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May 19, 2026

VIA E-FILING

Chief of Case Administration
Office of Chief Counsel
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20423

311433

ENTERED
Office of Chief Counsel
May 19, 2026
Part of
Public Record

Re: STB Docket No. FD 36933
Northeast Texas Railway Company
-Acquisition of a Line of Railroad Owned by Northeast Texas
Rural Transportation District and Change of Operators Exemption
Northeast Texas Connector, LLC

Dear Chief of Case Administration:

Enclosed for filing in the above referenced docket is an acquisition and change of operator exemption being filed under 49 U.S.C. §10901 for Northeast Texas Railway Company ("NETX") to operate a line of railroad owned by Northeast Texas Rural Transportation District.

The filing fee has been paid via pay.gov. If you have any questions related to this filing, please let me know.

Respectfully,

Justin J. Marks
Counsel for Northeast Texas Railway
Company, LLC

Enclosure

cc: Northeast Texas Rural Rail Transportation District

FEE RECEIVED
May 19, 2026
SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION BOARD

FILED
May 19, 2026
SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION BOARD

clarkhill.com

Before the
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

STB Docket No. FD 36933

**NORTHEAST TEXAS RAILWAY COMPANY
–ACQUISITION OF A LINE OF RAILROAD OWNED BY NORTHEAST
TEXAS RURAL RAIL TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT
AND CHANGE OF OPERATORS EXEMPTION –
NORTHEAST TEXAS CONNECTOR, LLC**

**VERIFIED NOTICE OF EXEMPTION
UNDER 49 U.S.C. § 10901 AND 49 C.F.R. § 1150.31**

(includes color images)

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Two Commerce Square
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Philadelphia, PA 19103
(215) 640-8523
ehocky@clarkhill.com

*Attorneys for Northeast Texas Railway
Company*

Dated: May 19, 2026

Before the
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

STB Docket No. FD 36933

**NORTHEAST TEXAS RAILWAY COMPANY
–ACQUISITION OF A LINE OF RAILROAD OWNED BY NORTHEAST
TEXAS RURAL RAIL TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT
AND CHANGE OF OPERATORS EXEMPTION –
NORTHEAST TEXAS CONNECTOR, LLC**

**VERIFIED NOTICE OF EXEMPTION
UNDER 49 U.S.C. § 10901 AND 49 C.F.R. § 1150.31**

Northeast Texas Railway Company (“NETX”), a non-carrier, files this Notice of Exemption to exempt from regulation its lease of an underlying right-of-way, its acquisition of track and track material, and its operation of approximately 65.59 miles of rail line (the “Subject Line”) owned by the Northeast Texas Rural Rail Transportation District (“NETEX”), a non-operating rail carrier, from milepost 555.0 in Greenville, TX to milepost 489.41, in Winfield, TX. The current operator of the Subject Line is Northeast Texas Connector, LLC (“NETC”).¹ NETC and NETEX are planning to terminate their agreement and for NETX to become the new operator of the Subject Line. Maps of the Subject Line are enclosed as Exhibit A.

NETX is filing this Acquisition and Change of Operators Exemption pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 10901 and 49 C.F.R. § 1150.31(a)(3). NETC has authorized NETX to represent that NETC does not object to this filing which will result in NETX obtaining authority to operate the Subject Line as a common carrier and releasing NETC from its common carrier obligation to operate the Subject Line.

¹ *Northeast Texas Connector, LLC. – Operating Exemption – Northeast Texas Rural Rail Transportation District*, STB Finance Docket No. 36410 (served January 19, 2020).

Support letters from NETC and AB Mauri (a shipper) are enclosed as Exhibit D.

