

312159

BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

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

FD 36953

SOUTHERN OKLAHOMA RAILROAD, L.L.C.
— OPERATION EXEMPTION —
IN CARTER COUNTY, OKLA.

**VERIFIED NOTICE OF EXEMPTION OF
SOUTHERN OKLAHOMA RAILROAD, L.L.C.
PURSUANT TO 49 C.F.R. PART 1150, SUBPART D**

Stephen J. Foland
Robert A. Wimbish
Fletcher & Sippel LLC
29 North Wacker Drive, Suite 800
Chicago, Illinois 60606-3208
(312) 252-1500
sfoland@fletcher-sippel.com
rwimbish@fletcher-sippel.com

**ATTORNEYS FOR SOUTHERN
OKLAHOMA RAILROAD, L.L.C.**

Dated: September 1, 2026.

FILED
September 1, 2026
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

FEE RECEIVED
September 1, 2026
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

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PURSUANT TO 49 C.F.R. PART 1150, SUBPART D**

Pursuant to 49 C.F.R. part 1150, subpart D, Southern Oklahoma Railroad, L.L.C. (“SOK”), a non-carrier, hereby files this verified notice of exemption (the “Notice”) to operate as a common carrier over approximately 0.51 miles of railroad track (the “Line”) located in Gene Autry, Carter County, Oklahoma, and recently acquired by WP Global, LLC (“WP Global”), a non-carrier.

Concurrent with this Notice, Watco Holdings, Inc. (“Watco”) is filing a notice of exemption under 49 C.F.R. § 1180.2(d), captioned as *Watco Holdings, Inc. — Continuance in Control — Southern Oklahoma Railroad, L.L.C.*, FD 36954, to continue in control of SOK upon SOK’s consummation of the transaction encompassed by this proceeding. In accordance with the requirements of 49 C.F.R. § 1150.33, SOK submits the following information:

Name and Address of Applicant: 49 C.F.R. § 1150.33(a)

The full name and address of the applicant is as follows:

Southern Oklahoma Railroad, L.L.C.
315 West Third Street
Pittsburg, KS 66782

Applicant's Representative: 49 C.F.R. § 1150.33(b)

SOK's representative to whom correspondence regarding this transaction should be sent is as follows:

Stephen J. Foland
Fletcher & Sippel LLC
29 North Wacker Drive, Suite 800
Chicago, Illinois 60606
(312) 252-1500
sfoland@fletcher-sippel.com

Statement Concerning Agreement: 49 C.F.R. § 1150.33(c)

SOK and WP Global have entered into an agreement pursuant to which SOK will take exclusive possession of the Line and will provide railroad common carrier service over it.

Operator of the Property: 49 C.F.R. § 1150.33(d)

SOK will operate and will provide all rail common carrier service to shippers on the Line.

Background and Summary of the Transaction: 49 C.F.R. § 1150.33(e)

The Line was built as a private industry track. SOK does not currently know the Line was first built, but it does know the Line was previously owned by the Ardmore Development Corporation, which sold it to WP Global.

In keeping with the terms of the Agreement, SOK will commence common carrier operations over approximately 0.51 route miles of main line trackage (the Line) located in Gene Autry, Carter County, Oklahoma. The Line consists of approximately 0.51 miles of WP Global-owned railroad track extending generally eastward from a clearance point from a turnout switch leading from a connection to a BNSF Railway Company (“BNSF”) main line immediately south of BNSF milepost 462.0 to a point immediately to the west of the at-grade crossing of Redwing Road. BNSF currently utilizes the Line to provide rail service to customers of WP Global, LLC. Upon commencement of operations by SOK, however, SOK will serve as the operating common carrier on the Line and will interchange traffic with BNSF at the established interchange point on the Line, allowing common carrier rail service to those customers and other shippers located on the Line. In addition, SOK will operate over various spur and industrial tracks (falling under 49 U.S.C. § 10906) extending from to the Line.

The name and address of the transferor entity¹ is as follows:

WP Global, LLC
315 W. Third Street
Pittsburg, Kansas 66782

Map: 49 C.F.R. § 1150.33(f)

A map depicting the Line is attached as Exhibit A.

