

- *Form Number:* DS-5525.
- *Respondents:* Individuals or Households.
- *Estimated Number of Respondents:* 28,933.
- *Estimated Number of Responses:* 28,933.
- *Average Time per Response:* 30 minutes.
- *Total Estimated Burden Time:* 14,467 hours per year.
- *Frequency:* On occasion.
- *Obligation to Respond:* Required to Obtain a Benefit.

We are soliciting public comments to permit the Department to:

- Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper functions of the Department.
- Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the time and cost burden for this proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used.
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.
- Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Please note that comments submitted in response to this Notice are public record. Before including any detailed personal information, you should be aware that your comments as submitted, including your personal information, will be available for public review.

Abstract of Proposed Collection

The information collected on the DS-5525, Statement of Exigent/Special Family Circumstances for Issuance of a U.S. Passport to a Child under Age 16, is used in conjunction with the DS-11, Application for a U.S. Passport. The DS-5525 can serve as the statement describing exigent or special family circumstances, which is required if written consent of the non-applying parent or guardian cannot be obtained when the passport application is executed for a child under age 16.

Methodology

Passport Services collects information from U.S. citizens and non-citizen nationals when they complete and submit the DS-5525, Statement of Exigent/Special Family Circumstances for Issuance of a U.S. Passport to a Child under Age 16. Passport applicants can either download the DS-5525 from the internet travel.state.gov or obtain the form from an acceptance facility/passport agency. The form must be completed, signed, and submitted along

with the applicant's DS-11, Application for a U.S. Passport.

Matthew D Pierce,

Managing Director for Passport Support Operations, Bureau of Consular Affairs, Passport Services, Department of State.

[FR Doc. 2023-27021 Filed 12-7-23; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-06-P

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

[Docket No. AB 1296 (Sub-No. 1X)]

R. J. Corman Railroad Property, LLC—Abandonment Exemption—in Campbell County, Tenn.

On April 21, 2023, R. J. Corman Railroad Property, LLC (RJC Railroad Property), a non-operating Class III rail carrier, submitted a petition under 49 U.S.C. 10502 for an exemption from the prior approval requirements of 49 U.S.C. 10903 to abandon what it later clarified as approximately 3.67 miles of line in Campbell County, Tenn. (the Line).¹ According to the updated description, the Line extends approximately 2.0 miles from milepost 33 on the Oneida Line along Beech Fork before reaching a junction from which it continues in a southeasterly direction along Stoney Fork for approximately 1.67 miles before dead-ending in Clinchmore. The Line traverses U.S. Postal Service Zip Code 37714.

On November 17, 2022, the Board conditioned abandonment of a connecting line, known as the Oneida Line, on the abandonment of any 49 U.S.C. 10901 track that could be stranded by abandonment of the Oneida Line. *See R. J. Corman R.R. Prop., LLC—Aban. Exemption—in Scott, Campbell & Anderson Cntys., Tenn.*, AB 1296X, slip op. at 5-6 (STB served Nov. 17, 2022). According to RJC Railroad Property, this abandonment proceeding seeks to resolve the issue of any and all potentially stranded section 10901 track by formally seeking abandonment authority for the Line, which RJC Railroad Property has determined to be the only section 10901 track at issue. (Pet. 3.)

In addition to an exemption from 49 U.S.C. 10903, RJC Railroad Property

¹ After the Board ordered RJC Railroad Property to clarify the endpoint of the Line, the railroad on November 13, 2023, modified the description of the Line. (*See RJC R.R. Prop. Reply 1-2*, Nov. 13, 2023; *see also RJC R.R. Prop. Letter*, Nov. 28, 2023 (making conforming edits to the petition).) Thereafter, it also amended its Combined Environmental and Historic Report on November 20, 2023. Therefore, for the purpose of calculating upcoming statutory and regulatory dates, November 20, 2023, will be deemed the filing date for the petition for exemption.

seeks (1) exemption from the offer of financial assistance (OFA) procedures of 49 U.S.C. 10904 and waiver of the related regulations at 49 CFR 1152.27, (2) exemption from the public use provisions of 49 U.S.C. 10905 and waiver of the related regulations at 49 CFR 1152.28, and (3) waiver of the interim trail use provisions of 49 CFR 1152.29. RJC Railroad Property argues that these provisions are not necessary to carry out the rail transportation policy of 49 U.S.C. 10101 (RTP) and that granting the exemptions and waivers will instead promote the RTP by eliminating unnecessary procedures and expediting the process. (Pet. 12-13.) These requests will be addressed in the Board's final decision.

Based on the information in its possession, RJC Railroad Property states that the Line does not contain federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in RJC Railroad Property's possession will be made available to those requesting it.

The interest of railroad employees will be protected 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 decision served July 20, 2023, the Board instituted a proceeding pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 10502(b). A final decision will be issued by March 8, 2024. *See* 49 CFR 1152.26(a); *R. J. Corman R.R. Prop., LLC—Aban. Exemption—in Scott, Campbell, & Anderson Cntys., Tenn.*, AB 1296X et al., slip op. 6 n.9 (STB served Oct. 11, 2023).

Any OFA under 49 CFR 1152.27(b)(2) will be due no later than March 19, 2024 (120 days after the November 20, 2023 deemed filing date of the petition) or 10 days after service of a decision granting the petition for exemption, whichever occurs sooner. Persons interested in submitting an OFA must first file a formal expression of intent to file an offer by December 18, 2023, indicating the type of financial assistance they wish to provide (*i.e.*, subsidy or purchase) and demonstrating that they are preliminarily financially responsible. *See* 49 CFR 1152.27(c)(1)(i).

