR 1152.28 or for trail use/rail banking under 49 CFR 1152.29 will be due no later than January 12, 2011. Each trail use request must be accompanied by a \$250 filing fee. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(27).

All filings in response to this notice must refer to Docket No. AB 384 (Sub-No. 3X), and must be sent to: (1) Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street, SW., Washington, DC 20423-0001; and (2) Thomas F. McFarland, 208 South LaSalle Street, Suite 1890, Chicago, IL 60604-1194. Replies to DSR's petition are due on or before January 12, 2011.

Persons seeking further information concerning abandonment procedures

may contact the Board's Office of Public Assistance, Governmental Affairs, and Compliance at (202) 245-0238 or refer to the full abandonment or discontinuance regulations at 49 CFR part 1152. Questions concerning environmental issues may be directed to the Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) at (202) 245-0305. [Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.]

An environmental assessment (EA) (or environmental impact statement (EIS), if necessary) prepared by OEA will be served upon all parties of record and upon any agencies or other persons who commented during its preparation. Other interested persons may contact OEA to obtain a copy of the EA (or EIS). EAs in these abandonment proceedings normally will be made available within 60 days of the filing of the petition. The deadline for submission of comments on the EA will generally be within 30 days of its service.

Board decisions and notices are available on our Web site at <http://www.stb.dot.gov>.

Decided: December 20, 2010.

By the Board, Rachel D. Campbell,
Director, Office of Proceedings.

Andrea Pope-Matheson,
Clearance Clerk.

[FR Doc. 2010-32281 Filed 12-22-10; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Surface Transportation Board****[Docket No. FD 35452]****Wichita, Tillman & Jackson Railway
Company—Lease Renewal
Exemption—Union Pacific Railroad
Company**

Wichita, Tillman & Jackson Railway Company (WTJR) has filed a verified notice of exemption to renew its lease of approximately 40.48 miles of rail line consisting of two unconnected segments: ¹ (1) The Western Branch, owned by Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP),² extending between milepost 0.99 at Wichita Falls, Tex., and approximately milepost 17.54 near Burkburnett, Tex., at the Texas-

¹ WTJR was authorized to lease and operate the rail lines in *Wichita, Tillman & Jackson Railway Company—Lease and Operation Exemption—Missouri Pacific Railroad Company*, Docket No. FD 31787 (ICC served Jan. 8, 1991).

² The Western Branch was previously owned by Missouri Pacific Railroad Company (MP). Upon UP's acquisition of MP, UP assumed the lease agreement.

Oklahoma state line; and (2) the Walters Industrial Lead, owned by the Oklahoma Department of Transportation, extending between milepost 513.50 at Walters, Okla., and milepost 537.43 at Waurika, Okla. The current lease agreement is scheduled to expire on January 12, 2011.³

The transaction is related to a concurrently filed notice of exemption wherein WTJR seeks to renew its lease of 61.02 miles of the Western Branch in Oklahoma owned by the Oklahoma Department of Transportation. *Wichita, Tillman & Jackson Railway Company—Lease Renewal Exemption—Oklahoma Department of Transportation*, FD 35451.

This notice is filed under 49 CFR 1180.2(d)(4). If the verified 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 automatically stay the transaction.

As a condition to the use of this exemption, any employees affected by this transaction will be protected by the conditions imposed in *Norfolk and Western Railway—Trackage Rights—Burlington Northern, Inc.*, 354 I.C.C. 605 (1978), as modified in *Mendocino Coast Railway—Lease and Operate—California Western Railroad*, 360 I.C.C. 653 (1980).

An original and 10 copies of all pleadings, referring to Docket No. FD 35452, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street, SW., Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on Karl Morell, Suite 225, 1455 F Street, NW., Washington, DC 20005.

Board decisions and notices are available on our Web site at <http://www.stb.dot.gov>.

Decided: December 17, 2010.

By the Board, Rachel D. Campbell,
Director, Office of Proceedings.

Andrea Pope-Matheson,
Clearance Clerk.

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³ According to WTJR, the current agreement provides for an automatic 20-year extension if applicant provides proper written notice. WTJR submitted a copy of a renewal of lease agreement which it has also forwarded to UP.