



ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
March 10, 2025
Part of
Public Record

Justin J. Marks
T (202) 772-0916
F +12027720919
Email:jjmarks@ClarkHill.com

Clark Hill
1001 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Suite 1300 South
Washington, DC 20004
T (202) 772-0909
F (202) 772-0919

March 10, 2025

Cynthia T. Brown
Chief, Section of Administration
Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20024

Re: St. Lawrence & Atlantic Railroad Company – Abandonment Exemption –
in Cumberland County, ME
Surface Transportation Board Docket No. AB 1117 (Sub. No. 1X)

Dear Ms. Brown:

Enclosed for filing in the above referenced docket is a Notice of Exemption submitted under the Board's class exemption procedures at 49 C.F.R. Part 1152, Subpart F by St. Lawrence & Atlantic Railroad Company. The filing fee has been paid via pay.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Justin J. Marks'.

Justin J. Marks
Counsel to St. Lawrence & Atlantic Railroad
Company

Enclosure

FILED
March 10, 2025
SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION BOARD

FEE RECEIVED
March 10, 2025
SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION BOARD
clarkhill.com

Before the
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

STB Docket No. AB 1117 (Sub. No. 1X)

ST. LAWRENCE & ATLANTIC RAILROAD COMPANY
- ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION - IN CUMBERLAND COUNTY, ME

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

(color copies included)

Eric M. Hocky
Clark Hill PLC
Two Commerce Square
2001 Market St.
Suite 2620
Philadelphia, PA 19103
(215) 640-8523
ehocky@clarkhill.com

Justin J. Marks
Clark Hill PLC
1001 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W.
Suite 1300 South
Washington, DC 20004
(202) 772-0916
jmarks@clarkhill.com

Counsel for
St. Lawrence & Atlantic Railroad
Company

Dated: March 10, 2025

Before the
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

STB Docket No. AB 1117 (Sub. No. 1X)

ST. LAWRENCE & ATLANTIC RAILROAD COMPANY
- ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION - IN CUMBERLAND COUNTY, ME

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

St. Lawrence & Atlantic Railroad Company (“SLR”) is filing this Notice of Exemption under the Board’s class exemption procedures at 49 C.F.R. Part 1152, Subpart F, seeking exemption authority for the abandonment of its perpetual freight easement on the line of railroad extending between milepost 1.74 near Deering, ME, and milepost 25.97 at the town line between New Gloucester and Auburn, Cumberland County, ME (the “Subject Line”).

The underlying property is owned by the Maine Department of Transportation (“MaineDOT”)¹ and SLR understands that MaineDOT may convert the right-of-way into a trail.

The Subject Line was discontinued in 2015², and no stations exist on the Subject Line. The Subject Line traverses through United States Postal Service ZIP Codes 04101, 04103, 04105, 04021, 04096, 04097, 04069, and 04260, entirely in Cumberland County, ME. A map of the Subject Line is attached as Exhibit A.

¹ *State of Maine – Petition for Declaratory Order*, STB Finance Docket No. 35440 (served Dec. 29, 2010)(for the acquisition of milepost 12.163 to milepost 25.97); and *State of Maine – Acquisition Exemption – Certain Assets of St. Lawrence & Atlantic Railroad Company*, STB Finance Docket No. 35018 (served Sept. 13, 2007)(for the acquisition of milepost 1.74 to milepost 12.163).

² *St. Lawrence & Atlantic Railroad Company – Discontinuance of Service Exemption – in Cumberland County, ME* STB Finance Docket No. AB 1117X (served Oct. 15, 2015).

