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March 26, 2019

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VIA E-FILING

Cynthia T. Brown, Chief
Section of Administration, Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington DC 20423-0001

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
March 26, 2019
Part of
Public Record

Re: Greenville County Economic Development Corporation – Abandonment
Exemption – In Greenville County, SC
AB-490 (Sub-No. 2x)
Notice of Consummation

Dear Ms. Brown:

The County of Greenville, S.C. ("Greenville County") seeks to partially vacate the Notice of Interim Trail Use ("NITU") served in this docket, AB-490 (Sub-No. 2X), on May 18, 2015 and agreed upon by parties on September 1, 2015.¹ As explained herein, Greenville County would like to terminate interim trail use/rail banking on a small portion of the right-of-way that arguably is covered by the NITU, consummate its abandonment over that small segment, and convey that portion for the creation of a public road, greenway, and related parking facility.

By notice of exemption served and published in the Federal Register on January 9, 2015, the Surface Transportation Board ("STB" or "Board") granted Greenville County Economic Development Corporation ("GCEDC") authority to abandon approximately 3.29 miles of rail line between milepost AJK 585.34 in East Greenville, SC, and milepost AJK 588.63 in Greenville, SC (the "Line"). By decision served on February 6, 2015, the Board imposed four environmental conditions. The exemption became effective on February 8, 2015.

On March 16, 2015, the County of Greenville, S.C. ("Greenville County" or "County") filed a request for the issuance of an NITU for the Line under the National Trails System Act, 16

¹ The Notice of Agreement on Rail Banking/ Interim Trails Use was entered into the public record on September 14, 2015.

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U.S.C. § 1247(d) ("Trails Act"). The County supplemented its request on April 8, 2015. By decision served May 18, 2015, the STB modified the notice exempting GCEDC's abandonment of the Line to the extent necessary to implement interim trail use by the County. In a letter filed on September 14, 2015, Greenville County and GCEDC jointly notified the Board that an interim trail use/rail-banking agreement had been reached between the parties with Greenville County as the owner of the Line and trail sponsor and GCEDC holding the residual common carrier obligation and the right to restart freight service under the NITU.

On February 12, 2016, Greenville County filed a notice of exemption to acquire all of GCEDC's interest in the rail-banked Line, including GCEDC's residual common carrier obligation on the Line and GCEDC's right to reactivate freight service pursuant to that residual common carrier obligation. On February 26, 2016, the Board served its decision in County of Greenville, S.C. – Acquisition Exemption – Rail Line of Greenville County Economic Development Corporation, FD 35997 allowing for the transfer of all of GCEDC's ownership rights and responsibilities in the rail-banked Line to Greenville County effective March 13, 2016. Greenville County is currently the owner of the rail-banked Line and holds the right to reactivate service over the Line.

On January 29, 2019, the County filed a notice of intent to terminate trail use over a small portion of the right-of-way (the "Parcel") to facilitate the construction of a greenway/public road adjacent to the rail-banked line. The Parcel is 75 feet wide (half the width of the right-of-way) and runs longitudinally between milepost 587 and road crossing 640378Y. The County also asked that the Board vacate the existing NITU for the Parcel and issue a replacement NITU for the remaining portion of the Line, removing the Parcel from its railbanked status. By decision issued March 26, 2019, the Acting Director of the Office of Proceedings granted the County's request to vacate the NITU with respect to the Parcel and to issue a replacement NITU issued for the remainder of the right-of-way.

In accordance 49 C.F.R. § 1152.29(e)(2), the County hereby notifies the Board that it has consummated the abandonment of the Parcel, subject to the environmental consultation conditions related to salvage activities noted in the February 6, 2015 decision.

Respectfully submitted,



William A. Mullins
Attorney for The County of Greenville, S.C.

cc: South Carolina Public Service Commission
Parties of Record