

BEFORE THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

STB Docket No. FD 36926

ENTERED
Office of Chief Counsel
May 1, 2026
Part of
Public Record

Great Basin & Northern Railway, Inc.
—Change in Operators Exemption—
City of Ely and Nevada Northern Railway Foundation

Verified Notice of Exemption
of Great Basin & Northern Railway, Inc.
Under 49 C.F.R. § 1150.31

Jason D. Tutrone
Thompson Hine LLP
1919 M Street, NW Suite 700
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 263-4143

Jason.Tutrone@ThompsonHine.com

*Counsel for Great Basin & Northern Railway,
Inc.*

Dated: May 1, 2026

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Great Basin & Northern Railway, Inc. (“Great Basin & Northern Railway” or the “Railway”), a noncarrier, submits this verified notice of exemption under the class exemption procedures at 49 C.F.R. § 1150.31 to obtain an exemption from 49 U.S.C. § 10901 to replace the Great Basin and Northern Railroad, Inc. (the “Railroad”) as the common carrier operator of a rail line (the “Line”) owned by the City of Ely (the “City”) and the Nevada Northern Railway Foundation, Inc. (the “Foundation”).

The Railway and Railroad are subsidiaries of the Foundation. This transaction will not cause the Foundation to control multiple rail carriers concurrently, because the Railroad will stop providing all common carrier services, and its common carrier obligation concerning the line will terminate, upon consummation of the transaction.

I. Notice Content under 49 C.F.R. § 1150.33

a. Applicant’s Name and Address (§ 1150.33(a))

Great Basin & Northern Railway, Inc.
1100 Avenue A
PO Box 150040
East Ely, NV 89315

b. Applicant’s Representative (§ 1150.33(b))

Jason Tutrone
Thompson Hine LLP
1919 M St NW Ste 700
Washington, DC 20036
202-263-4143
Jason.Tutrone@ThompsonHine.com

c. Statement about Agreement (§ 1150.33(c))

Great Basin & Northern Railway expects to enter an agreement with the Line's owners—the City of Ely, Nevada, and the Foundation—on or about when this notice becomes effective giving the Railway rights to provide common carrier service on the line.

d. Operator of the Property (§ 1150.33(d))

The Great Basin and Northern Railroad, Inc., currently operates the Line.¹

e. Summary of the Proposed Transaction (§ 1150.33(e))

1. Name and address of the entity granting use of the property

City of Ely
City Hall Building
501 Mill Street
Ely, NV 89301

Nevada Northern Railway Foundation
1100 Avenue A
PO Box 150040
East Ely, NV 89315

2. Proposed time schedule for consummation of the transaction

The proposed consummation date is 30 days after the filing of this verified notice.

¹ See Notice, *Great Basin & N. R.R.—Change in Operators Exemption—in Elko and White Pine Counties, Nevada*, FD 36601, Mar. 29, 2022; Notice, *Great Basin & N. R.R.—Change in Operators Exemption—the City of Ely and Nevada N. Ry. Foundation*, FD 36459, Nov. 13, 2020; Notice, *Great Basin & N. R.R.—Change in Operators Exemption—the City of Ely and the White Pine Historical R.R. Foundation*, FD 34506, May 12, 2004. The 2004 notice uses the Foundation's prior name of White Pine Historical Railroad Foundation.

3. Mile posts

The mileposts for the Line are: a main line between milepost 0.0 at or near Cobre, Nevada, and milepost 146.1 at or near Keystone, Nevada; a branch line between milepost 127.9 at McGill Junction and milepost MB 2.5 at McGill; and a branch line between milepost 135.3 at Hilene and milepost H-8 at Adverse, in Elko and White Pine Counties, Nevada.

