

SSI payment amount in a timely manner, and prevent overpayments. Sheltered workshops are motivated to

report wages voluntarily as a service to their clients. Respondents are sheltered

workshops that report monthly wages for services performed in the workshop.

| Modality of completion                  | Number of respondents | Frequency of response | Average burden per response (minutes) | Estimated total annual burden (hours) | Average theoretical hourly cost amount (dollars) * | Average wait time in field office (minutes) ** | Total annual opportunity cost (dollars) *** |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|--|---|
| Sheltered Workshop Wage Reporting ..... | 800                   | 12                    | 9,600                                 | 15                                    | 2,400  | \$19.31 *                                      | 24 **                                       |

\*\* We based this figure on average Rehabilitation Counselors hourly salary, as reported by Bureau of Labor Statistics data (<https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes211015.htm>).

\*\* We based this figure on the average FY 2020 wait times for field offices, based on SSA's current management information data.

\*\*\* This figure does not represent actual costs that SSA is imposing on recipients of Social Security payments to complete this application; rather, these are theoretical opportunity costs for the additional time respondents will spend to complete the application. *There is no actual charge to respondents to complete the application.*

*Type of Request:* Revision of an OMB-approved information collection.

Dated: June 1, 2020.

**Naomi Sipple,**

*Reports Clearance Officer, Social Security Administration.*

[FR Doc. 2020-12147 Filed 6-4-20; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4191-02-P**

## **SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

**[Docket No. FD 36405]**

### **Merrimack & Grafton Railroad Corporation—Change of Operators Exemption—Line of New England Southern Railroad Co.**

Merrimack & Grafton Railroad Corporation (MGRC), a noncarrier, has filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1150.31 to replace New England Southern Railroad Co. (NESR) as the operator of an approximately 73-mile railroad line (the Line) owned by the State of New Hampshire. According to MGRC, the Line extends from milepost P 21.30 at Lincoln, N.H., to milepost C 0.58 at Concord, N.H., where the Line connects with tracks owned by Pan Am Railways.

MGRC states that it is a wholly owned subsidiary of Trans Rail Holding Company (TRHC) and was formed for the purpose of becoming the new operator of the Line. According to MGRC, NESR currently provides common carrier rail operations over the Line pursuant to an Operating Agreement between NESR and the New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT). According to MGRC, on April 30, 2020, TRHC entered into an agreement to purchase some of the business assets of NESR. As part of that agreement, NESR will assign all of its rights and obligations under the Operating Agreement to MGRC, subject to NHDOT's approval, which MGRC

states that it will obtain prior to the assignment.

This transaction is related to a concurrently filed verified notice of exemption in *Trans Rail Holding Co.—Continuance of Control Exemption—Merrimack & Grafton Railroad*, Docket No. FD 36403, in which TRHC seeks to continue in control of MGRC upon MGRC's becoming a Class III rail carrier.

MGRC certifies that the transaction does not involve any provision in any agreement that would limit future interchange with a third-party connecting carrier. MGRC certifies that its projected annual revenues as a result of this transaction will not result in its becoming a Class II or Class I rail carrier and further certifies that its projected annual revenues will not exceed \$5 million. Under 49 CFR 1150.32(b), a change in operator requires that notice be given to shippers. MGRC certifies that notice of the change in operator was provided to the shippers on the Line.

The transaction may be consummated on or after June 20, 2020, the effective date of the exemption (30 days after the verified notice was filed).

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 effectiveness of the exemption. Petitions to stay must be filed no later than June 12, 2020 (at least seven days before the exemption becomes effective).

All pleadings, referring to Docket No. FD 36405, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board either via e-filing or in writing addressed to 395 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on MGRC's representative, Thomas W. Wilcox, GKG Law, P.C., 1055 Thomas Jefferson Street NW, Suite 500, Washington, DC 20007.

According to MGRC, this action is categorically excluded from environmental review under 49 CFR 1105.6(c) and from historic preservation reporting requirements under 49 CFR 1105.8(b)(1).

Board decisions and notices are available at [www.stb.gov](http://www.stb.gov).

Decided: June 2, 2020.

By the Board, Allison C. Davis, Director, Office of Proceedings.

**Brendetta Jones,**  
*Clearance Clerk.*

[FR Doc. 2020-12228 Filed 6-4-20; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4915-01-P**

## **SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

**[Docket No. AB 55 (Sub-No. 800X)]**

### **CSX Transportation, Inc.—Discontinuance of Service Exemption—in Will County, Ill.**

CSX Transportation, Inc. (CSXT) has filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR part 1152 subpart F—*Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuances of Service* to discontinue service over an approximately 1.08-mile rail line on its Chicago Division, New Rock Subdivision, from Val Station 23+10 to Val Station 97+55, in Will County, Ill. (the Line). The Line traverses U.S. Postal Service Zip Code 60436.

CSXT has certified that: (1) No local traffic has moved over the Line for at least two years; (2) any overhead traffic can be rerouted over other lines; (3) no formal complaint filed by a user of rail service on the Line (or 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 or 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 CFR 1105.12

(newspaper publication) and 49 CFR 1152.50(d)(1) (notice to governmental agencies) have been met.

