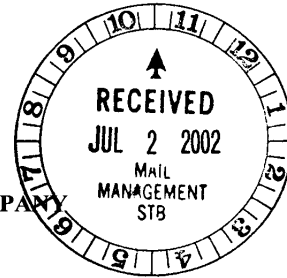


SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

ABANDONMENT DOCKET NO.: AB 602X

**TECUMSEH BRANCH CONNECTING RAILROAD COMPANY
—ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION—**



**VERIFIED NOTICE OF EXEMPTION
PURSUANT TO 49 C.F.R. §1152.50(b)**

205-760

**Exempt Abandonment of Out-of-Service Rail Line
Information Required by 49 C.F.R. §1152.50(d)**

DID# 0101981001

FEE RECEIVED

JUL 2 - 2002

**SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

**SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

Kenneth J. Bisdorf
2301 West Big Beaver Road
Suite 600
Troy, Michigan 48084-3329
(248) 649-9653

Vice President and General Counsel for the
Tecumseh Branch Connecting Railroad
Company

Filed Date: July 2, 2002

**ENTERED
Office of Proceedings**

JUL 2 - 2002

**Part of
Public Record**

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

ABANDONMENT DOCKET NO.: AB 602X

**TECUMSEH BRANCH CONNECTING RAILROAD COMPANY
—ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION—**

**VERIFIED NOTICE OF EXEMPTION
PURSUANT TO 49 C.F.R. §1152.50(b)**

**Exempt Abandonment of Out-of-Service Rail Line
Information Required by 49 C.F.R. §1152.50(d)**

Name and Address of Applicant

49 C.F.R. §1152.22(a)(1)

Tecumseh Branch Connecting Railroad Company
850 Mandoline
Madison Heights, Michigan 48071

Applicant's Representative

49 C.F.R. §1152.22(a)(7)

Kenneth J. Bisdorf, Esq.
2301 West Big Beaver Road
Suite 600
Troy, Michigan 48064-3329
(248) 649-9653
Vice President and General Counsel for the
Tecumseh Branch Connecting Railroad Company

Proposed Consummation Date

49 C.F.R. §1152.50(d)(2)

The Tecumseh Branch Connecting Railroad Company ("TBCR") intends, on or shortly after August 20, 2002, to consummate the abandonment of an out-of-service rail line located in the City of Adrian, Lenawee County, Michigan. The rail line to be abandoned consists of approximately .8 miles of the "Tecumseh Branch" of the former Detroit, Toledo & Ironton Railroad, extending from TBCR's point of interchange with Adrian & Blissfield Rail Road Company's mainline at MP 45.5 of said Tecumseh Branch in Adrian, Michigan, to the end of track on said Tecumseh Branch at MP 46.3, also in Adrian, Michigan (hereinafter "Rail Lines").

Common Carrier Status

49 C.F.R. §1152.22(a)(2)

The Applicant, Tecumseh Branch Connecting Railroad Company, is a common carrier by railroad subject to Subtitle IV, Chapter 105, of Title 49 of the U.S. Code (49 U.S.C. §§10501-10502).

Relief Sought

49 C.F.R. §1152.22(a)(3)

Applicant is seeking to abandon an out-of-service rail line located in the City of Adrian, Lenawee County, Michigan. The Rail Lines consist of approximately .8 miles of the "Tecumseh Branch" of the former Detroit, Toledo & Ironton Railroad, extending from MP 45.5 of said Tecumseh Branch in Adrian, Michigan, to the end of track on said Tecumseh Branch at MP 46.3, also in Adrian, Michigan.

Map

49 C.F.R. §1152.22(a)(4)

A map showing the location of the Rail Lines, and their relation to other rail lines in the area, highways, water routes, and population centers, is attached as ***Exhibit A*** to this Verified Notice of Exemption.

Certifications Required by §1152.50(b)

49 C.F.R. §1152.50(b)

No local traffic, or overhead traffic, has moved over the Rail Lines for at least 2 years, any overhead traffic overhead traffic on the Rail Lines can be rerouted over other lines, and no formal complaint filed by a user of rail service on the Rail Lines (or a state or local government entity acting on behalf of such user) regarding cessation of service over the Rail Lines either is pending with the Board or any U.S. District Court or has been decided in favor of the complainant within the 2-year period. The certification of an officer of TBCR to the above effect is attached as ***Exhibit B*** to this Notice.

List of Zip Codes

49 C.F.R. §1152.22(a)(8)

The Rail Lines are located entirely within the U.S. Post Office Zip Code 49221, Adrian, Lenawee County, Michigan.