Following abandonment, the Line may be suitable for other public use, including interim trail use. Any request for a public use condition under 49 CFR 1152.28 or for interim trail use/rail banking under 49 CFR 1152.29 will be due no later than December 28, 2023.²

² Filing fees for OFAs and trail use requests can be found at 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25) and (27), respectively.

All pleadings, referring to Docket No. AB 1296 (Sub-No. 1X), 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 RJC Railroad Property's representative, Catherine S. Wright, Jackson Kelly PLLC, 100 West Main Street, Suite 700, Lexington, KY 40588-2150. Replies to the petition are due on or before December 28, 2023.

Persons seeking further information concerning abandonment procedures may contact the Board's Office of Public Assistance, Governmental Affairs, and Compliance at (202) 245-0238 or refer to the full abandonment regulations at 49 CFR part 1152. Questions concerning environmental issues may be directed to the Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) at (202) 245-0294. If you require an accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act, please call (202) 245-0245.

A Draft Environmental Assessment (Draft EA) (or Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Draft EIS), if necessary) prepared by OEA will be served upon all parties of record and upon any other agencies or persons who comment during its preparation. Other interested persons may contact OEA to obtain a copy of the Draft EA (or Draft EIS). Draft EAs in abandonment proceedings normally will be made available within 60 days of the filing of the petition. The deadline for submission of comments on a Draft EA generally will be within 30 days of its service.

Board decisions and notices are available at www.stb.gov.

Decided: December 4, 2023.

By the Board, Mai T. Dinh, Director, Office of Proceedings.

Brendetta Jones,
Clearance Clerk.

[FR Doc. 2023-26958 Filed 12-7-23; 8:45 am]

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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

[Docket No. AB 1336X]

Katahdin Railcar Services LLC— Discontinuance of Service Exemption—in Monroe County, Ohio

On November 20, 2023, Katahdin Railcar Services LLC (KRS), a Class III rail carrier, filed a petition under 49 U.S.C. 10502 for exemption from the prior approval requirements of 49 U.S.C. 10903 to discontinue service over approximately 12.2 miles of rail line in Monroe County, Ohio, extending

between milepost 60.5 near Powhatan Point, Ohio, and milepost 72.7 near Hannibal, Ohio (the Omal Line). The Omal Line traverses U.S. Postal Service Zip Codes 43942 and 43915. The Omal Line includes the following stations: Omal, Clarrington, and Powhatan Point.

KRS states that it was authorized to operate the Omal Line pursuant to a lease with the Omal Line's former owner, Ohio River Partners Shareholder LLC (ORPS), in 2020.¹ (Pet. 1.) According to KRS, in 2023 East Ohio Valley Railway LLC (EOVR) obtained Board authority to acquire the Omal Line from ORPS and operate it.² KRS states that, pursuant to that authority, EOVR acquired the Omal Line and commenced operations as of October 1, 2023, at which time KRS's lease was terminated. (*Id.* at 1-2.) As such, KRS states that it now seeks authority to discontinue its operations and end its common carrier obligation with respect to the Omal Line. (*Id.*) According to KRS, the proposed discontinuance would not leave any Omal Line customer without access to railroad common carrier service, as all customers now have service via EOVR. (*Id.*)

KRS states that, based on the information in its possession, the Omal Line does not contain federally granted rights-of-way and that any documentation in its possession will be made available to those requesting it. (*Id.* at 3.)

As a condition to this exemption, any employee adversely affected by the discontinuance of service shall be protected under *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 March 8, 2024.

Because this is a discontinuance proceeding and not an abandonment, interim trail use/rail banking and public use conditions are not appropriate. Because there will be environmental review during any subsequent abandonment, this discontinuance does not require an environmental review. See 49 CFR 1105.6(c)(5), 1105.8(b).

¹ See *Fortress Invest. Grp. LLC—Exemption for Intra-Corp. Fam. Transaction—Ohio River Partners S'holder LLC*, Docket No. FD 36402 (STB served May 15, 2020); see also *Katahdin Railcar Servs. LLC—Change in Operators Exemption—Ohio Terminal Ry.*, Docket No. FD 36487 (STB served March 30, 2021).

² See *E. Ohio Valley Ry.—Acquis. & Operation Exemption—Ohio River Partners S'holder LLC*, Docket No. FD 36682 (STB served March 31, 2023).

Any offer of financial assistance (OFA) for subsidy under 49 CFR 1152.27(b)(2) will be due no later than 120 days after the filing of the petition for exemption, or 10 days after service of a decision granting the petition for exemption, whichever occurs sooner.³ Persons interested in submitting an OFA must first file a formal expression of intent to file an offer by December 18, 2023, indicating the intent to file an OFA for subsidy and demonstrating that they are preliminarily financially responsible. See 49 CFR 1152.27(c)(1)(i).

All filings in response to this notice must refer to Docket No. AB 1336X and 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 KRS's representative, Terence M. Hynes, Sidley Austin LLP, 1501 K Street NW, Washington, DC 20005. Replies to the petition are due on or before December 28, 2023.

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 part 1152. Questions concerning environmental issues may be directed to the Board's Office of Environmental Analysis at (202) 245-0294. If you require accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act, please call (202) 245-0245.

Board decisions and notices are available at www.stb.gov.

Dated: December 1, 2023.

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

Kenyatta Clay,
Clearance Clerk.

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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

[Docket No. FD 36726]

Pan Am Southern LLC—Temporary Overhead Trackage Rights—Boston and Maine Corporation and Springfield Terminal Railway Corporation

On September 21, 2023, Pan Am Southern LLC (PAS) filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1180.2(d)(8) to acquire temporary overhead trackage rights over a line

³ The filing fee for OFAs can be found at 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).