This Notice of Exemption is being filed pursuant to the requirements of 49 C.F.R. §1152.50 regarding exemptions for out-of-service rail lines. In accordance with such requirements, SLR hereby provides the following information in support of its request for an abandonment exemption:

- 1) The exact name of the Applicant is St. Lawrence & Atlantic Railroad Company.
- 2) SLR is a common carrier by railroad subject to 49 U.S.C. Subtitle IV, chapter 105. SLR has been a common carrier since approximately 1988.³
- 3) The relief sought by SLR is an exemption for the abandonment of its perpetual freight easement on the line of railroad extending between milepost 1.74 near Deering, ME., and milepost 25.97 at the town line between New Gloucester and Auburn, Cumberland County, ME.
- 4) A map of the Subject Line is attached hereto as Exhibit A.
- 5) The representative of SLR to whom correspondence should be sent is: Justin J. Marks, Clark Hill PLC, 1001 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W., Suite 1300 South, Washington, DC 20004; (202) 772-0916 or Eric M. Hocky, Esq., Clark Hill, PLC, Two Commerce Square, 2001 Market St., Suite 2620, Philadelphia, PA 19103; (215) 640-8523.
- 6) The Subject Line traverses through United States Postal Service ZIP Codes 04101, 04103, 04105, 04021, 04096, 04097, 04069, and 04260.
- 7) SLR believes that the right-of-way may be suitable for trail use or other public purposes. Any such use would potentially need the approval of MaineDOT as the owner of the underlying land.
- 8) SLR proposes to consummate the abandonment on or after April 29, 2025.

³ *St. Lawrence & Atlantic Railroad Company – Acquisition and Operation Exemption – Certain Rail Lines of Canadian National Railway Company, ICC Finance Docket No. 31331, 1988 WL 224805 (served Oct. 6, 1988).*

- 9) SLR certifies that:
- a) No local or overhead traffic has moved over the Subject Line since 2015 when SLR discontinued service on the Subject Line. No overhead traffic exists on the Subject Line because it has been discontinued.
 - b) No formal complaint by a user of rail service on the Subject Line, or a state or local government entity acting on behalf of such user, regarding cessation of service over the Subject Line either is pending with the Board or any U.S. District Court, or has been decided in favor of the complainant within the two year period.
- 10) Although no employees of SLR will be affected by the proposed abandonment, SLR recognizes that its abandonment of the Subject Line will be made subject to the standard employee protective conditions as set forth in *Oregon Short Line Railroad Co.- Abandonment -- Goshen*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979).
- 11) SLR certifies that, on February 17, 2025, more than 20 days prior to this filing, it complied with the requirements of 49 C.F.R. §§ 1105.7 and 1105.11 by serving on the relevant agencies listed at 49 C.F.R. § 1105.7(b) and by filing with the Board an Environmental / Historic Report.
- 12) SLR certifies that it has complied with the legal (newspaper) notice requirements of 49 C.F.R. §1105.12. Notice of the proposed abandonment was published in the *Portland Press Herald* on February 19, 2025. A copy of the form of notice and a copy of the proof of publication are attached as Exhibit B.
- 13) SLR certifies that it has complied with the notice requirements of 49 C.F.R. §1152.50(d)(1). A copy of the notice dated February 17, 2025, sent to the required governmental agencies is attached hereto as Exhibit C.

For the reasons set forth above, the Board should find that SLR's proposed abandonment of its perpetual freight easement satisfies the exemption requirements of 49 C.F.R. §1152.50 and should issue the appropriate notice.

Respectfully submitted,



Eric M. Hocky
Clark Hill PLC
Two Commerce Square
2001 Market St.
Suite 2620
Philadelphia, PA 19103
(215) 640-8500
ehocky@clarkhill.com

Justin J. Marks
Clark Hill PLC
1001 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W.
Suite 1300 South
Washington, DC 20004
(202) 772-0916
jmarks@clarkhill.com

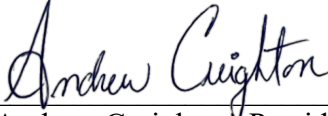
*Counsel for St. Lawrence & Atlantic
Railroad Company*

Dated: March 10, 2025

VERIFICATION

I hereby verify on behalf of St. Lawrence & Atlantic Railroad Company, under penalty of perjury, that the foregoing is true and correct. Further, I certify that I am qualified and authorized to file this Verification.

