

March 28, 2013

VIA E-FILE

The Honorable Cynthia T. Brown
Chief, Section of Administration
Surface Transportation Board
395 E. Street, S.W., Room #100
Washington, DC 20423-0001

233985
233986
ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
March 28, 2013
Part of
Public Record

**PETITION TO HOLD
DECISION IN ABEYANCE**

RE: Amendment to Combined Joint Petition for Exemption for Union Pacific Railroad Company ("UP") to discontinue its operation of the B&M Bridge Line, as hereinafter defined, and to abandon and discontinue service on a portion of UP's Brownsville Subdivision from milepost 7.4 near Olmito Junction, TX to milepost 0.22 at Brownsville, TX (the "Brownsville Subdivision") and for Brownsville and Matamoras Bridge Company ("B&M") to abandon B&M's 0.8 mile of rail line north of the international border with Mexico, at Brownsville, TX (The "B&M Bridge Line"); UP Docket AB-33 (Sub-No. 306X) and B&M Docket AB - 1091X.

AND

Request under 49 U.S.C. §10502 to exempt this proposed Combined Joint Petition for UP's discontinuance of UP's operations of the B&M Bridge Line and to abandon and discontinue service on a portion of UP's Brownsville Subdivision and for Exemption to abandon B&M's B&M Bridge Line from the Offer of Financial Assistance Provisions of 49 U.S.C. 10904 and the Public Use Provisions of 49 U.S.C. §10905 for reasons that such exemption from said provisions will not adversely impact the ability to carry out the transportation policy of 49 U.S.C. §10101, that the transaction is of limited scope and that the right of way is needed for a valid public purpose and overriding public need.

Dear Ms. Brown:

The Union Pacific Railroad Company ("UP") and the Brownsville and Matamoras Bridge Company, ("B&M") respectfully request that the Office of Proceedings and the Board hold in abeyance for ninety (90) days, any further proceedings with regard to the above referenced matter.

As the Board is aware from the public notice in FR Doc. 04-14468, June 25, 2004 that the Presidential Permit to Cameron County, Texas for the Brownsville/Matamoras West Rail Relocation Project ("West Rail Project") is for the relocation of the railroad crossing between the

United States of America and the Country of Mexico from the B&M Bridge to the West Rail Project. (See Union Pacific's January 23, 2013 filing with the Board in this matter.)

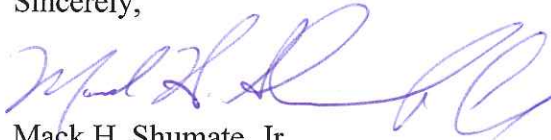
This relocation of UP's railroad operations from the B&M Bridge to the West Rail Project is neither an extension nor addition of UP's lines of railroad nor its operations but rather a relocation of such line and the operations thereover.

It has been brought to UP's and B&M's attention that a complete and total relocation of the line and the operations thereover, requires the assumption by UP of B&M's rights and obligations as a common carrier by railroad (the "Assumption"). The Assumption will permit UP to undertake a complete relocation of the Line and common carrier operations thereon, from the B&M Bridge to the West Rail Project.

UP and B&M are in the process of entering into agreements and obtaining all necessary corporate board authority necessary to complete the Assumption.

Therefore, for the reasons outlined above, UP and B&M hereby respectfully request that the Office of Proceedings and the Board hold in Abeyance any decision concerning the above referenced matter for ninety (90) days while UP and B&M complete the Assumption and prepare any necessary filings with the Board with regard to said Assumption and any further amendments to the filings made thus far in this proceeding.

Sincerely,



Mack H. Shumate, Jr.
Senior General Attorney

MHS:pag
Attachment

cc: (w/enclosures)

MTMCTEA
Military Surface Deployment & Distribution Command
Transportation Engineering Agency
ATTN: SDTE – SA
(Railroads for National Defense)
709 Ward Drive, Building 1990
Scott AFB, IL 62225-5357

U.S. Department of the Interior
National Park Service
Legislative & Congressional Affairs Office
1849 C Street, N.W., Room 3309
Washington, DC 20240

Surface Transportation Board
Section of Administration
March 28, 2013
Page 3

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Chief of the Forest Service
4th Floor N.W., Auditors Building
14th Street & Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, DC 20250

Denise S. Francis
Director, State Grants Team
Governor's Office of Budget and Planning
P.O. Box 12428
Austin, TX 78711

2012_01_23 STB Joint Petition for Exemption from 49 USC 10903 Requirements