4. Total route miles involved

The Line totals approximately 156.6 route miles.

f. Map (§ 1150.3(f))

A map of the Line is attached as Exhibit A.

g. Certificate of Revenues (§ 1150.3(g))

Great Basin & Northern Railway, Inc. certifies that its projected annual revenue from operations on the Line will not result in the creation of a Class I or Class II carrier and will not exceed \$5 million.

h. Interchange Commitments (§ 1150.3(h))

Great Basin & Northern Railway, Inc. certifies that the proposed transaction does not involve any provision or agreement that may limit future interchange of traffic with a third-party connecting carrier.

II. Caption Summary under 49 C.F.R. § 1150.34

A caption summary is attached as Exhibit B.

III. Environmental and Historic Reports

This action qualifies for categorical exclusion from environmental review under 49 C.F.R. § 1105.6(c)(1), because it will not result in significant changes in

carrier operations, and none of the thresholds in § 1105.7(e)(4)–(5) will be met or exceeded..

This action qualifies for the categorical exclusion from historical preservation reporting requirements under 49 C.F.R. § 1105.8(b), because it will result in continued rail operations where further STB approval is required to abandon service, there are no plans to dispose of or alter properties subject to STB jurisdiction that are at least 50 years old, and there will be no significant change in operations or the level of maintenance of railroad property.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Jason D. Tutrone

Jason D. Tutrone
Thompson Hine LLP
1919 M Street, NW Suite 700
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 263-4143

