

pursuant to the authority vested in me by the Act of October 19, 1965 (79 Stat. 985; 22 U.S.C. 2459), E.O. 12047 of March 27, 1978, the Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act of 1998 (112 Stat. 2681, *et seq.*; 22 U.S.C. 6501 note, *et seq.*), Delegation of Authority No. 234 of October 1, 1999, Delegation of Authority No. 236–3 of August 28, 2000 (and, as appropriate, Delegation of Authority No. 257–1 of December 11, 2015). I have ordered that Public Notice of these determinations be published in the **Federal Register**.

**Alyson Grunder,**

*Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Department of State.*

[FR Doc. 2017–22410 Filed 10–16–17; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4710–05–P**

## **SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

[Docket No. AB 1247; Docket No. AB 1248]

### **Buckeye East Chicago Railroad LLC—Abandonment Exemption—in Lake County, Ind.; Landisville Railroad, LLC—Discontinuance Exemption—in Lake County, Ind.**

On September 27, 2017, Buckeye East Chicago Railroad LLC (BECR) and Landisville Railroad, LLC (Landisville) (collectively, Petitioners) jointly filed with the Surface Transportation Board (Board) a petition under 49 U.S.C. 10502 for exemption from the prior approval requirements of 49 U.S.C. 10903 to abandon and discontinue, respectively, approximately 1.34 miles of rail line located within the East Chicago Transload Facility (Facility) at or near 400 East Columbus Drive in East Chicago, Lake County, Ind. (the Line). The Line traverses United States Postal Service ZIP Code 46312. Petitioners state the Line does not include stations other than the Facility and does not have milepost designations.

According to Petitioners, Landisville exclusively provides transloading and interchange services on behalf of BECR to a connection with the Indiana Harbor Belt Railroad (IHBR). Petitioners state that Buckeye Terminals, LLC, the operator of the Facility, is the only shipper on the Line. Upon consummation of the proposed transaction, Petitioners state that IHBR would continue to pick up and deliver traffic to the Facility as a common carrier. Petitioners also state that Buckeye Terminals, which will be BECR's successor as owner of the Line, or Landisville, as a private contract operator to Buckeye Terminals, will move cars around the Facility and

provide the transload services, but would do so over private track that would no longer be subject to the Board's jurisdiction. Petitioners state that no other customers have requested common carrier service from either BECR or Landisville.

The parties state that Buckeye Partners, as the parent of both BECR and Buckeye Terminals, has consented to and supports the proposed abandonment and discontinuance. Petitioners state that Landisville is also willing to accommodate the abandonment of the Line by seeking discontinuance of its common carrier operating right over the Line.

According to the Petitioners, the Line is stub-ended and therefore may not accommodate overhead traffic. The Petitioners state that, based on information in BECR's and Buckeye Terminals' possession, the Line does not contain federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in their 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 Railroad—Abandonment Portion Goshen Branch Between Firth & Ammon, in Bingham & Bonneville Counties, Idaho*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979).

By issuing 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 12, 2018.

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 \$1,800 filing fee. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).

All interested persons should be aware that, following discontinuance and 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 November 6, 2017. Each interim trail use request must be accompanied by a \$300 filing fee. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(27).

All filings in response to this notice must refer to Docket Nos. AB 1247 and AB 1248 and must be sent to: (1) Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street SW., Washington, DC 20423–0001; (2) Charles A. Spitulnik, Kaplan Kirsch & Rockwell LLP, 1001 Connecticut Avenue NW., Suite 800, Washington, DC 20036; and (3) Eric M. Hocky, Clark Hill PLC, One Commerce Square, 2005 Market Street, Suite 1000, Philadelphia,

PA 19102. Replies to the petition are due on or before November 6, 2017.

Persons seeking further information concerning abandonment or 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 or discontinuance regulations at 49 CFR part 1152. Questions concerning environmental issues may be directed to the Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) at (202) 245–0305. 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 OEA will be served upon all parties of record and upon any agencies or other persons who comment during its preparation. Other interested persons may contact OEA to obtain a copy of the EA (or EIS). 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 the EA generally will be within 30 days of its service.

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

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

*Decided:* October 12, 2017.

