

regarding this collection, contact Pedro Ramirez at (202) 245-0333 or at [pedro.ramirez@stb.dot.gov](mailto:pedro.ramirez@stb.dot.gov). [Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.]

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Comments are requested concerning: (1) The accuracy of the Board's burden estimates; (2) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; (3) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology, when appropriate; and (4) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Board, including whether the collection has practical utility. Submitted comments will be summarized and included in the Board's request for OMB approval.

#### Description of Collection

*Title:* Class I Railroad Annual Report.  
*OMB Control Number:* 2140-0009.  
*Form Number:* R1.

*Type of Review:* Extension without change.

*Respondents:* Class I railroads.

*Number of Respondents:* Seven.

*Estimated Time per Response:* No more than 800 hours. This estimate includes time spent reviewing instructions; searching existing data sources; gathering and maintaining the data needed; completing and reviewing the collection of information; and converting the data from the carrier's individual accounting system to the Board's Uniform System of Accounts, which ensures that the information will be presented in a consistent format across all reporting railroads. See 49 U.S.C. 11141-43, 11161-64; 49 CFR 1200-1201.

*Frequency of Response:* Annual.

*Total Annual Hour Burden:* No more than 5,600 hours annually.

*Total Annual "Non-Hour Burden"*

*Cost:* No "non-hour cost" burdens associated with this collection have been identified. The information is submitted electronically.

*Needs and Uses:* Annual reports are required to be filed by Class I railroads under 49 U.S.C. 11145. The reports show operating expenses and operating statistics of the carriers. Operating expenses include costs for right-of-way and structures, equipment, train and yard operations, and general and administrative expenses. Operating statistics include such items as car-miles, revenue-ton-miles, and gross ton-miles. The reports are used by the

Board, other Federal agencies, and industry groups to monitor and assess railroad industry growth, financial stability, traffic, and operations, and to identify industry changes that may affect national transportation policy. Information from this report is also entered into the Board's Uniform Rail Costing System (URCS), which is a cost measurement methodology. URCS, which was developed by the Board pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 11161, is used as a tool in rail rate proceedings (in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 10707(d)) to calculate the variable costs associated with providing a particular service. The Board also uses this information to more effectively carry out other regulatory responsibilities, including: acting on railroad requests for authority to engage in Board-regulated financial transactions such as mergers, acquisitions of control, and consolidations, see 49 U.S.C. 11323-24; analyzing the information that the Board obtains through the annual railroad industry waybill sample, see 49 CFR 1244; measuring off-branch costs in railroad abandonment proceedings, in accordance with 49 CFR 1152.32(n); developing the "rail cost adjustment factors," in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 10708; and conducting investigations and rulemakings.

Under the PRA, a federal agency that conducts or sponsors a collection of information must display a currently valid OMB control number. A collection of information, which is defined in 44 U.S.C. 3502(3) and 5 CFR 1320.3(c), includes agency requirements that persons submit reports, keep records, or provide information to the agency, third parties, or the public. Under 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A), federal agencies are required to provide, prior to an agency's submitting a collection to OMB for approval, a 60-day notice and comment period through publication in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of an existing collection of information.

Information from certain schedules contained in these reports is compiled and published on the Board's Web site, <http://www.stb.dot.gov>. Information in these reports is not available from any other source.

Dated: July 18, 2016.

**Brendetta S. Jones,**

*Clearance Clerk.*

[FR Doc. 2016-17235 Filed 7-20-16; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4915-01-P**

## SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

[Docket No. AB 1011 (Sub-No. 3X)]

### Northern Lines Railway Company, LLC—Discontinuance of Service Exemption—in Stearns and Benton Counties, Minn.

On July 1, 2016, Northern Lines Railway, LLC (NLR) 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 discontinue rail service over approximately three miles of rail line (the Subject Segments) in East St. Cloud, Stearns and Benton Counties, Minn.

NLR is not the owner of the Subject Segments. The Subject Segments are owned by BNSF Railway Company (BNSF).<sup>1</sup> The Subject Segments connect to BNSF main lines between milepost 73 and milepost 75 and include: (a) All tracks accessed by Main 1 from Tracks 9967 and 9966; (b) Track 0132 along with Track 0146 and Track 0146's connecting industries within the wye complex at main line milepost 74; and (c) Track 0162, also known as Transfer 2.

NLR states that BNSF has advised NLR that some of the Subject Segments, based on information on BNSF's possession, do contain federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in NLR's possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it.

The interest of railroad employees will be granted 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 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 October 19, 2016.

Because this is a discontinuance proceeding and not an abandonment proceeding, trail use/rail banking and public use conditions are not appropriate. Because there will be environmental review during abandonment, this discontinuance does not require an environmental review.

Any offer of financial assistance (OFA) under 49 CFR 1152.27(b)(2) to subsidize continued rail service will be due no later than October 31, 2016, or

<sup>1</sup> NLR was granted authority to lease and operate the Subject Segments in *Northern Lines Ry., LLC—Lease and Operation Exemption—Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Ry.*, FD 34627 (STB served Jan. 6, 2005) (as modified by the decision in the same docket served June 3, 2005).

10 days after service of a decision granting the petition for exemption, whichever occurs sooner. Each offer must be accompanied by a \$1,600 filing fee. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).

All filings in response to this notice must refer to Docket No. AB 1011 (Sub-No. 3X) and must be sent to: (1) Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street SW., Washington, DC 20423-0001; and (2) Rose-Michele Nardi, Transport Counsel, PC, 1701 Pennsylvania Ave. NW., Suite 300, Washington, DC 20006. Replies to this petition are due on or before August 10, 2016.

Persons seeking further information concerning discontinuance procedures may contact the Board's Office of Public Assistance, Governmental Affairs, and Compliance at (202) 245-0238 or refer to the full abandonment and discontinuance regulations at 49 CFR pt. 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.]

Board decisions and notices are available on our Web site at [WWW.STB.DOT.GOV](http://WWW.STB.DOT.GOV).

Decided: July 18, 2016.

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

**Brendetta S. Jones,**

*Clearance Clerk.*

[FR Doc. 2016-17368 Filed 7-20-16; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4915-01-P**

## OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

### Generalized System of Preferences (GSP): Results of the 2015/2016 Annual GSP Review

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces the results of the 2015/2016 Annual GSP Review with respect to: Products considered for addition to the list of eligible products for GSP; products considered for removal from the list of eligible products for certain beneficiary countries; decisions related to competitive need limitations (CNLs), including petitions for waivers of CNLs; and requests for redesignations of products previously excluded from GSP eligibility for certain countries.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**  
Erland Herfindahl, Deputy Assistant

U.S. Trade Representative for GSP, Office of the United States Trade Representative. The telephone number is (202) 395-6364, the fax number is (202) 395-9674, and the email address is [Erland\\_Herfindahl@ustr.eop.gov](mailto:Erland_Herfindahl@ustr.eop.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The GSP program provides for the duty-free treatment of designated articles when imported from beneficiary developing countries. The GSP program is authorized by Title V of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2461 *et seq.*), as amended, and is implemented in accordance with Executive Order 11888 of November 24, 1975, as modified by subsequent Executive Orders and Presidential Proclamations.

### Results of the 2015/2016 Annual GSP Review

In the 2015/2016 Annual GSP Review, the TPSC reviewed: (1) Petitions to add 30 products to the list of those eligible for duty-free treatment under GSP; (2) petitions to remove GSP eligibility of five products for certain GSP beneficiary countries; (3) four petitions to waive CNLs for products from certain beneficiary countries; (4) products eligible for *de minimis* waivers of CNLs; (5) requests for redesignation of products previously excluded from GSP eligibility for certain beneficiary countries; and (6) country practice petitions previously submitted as part of the 2015/2016 Annual Review and earlier reviews.

In Presidential Proclamation 9466 of June 30, 2016 the President implemented his decisions regarding GSP product eligibility issues arising out of the 2015/2016 Annual GSP Review, including CNL waivers and product redesignations. This notice provides further information on the results of the 2015/2016 Annual GSP Review, including disposition of country practice petitions. These results, comprising seven lists, are available for public viewing at <http://www.regulations.gov> in docket USTR-2015-0013, under "Supporting and Related Materials" and at <https://ustr.gov/issue-areas/preference-programs/generalized-system-preferences-gsp/current-reviews/gsp-20152016>.

### Specific Results

The Administration added 27 travel and luggage goods products to the list of products eligible for duty-free treatment for least developed beneficiary developing countries (LDBDCs) and African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) countries and has decided to defer action on a decision for non-LDBDCs. The Administration denied the

petition to make certain effervescent wine (HTS 2204.21.20) eligible for duty-free treatment under GSP. The Administration has decided to defer a decision on final disposition of petitions to add essential oils of lemon (HTS 3301.13.00) and high-carbon ferromanganese (HTS 7202.11.50) to the list of products eligible for duty-free treatment under GSP for all GSP beneficiary countries. See List I (Decision on Petition to Add a Product to the List of Eligible Products for GSP).

The President removed polyethylene terephthalate (PET) resin (HTS 3907.60.00) and certain fluorescent brightening agents (HTS 3204.20.10 and HTS 3204.20.80) from India from GSP eligibility based on petitions from interested parties. The Administration denied the petitions to remove certain fluorescent brightening agents (HTS 3204.20.10 and HTS 3204.20.80) from Indonesia and PET film (HTS 3920.62.00 and 3921.90.40) from Brazil. See List II (Decisions on Petitions to Remove a Product from Certain Beneficiary Countries from GSP).

Articles that exceeded the CNLs in 2015 and that, effective July 1, 2016, are excluded from GSP eligibility when imported from a specific beneficiary country are described in List III (Products Newly Subject to Exclusion by Competitive Need Limitation).

The President granted petitions for waivers of CNLs for the following products: (1) Certain pitted dates (HTS 0804.10.60) from Tunisia; (2) certain inactive yeasts (HTS 2102.20.60) from Brazil; and (3) certain nonalcoholic beverages (HTS 2202.90.90) from Thailand. See List IV (Products Receiving a Waiver of the Competitive Need Limitation). The President denied the petition for a waiver of CNLs for certain motor vehicle parts and accessories (HTS 8707.50.95) from India.

The President granted *de minimis* waivers to 111 articles that exceeded the 50-percent import-share CNL but for which the aggregate value of all U.S. imports of that article was below the 2015 *de minimis* level of \$22.5 million. See List V (Decisions on Products Eligible for *De Minimis* Waivers). The articles for which *de minimis* waivers were granted will continue to be eligible for duty-free treatment under GSP when imported from the associated countries.

No products previously excluded from GSP eligibility for certain countries were redesignated as eligible for GSP as a result of the 2015/2016 Annual Review.