

ENTERED
Office of Chief Counsel
February 17, 2026
Part of
Public Record

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February 17, 2026

Chief of Case Administration
Office of Chief Counsel
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20024

Re: Central Railroad Company of Indianapolis – Abandonment Exemption –
in Howard County, Indiana
Surface Transportation Board Docket No. AB 511 (Sub No. 8X)

CERA Certifications

Dear Chief of Case Administration:

On February 12, 2026, the Board issued a decision rejecting the Central Railroad Company of Indianapolis's ("CERA") request to adjust the abandonment in the above referenced docket by 0.06 miles for the segment of rail line known as the Tipton Industrial Lead due to Board's abandonment notice requirements.

However, the Board provided CERA with a path forward that would allow CERA to abandon the 0.06 segment if it:

1) certifies to the Board that the information contained in its verified notice of exemption is applicable to the segment of the Tipton Industrial Lead from milepost 55.6 to milepost 55.66.

2) complies with the newspaper publication requirement of 49 C.F.R. §§ 1105.7(c) and 1105.12 and certifies to the Board that it has done so.

3) serves the consulting agencies listed in 49 C.F.R. §§ 1105.7(b) and 1105.8(c), by February 17, 2026, informing them of the abandonment and how the agencies may submit comments by March 9, 2026, and file a certificate of service indicating that it has complied with this requirement.

4) complies with the notice requirement of 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(d) for the portion of the Tipton Industrial Lead from milepost 55.6 to milepost 55.66 and files a certificate of service indicating that it has complied with this requirement.

CERA appreciates that the Board provided a mechanism to allow it to add the 0.06 miles of rail line to the abandonment in this docket. Enclosed herein are the certifications as outlined by the Board in its February 12, 2026, decision.

Sincerely,



Justin J. Marks
*Counsel to Central Railroad Company of
Indianapolis*

cc: Parties of Record
Enclosure

CERTIFICATIONS

**CERTIFICATION – INFORMATION APPLICABLE TO PRIOR NOTICE OF
EXEMPTION AND 49 § 1152.50(b)**

CERA certifies that the information contained in its verified notice of exemption dated January 5, 2026 is applicable to the segment of the Tipton Industrial Lead from milepost 55.6 to milepost 55.66. CERA further certifies that:

- a) No local traffic has moved over the Subject Line since 2015 and the Subject Line is stub ended at both endpoints, so no overhead traffic exists.
- 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.



Justin J. Marks
Counsel to Central Railroad Company of Indianapolis

CERTIFICATION – LEGAL (NEWSPAPER) NOTICE REQUIREMENT

CERA certifies that it has complied with the legal (newspaper) notice requirements of 49 C.F.R. §§ 1105.7(c) and 1105.12 and the Board's instructions in its decision served February 12, 2026, slip op. at 3-4 and fn 3. Notice of the proposed abandonment will be published in the *Times of Northwest Indiana* on February 19, 2026. A copy of the form of notice is enclosed herein.



Justin J. Marks
Counsel to Central Railroad Company of Indianapolis

Notice of Intent to Abandon and Discontinue Rail Service

Central Railroad Company of Indianapolis (CERA) gives notice that it intends to abandon a portion of a line of railroad extending approximately 0.06 miles (317 feet) known as the Tipton Industrial Lead extending from approximately milepost 55.6 to milepost 55.66.

In a decision served Jan. 23, 2026, the Surface Transportation Board (STB) authorized CERA to abandon the "Tipton Industrial Lead" extending from milepost 54.3 to milepost 55.6. CERA has determined that the appropriate endpoint for the abandonment should be milepost 55.66 (not 55.6). CERA now seeks to abandon the additional portion of the Line from milepost 55.6 to 55.66. Due to the de minimis length of line that CERA is seeking to add to this abandonment, the STB has permitted CERA to do so as long as CERA informs the public that it will be abandoning this additional portion of the Line.

The Line traverses through United States Postal Service ZIP Code 46903 in the City of Kokomo, Howard County, Indiana. The CERA abandonment exemption proceeding is docketed as No. AB 511 (Sub-No. 8X).

The STB's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) will generally prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) in connection with CERA's proposed abandonment of the Line. Comments on environmental and energy matters bearing on the EA associated with CERA's abandonment should be filed by March 9, 2026. Interested persons may make inquiries regarding environmental matters by writing to OEA, Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC or by calling OEA at (202) 245-0245.

