

delegation of authority, regulation, or procedure as amended from time to time.

(c) This Delegation of Authority shall be published in the **Federal Register**.

Dated: December 14, 2020.

**Jeffrey C. Mounts,**

*Comptroller, Department of State.*

[FR Doc. 2021-00796 Filed 1-14-21; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4710-37-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Delegation of Authority No. 354-3]

### Delegation of Authority to the Director of Financial Policy, Reporting, and Analysis of Certain Authorities Regarding Debt Collection and Waiver of Claims

#### Section 1. Delegation

By virtue of the authority vested in the Secretary of State by the laws and authorities of the United States, including those set forth in 22 U.S.C. 2651a; the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996, Public Law 104-134 (1996); the Office of Management and Budget's Determination with Respect to Transfer of Functions Pursuant to Public Law 104-316 (December 17, 1996); the Travel and Transportation Reform Act of 1998, Public Law 105-264 (1998); 5 U.S.C. 4108, 5379, 5514, 5522, 5524a, 5705, 5922, and 8707; 22 U.S.C. 2671, 2716, 4047 and 4071; and 31 U.S.C. Chapter 37, and delegated to the Comptroller by Delegation of Authority 354, dated April 23, 2013, I hereby delegate, to the extent authorized by law, the duties, functions and responsibilities for the administrative collection, compromise, suspension, termination of Department collection, advance decision, settlement, and waiver of claims of or against debtors of the Department of State, pursuant to the above-mentioned authorities, to the Director of Financial Policy, Reporting, and Analysis of the Department of State.

#### Section 2. General Provisions

(a) The Secretary of State, the Deputy Secretary, the Deputy Secretary for Management and Resources, the Under Secretary for Management, or the Comptroller may at any time exercise any function delegated by this delegation of authority. Functions delegated herein may not be re-delegated.

(b) Any reference in this delegation of authority to any act, executive order, determination, delegation of authority, regulation, or procedure shall be deemed to be a reference to such act, executive order, determination,

delegation of authority, regulation, or procedure as amended from time to time.

(c) This Delegation of Authority shall be published in the **Federal Register**.

Dated: December 14, 2020.

**Jeffrey C. Mounts,**

*Comptroller, Department of State.*

[FR Doc. 2021-00795 Filed 1-14-21; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4710-37-P**

## SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

[Docket No. FD 36478]

### Dakota Northern Railroad, Inc.—Lease and Operation Exemption—Rail Lines of BNSF Railway Company

Dakota Northern Railroad, Inc. (DN), a Class III railroad, has filed a verified notice of exemption pursuant to 49 CFR 1150.41 to lease from BNSF Railway Company (BNSF) and operate two rail lines totaling 59.84 miles: (1) Between the point of connection to BNSF at milepost 0.0, at or near Grafton, N.D., and the end of the line at milepost 48.38, at or near Walhalla, N.D.; and (2) between milepost 38.79, at or near Grafton, and the end of the line at milepost 50.25, at or near St. Thomas, N.D.

DN states that the proposed lease and operation is a continuation of an existing lease.<sup>1</sup> DN states that the parties anticipate reaching an agreement on the terms for the lease continuation in the near future and that a signed agreement is expected well before expiration of the current lease on January 31, 2021. According to DN, the proposed lease agreement will not contain any interchange commitments.

Further, DN certifies that its projected annual revenue will not exceed \$5 million and will not result in the creation of a Class I or II rail carrier.

The earliest this transaction may be consummated is January 29, 2021, 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 for stay must be filed no later than January 22, 2021 (at least seven days before the exemption becomes effective).

<sup>1</sup> See *Dakota N. R.R.—Lease & Operation Exemption—Rail Lines of BNSF Ry.*, FD 34816 (STB served Jan. 27, 2006) (authorizing lease and operation of 69.79 miles of line in North Dakota).

All pleadings, referring to Docket No. FD 36478, should be filed with the Surface Transportation Board via e-filing on the Board's website. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on DN's representative, Thomas F. McFarland, Thomas F. McFarland, P.C., 2230 Marston Lane, Flossmoor, IL 60422-1336.