Appropriateness of the Rail Lines for Other Public Use

49 C.F.R. §1152.22(e)(4)

The Rail Lines are appropriate for public recreational use.

Protection of the Interests of Railroad Employees

49 C.F.R. §1152.50(d)(2)

Because there has been no local or overhead traffic over the Rail Lines for over two years and because Applicant has no employees and thus, there will be no employee work force reductions as a result of the abandonment of the Rail Lines, the interests of railroad employees will not be adversely affected as result of the abandonment of the Rail Lines.

Certification of Compliance with Notice Requirements

49 C.F.R. §1152.50(d)(2)

The undersigned certifies that the notice requirements of 49 C.F.R. §1152.50(d)(1) were complied with on June 14, 2002, by mailing (via U.S. Post Office Express Mail) written notice of its intent to abandon the Rail Lines to the governmental authorities listed in 49 C.F.R.

§1152.50(d)(1). Written notice was provided to the following:

49 C.F.R. §1152.50(d)(1)(i)

Mr. John Strand, Director
Michigan Public Service Commission
6545 Mercantile Way
Lansing, Michigan 48909
Express Mail Airbill No. ET881752217US

49 C.F.R. §1152.50(d)(1)(ii)

Mr. Robert Korpanty
MTMTCEA
720 Thimble Shoals Blvd.
Suite 130
Newport News, Virginia 23606
Express Mail Airbill No. ET881752203US

49 C.F.R. §1152.20(d)(1)(iii)

Mr. Sam Stokes
Chief, RTCA
National Park Service
1849 C St., NW
MS-3622
Washington, D.C. 20240
Express Mail Airbill No. ET881752194US

49 C.F.R. §1152.50(d)(1)(iv)

Mr. Dale Bosworth
Chief, Forest Service
United States Department of Agriculture
201 14th Street, NW
4NW Yates
Washington, D.C. 20250
Express Mail Airbill No. ET881752185US

Copies of the written notices are attached hereto as ***Exhibit C***.

The undersigned further certifies that, because there has been no local or overhead traffic on the Rail Lines for over two years, the proposed abandonment of the Rail Lines is exempt from environmental review under 49 C.F.R. §§1105.6(c)(2) because the actions proposed herein will not cause any operating changes that will exceed the thresholds established in 49 C.F.R. §§1105.7(e)(4) or (5), and thus service of Environmental Documentation (as that term is defined in 49 C.F.R. §1105.4(e)) on governmental authorities is not required.

The undersigned further certifies that he complied with the Historic Report notice requirement set forth in 49 C.F.R. §1105.11 on June 10, 2002, by mailing (via U.S. Post Office Express Mail, Airbill Number ET881752234US) Applicant's Historic Report (required by 49 C.F.R. §1105.8) to the Michigan Department of State, Michigan Historical Commission, Sandra S. Clark, Director. A copy of said Historical Report is attached hereto as ***Exhibit D***.

The certification of an officer of TBCR as to the above is attached as ***Exhibit E*** to this Notice.

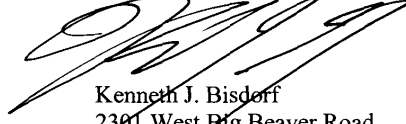
General Public (Newspaper) Notice

49 C.F.R. §1105.12

Applicant published a notice of its intent to abandon the Rail Lines in a newspaper of general circulation in Lenawee County, Michigan (THE DAILY TELEGRAM, Adrian, Michigan)

on Friday, June 14, 2002 and Thursday, June 20, 2002. A copy of the Affidavit of Publication is attached as *Exhibit F* to this Notice.

Respectfully submitted,



Kenneth J. Bisdorf
2301 West Big Beaver Road
Suite 600
Troy, Michigan 48084-3329

Vice President and General Counsel for the
Tecumseh Branch Connecting Railroad
Company

Filed Date: July 2, 2002

State of Michigan)
)ss.
County of Oakland)

On July 1, 2002, Kenneth J. Bisdorf appeared before me, and after being duly sworn, stated that he executed the within Verified Notice of Exemption as his own free act and deed, and that the information contained herein is true and accurate to the best of his knowledge after due inquiry.