Appropriate offers of financial assistance to continue rail service can be filed with the STB. Requests for environmental conditions, public use conditions, or rail banking/trails use also can be filed with the STB. Any pleading that raises matters other than environmental issues (such as trails use, public use, and offers of financial assistance where applicable) must be filed directly with the STB's Office of Chief Counsel either via e-filing or addressed to 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 applicants' 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 the applicant's representative: Justin J. Marks, Clark Hill PLC, 1001 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W. Suite 1300 South, Washington, DC 20004; jmarks@clarkhill.com.

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HSPAXLP

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

CERA certifies that it has complied with the notice requirements as instructed in the Board's decision served February 12, 2026, slip op. at 4 that CERA has served the enclosed letter via email and first class mail on the consulting agencies listed in 49 C.F.R. §§ 1105.7(b) and 1105.8(c) informing the consulting agencies that CERA now seeks to abandon an additional portion of the Tipton Industrial Lead from milepost 55.6 to 55.66 and informing the consulting agencies that they may submit comment to OEA by March 9, 2026 and providing information on how they and the public may do so.



Justin J. Marks
Counsel to Central Railroad Company of Indianapolis



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Email:jmarks@ClarkHill.com

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February 14, 2026

VIA EMAIL AND/OR FIRST-CLASS MAIL

ALL AGENCIES ON THE
ATTACHED SERVICE LIST

Re: Central Railroad Company of Indianapolis – Abandonment Exemption –
in Howard County, Indiana
Surface Transportation Board Docket No. AB 511 (Sub No. 8X)

Dear Madam or Sir:

In a decision served January 23, 2026, the Board authorized Central Railroad Company of Indianapolis ("CERA") to abandon the "Tipton Industrial Lead" extending from approximately milepost 54.3 to milepost 55.6; and a segment of the Marion Subdivision extending from approximately milepost 180.87 to milepost 181.26.

Following publication of the Board's notice of exemption authorizing the abandonment, CERA realized that the Board's January 23, 2026, decision authorizes the abandonment extending from milepost 54.3 to milepost 55.6. However, CERA has determined that the appropriate mileposts for the Tipton Industrial Lead abandonment should extend from milepost 54.3 to milepost 55.66(not 55.6).

CERA now seeks to abandon the additional portion of the Tipton Industrial Lead from milepost 55.6 to 55.66. Due to the de minimis length of line that CERA is seeking to add to this abandonment, the Board has (generously)permitted CERA to do so as long as CERA informs you of your right to comment on any potential environmental or historical impact of this abandonment.

You may submit comments to the Board's Office of Environmental Analysis "OEA" by March 9, 2026. OEA encourages interested parties to submit their comments on the Draft EA electronically through the Board's website at <https://www.stb.gov/>. From the Board's homepage, scroll down to the blue "How to File" box. Select the "E-Filing(recommended)" button. From the E-Filing page, select "Environmental Comments" under "Select your E-Filing Type. Log-in accounts are not needed to file environmental comments electronically. Brief comments can be typed in the comment field, and lengthier comments can be attached as Word, Adobe Acrobat, or other file formats.

Alternatively, comments submitted by mail should be addressed to: Andrea Poole,
Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20423-0001, Attention:

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Environmental Filing, Docket No. AB 511 (Sub-No. 8X). If you have any questions, please contact Andrea Poole by email at andrea.poole@stb.gov or by phone at 202-245-0305.

Your comments will be considered by the Board in evaluating the environmental and/or historic preservation impacts of the contemplated action. If there are any questions concerning this letter, please contact me directly. I can be reached by telephone at 202-772-0916, email at jmarks@clarkhill.com or by mail at Clark Hill PLC, 1001 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W. Suite 1300 South, Washington, DC 20004.

