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SERVICE DATE – JULY 7, 2026

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DECISION

Docket No. FD 36944

CHICAGO ROCK ISLAND & PACIFIC RAILROAD, LLC—CHANGE OF OPERATOR  
EXEMPTION—RAILROAD LINE IN MONTEREY AND SANTA CRUZ COUNTIES, CAL.

Decided: July 7, 2026

On June 24, 2026, Chicago Rock Island & Pacific Railroad, LLC (Rock Island), filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 C.F.R. § 1150.41 to replace St. Paul & Pacific Railroad Company, LLC (SPRR), as the common carrier operator over an approximately 2.567 mile rail line owned by the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission, in Monterey and Santa Cruz Counties, Cal.

Parties seeking a change in operator exemption should indicate that the carrier being replaced consents to being replaced. See SJRE-R.R. Series—Exemption Under 49 C.F.R. § 1150.31—Rail Line in Harris Cnty., Tex., FD 36279, slip op. at 2 (STB served June 6, 2019). See, e.g., Great Basin & N. Ry.—Change in Operators Exemption—City of Ely and Nev. N. Ry. Found., FD 36926, slip op. at 1-2 (STB served May 22, 2026).

Here, the verified notice does not indicate that SPRR consents to be replaced as the operator. Accordingly, Rock Island will be directed to file a supplement to its verified notice of exemption providing the information necessary to establish whether SPRR consents to the proposed change in operators.

The exemption will not become effective until further order of the Board.

It is ordered:

1. Rock Island is directed to file a supplement to its verified notice of exemption providing the information necessary to determine that SPRR consents to the proposed change in operators.
2. The exemption will not become effective until further order of the Board.
3. This decision is effective on its date of service.

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