

CSH and the NGO consortium it is managing will also screen referrals submitted by PSGs and PSOs of refugee applicants before sharing referrals with PRM for consideration of whether referred refugee applicants meet the eligibility criteria to be granted access to the USRAP through the P-4 category.

As part of the online application process for PSGs, the NGO consortium will collect information on PSGs as part of completed applications submitted electronically by prospective private sponsors through the program website that is being built and managed by the consortium ([www.welcomecorps.org](http://www.welcomecorps.org)). This will include biographic information on each member of the PSG, evidence that each member of the PSG has completed the required background checks through a third-party identified by the consortium, evidence that at least one member of the PSG has completed required online training developed by the consortium, and details on how PSGs will plan to provide initial resettlement support to the refugees who are matched to them through the Welcome Corps.

In addition, the NGO consortium will also oversee a separate application process for PSOs and collect information from PSOs accordingly. This will include biographic information for a key point of contact at the PSO, background information on the organizational structure of the PSO, and information on the PSO's organizational resources and staffing capacity to mobilize, support, and oversee PSGs.

The NGO consortium will also collect information on refugee applicants referred by PSGs and PSOs for access to the USRAP through the P-4 category that will be submitted electronically by PSGs and PSOs through the program website. This will include biographic information on each refugee applicant being referred, claimed relationships of the principal refugee applicant to all derivatives on the referral, their immigration status in the country of asylum, a narrative of the principal applicant's refugee claim, and supporting documentation.

To support PRM's operational requirements to facilitate placements of refugee cases with PSGs (including those supported by specific PSOs), the consortium will share key biographic information of PSGs and PSOs with PRM. This will include points of contact of PSGs and PSOs, such as the name of the designated point of contact along with that private sponsor group member's address, phone number, email address, and other relevant contact information. Information collected by the NGO consortium on referred refugee

applicants will also be shared with PRM to enable PRM to determine whether applicants meet the eligibility criteria for access to the USRAP through the P-4 category.

The consortium will electronically transmit biographic information on PSGs and PSOs, along with information on refugee applicants, to PRM's Refugee Processing Center (RPC) through secure means. Biographic information on PSGs and PSOs will enable PRM to facilitate the matching of approved refugee applicants with approved PSGs or PSOs and to track the placement of refugee applicants, similarly to how PRM facilitates and tracks placement of refugee applicants supported by PRM's funded resettlement agency partners through the R&P Program. This will enable PRM to have a record of the relevant point of contact for each resettled refugee case supported by a PSG or PSO through the Welcome Corps.

The information on refugee applicants will enable PRM to assess the eligibility of referred applicants to access the USRAP through the P-4 category. Those meeting the eligibility criteria will be granted access to the USRAP for further processing. Referred refugee applicants approved for resettlement in the United States will be served by the private sponsors who referred them.

**Kevin E. Bryant,**

*Deputy Director, Office of Directives Management, U.S. Department of State.*

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**BILLING CODE 4710-33-P**

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## **SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

**[Docket No. FD 36717]**

### **OmniTRAX SBVR, LLC d/b/a South Branch Valley Railroad—Operation Exemption—Railroad Line of West Virginia State Rail Authority in Hampshire, Hardy, and Grant Counties, W. Va.**

OmniTRAX SBVR, LLC d/b/a South Branch Valley Railroad (OSL), a noncarrier controlled by short line holding company OmniTRAX Holdings Combined, Inc. (OmniTRAX), has filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1150.31 to assume operations over approximately 52.4 miles of rail line, extending from milepost 0.0 at Green Spring, W. Va., to milepost 52.4 at Petersburg, W. Va., located in Hampshire, Hardy, and Grant Counties, W. Va. (the Line).<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> OSL initially filed its verified notice on August 14, 2023. By order served September 8, 2023, the

The Line is owned and currently operated by the West Virginia State Rail Authority (Rail Authority). OSL states that it has reached an agreement with the Rail Authority (Agreement) under which OSL will replace the Rail Authority as the operator on the Line. OSL states that the Rail Authority will retain ownership of, and a residual common carrier obligation over, the Line post-transaction.

This transaction is related to the verified notice of exemption filed in *OmniTRAX Holdings Combined, Inc.—Continuance in Control Exemption—OmniTRAX SBVR, LLC*, Docket No. FD 36716, in which OmniTRAX and HGS Railway Holdings, Inc., seek to continue in control of OSL upon OSL's becoming a Class III rail carrier.

OSL certifies that its projected annual revenues will not exceed \$5 million and will not result in OSL's becoming a Class I or Class II rail carrier. OSL further certifies that it is not contractually limited in its ability to interchange traffic with any third-party connecting carrier.

The effective date of this exemption is October 11, 2023. 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 October 4, 2023 (at least seven days before the exemption becomes effective).

All pleadings, referring to Docket No. FD 36717, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board either via e-filing on the Board's website or in writing addressed to 395 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on OSL's representative, Robert A. Wimbish, Fletcher & Sippel LLC, 29 North Wacker Drive, Suite 800, Chicago, IL 60606-3208.

According to OSL, this action is categorically excluded from environmental review under 49 CFR 1105.6(c)(2), 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: September 21, 2023.

effective dates of the exemptions in this docket and in the related Docket No. FD 36716 were postponed pending further Board order to allow for further briefing and consideration of certain issues. On September 13, 2023, OSL filed an amended verified notice of exemption in Docket No. FD 36717 addressing the issues raised in the September 8 order.