Notice

In accordance with 49 C.F.R. §1150.33, NETX hereby provides the following information:

- (a) The full name and address of Applicant:

Northeast Texas Railway Company
14951 Dallas Parkway, Suite 800
Dallas, TX 75254

- (b) Applicant's Representatives:

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1001 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W.
Suite 1300 South
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- (c) NETEX and NETX are in the process of finalizing an agreement for NETX to lease the underlying right-of-way, to acquire the track and track material, and to operate the Subject Line.
- (d) NETX will be the operator of the Subject Line.
- (e) Brief Summary of the Proposed Transaction: NETX will be entering into an agreement with NETEX for NETX to lease the underlying right-of-way, to acquire the track and track material, and to operate the Subject Line as a common

carrier. NETEX owns the Subject Line as a non-operating common carrier.²

NETX will be assuming the common carrier obligation from NETC. NETC has authorized NETX to represent that NETC does not object to this filing which will result in NETX obtaining authority to operate the Subject Line as a common carrier and releasing NETC from its common carrier obligation to operate the Subject Line from milepost 555.0 to milepost 489.41.

- i. The name and address of the company transferring operation of the Subject Line:

Northeast Texas Connector, LLC
250 Heritage Court
Sulphur Springs, TX 75482

Northeast Texas Rural Rail Transportation District
1200 Enterprise Drive
Sulphur Springs, TX 75482
- ii. The proposed schedule for consummation of the transaction is after the effective date of this Notice, after execution of the agreement between NETX and NETEX, and after NETX and NETC mutually agree on a transition date.
- iii. The mileposts of the Subject Line are between milepost 555.0 in Greenville, TX and milepost 489.41 in Winfield, TX.
- iv. The total mileage to be leased, owned, and operated is approximately 65.59 miles.

(f) Attached as Exhibit A to this Notice of Exemption are maps of the Subject Line.

² See *The Blacklands R.R. -Discontinuance of Service Exemption – in Hunt, Delta, Hopkins, Franklin, and Titus Counties, Tex.*, STB Docket No. AB 1108 (Sub-No. 1X), slip op. at 2, 6 (served Feb. 14, 2020).

- (g) NETX certifies that its projected revenues as a result of the transaction will not result in the creation of a Class II or Class I rail carrier.
- (h) Interchange Commitment: NETX certifies that the Agreement does not impose or include an interchange commitment.
- (i) Enclosed as Exhibit C is a list of known shippers that use or could potentially utilize on the Subject Line.

Labor Protection

Pursuant to 49 U.S.C. §10901(c), approval of this transaction may not be subjected to labor protection.

Labor Notice Certification

NETX certifies that its projected annual revenue following the transaction will not exceed \$5 million per year, and therefore no advanced notice to labor is required.

Environmental and Historic Reports

Pursuant to 49 C.F.R. §1105.6(c)(2), no environmental documentation should be required because this proceeding involves only a change of ownership and operators on the Subject Line that will not result in significant changes to carrier operations, and as a result the changes will not exceed the thresholds established in 49 C.F.R. §1105.7(e)(4) or (e)(5). Further Board approval is required for NETX to discontinue or abandon service, and there are no plans to dispose of or alter properties subject to the Board's jurisdiction that are 50 years old or older. Accordingly, no environmental or historic documentation is required. See 49 C.F.R. §1105.6(c)(1); 49 C.F.R. §1105.8(b)(1).

Caption Summary

Attached hereto as Exhibit B is the caption summary required by 49 C.F.R. §1150.34.

Conclusion

Accordingly, NETX requests that the Board issue a notice allowing NETX to assume operations of the Subject Line.

Respectfully submitted,



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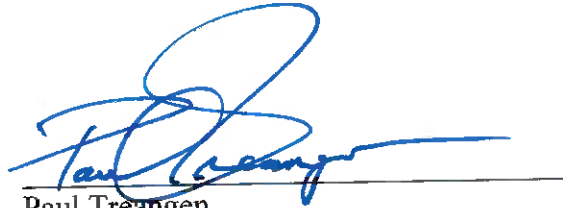
*Attorneys for Northeast Texas
Railway Company*

Dated: May 19, 2026

VERIFICATION

I, Paul Treangen, CEO of Northeast Texas Railway Company, verify under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Further, I certify that I am qualified and authorized to file the foregoing document.

Executed on May 19, 2026.



Paul Treangen
CEO

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this date, a copy of the foregoing was served by email or US first-class mail on the following:

Mr. Mike Salek
Northeast Texas Connector, LLC
PO Box 358
Mustang, OK 73064

msalek@thefreedomrailgroup.com

and the shippers listed on Exhibit C.

