

other marginalized groups), and local governments are consulted in the design, and participate in the implementation and evaluation of, activities of the plan that affect such communities, organizations, and governments;

- counter the activities of criminal gangs, drug traffickers, and organized crime;
- investigate and prosecute in the civilian justice system government personnel, including military and police personnel, who are credibly alleged to have violated human rights, and ensure that such personnel are cooperating in such cases;
- cooperate with commissions against corruption and impunity and with regional human rights entities;
- support programs to reduce poverty, expand education and vocational training for at-risk youth, create jobs, and promote equitable economic growth particularly in areas contributing to large numbers of migrants;
- implement a plan that includes goals, benchmarks and timelines to create a professional, accountable civilian police force and end the role of the military in internal policing, and make such plan available to the Department of State;
- protect the right of political opposition parties, journalists, trade unionists, human rights defenders, and other civil society activists to operate without interference;
- increase government revenues, including by implementing tax reforms and strengthening customs agencies; and
- resolve commercial disputes, including the confiscation of real property, between United States entities and such government.

This certification shall be published in the **Federal Register** and, along with the accompanying Memorandum of Justification, shall be reported to Congress.

Dated: November 29, 2017.

Rex W. Tillerson,
Secretary of State.

[FR Doc. 2017-26427 Filed 12-6-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-29-P

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

[Docket No. FD 36128]

Vicksburg Southern Railroad, L.L.C.— Lease and Operation Exemption— Kansas City Southern Railway Company

Vicksburg Southern Railroad, L.L.C. (VSOR), a Class III rail carrier, has filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR. 1150.41 to continue to lease and operate from Kansas City Southern Railway Company (KCS) approximately 21.7 miles¹ of rail line consisting of the following lines located in Mississippi: (1) KCS's Redwood Branch, which is located between milepost 21.9, at the end of the line near Redwood, Miss., and milepost 220.3,² north of KCS's Vicksburg Yard, at Vicksburg, Miss; and (2) the portion of the Redwood Branch located between milepost 223.0, south of the connection with the KCS main line, and milepost 225.6.³

According to VSOR, it first entered into a lease agreement with KCS in 2005. See *Vicksburg S. R.R.—Lease & Operation Exemption—Kan. City S. Ry.*, FD 34765 (STB served Jan. 13, 2006). VSOR states that it recently entered into an amended and restated lease agreement (Amended Agreement) to extend the term of the lease through March 1, 2027, and to change the mileposts of the leased line and remove track numbers and buildings, as noted.

VSOR states that the Amended Agreement does not contain any provision that prohibits VSOR from interchanging traffic with a third party or limits VSOR's ability to interchange with a third party.

VSOR also certifies that its projected annual revenues as a result of the transaction will not result in VSOR becoming a Class II or Class I rail carrier and further certifies that its projected annual revenues will not exceed \$5 million.

The transaction may be consummated on or after December 21, 2017, 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

¹ By letter filed on November 30, 2017, VSOR corrected the length of the rail line from 21.5 miles to 21.7 miles.

² VSOR states that KCS agreed to extend the leased line from milepost 218.0 to milepost 220.3 to provide VSOR better access to KCS's Vicksburg Yard.

³ VSOR states that the Amended Agreement no longer includes track numbers 418, 419, 429, 430, 431, 432, and (as indicated in VSOR's November 30 letter) 433, and the locomotive facility buildings within the Vicksburg Yard. VSOR states that it intends to file for authority to discontinue its operations over those tracks.

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 December 14, 2017 (at least seven days before the exemption becomes effective).

An original and ten copies of all pleadings, referring to Docket No. FD 36128, 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, Karl Morell & Associates, 440 1st Street NW., Suite 440, Washington, DC 20001.

Board decisions and notices are available on our Web site at "WWW.STB.GOV."

Decided: December 4, 2017.

By the Board, Scott M. Zimmerman, Acting Director, Office of Proceedings.

Rena Laws-Byrum,
Clearance Clerk.

[FR Doc. 2017-26403 Filed 12-6-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-01-P

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

Webinar Meeting of the Regional Energy Resource Council

AGENCY: Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA).

ACTION: Notice of webinar meeting.

SUMMARY: The TVA Regional Energy Resource Council (RERC) has scheduled a webinar meeting to discuss guiding principles that TVA should consider when designing wholesale rate changes and the mechanisms TVA should use to engage Valley stakeholders in discussions relating to wholesale rate changes. The RERC initiated discussions on these issues at its meeting on November 29, 2017, and intends to continue those discussions at this scheduled webinar meeting.

The RERC was established to advise TVA on its energy resource activities and the priority to be placed among competing objectives and values. Notice of this webinar meeting is given under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA).

DATES: The webinar meeting will be held on Friday, December 22, 2017, from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., EST.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be conducted by webinar only. An individual requiring special accommodation for a disability, should let the contact below know at least a week in advance.