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

**Raina White,**  
Clearance Clerk.

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## SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

[Docket No. FD 36716]

### **OmniTRAX Holdings Combined, Inc., and HGS Railway Holdings, Inc.—Continuance in Control Exemption—OmniTRAX SBVR, LLC d/b/a South Branch Valley Railroad**

OmniTRAX Holdings Combined, Inc. (OmniTRAX), and HGS Railway Holdings, Inc. (HGS) (collectively, Omni-HGS), both noncarriers, have filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1180.2(d)(2) to continue in control of OmniTRAX SBVR, LLC d/b/a South Branch Valley Railroad (OSL), a non-carrier entity controlled by OmniTRAX, upon OSL's becoming a Class III rail carrier.

This transaction is related to a verified notice of exemption filed in *OmniTRAX SBVR, LLC—Operation Exemption—Railroad Line of West Virginia State Rail Authority in Hampshire, Hardy, & Grant Counties, W. Va.*, Docket No. FD 36717, in which OSL seeks to operate an approximately 52.4-mile rail line (the Line) extending from milepost 0.0 at Green Spring, W. Va., to milepost 52.4 at Petersburg, W. Va., owned by the West Virginia Rail Authority.

Omni-HGS states that it will continue in control of OSL upon OSL's becoming a railroad common carrier. According to the verified notice, OmniTRAX and HGS are under joint managerial and operational control. OmniTRAX currently controls 22 Class III rail carriers: Alabama & Tennessee River Railway, LLC; Brownsville & Rio Grande International Railway, LLC; Central Texas & Colorado River Railway, LLC; Chicago Rail Link, L.L.C.; Cleveland & Cuyahoga Railway, LLC; Fulton County Railway, LLC; Georgia & Florida Railway, LLC; Georgia Woodlands Railroad, L.L.C.; Great Western Railway of Colorado, L.L.C.; Illinois Railway, LLC; Kettle Falls International Railway, LLC; Manufacturers' Junction Railway, L.L.C.; Nebraska, Kansas and Colorado Railway, LLC; The Newburgh & South Shore Railroad, LLC; Northern Ohio & Western Railway, L.L.C.; Omni River Ridge, LLC d/b/a River Ridge Railroad; Panhandle Northern Railroad, L.L.C.; Peru Industrial Railroad, LLC; Sand Springs Railway Company; Savannah

Industrial Transportation, LLC (SIT);<sup>1</sup> Stockton Terminal and Eastern Railroad; and The Winchester and Western Railroad Company. HGS controls two Class III railroads: HGS-ATN, LLC; and HGS-FCR, LLC.

Omni-HGS represents that: (1) the rail line to be operated by OSL does not connect with the rail lines of any of the rail carriers controlled by Omni-HGS; (2) the transaction is not part of a series of anticipated transactions that would result in such a connection; and (3) the transaction does not involve a Class I rail carrier. Therefore, the transaction is exempt from the prior approval requirements of 49 U.S.C. 11323. See 49 CFR 1180.2(d)(2).

Under 49 U.S.C. 10502(g), the Board may not use its exemption authority to relieve a rail carrier of its statutory obligation to protect the interests of its employees. However, 49 U.S.C. 11326(c) does not provide for labor protection for transactions under 49 U.S.C. 11324 and 11325 that involve only Class III rail carriers. Accordingly, because this transaction involves Class III rail carriers only, the Board may not impose labor protective conditions here.

The effective date of this exemption is October 11, 2023.<sup>2</sup> 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 October 4, 2023 (at least seven days before the exemption becomes effective).

All pleadings, referring to Docket No. FD 36716, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board via e-filing on the Board's website or in writing addressed to 395 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, one copy of each pleading must be served on Omni-HGS's representative, Robert A. Wimbish, Fletcher & Sippel LLC, 29 North Wacker Drive, Suite 800, Chicago, IL 60606-3208.

According to Omni-HGS, this action is categorically excluded from

<sup>1</sup> Omni-HGS notes that SIT has limited and provisional authority to operate pursuant to *Savannah Industrial Transportation, LLC—Operation Exemption—in Effingham County, Ga.*, FD 36489, slip op. at 6-7 (STB served Aug. 1, 2023).

<sup>2</sup> By order served September 8, 2023, the effective dates of the exemptions in this docket and in the related Docket No. FD 36717 were postponed pending further Board order to allow for further briefing and consideration of certain issues. On September 13, 2023, OSL filed an amended verified notice of exemption in Docket No. FD 36717 addressing the issues raised in the September 8 order.

environmental review under 49 CFR 1105.6(c) and from historic reporting requirements under 49 CFR 1105.8(b).

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

Decided: September 21, 2023.

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

**Raina White,**  
Clearance Clerk.

[FR Doc. 2023-21077 Filed 9-26-23; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

[Docket No. FAA-2023-1555; Summary Notice No. 2023-37]

### **Petition for Exemption; Summary of Petition Received; Billings Flying Service**

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of petition for exemption received.

**SUMMARY:** This notice contains a summary of a petition seeking relief from specified requirements of Federal Aviation Regulations. The purpose of this notice is to improve the public's awareness of, and participation in, the FAA's exemption process. Neither publication of this notice nor the inclusion or omission of information in the summary is intended to affect the legal status of the petition or its final disposition.

**DATES:** Comments on this petition must identify the petition docket number and must be received on or before October 17, 2023.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments identified by docket number FAA-2023-1555 using any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and follow the online instructions for sending your comments electronically.

- *Mail:* Send comments to Docket Operations, M-30; U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Room W12-140, West Building Ground Floor, Washington, DC 20590-0001.

- *Hand Delivery or Courier:* Take comments to Docket Operations in Room W12-140 of the West Building Ground Floor at 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

- *Fax:* Fax comments to Docket Operations at 202-493-2251.