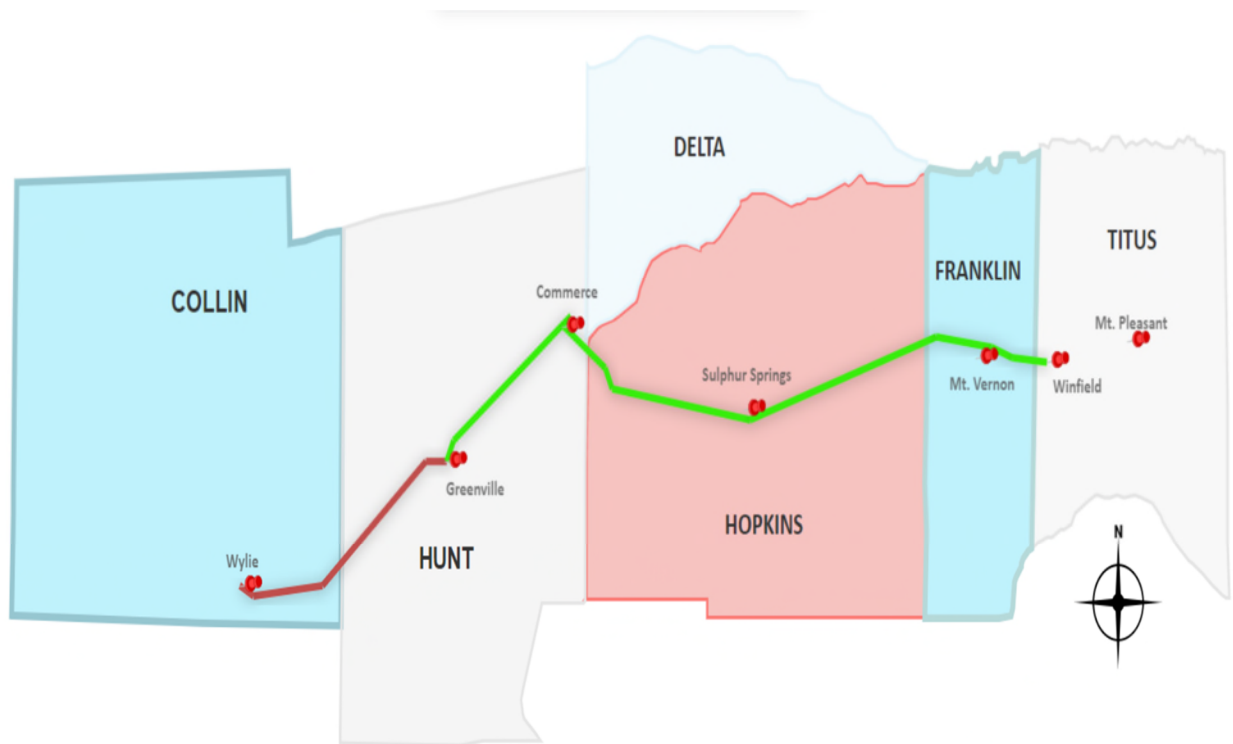


Justin J. Marks

Dated: May 19, 2026

EXHIBIT A

MAPS



GENESIS SUBDIVISION			
	MILE POST	STATION	METHOD OF OPERATION
E A S T ↓	555	GREENVILLE END OF TRACK	O T H E R T H A N M A I N T R A C K ↑
	553.20 G	GREENVILLE NETC/DGNO	
	551.7 AJX	GREENVILLE NETC/KCS	
	540	COMMERCE	
	518	SULPHUR SPRINGS	
	502	SALTILLO	
	495	MTVERNON	
	489.41	WINFIELD BLR RED BOARD	

Green Line = Subject Line

Red Line = Inactive right-of-way not subject to this proceeding

EXHIBIT B

CAPTION SUMMARY

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

Notice of Exemption

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TEXAS RURAL RAIL TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT
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Comments must be filed with the Board and served on NETX’s representative:

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

³ *Northeast Texas Connector, LLC. – Operating Exemption – Northeast Texas Rural Rail Transportation District*, STB Finance Docket No. 36410 (served January 19, 2020).