Jason.Tutrone@ThompsonHine.com

*Counsel for Great Basin & Northern Railway,
Inc.*

Dated: May 1, 2026

Exhibit A

Maps

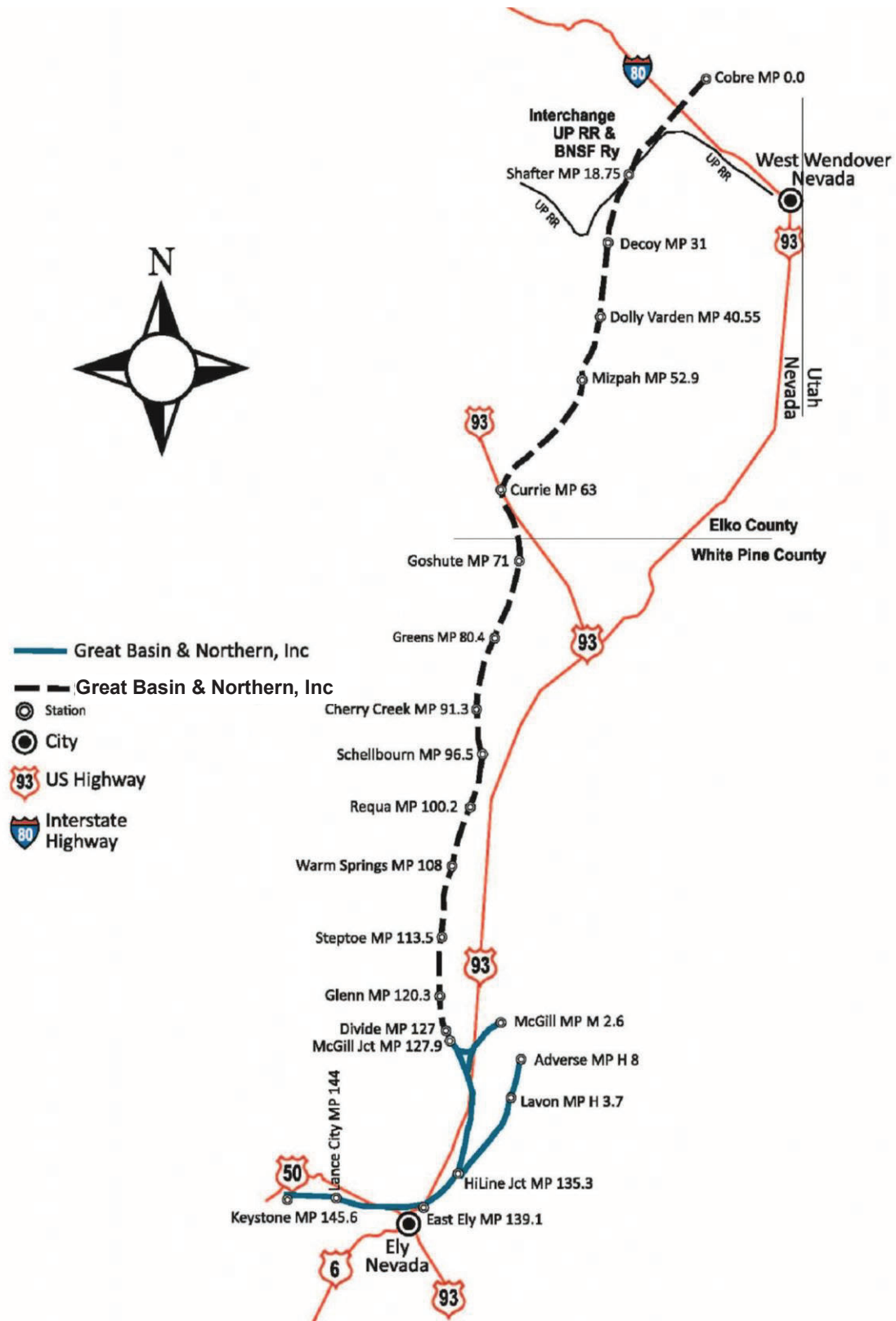


Exhibit B

Caption Summary

Surface Transportation Board

Notice of Exemption

STB Docket No. FD 36926

**Great Basin & Northern Railway, Inc.
—Change in Operators Exemption—
City of Ely and Nevada Northern Railway Foundation**

Great Basin & Northern Railway, Inc. (Railway), a noncarrier, has filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 C.F.R. § 1150.31 to replace Great Basin and Northern Railroad, Inc., as the operator over approximately 156.5 miles of rail line between milepost 0.0 at or near Cobre, Nevada, and milepost 146.1 at or near Keystone, Nevada; milepost 127.9 at McGill Junction and milepost MB 2.5 at McGill; and milepost 135.3 at Hiline and milepost H-8 at Adverse, in Elko and White Pine Counties, Nevada (the Line). The Line is owned by the City of Ely (the City) and the Nevada Northern Railway Foundation (the Foundation) and is currently operated by Great Basin and Northern Railroad, Inc. Railway states that it anticipates reaching an agreement with the City and Foundation to replace Railroad as the operator over the Line approximately 30 days after Railway filed the verified notice.

All pleadings, referring to Docket No. FD 36926, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board either via e-filing on the Board's website or in writing addressed to 395 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on Great Basin & Northern Railway's representative:

Jason Tutrone, Thompson Hine LLP, 1919 M St. NW, Ste 700, Washington, DC 20036; 202-263-4143; Jason.Tutrone@thompsonhine.com.

This action is categorically excluded from environmental review under 49 CFR 1105.6(c) and from historic preservation reporting requirements under 49 CFR 1105.8(b).

The notice is filed under 49 C.F.R. § 1150.31. If the notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void ab initio. Petitions to revoke the exemption under 49 U.S.C. § 10502(d) may be filed at any time. The filing of a petition to revoke will not automatically stay the transaction.

Board decisions and notices are available at www.stb.gov.

Exhibit C

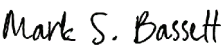
Certification and Verification

Certification and Verification

I, Mark S. Bassett, President of Great Basin & Northern Railway, Inc., verify under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Further, I certify under penalty of perjury that:

1. Great Basin & Northern Railway, Inc.'s projected annual revenues due to this transaction will not result in the creation of a Class II or Class I rail carrier and will not exceed \$5 million.
2. This transaction will not involve an interchange commitment.
3. I am qualified and authorized to file this document.

Executed on: May 1, 2026

DocuSigned by:

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Mark S. Bassett