NOTARY PUBLIC, Oakland Cty, Michigan
My commission expires: May 31, 2004

KENNETH R. EVANS
NOTARY PUBLIC OAKLAND CO., MI
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES May 31, 2004

A

**MAP WILL BE SCANNED
AT A LATER DATE**

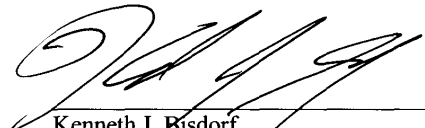
B

EXHIBIT B

CERTIFICATE REQUIRED BY 49 C.F.R. §1152.50(b)

The undersigned, Vice President and General Counsel of the Tecumseh Branch Connecting Railroad Company (the "Applicant"), certifies that no local traffic has moved over the Rail Lines for at least two (2) years and any overhead traffic on the Rail Lines can be rerouted over other lines and that no formal complaint filed by a user of rail service on the Rail Lines (or a state or local government entity acting on behalf of such user) regarding cessation of service over the Rail Lines either is pending with the Board or any U.S. District Court or has been decided in favor of the complainant within the 2-year period.

Date: July 1, 2002


Kenneth J. Bisdorf
2301 West Big Beaver Road
Suite 600
Troy, Michigan 48064-3329

Vice President and General Counsel for the
Tecumseh Branch Connecting Railroad
Company

State of Michigan)
)ss.
County of Oakland)

On July 1, 2002, Kenneth J. Bisdorf appeared before me, and after being duly sworn, stated that he executed the above Certificate Required by 49 C.F.R. §1152.50(b) as his own free act and deed, and that the information contained herein is true and accurate to the best of his knowledge after due inquiry.


NOTARY PUBLIC, Oakland Cty, Michigan
My commission expires: May 31, 2004

**KENNETH R. EVANS
NOTARY PUBLIC OAKLAND CO., MI
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES May 31, 2004**

C

TECUMSEH BRANCH CONNECTING RAILROAD COMPANY

850 MANDOLINE
MADISON HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN 48071
(248) 583-3192
(248) 583-3194 (fax)

June 14, 2002
Via Express Mail
Airbill No.:ET881752217US

Mr. John Strand
Director
Michigan Public Service Commission
6545 Mercantile Way
Lansing, Michigan 48909

Re: Exempt Abandonment of Out-of-Service Rail Line
Surface Transportation Board Abandonment Docket No. AB 602X

Dear Mr. Strand:

Tecumseh Branch Connecting Railroad Company ("Applicant") gives notice that on or shortly after July 2, 2002, it intends to file with the Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20423-0001, a notice under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F – *Exempt Abandonments* permitting the abandonment of a .8 mile line of railroad between Mile Post 45.5, in Adrian, Lenawee County, Michigan 49221 and Mile Post 46.3, also in Adrian, Lenawee County, Michigan 49221. The proceeding will be docketed as No. AB 602X.

Based on information in our possession, the line does not contain federally granted right- of-way. Any documentation in the railroad's possession will be made available to those requesting it.

I have enclosed a copy of this letter for time-stamping, and returning to us in the enclosed stamped, self-addressed envelope.

TECUMSEH BRANCH CONNECTING RAILROAD COMPANY

Mr. John Strand

June 14, 2002

Re: Exempt Abandonment of Out-of-Service Rail Line
Surface Transportation Board Abandonment Docket No. AB 602X

Page 2

Should you have any questions, please contact me at:

2301 West Big Beaver Road
Suite 600
Troy, Michigan 48084-3329
(248) 649-9653

Very truly yours,

Tecumseh Branch Connecting Railroad
Company

Kenneth J. Bisdorf
Vice President, General Counsel

TECUMSEH BRANCH CONNECTING RAILROAD COMPANY

850 MANDOLINE
MADISON HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN 48071
(248) 583-3192
(248) 583-3194 (fax)

June 14, 2002
Via Express Mail
Airbill No.:ET881752203US

Mr. Robert Korpanty
MTMTCEA
720 Thimble Shoals Blvd.
Suite 130
Newport News, VA 23606

Re: Exempt Abandonment of Out-of-Service Rail Line
Surface Transportation Board Abandonment Docket No. AB 602X

Dear Mr. Korpanty:

Tecumseh Branch Connecting Railroad Company ("Applicant") gives notice that on or shortly after July 2, 2002, it intends to file with the Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20423-0001, a notice under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F – *Exempt Abandonments* permitting the abandonment of a .8 mile line of railroad between Mile Post 45.5, in Adrian, Lenawee County, Michigan 49221 and Mile Post 46.3, also in Adrian, Lenawee County, Michigan 49221. The proceeding will be docketed as No. AB 602X.