According to DN, 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).

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

Decided: January 11, 2021.

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

**Eden Besera,**

*Clearance Clerk.*

[FR Doc. 2021-00773 Filed 1-14-21; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4915-01-P**

## SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

[Docket No. FD 36447]

### Lake Providence Port Commission—Feeder Line Application—Line of Delta Southern Railroad Located in East Carroll and Madison Parishes, La.

On November 12, 2020, Lake Providence Port Commission, a noncarrier political subdivision of the State of Louisiana (LPPC or Applicant), filed an application under 49 U.S.C. 10907 and 49 CFR part 1151 to acquire from Delta Southern Railroad, Inc. (DSR), a 20-mile rail line between milepost 471.0 and milepost 491.0, together with various ancillary tracks, in East Carroll and Madison Parishes, La. (the Line). Concurrently, LPPC and the Southeast Arkansas Economic Development District (SEAEDD) filed a petition seeking expedited consideration and acceptance of LPPC's application prior to submission of evidence regarding the Line's valuation. DSR filed a reply in opposition to the petition to expedite on December 2, 2020, and stated that it would respond to the application, if accepted, in accordance with the procedural schedule set by the Board.

By decision served December 11, 2020 (*December 11 Decision*), the Board found that the application was substantially complete, except for the absence of information pertaining to the net liquidation value (NLV) of the Line. *December 11 Decision*, slip op. at 1.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Section 1151.3(a)(4) requires an applicant to submit estimates and supporting information for

The Board waived its regulations at 49 CFR 1151.2(d) and conditionally accepted the application, even though the application did not contain the required NLV information, subject to Applicant's submission of an NLV estimate and supporting information by December 28, 2020. *Id.* at 1–2.<sup>2</sup> The Board also stated that LPPC should submit a copy of any contract pertaining to the Line with North Louisiana & Arkansas Railroad (NLA), the proposed operator of the Line, as soon as the parties reach an agreement. *Id.* at 6 n.17.

On December 22, 2020, LPPC submitted an estimate of the NLV and supporting evidence, along with the lease agreement between LPPC and NLA that would govern NLA's operation of the Line.<sup>3</sup> Accordingly, the Board will accept the application and will adopt the following procedural schedule as set out at 49 CFR 1151.2:

- Competing applications by other parties seeking to acquire all or any portion of the Line are due by February 16, 2021.
- Verified statements and comments addressing both the initial and competing applications must be filed by March 16, 2021.
- Verified replies by applicants and other interested parties must be filed by April 5, 2021.

*It is ordered:*

1. LPPC's feeder line application is accepted and notice will be published in the **Federal Register**.
2. The above schedule will govern this proceeding.
3. This decision is effective on its service date.

Decided Date: January 11, 2021.

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

**Aretha Laws-Byrum,**  
*Clearance Clerk.*

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**BILLING CODE 4915–01–P**

both the NLV and the going concern value (GCV) of the line. Here, however, LPPC asserts that the GCV of the Line is \$0 so only an NLV estimate was required for purposes of making the application complete. *See December 11 Decision*, slip op. at 5 & n.14 (also noting that if the application were accepted, DSR would have the opportunity to provide evidence and argument to counter LPPC's assertion that the Line has no GCV).

<sup>2</sup> The Board stated that, upon receipt of the NLV evidence by the specified date, it would publish notice of acceptance of the application and a procedural schedule in the **Federal Register**. *December 11 Decision*, slip op. at 2.

<sup>3</sup> On December 22, 2020, LPPC filed both public and confidential versions of the agreement. On December 28, 2020, LPPC filed an unredacted public version of the agreement previously filed under seal.

## OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

### Notice of Amendment to Product Exclusion and Product Exclusion Extension: China's Acts, Policies, and Practices Related to Technology Transfer, Intellectual Property, and Innovation

**AGENCY:** Office of the United States Trade Representative.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** Effective September 24, 2018, the U.S. Trade Representative imposed additional duties on goods of China with an annual trade value of approximately \$200 billion as part of the action in the Section 301 investigation of China's acts, policies, and practices related to technology transfer, intellectual property, and innovation. On June 24, 2019, the U.S. Trade Representative established a process by which U.S. stakeholders could request the exclusion of particular products subject to the action. The exclusions granted under the \$200 billion action were scheduled to expire on August 7, 2020. On May 6 and June 3, 2020, the U.S. Trade Representative invited the public to comment on whether to extend particular exclusions. On August 11, 2020, the U.S. Trade Representative announced its determination to extend certain previously granted exclusions. This notice announces the U.S. Trade Representative's determination to make a technical amendment to a previously granted exclusion and the extension to that exclusion.

**DATES:** The product exclusion amendment announced in annex A of this notice will apply from September 24, 2018 to August 7, 2020. The product exclusion extension amendment announced in annex B of this notice will apply from August 7, 2020 and continue through December 31, 2020. This notice does not further extend the period for product exclusions or extensions. U.S. Customs and Border Protection will issue instructions on entry guidance and implementation.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For general questions about this notice, contact Associate General Counsel Philip Butler or Assistant General Counsel Benjamin Allen, or Director of Industrial Goods Justin Hoffmann at (202) 395–5725. For specific questions on customs classification or implementation of the product exclusions identified in the Annex to this notice, contact [traderemedy@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:traderemedy@cbp.dhs.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

## A. Background

For background on the proceedings in this investigation, please see prior notices including 82 FR 40213 (August 24, 2017), 83 FR 14906 (April 6, 2018), 83 FR 28710 (June 20, 2018), 83 FR 33608 (July 17, 2018), 83 FR 38760 (August 7, 2018), 83 FR 47974 (September 21, 2018), 83 FR 49153 (September 28, 2018), 83 FR 65198 (December 19, 2018), 84 FR 7966 (March 5, 2019), 84 FR 20459 (May 9, 2019), 84 FR 29576 (June 24, 2019), 84 FR 38717 (August 7, 2019), 84 FR 46212 (September 3, 2019), 84 FR 49591 (September 20, 2019), 84 FR 57803 (October 28, 2019), 84 FR 61674 (November 13, 2019), 84 FR 65882 (November 29, 2019), 84 FR 69012 (December 17, 2019), 85 FR 549 (January 6, 2020), 85 FR 6674 (February 5, 2020), 85 FR 9921 (February 20, 2020), 85 FR 15015 (March 16, 2020), 85 FR 17158 (March 26, 2020), 85 FR 23122 (April 24, 2020), 85 FR 27011 (May 6, 2020), 85 FR 27489 (May 8, 2020), 85 FR 32094 (May 28, 2020), 85 FR 34279 (June 3, 2020), 85 FR 38000 (June 24, 2020), 85 FR 42968 (July 15, 2020), 85 FR 48600 (August 11, 2020), 85 FR 52188 (August 24, 2020), 85 FR 57925 (September 16, 2020), 85 FR 63329 (October 7, 2020), 85 FR 63332 (October 7, 2020).

Effective September 24, 2018, the U.S. Trade Representative imposed additional 10 percent *ad valorem* duties on goods of China classified in 5,757 full and partial subheadings of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS), with an approximate annual trade value of \$200 billion. *See* 83 FR 47974, as modified by 83 FR 49153. In May 2019, the U.S. Trade Representative increased the additional duty to 25 percent. *See* 84 FR 20459. On June 24, 2019, the U.S. Trade Representative established a process by which stakeholders could request exclusion of particular products classified within an 8-digit HTSUS subheading covered by the \$200 billion action from the additional duties. *See* 84 FR 29576 (June 24 notice). The U.S. Trade Representative issued a notice setting out the process for the product exclusions and opened a public docket. The exclusions the U.S. Trade Representative granted under the \$200 billion action expired on August 7, 2020. *See* 84 FR 38717 (August 7, 2019).

On May 6 and June 3, 2020, the U.S. Trade Representative invited the public to comment on whether to extend by up to 12 months, particular exclusions granted under the \$200 billion action. *See* 85 FR 27011 (May 6, 2020); 85 FR 34279 (June 3, 2020). On August 11, 2020, the U.S. Trade Representative