

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Maritime Administration**

[Docket Number MARAD 2007 0006]

**Maintenance and Repair
Reimbursement Pilot Program****AGENCY:** Maritime Administration,
Department of Transportation.**ACTION:** Notice of extension of
application deadline.

SUMMARY: The Maritime Administration is hereby giving notice that the closing date for filing applications to enroll in the Maintenance and Repair Reimbursement Pilot Program is extended until December 30, 2007. The notice announcing the initial application deadline was published in the **Federal Register** on July 2, 2007 (72 FR 36103). An extension to October 30, 2007 was previously published in the **Federal Register** on July 30, 2007 (72 FR 41581-01).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jean E. McKeever, Associate Administrator for Business and Workforce Development, Maritime Administration, 1200 New Jersey Ave., SE., Washington, DC 20590; phone: (202) 366-5737; fax: (202) 366-3511; or e-mail: Jean.McKeever@dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 3517 of the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2007 (Pub. L. 109-163) requires a person who is awarded a Maritime Security Program ("MSP") agreement to also enter into an agreement with the Maritime Administration to perform maintenance and repair ("M&R") work in United States shipyards as a condition of the MSP award. The Maritime Administration's M&R regulations do not apply the M&R condition to contractors who have already been awarded an M&R agreement. Thus, the Maritime Administration's M&R regulations make the M&R obligation mandatory on new awardees, including transferees, of MSP agreements, and voluntary for existing MSP contractors. The M&R regulations were published in the **Federal Register** on February 6, 2007 (72 FR 5342-01), but did not specify a time period for submitting applications. The deadline for applying for the M&R program is being extended to accommodate one or more carriers that are considering submitting applications, but need additional time to make a decision.

(Authority: 49 CFR 1.66)

Dated: October 24, 2007.

By Order of the Maritime Administrator.
Christine Gurland,
Secretary, Maritime Administration.
[FR Doc. E7-21303 Filed 10-29-07; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4910-81-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Surface Transportation Board**

[STB Docket No. AB-290 (Sub-No. 291X)]

**Norfolk Southern Railway Company—
Abandonment Exemption—in Grant
County, IN**

On October 10, 2007, Norfolk Southern Railway Company (NS) filed with the Surface Transportation Board a petition under 49 U.S.C. 10502 for exemption from the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 10903 in order to permit abandonment of 3.66 miles of rail line between mileposts TS 153.35 and TS 157.01 at Marion, in Grant County, IN (the line).¹ The line traverses U.S. Postal Service Zip Codes 46952 and 46953, and includes the stations of Kiley and Marion. NS states that service to Marion will continue via other NS lines.

The line does not contain Federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in NS'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 R. Co.—Abandonment—Goshen*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979).

By issuance of this notice, the Board is instituting an exemption proceeding pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 10502(b). A final decision will be issued by January 28, 2008.

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 \$1,300 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

¹ In its environmental and historic reports and its newspaper notice, NS states that the proposed abandonment will cover 3.91 miles of rail line, between mileposts TS 153.10 and TS 157.01. Prior to filing its petition for exemption, NS determined that it still required the use of the segment between mileposts TS 153.10 and TS 153.35, and therefore would seek an abandonment exemption only for the shorter segment described above. NS states in its petition that it has notified recipients of the environmental and historic reports in writing about the change.

49 CFR 1152.28 or for trail use/rail banking under 49 CFR 1152.29 will be due no later than November 26, 2007. Each trail use request must be accompanied by a \$200 filing fee. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(27).

All filings in response to this notice must refer to STB Docket No. AB-290 (Sub-No. 291X), and must be sent to: (1) Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street, SW., Washington, DC 20423-0001; and (2) James R. Paschall, Senior General Attorney, Norfolk Southern Corporation, Three Commercial Place, Norfolk, VA 23510-2191. Replies to the petition are due on or before November 26, 2007.

Persons seeking further information concerning abandonment procedures may contact the Board's Office of Public Services at (202) 245-0230 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 Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) 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 SEA 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 SEA 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: October 22, 2007.

By the Board, David M. Konschnick,
Director, Office of Proceedings.

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

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**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS
AFFAIRS****Performance Review Board Members**

AGENCY: Department of Veterans Affairs.
ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 4314(c)(4) agencies are required to publish a notice in the **Federal Register** of the appointment of