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 Office of Proceedings
 December 17, 2019
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 Public Record

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December 17, 2019

VIA E-FILING

Cynthia T. Brown, Chief
 Section of Administration, Office of Proceedings
 Surface Transportation Board
 395 E Street, SW
 Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

RE: Norfolk Southern Railway Company – Abandonment of Service Exemption – In
 Aurora, Portage County, Ohio, AB-290 (Sub-No. 394X)

Notice of Consummation

Dear Ms. Brown:

On November 13, 2017, Norfolk Southern Railway Company (“NSR”) filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 C.F.R. pt. 1152 subpart F—Exempt Abandonments for NSR to abandon rail service over approximately 5.5 miles of rail line between milepost RH 22.0 and milepost RH 27.5 in Aurora, Portage County, Ohio (the “Line”). Notice of the exemption was served and published in the Federal Register on December 1, 2017 (82 Fed. Reg. 57,021). Subsequently, on December 28, 2017, the Board served a decision, which imposed a condition directing NSR to take no steps to alter the historic integrity of all historic properties including sites, buildings, structures, and objects (including track and track material) within the project right-of-way or APE eligible for listing or listed in the National Register until completion of the Section 106 process of the National Historic Preservation Act (“Section 106”). NSR spent nearly eighteen months working with the Ohio State Historic Preservation Office (“SHPO”) and the Board’s Office of Environmental Analysis (“OEA”) to resolve the Section 106 condition. In a decision served on May 20, 2019, the Board removed the Section 106 condition imposed in the December 28, 2017 decision after the parties executed a Memorandum of Agreement that was negotiated to complete the Section 106 process.¹

¹ Because resolution of the Section 106 process took so long, NSR sought and Board granted NSR a one-year extension of the deadline for filing a notice of consummation in this proceeding. See Director’s decision served June 12, 2019, which extended the consummation deadline to July 19, 2020.

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In accordance with the provisions of 49 C.F.R. § 1152.29(e)(2) and the Board's December 1, 2017 decision (as modified by the Board's decisions served December 28, 2017, March 16, 2018, May 20, 2019, and June 12, 2019), NSR hereby advises the Board that it has fully exercised the authority granted and consummated abandonment of the Line. Should you have any questions concerning this notice of consummation, please contact the undersigned counsel for NSR.

Sincerely,



Crystal M. Zorbaugh
Counsel for Norfolk Southern Railway Company

cc: Parties of Record
Laura Hoag
Greg Summy
Garrett Urban
Scott Plum
Matthew Dietrich, Executive Director, Ohio Rail Development Commission
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio