



SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423

Office of Environmental Analysis

July 29, 2024

Robert A. Wimbish
Fletcher & Sippel LLC
29 North Wacker Drive
Suite 800
Chicago, IL 60606-3208

By email at rwimbish@fletcher-sippel.com

RE: Docket No. FD 36723, Savannah Industrial Logistics, LLC (SIL) – Construction Exemption & Docket No. FD 36723 (Sub-No. 1), Savannah Industrial Transportation LLC (SIT) – Lease and Operation Exemption – Line of Savannah Industrial Logistics, LLC in Effingham County, Ga.; Information Request No. 1

Dear Mr. Wimbish:

Consistent with 40 C.F.R. § 1506.5(b)(1), the Surface Transportation Board's (Board) Office of Environmental Analysis requests the information below, which is needed to support the environmental review in connection with the above-referenced proceeding. This information will be used to describe the proposed action and alternatives and to analyze impacts.

1. Rail Construction

- A. Identify, describe, and map, including mileposts, the construction footprint of the previously constructed rail line including the length and endpoints of the track in Area 1, as well as the width of the disturbed area. Indicate the width of the right-of-way. Maps are preferred in GIS format, if available.
- B. Identify, describe, and map, including mileposts, the construction footprint of any new project-related rail line construction in Areas 1 and 2 including the length and endpoints of any track as well as the width of the disturbed area. Indicate the width of any planned rights-of-way. Maps are preferred in GIS format, if available.
 - i. Provide an estimate of the duration of the construction period for any planned construction. Please also provide information on the number

of cubic yards of soil that would be removed, the number of cubic yards of gravel that would be used, etc.

- ii. Provide a list of the anticipated construction equipment. Please include a description of the heavy equipment expected to be used and the anticipated amount.
 - iii. Describe how construction materials, including rail, ties, ballast, etc., would be delivered to the site (rail, truck, or a combination of both). Please include the anticipated amount and travel routes.
- C. Identify, describe, and map any plans to provide rail service to Areas 2, 3 and 4 of the Savannah Gateway Industrial Hub (SGIH). If there are any potential shippers, please provide the name and location of the potential shippers. Maps are preferred in GIS format, if available.
- D. Describe and map by milepost the endpoints of the Norfolk Southern Railway Company (NSR) and CSX Transportation, Inc. (CSXT) mainlines. Maps are preferred in in GIS format, if available.
- E. Provide the typical cross section and the cross sections where cut and fill would be required.
- F. Provide information on the location and plans for any drainage culverts.
- G. Provide design plans for the at-grade rail crossing on McCall Road including any information on train warning systems at the crossing and any anticipated gates, flashers, cantilever flashing lights, or crossbucks.
- H. Provide any traffic studies performed for the at-grade railroad crossing on McCall Road including any grade crossing delay studies.
- I. If a quiet zone was proposed for the at-grade crossing at McCall Road, describe any coordination with the communities that would have to apply to the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) for the quiet zone, any coordination with agencies that have jurisdiction over the roadways (Georgia Department of Transportation, Effingham County), including any federal/state/local approvals obtained and physical improvements proposed.
- J. Provide design plans for any proposed at-grade railroad crossings include any information on train warning systems at the crossings and any anticipated gates, flashers, cantilever flashing lights, or crossbucks.
- K. Provide any traffic studies performed for proposed at-grade railroad crossings including any grade crossing delay studies.

- L. If a quiet zone was proposed for any proposed at-grade crossings describe any coordination with the communities that would have to apply to the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) for the quiet zone, any coordination with agencies that have jurisdiction over the roadways (Georgia Department of Transportation, Effingham County), including any federal/state/local approvals obtained and physical improvements proposed.

2. Rail Operations

- A. Provide the number of trains per day (total, and in each direction) that currently use the previously constructed rail line.
- B. Provide the number of trains per day (total, and in each direction) that would use the previously constructed rail line based on projections up to and including the year 2029.
- C. Indicate how many days per week trains would operate, and on which days, if known.
- D. Indicate the anticipated hours of train operations, specifying if trains would operate during AM/PM vehicular peak periods or overnight.
- E. Provide estimates of the average number of locomotives per train, the average number of railcars per train, and the average total length (in feet) of trains.
- F. Provide the number of locomotives in each EPA emissions tier and associated total horsepower.
- G. Provide average daily locomotive engine idling duration on site and engine horsepower during idling. Would locomotives be idling stationary within the SGIH? If so, where and for how long?
- H. Provide projected gross tonnage of an average consist (average daily or yearly). If the gross tonnage is expected to be consistently different by direction of travel (for example, unloaded consists traveling to the business park and loaded consists traveling from the business park) provide average loaded and unloaded consist gross tonnage.
- I. Provide an anticipated locomotive fuel efficiency factor in gross ton miles per gallon of fuel, if available.
- J. Provide average train speed at the McCall Road crossing, and projected average train speed for any proposed at-grade crossings.

- K. Describe how the interchange of freight rail cars between SIT and CSXT and NSR occurs.
 - L. Are switch locomotives used? If yes, provide the anticipated type of locomotive, EPA tier, activity information (hourly usage), and average fuel efficiency (gal/hour). Alternatively, if heavy equipment would be used to move railcars during operations (e.g., Trackmobile® or similar), provide emissions specifications.
 - M. Do rail cars contain hazardous materials? If so, indicate the type of materials.
 - N. Indicate where locomotives are fueled.
 - O. For any anticipated plans to serve new shippers, the same information requested in A-N above should be provided for the additional traffic, if available.
3. Agency Coordination
- A. Provide a summary of coordination with the City of Rincon, Effingham County, and other federal, state, or local agencies, indicating any approvals received to date, and the anticipated schedule for any remaining state and local permits and/or approvals that would be needed.
 - B. Provide any coordination with school district and/or local agencies regarding the at-grade crossing on McCall Road.
 - C. Provide any outreach or public involvement activities that occurred for the previously constructed rail line.
 - D. Provide any environmental commitments made to other federal, state, or local government entities as part of their review and approval processes including, but not limited to, traffic, air quality, noise, hazardous materials, natural resources, cultural resources, and public/agency/tribal involvement/outreach.
4. Wetlands
- A. Provide any wetlands survey, delineation, and/or investigation findings previously conducted within the SGIH in GIS format, if available.
5. Hazardous Materials
- A. Provide any American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) Phase I or Phase II Environmental Site Assessments (ESAs) completed for properties within or along the previously constructed rail line, or the

SGIH.

- B. Provide any records of spills or documented releases along the previously constructed rail line.
- C. Provide any applicable Spill Prevention and Control Countermeasure (SPCC) Plans, vegetation management plans, or pesticide application plans.

Please provide your response as soon as possible and no later than **August 16, 2024**. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Karen Stevens of my staff at 202-245-0304 or by email at karen.stevens@stb.gov Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Danielle Gosselin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Danielle" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Gosselin".

Danielle Gosselin
Director
Office of Environmental Analysis