As a condition to this exemption, any employee adversely affected by the discontinuance of service 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) <sup>1</sup> to subsidize continued rail service has been received, this exemption will be effective on July 5, 2020, unless stayed pending reconsideration.<sup>2</sup> Petitions to stay that do not involve environmental issues and formal expressions of intent to file an OFA to subsidize continued rail service under 49 CFR 1152.27(c)(2) <sup>3</sup> must be filed by June 15, 2020.<sup>4</sup> Petitions for reconsideration must be filed by June 25, 2020, with the Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20423–0001.

A copy of any petition filed with Board should be sent to CSXT's representative, Louis E. Gitomer, Law Offices of Louis E. Gitomer, LLC, 600 Baltimore Avenue, Suite 301, Towson, MD 21204.

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

Board decisions and notices are available at [www.stb.gov](http://www.stb.gov).

Decided: May 29, 2020.

By the Board, Allison C. Davis, Director,  
Office of Proceedings.

Eden Besera,

Clearance Clerk.

[FR Doc. 2020–12112 Filed 6–4–20; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915–01–P

## SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

[Docket No. EP 682 (Sub-No. 11)]

### 2019 Tax Information for Use in the Revenue Shortfall Allocation Method

AGENCY: Surface Transportation Board.

ACTION: Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Board is publishing, and providing the public an opportunity to comment on, the 2019 weighted average state tax rates for each Class I railroad, as calculated by the Association of American Railroads (AAR), for use in the Revenue Shortfall Allocation Method (RSAM).

**DATES:** Comments are due by July 6, 2020. If any comments opposing AAR's calculation are filed, AAR's reply will be due by July 27, 2020. If no comments are filed by July 6, 2020, AAR's calculation of the 2019 weighted average state tax rates will be automatically adopted by the Board, effective July 7, 2020.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments may be filed with the Board either via e-filing or in writing addressed to: Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20423–0001.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jonathon Binet at (202) 245–0368. Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877–8339.

### WEIGHTED AVERAGE STATE TAX RATES

| Railroad  | 2019 (%) | 2018 (%) | % Change |
|---|----------|----------|----------|
| BNSF Railway Company .....                            | 5.234    | 5.312    | –0.078   |
| CSX Transportation, Inc .....                         | 5.097    | 5.238    | –0.141   |
| Grand Trunk Corporation .....                         | 8.129    | 8.130    | –0.001   |
| The Kansas City Southern Railway Company .....        | 5.711    | 5.422    | 0.289    |
| Norfolk Southern Combined Railroad Subsidiaries ..... | 5.697    | 5.753    | –0.056   |
| Soo Line Corporation .....                            | 8.181    | 8.193    | –0.012   |
| Union Pacific Railroad Company .....                  | 5.714    | 5.726    | –0.012   |

Any party wishing to comment on AAR's calculation of the 2019 weighted average state tax rates should file a

comment by July 6, 2020. *See* 49 CFR 1135.2(c). If any comments opposing AAR's calculations are filed, AAR's

reply will be due by July 27, 2020. *Id.* If any comments are filed, the Board will review AAR's submission, together

<sup>1</sup> Persons interested in submitting an OFA to subsidize continued rail service must first file a formal expression of intent to file an offer, indicating the intent to file an OFA for subsidy and demonstrating that they are preliminarily financially responsible. *See* 49 CFR 1152.27(c)(2)(i).

<sup>2</sup> CSXT states that it intends to consummate the discontinuance of the Line on July 7, 2020.

<sup>3</sup> The filing fee for OFAs can be found at 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).

<sup>4</sup> Because this is a discontinuance proceeding and not an abandonment, interim trail use/rail banking and public use conditions are not appropriate.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The RSAM figure is one of three benchmarks that together are used to determine the reasonableness of a challenged rate under the Board's *Simplified Standards for Rail Rate Cases*, EP 646 (Sub-No. 1), slip op. at 10 (STB served Sept. 5, 2007),<sup>1</sup> as further revised in *Simplified Standards for Rail Rate Cases—Taxes in Revenue Shortfall Allocation Method*, EP 646 (Sub-No. 2) (STB served Nov. 21, 2008). RSAM is intended to measure the average markup that the railroad would need to collect from all of its “potentially captive traffic” (traffic with a revenue-to-variable-cost ratio above 180%) to earn adequate revenues as measured by the Board under 49 U.S.C. 10704(a)(2) (*i.e.*, earn a return on investment equal to the railroad industry cost of capital). *Simplified Standards—Taxes in RSAM*, slip op. at 1. In *Simplified Standards—Taxes in RSAM*, slip op. at 3, 5, the Board modified its RSAM formula to account for taxes, as the prior formula mistakenly compared pre-tax and after-tax revenues. In that decision, the Board stated that it would institute a separate proceeding in which Class I railroads would be required to submit the annual tax information necessary for the Board's annual RSAM calculation. *Id.* at 5–6.

Pursuant to 49 CFR 1135.2, AAR is required to annually calculate and submit to the Board the weighted average state tax rate for each Class I railroad for the previous year. On May 28, 2020, AAR filed its calculation of the weighted average state tax rates for 2019, listed below for each Class I railroad:

Because there will be an environmental review during abandonment, this discontinuance does not require environmental review.

<sup>1</sup> *Aff'd sub nom. CSX Transp., Inc. v. STB*, 568 F.3d 236 (D.C. Cir. 2009), *vacated in part on reh'g*, *CSX Transp., Inc. v. STB*, 584 F.3d 1076 (D.C. Cir. 2009).