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November 28, 2023

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ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
November 28, 2023
Part of
Public Record

VIA E-FILE

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

Re: **Docket No. AB 1296 (Sub No. 1X)**
R. J. Corman Railroad Property, LLC – Abandonment Exemption – in
Campbell County, Tenn.

Dear Ms. Brown:

This letter confirms the endpoint of the Line which is the subject of the Petition for Exempt Abandonment filed by Petitioner R. J. Corman Railroad Property, LLC on April 21, 2023 (the “Petition”). On November 10, 2023, Petitioner clarified the endpoint in a filing as requested by the Board. On November 20, 2023, Petitioner filed an Amendment to its Combined Environmental and Historic Report and served the same on the required agencies.

Accordingly, the Petition is amended as follows to reflect the Line consisting of approximately 3.67 miles and the endpoint being at Clinchmore, TN at the former Clinchmore Mine. All other statements/information set forth in the Petition are unchanged.

Page 2, Paragraph 1 (replaced with the following):

Pursuant to 49 U.S.C. §10502 and 49 C.F.R. parts 1121 and 1152, R. J. Corman Railroad Property, LLC (“RJC Railroad Property”), a non-operating Class III rail carrier,¹ hereby petitions the Board for an exemption from the prior approval requirements of 49 U.S.C. §10503 to abandon approximately 3.67 miles of a long-dormant railroad line known as the Beech Fork Branch, which extends from milepost 33 on the Oneida Line² in a southeasterly direction along Beech Fork and

¹ See, fn. 1, *R. J. Corman Railroad Property, LLC – Acquisition Exemption – Line of the Railroad Co. and the WV Southern Railway Co.*, STB Docket No. 34744 (Served Sept. 23, 2005).

² The Oneida Line extends from milepost 0.96 at or near Oneida, Tennessee to the end of the line at milepost 42.0 at or near Devonia, Tennessee, a distance of approximately 41.05 miles in Scott, Campbell, and Anderson Counties, Tennessee. The Oneida Line has a single rail connection at Oneida, Tennessee with Norfolk Southern Railway Company.

Stoney Fork and dead-ends at Clinchmore, in Campbell County, TN at the former Clinchmore Mine (the “Line”). A map of the Line is attached hereto in Appendix A. The Line currently has no mileposts or stations and little, if any, track. As stated below, the Line has not been in use since well before 2011, when RJC Railroad Property purchased the Line.

Page 5, Section 3, Sentence starting on 10th Line through end of Paragraph (replaced with following):

The Val Map, page 13a, identifies the Line as being approximately 3.67 miles in length, extending approximately 2.0 miles from milepost 33 on the Onedia Line along Beech Fork before reaching a junction that forked in a southeasterly direction toward Clinchmore, TN (the “Northern Segment”). At the fork, the Line continues in a southeasterly direction along Stony Fork for approximately 1.67 miles before dead-ending at Clinchmore, TN at the former Clinchmore Mine (the “Southern Segment”). (Val Map, page 13a, Apx. B, Ex. 2).

Page 8, Section 6, 2nd Paragraph, 1st Sentence (replaced with the following):

In contrast, the 1973 Val Map, page 13a, reflects approximately 3.67 miles of track that Tennessee Railway Company (a subsidiary of Norfolk Southern Railway) took ownership of in 1973 when it purchased the Tennessee Railroad Company out of bankruptcy.

Page 15, Environmental and Historic Reports (New sentence added at end of paragraph):

On November 20, 2023, an Amendment to the Combined Environmental and Historic Report attached as Exhibit F was filed with the OEA. That Amendment was served on the required agencies on November 16, 2023.

Appendix A:

An updated map is contained the attached Appendix A.

Please feel free to contact me if there are questions. The agencies served with the Petition are copied on this Letter.

Sincerely,
/s/ Catherine S. Wright
*Attorney for R. J. Corman Railroad
Property, LLC*

CSW/lgb

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 1152.60(d), this Letter was mailed via first class mail on November 28, 2023, to the following parties:

Tennessee Public Service Commission

Chairman Robin L. Morrison
Tennessee Public Utility Commission
502 Deaderick Street 4th Floor
Nashville, TN 37243

Military Traffic Management Command

MG Gavin A. Lawrence
Headquarters
Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command
ATTN: Transportation Engineering Agency (SDTE-SA)
Railroads for National Defense
1 Soldier Way, Building 1900W
Scott AFB, IL 62225

National Park Service

Bob Ratcliffe
Chief, Conservation and Outdoor Recreation Division
Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program
National Park Service
1849 C Street, N.S. (Org. Code 2220)
Washington, D. C. 20240

U. S. Department of Agriculture

Randy Moore
Chief of the Forest Service
U. S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Avenue, S. W.
Washington, D. C. 20250-0003

The Line lacks active rail users upon which to serve notice of proposed abandonment.

Date: November 28, 2023

/s/ Catherine S. Wright
Catherine S. Wright
*Attorney for R. J. Corman Railroad
Property, LLC*

BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DOCKET NO. AB 1296 (Sub-No. 1X)

R. J. CORMAN RAILROAD PROPERTY, LLC
-ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION-
IN CAMPBELL COUNTY, TENN.

APPENDIX A

MAP