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.

Decided: _____, 2026.

By the Board, Anika S. Cooper, Chief Counsel, Office of Chief Counsel

EXHIBIT C

LIST OF SHIPPERS

Feeders Supply
624 7th Street
Sulphur Springs TX 75482

North East Texas Farmers Co-Op (Sulphur Springs Office)
428 North Jackson Street
Sulphur Springs, TX 75482

Freedom Terminal Services
250 Heritage Court
Sulphur Springs, TX 75482

Huaru Pipe
116 Maple Street
Commerce, TX 75428

Martinek Grain
3005 Bois D Arc Street
Greenville, TX 75401

Northeast Texas Farmers Co-Op (Greenville Office)
3001 Bois D Arc Street
Greenville, TX 75401

Advanced Industrial Metals (AIM Recycling)
6400 Industrial Drive
Greenville, TX 75402

Royal Oak
6202 Industrial Drive
Greenville, TX 75402

HASA (Formerly FSTI)
341 Ford Molen Drive
Greenville, TX 75402

EXHIBIT D

SUPPORT LETTERS

May 15th, 2026

Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423

Re: Support for Change in Operators Notice of Exemption – NETEX Rail Line

To Whom It May Concern:

AB Mauri is pleased to provide this letter in support of the Change in Operators Notice of Exemption involving the Northeast Texas Rural Rail Transportation District ("NETEX") rail line extending between milepost 555.0 and milepost 489.41.

AB Mauri relies upon freight rail service provided over the NETEX corridor to support our operations and supply chain needs. Over recent years, deteriorating infrastructure conditions and operational limitations on the line have created service challenges that have negatively impacted rail-dependent customers, including AB Mauri.

We believe that the proposed transition of operations to Northeast Texas Railway Company (NETX) represents an important step toward restoring reliable rail service and ensuring the long-term sustainability of the corridor. Continued freight rail access is critical to our business operations, transportation efficiency, and ability to competitively serve our customers.

AB Mauri supports efforts to improve infrastructure conditions, enhance service reliability, and maintain common carrier freight rail operations throughout the corridor. We believe that Northeast Texas Railway Company (NETX) assumption of operations will help stabilize rail service and create opportunities for future operational and infrastructure improvements.

For these reasons, AB Mauri respectfully supports the requested exemption and encourages the Surface Transportation Board to allow the transaction to proceed.

Sincerely,

Susan Jubela

Susan Jubela
Procurement Director
AB Mauri North America



5.14.2026

Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423

Re: Support for Change in Operators Notice of Exemption – NETEX Rail Line

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this letter as formal support for the Change in Operators Notice of Exemption involving the Northeast Texas Rural Rail Transportation District (“NETEX”) rail line extending between milepost 555.0 and milepost 489.41 (the “Subject Line”).

NETC has authorized Northeast Texas Railway Company (NETX) to represent that NETC does not object to the filing, which will result in Northeast Texas Railway Company (NETX) obtaining authority to operate the Subject Line as a common carrier and relieve NETC of its common carrier obligation to operate the Subject Line between milepost 555.0 and milepost 489.41.

NETC supports the proposed transition of operations to Northeast Texas Railway Company (NETX) and believes that the continuation of rail service by Northeast Texas Railway Company (NETX) is in the best interest of the rail customers, the communities served by the line, and the long-term viability of freight rail operations within the Northeast Texas Rural Rail Transportation District.

The Subject Line has experienced substantial infrastructure challenges over many years, and continued investment and operational focus are critical to preserving freight rail service throughout the corridor. NETC believes that Northeast Texas Railway Company (NETX) is positioned to provide the operational oversight, infrastructure investment, customer engagement, and long-term commitment necessary to stabilize and improve service on the line.

NETC respectfully requests that the Surface Transportation Board approve and allow the exemption to become effective in accordance with applicable regulations.

Sincerely,

Mike Salek

Mike Salek
Managing Principle
NETC