Executed on March 7th, 2025.



Andrew Creighton, President

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this date a copy of the foregoing Notice of Exemption was served on the persons shown on the attached list by email or first class mail, postage prepaid.

U.S. Department of the Interior - National Park Service RTCA Program 1849 C Street, NW Washington, DC 20240	United States Department of the Army Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command Transportation Engineering Agency ATTN: SDTE-SA (Railroads for National Defense) 1 Soldier Way, Building 1900W Scott AFB, IL 62225
Maine Dept. of Environmental Protection 17 State House Station August, ME 04333	Office of Chief of Forest Service U.S. Department of Agriculture 1400 Independence Ave., SW Washington, DC 20250-1111
Kirk F. Mohny, Director Maine Historic Preservation Commission 65 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333 MHPCprojectreview@maine.gov	Natural Resources Conservation Service USDA Office of the Chief 1400 Independence Ave., SW Room 5105-A Washington, DC 20250
Nathan Moulton Director, Office of Freight and Business Logistics Maine Department of Transportation Nathan.moulton@maine.gov	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency New England, Region 1 5 Post Office Square - Suite 100 Boston, MA 02109-3912
Maine Coastal Zone Management 32 Blossom Lane 21 State House Station Augusta, Maine 04333	The Natural Resources Conservation Service USDA 967 Illinois Ave Bangor, ME 04401-2700
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Northeast, Region 5 300 Westgate Center Drive Hadley, MA 01035	U.S. Bureau of Land Management Eastern States State Office 5275 Leesburg Pike Falls Church, VA 22041
National Park Service 1849 C Street, NW Washington, DC 20240	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Maine Project Office 442 Civic Center Drive, Suite 350 Augusta, ME 04330

Cumberland County Commissioner District 3 Stephen F. Gorden gorden@cumberlandcounty.org	National Park Service Regional Office Region 1 1234 Market Street 20th Floor Philadelphia, PA 19107
Cumberland County Commissioner District 2 Susan E. Witonis witonis@cumberlandcounty.org	The National Geodetic Survey Communications and Outreach Branch, ngs.infocenter@noaa.gov rrae@noaa.gov
Cumberland County Commissioner District 5 James F. Cloutier cloutier@cumberlandcounty.org	



Justin J. Marks

Dated: March 10, 2025

EXHIBIT A

MAP



EXHIBIT B

NEWSPAPER NOTICE

Portland Press Herald
EST. 1862
Maine Sunday Telegram
www.pressherald.com

Public Notice

**REVISED NOTICE OF INTENT TO ABANDON
RAIL SERVICE**

St. Lawrence & Atlantic Railroad Company ("SLR") issues this revised notice that on or about March 6, 2025, it intends to file with the Surface Transportation Board (STB or Board), Washington, DC 20423, a notice of exemption pursuant to the provisions of 49 CFR Part 1152 Subpart F - Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuances of Service and Trackage Rights permitting SLR to abandon its perpetual freight easement and service over approximately 24.23 miles of the line of railroad between milepost 1.74 and milepost 25.97 (the "Line"), which traverses through United States Postal Zip Codes 04101, 04103, 04105, 04021, 04096, 04097, 04069, and 04260 entirely in Cumberland County, ME. The underlying property is owned by the Maine Department of Transportation. The SLR proceeding will be docketed as STB Docket No. AB-1117 (Sub. No. 1X).

The Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) will generally prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA), which will normally be available 25 days after the filing of the notice of exemption. Comments on environmental and energy matters should be filed no later than 15 days after the EA becomes available to the public and will be addressed in a Board decision. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the EA or make inquiries regarding environmental matters by writing to the Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA), Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC or by calling that office at 202-245-0454.