¹ 49 C.F.R. § 1150.33(e) contemplates disclosure of a “railroad” transferor, but WP Global is not a railroad common carrier subject to the Board’s jurisdiction.

Certificate of Compliance: 49 C.F.R. § 1150.33(g)

The proposed transaction will not cause SOK revenues to meet or exceed the Class I or II thresholds. *See* the attached Certification and Verification.

Interchange Commitments: 49 C.F.R. § 1150.33(h)

The Agreement governing this transaction does not include any provision that may limit future interchange with a third-party connecting carrier. *See* the attached Certification and Verification.

Advance Notice: 49 C.F.R. § 1150.32(e)

SOK's annual operating revenues are not expected to exceed \$5 million. Accordingly, the Board's advance labor notice requirements at 49 C.F.R. § 1150.32(e) are not applicable.

Environmental and Historic Preservation Data: 49 C.F.R. § 1105

Under 49 C.F.R. § 1105.6(c)(1)(i), this common carrier operation transaction is exempt from environmental reporting requirements. The transaction is not expected to result in significant changes in carrier operations, *i.e.*, changes that exceed the thresholds established in 49 C.F.R. § 1105.7(e)(4) or (5).

Under 49 C.F.R. § 1105.8(b)(1), the subject transaction is also exempt from historic preservation reporting requirements. Additionally, following consummation of the proposed transaction, SOK would need to obtain separate advance Board approval to discontinue service over the Line or any part of it.

Furthermore, there are no plans to dispose of or alter properties subject to Board jurisdiction that are fifty years old or older.

Caption Summary: 49 C.F.R. § 1150.32(a)

A Caption Summary is attached as Exhibit B.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ ***Stephen J. Foland***

Stephen J. Foland

Robert A. Wimbish

Fletcher & Sippel LLC

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**ATTORNEYS FOR SOUTHERN
OKLAHOMA RAILROAD, L.L.C.**

Dated: September 1, 2026.

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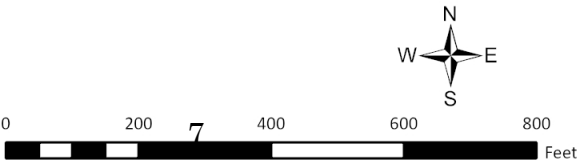
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**EXHIBIT A
MAP**



- Other Track
- STB-Regulated Track
- Milepost
- Switch
- STB-Regluated Track Limits



Longitude:	-97.0425
Latitude:	34.3061
Date:	4/15/2025
Drawn By:	BB

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**EXHIBIT B
CAPTION SUMMARY**

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

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Comments must be filed with the Board and served on:

Stephen J. Foland
Fletcher & Sippel LLC
29 North Wacker Drive, Suite 800
Chicago, Illinois 60606
(312) 252-1500
sfoland@fletcher-sippel.com

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.

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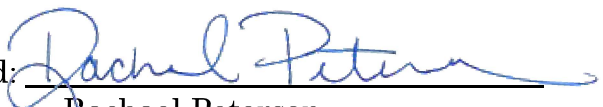
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**CERTIFICATION AND
VERIFICATION**

CERTIFICATION AND VERIFICATION

I, Rachael Peterson, being duly sworn, state as follows:

1. I am the Executive Vice President and Chief Business Officer of Southern Oklahoma Railroad, L.L.C. ("SOK");
2. I certify that SOK is currently not a common carrier; that SOK's expected annual operating revenues are not expected to exceed \$5 million; and that SOK's anticipated post-transaction annual revenues will not result in SOK becoming a Class I or II rail carrier under the thresholds set forth at 49 C.F.R. § 1201 (1-1);
3. I certify that the proposed transaction would not involve an interchange commitment;
4. I am qualified and authorized to tender this Verification and Certification; and
5. I have read the foregoing Notice of Exemption and know that the facts stated herein are true and correct to the best of my information and belief.

Signed: 
Rachael Peterson

Date: August 31, 2026