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I have enclosed a copy of this letter for time-stamping, and returning to us in the enclosed stamped, self-addressed envelope.

TECUMSEH BRANCH CONNECTING RAILROAD COMPANY

Mr. Robert Korpanty

June 14, 2002

Re: Exempt Abandonment of Out-of-Service Rail Line
Surface Transportation Board Abandonment Docket No. AB 602X

Page 2

Should you have any questions, please contact me at:

2301 West Big Beaver Road
Suite 600
Troy, Michigan 48084-3329
(248) 649-9653

Very truly yours,

Tecumseh Branch Connecting Railroad
Company

Kenneth J. Bisdorf
Vice President, General Counsel

TECUMSEH BRANCH CONNECTING RAILROAD COMPANY

850 MANDOLINE
MADISON HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN 48071
(248) 583-3192
(248) 583-3194 (fax)

June 14, 2002
Via Express Mail
Airbill No.:ET881752194US

Mr. Sam Stokes
Chief, RTCA
1849 C St., NW
MS-3622
Washington, DC 20240

Re: Exempt Abandonment of Out-of-Service Rail Line
Surface Transportation Board Abandonment Docket No. AB 602X

Dear Mr. Stokes:

Tecumseh Branch Connecting Railroad Company ("Applicant") gives notice that on or shortly after July 2, 2002, it intends to file with the Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20423-0001, a notice under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F – *Exempt Abandonments* permitting the abandonment of a .8 mile line of railroad between Mile Post 45.5, in Adrian, Lenawee County, Michigan 49221 and Mile Post 46.3, also in Adrian, Lenawee County, Michigan 49221. The proceeding will be docketed as No. AB 602X.

Based on information in our possession, the line does not contain federally granted right- of-way. Any documentation in the railroad's possession will be made available to those requesting it.

I have enclosed a copy of this letter for time-stamping, and returning to us in the enclosed stamped, self-addressed envelope.

RECEIVED JUN 19 2002

TECUMSEH BRANCH CONNECTING RAILROAD COMPANY

Mr. Sam Stokes

June 14, 2002

Re: Exempt Abandonment of Out-of-Service Rail Line
Surface Transportation Board Abandonment Docket No. AB 602X

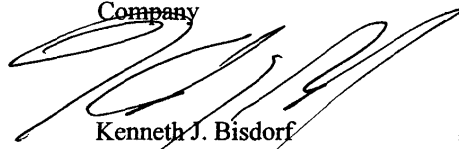
Page 2

Should you have any questions, please contact me at:

2301 West Big Beaver Road
Suite 600
Troy, Michigan 48084-3329
(248) 649-9653

Very truly yours,

Tecumseh Branch Connecting Railroad
Company

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Bisdorf', is written over the printed name.

Kenneth J. Bisdorf
Vice President, General Counsel

TECUMSEH BRANCH CONNECTING RAILROAD COMPANY

850 MANDOLINE
MADISON HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN 48071
(248) 583-3192
(248) 583-3194 (fax)

June 14, 2002
Via Express Mail
Airbill No.:ET881752185US

Mr. Dale Bosworth
Chief, Forest Service
201 14th Street, NW
4NW Yates
Washington, DC 20250

Re: Exempt Abandonment of Out-of-Service Rail Line
Surface Transportation Board Abandonment Docket No. AB 602X

Dear Mr. Bosworth:

Tecumseh Branch Connecting Railroad Company ("Applicant") gives notice that on or shortly after July 2, 2002, it intends to file with the Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20423-0001, a notice under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F – *Exempt Abandonments* permitting the abandonment of a .8 mile line of railroad between Mile Post 45.5, in Adrian, Lenawee County, Michigan 49221 and Mile Post 46.3, also in Adrian, Lenawee County, Michigan 49221. The proceeding will be docketed as No. AB 602X.

Based on information in our possession, the line does not contain federally granted right- of-way. Any documentation in the railroad's possession will be made available to those requesting it.

I have enclosed a copy of this letter for time-stamping, and returning to us in the enclosed stamped, self-addressed envelope.