Sincerely,



Justin J. Marks
Counsel to Central Railroad Company of
Indianapolis

Enclosure

AGENCY SERVICE LIST

Laura Hilden, Director-Environmental Services Indiana Department of Transportation 100 N. Senate Ave. IGCN 758-ES Indianapolis, IN 46204 lhilden@indot.in.gov	National Park Service Midwest Region Interior Regions 3, 4, 5 601 Riverfront Drive Omaha, NE 68102
Indiana Department of Environmental Management 100 N Senate Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46204 info@idem.IN.gov	National Park Service 1849 C Street, NW Washington, DC 20240
Indiana Coastal Resources Management Program Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR) 402 W. Washington Street, Room W264 Indianapolis, IN 46204. JeOrsburn@dnr.IN.gov - Jenny Orsburn, Program Manager	Indiana Game Commission 101 W. Washington Street East Tower, Suite 1600 Indianapolis, IN 46204 CSCinquiry@dnr.IN.gov
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Louisville District Regulatory Branch CELRL.Door.To.The.Corps@usace.army.mil	Natural Resources Conservation Service USDA Office of the Chief 1400 Independence Ave., SW Room 5105-A Washington, DC 20250
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 5 77 W. Jackson Blvd Chicago, IL 60604 r5hotline@epa.gov	Ms. Damarys Mortenson, State Conservationist Natural Resources Conservation Service USDA 6013 Lakeside Blvd Indianapolis, IN 46278-1989 damarys.mortenson@usda.gov
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Midwest Region 5600 American Blvd. West Suite 990 Bloomington, MN, 55437-1458 IndianaFO@fws.gov	Communications and Outreach Branch NOAA, N/NGS12 National Geodetic Survey, SSMC3 #8716 1315 East-West Highway Silver Spring, MD 20910-3282 rrae@noaa.gov

Indiana Department of Natural Resources Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology 402 W. Washington Street, Room W274 Indianapolis, Indiana 46204 DHPARReview@dnr.IN.gov https://www.in.gov/dnr/historic	Daryl Maple, President Howard County, Indiana Daryl.maple@howardcountyin.gov
Indiana Department of Environmental Management Office of Air Quality 100 North Senate Avenue Indianapolis, IN 46204-2251 jlacker@idem.in.gov	Tyler O. Moore, Mayor City of Kokomo mayor@cityofkokomo.org
Carey Stranahan, P.E. Acting City Engineer City of Kokomo cstranahan@cityofkokomo.org	Gilbert Porter Howard County Historian 2600 W 350 N Kokomo, Indiana 46901 gilbertporter@kokomoeearlyhistory.org
Anne Shaw, Executive Director Howard County Historical Society/Howard County Museum 1200 West Sycamore Street Kokomo, Indiana 46901 anne.shaw@howardcountymuseum.org	Tom Tolen, President City of Kokomo Historic Review Board 100 S. Union St Kokomo, Indiana 46901 ttolen@cityofkokomo.org
Mark Dollase, Vice President of Preservation Services & Alex Brooks, Community Preservation Specialist Indiana Landmarks Central Regional Office 1201 Central Avenue Indianapolis, Indiana 46202-3204 central@indianalandmarks.org	

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

CERA certifies that it has complied with the notice requirements as instructed in the Board's decision served February 12, 2026, slip op. at 4 and 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(d) that CERA has served the enclosed letter via first class mail informing those agencies that CERA now seeks to abandon an additional portion of the Tipton Industrial Lead from milepost 55.6 to 55.66.



Justin J. Marks
Counsel to Central Railroad Company of Indianapolis

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February 14, 2026

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

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

Indiana Department of Transportation
100 N. Senate Ave., IGCN 755
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Re: Central Railroad Company of Indianapolis – Abandonment Exemption –
in Howard County, Indiana
Surface Transportation Board Docket No. AB 511 (Sub. No. 8X)

To Whom it May Concern:

This letter is being sent to you pursuant to an order from the Surface Transportation Board (the "Board") served February 12, 2026 in the above referenced docket and the requirements of 49 C.F.R. §1152.50(d), to advise you that Central Railroad Company of Indianapolis ("CERA") intends to abandon a line of railroad extending approximately 0.06 miles (317 feet) known as the Tipton Industrial Lead extending from approximately milepost 55.6 to milepost 55.66.

The Line traverses through United States Postal Service ZIP Code 46903. A map of the Line is enclosed.

Based upon information in their possession, CERA does not believe that the Line contains federally-granted rights of way. Any documentation in the possession of CERA related to the issue of federally-granted rights of way for the Line will be made available to those requesting it.

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Following publication of the Board's notice of exemption authorizing the abandonment, CERA realized that the Board's January 23, 2026, decision authorizes the abandonment extending from milepost 54.3 to milepost 55.6. However, CERA has determined that the appropriate mileposts for the Tipton Industrial Lead abandonment should extend from milepost 54.3 to milepost 55.66(not 55.6).

CERA now seeks to abandon the additional portion of the Tipton Industrial Lead from milepost 55.6 to 55.66. Due to the de minimis length of line that CERA is seeking to add to this abandonment, the Board has (generously)permitted CERA to do so as long as CERA informs you that it will be abandoning this additional portion of the Tipton Industrial Lead.

Sincerely,



Justin J. Marks
Counsel to Central Railroad Company of
Indianapolis