**Tammy Lowery,**  
*Clearance Clerk.*

[FR Doc. 2017–22465 Filed 10–16–17; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4915–01–P**

## **SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

[Docket No. AB 1249]

### **Buckeye Hammond Railroad LLC—Abandonment Exemption—in Lake County, Ind.**

On September 27, 2017, Buckeye Hammond Railroad LLC (BHRR) filed with the Surface Transportation Board (Board) a petition under 49 U.S.C. 10502 for exemption from the prior approval requirements of 49 U.S.C. 10903 to abandon approximately 1.29 miles of rail line located within the Hammond Transload Facility (Facility) in Hammond, Lake County, Ind., traversing United States Postal Service Zip Codes 46320 and 46312 (the Line). BHRR states that the Line does not include stations other than the Facility and does not have milepost designations.

According to BHRR, Buckeye Terminals, LLC, is the only shipper on the Line, which is used exclusively for

transloading and interchange with the Indiana Harbor Belt Railroad (IHBR). Upon consummation of the proposed transaction, BHRR states that IHBR would continue to pick up and deliver traffic to the Facility as a common carrier. BHRR states that, Buckeye Terminals, which will be BHRR's successor as owner of the Line, or a contractor for Buckeye Terminals, would move cars around the Facility for its own internal use. According to BHRR, Buckeye Terminals would continue to receive and deliver traffic to IBHR at the property, but would do so over private track that would no longer be subject to this Board's jurisdiction. BHRR states that no other customers have requested common carrier service from BHRR.

According to BHRR, the Line is stub-ended and therefore may not accommodate overhead traffic. BHRR states that, based on information in its and Buckeye Terminals' possession, the Line does not contain federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in their 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 Railroad—Abandonment Portion Goshen Branch Between Firth & Ammon, in Bingham & Bonneville Counties, Idaho*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979).

By issuing 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 12, 2018.

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 \$1,800 filing fee. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).

All interested persons should be aware that, 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 November 6, 2017. Each interim trail use request must be accompanied by a \$300 filing fee. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(27).

All filings in response to this notice must refer to Docket No. AB 1249 and must be sent to: (1) Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street SW., Washington, DC 20423-0001; and (2) Charles A. Spitulnik, Kaplan Kirsch & Rockwell LLP, 1001 Connecticut Avenue NW., Suite 800, Washington, DC 20036. Replies to the petition are due on or before November 6, 2017.

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) 245-0305. 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 OEA will be served upon all parties of record and upon any agencies or other persons who comment during its preparation. Other interested persons may contact OEA to obtain a copy of the EA (or EIS). 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 the EA generally will be within 30 days of its service.

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

Decided: October 12, 2017.

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

**Tammy Lowery,**  
Clearance Clerk.

[FR Doc. 2017-22477 Filed 10-16-17; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4915-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

[Summary Notice No. PE-2017-79]

#### Petition for Exemption; Summary of Petition Received

**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, this aspect of the FAA's regulatory activities. 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

involved and must be received on or before October 27, 2017.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments identified by docket number FAA-2017-0968 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.

*Privacy:* In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its rulemaking process. DOT posts these comments, without edit, including any personal information the commenter provides, to <http://www.regulations.gov>, as described in the system of records notice (DOT/ALL-14 FDMS), which can be reviewed at <http://www.dot.gov/privacy>.

*Docket:* Background documents or comments received may be read at <http://www.regulations.gov> at any time. Follow the online instructions for accessing the docket or go to the 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.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Lynette Mitterer, AIR-673, Federal Aviation Administration, 1601 Lind Avenue SW., Renton, WA 98057-3356, email [Lynette.Mitterer@faa.gov](mailto:Lynette.Mitterer@faa.gov), phone (425) 227-1047; or Alphonso Pendergrass, ARM-200, Office of Rulemaking, Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20591, email [alphonso.pendergrass@faa.gov](mailto:alphonso.pendergrass@faa.gov), phone (202) 267-4713.

This notice is published pursuant to 14 CFR 11.85.

**Victor Wicklund,**  
Manager, Transport Standards Branch.

#### Petition for Exemption

*Docket No.:* FAA-2017-0968.

*Petitioner:* Boeing.

*Sections of 14 CFR Affected:* §§ 25.959 and 25.1322(d)(1).