Appropriate offers of financial assistance to continue rail service can be filed with the Board. Requests for environmental conditions, public use conditions, or rail banking/trails use also can be filed with the Board. An original and 10 copies of any pleading that raises matters other than environmental issues (such as offers of financial assistance to subsidize rail service) must be filed directly with the STB's Section of Administration, Office of Proceedings, 395 E Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20423-0001 [see 49 CFR 1104.1(a) and 1104.3(a)], and one copy must be served on applicant's representative [see 49 CFR 1104.12(a)]. Questions regarding offers of financial assistance, public use or trails use may be directed to the STB's Office of Public Assistance, Governmental Affairs and Compliance at 202-245-0238. Copies of any comments or requests for conditions should be served on SLR's representative: Justin J. Marks, Clark Hill PLC, 1001 Pennsylvania Ave, N.W. Suite 1300 South, Washington, DC 20004; jmarks@clarkhill.com; 202-772-0916.

I, Joan M. Jensen, Legal Advertising
Representative of the Portland Press
Herald and Maine Sunday Telegram
newspapers of Portland, Maine, do
hereby certify that the attached
advertisement appeared in the
February 19, 2025 edition of the
Portland Press Herald.


Legal Advertising Representative

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this 21st day of February 2025


Notary Public Marcie J. Buck

My commission expires Sep 9, 2029

MARCIE J. BUCK
Notary Public - Maine
My Commission Expires Sep 9, 2029

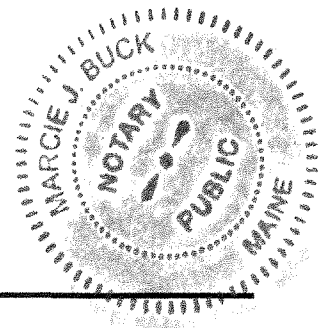


EXHIBIT C

10-DAY NOTICE LETTERS



Justin J. Marks
T (202) 772-0916
F +12027720919
Email:jjmarks@ClarkHill.com

Clark Hill
1001 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Suite 1300 South
Washington, DC 20004
T (202) 772-0909
F (202) 772-0919

February 17, 2025

VIA EMAIL AND/OR FIRST-CLASS MAIL

Maine Department of Transportation
Nathan Moulton
Director, Office of Freight and Business
Logistics
Maine Department of Transportation
Nathan.moulton@maine.gov

United States Department of the Army
Military Surface Deployment and Distribution
Command
Transportation Engineering Agency
ATTN: SDTE-SA (Railroads for National Defense)
1 Soldier Way, Building 1900W
Scott AFB, IL 62225

U.S. Department of the Interior -
National Park Service
RTCA Program
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

Office of Chief of Forest Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20250-1111

Re: St. Lawrence & Atlantic Railroad Company – Abandonment Exemption –
in Cumberland County, ME
Surface Transportation Board Docket No. AB 1117 (Sub. No. 1X)

To Whom it May Concern:

This letter is being re-sent to you to correct the zip codes that the Subject Line traverses through.

Pursuant to the requirements of 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(d), to advise you that St. Lawrence & Atlantic Railroad Company's ("SLR") intends to seek authorization from the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") to abandon a perpetual freight easement over the line of railroad described below, by filing a notice of exemption pursuant to the class exemption provisions of 49 CFR § 1152.50 in the above-referenced STB docket. SLR expects to file the notice of exemption with the STB on or about March 10, 2025.

SLR will invoke the STB's class exemption procedures to abandon a perpetual freight easement it holds over approximately 24.23 miles of track between milepost 1.74 near Deering, ME., and milepost 25.97 at the town line between New Gloucester and Auburn, Cumberland County, ME. The line is owned by Maine Department of Transportation.

The Subject Line traverses through United States Postal Service ZIP Codes 04101, 04103, 04105, 04021, 04096, 04097, 04069, and 04260. A map of the Subject Line is enclosed.

February 17, 2025
Page 2

Based upon information in SLR's possession, the Subject Line does not contain federally granted rights of way. Any documentation in SLR's possession related to the issue of federally granted rights of way for the Subject Line will be made available to those requesting it.

Sincerely,



Justin J. Marks
*Counsel to that St. Lawrence & Atlantic Railroad
Company*

Enclosure