TECUMSEH BRANCH CONNECTING RAILROAD COMPANY

Mr. Dale Bosworth

June 14, 2002

Re: Exempt Abandonment of Out-of-Service Rail Line
Surface Transportation Board Abandonment Docket No. AB 602X

Page 2

Should you have any questions, please contact me at:

2301 West Big Beaver Road
Suite 600
Troy, Michigan 48084-3329
(248) 649-9653

Very truly yours,

Tecumseh Branch Connecting Railroad
Company

Kenneth J. Bisdorf
Vice President, General Counsel

D

TECUMSEH BRANCH CONNECTING RAILROAD COMPANY

850 MANDOLINE
MADISON HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN 48071
(248) 583-3192
(248) 583-3194 (fax)

June 10, 2002
Via Express Mail
Airbill No.:ET881752234US

Ms. Sandra S. Clark
Director
Michigan Historical Commission
717 W. Allegan
Lansing, Michigan 48918

Re: Exempt Abandonment of Out-of-Service Rail Line
Surface Transportation Board Abandonment Docket No. AB 602X

Dear Ms. Clark:

On or shortly after July 1, 2002, we are filing with the Surface Transportation Board a Verified Notice of Exemption seeking authority to abandon an out-of-service rail line located in Adrian, Michigan, between Mile Posts 46.3 and 45.5. Attached is a Historic Report describing the proposed action and any expected historic effects, as well as a map of the affected area.

We are providing this report so that you may review the information that will form the basis for the STB's independent historic analysis of this proceeding. If any of the information is misleading or incorrect, if you believe that pertinent information is missing, or if you have any questions about the Board's historic review process, please contact the Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA), Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20423, telephone number (202) 565-1545, and refer to the above *Abandonment Docket No. AB 602X*. Because the applicable statutes and regulations impose stringent deadlines for processing this action, your written comments to SEA (with a copy to our representative) would be appreciated within 3 weeks.

TECUMSEH BRANCH CONNECTING RAILROAD COMPANY

Ms. Sandra Clark

June 10, 2002

Re: Exempt Abandonment of Out-of-Service Rail Line
Surface Transportation Board Abandonment Docket No. AB 602X

Page 2

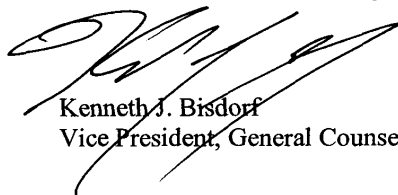
Your comments will be considered by the Board in evaluating the historic preservation impacts of the contemplated action. If there are any questions regarding this proposal, please contact our representative directly. Our representative in this matter, and his address, telephone number, and email address is as follows:

Kenneth J. Bisdorf
2301 West Big Beaver Road
Suite 600
Troy, Michigan 48064-3329
(248) 649-9653
(248) 649-9668 (fax)
kbisdorf@cssc.com

I have enclosed copies of this letter, and the cover page to the enclosed Historic Report, for time-stamping. Please return them to me for our files in the enclosed, stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Very truly yours,

Tecumseh Branch Connecting Railroad Company



Kenneth J. Bisdorf
Vice President, General Counsel

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

ABANDONMENT DOCKET NO.: AB 602X

**TECUMSEH BRANCH CONNECTING RAILROAD COMPANY
—ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION—**

**VERIFIED NOTICE OF EXEMPTION
PURSUANT TO 49 C.F.R. §1152.50**

**Exempt Abandonment of Out-of-Service Rail Line
Historic Report Required by 49 C.F.R. §1105.8**

Kenneth J. Bisdorf
2301 West Big Beaver Road
Suite 600
Troy, Michigan 48084-3329
(248) 649-9653

General Counsel for the Tecumseh Branch
Connecting Railroad Company

Date: June 10, 2002

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

ABANDONMENT DOCKET NO.: AB 602X

**TECUMSEH BRANCH CONNECTING RAILROAD COMPANY
—ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION—**

**VERIFIED NOTICE OF EXEMPTION
PURSUANT TO 49 C.F.R. §1152.50**

**Exempt Abandonment of Out-of-Service Rail Line
Historic Report Required by 49 C.F.R. §1105.8**

Name and Address of Applicant

Tecumseh Branch Connecting Railroad Company ("TBCR")
850 Mandoline
Madison Heights, Michigan 48071

Applicant's Representative

Kenneth J. Bisdorf, Esq.
2301 West Big Beaver Road
Suite 600
Troy, Michigan 48084-3329
(248) 649-9653
General Counsel for the Tecumseh
Branch Connecting Railroad Company

Map

49 C.F.R. §1105.8(d)(1)

A map drawn to scale showing the location of the exempt abandonment, and the location of the rail lines that are the subject of the exempt abandonment (the "Rail Lines") and the location and approximate dimensions of railroad structures that are 50 years old or older that are part of the exempt abandonment is attached hereto as ***Exhibit A***. The Rail Lines are highlighted in yellow on ***Exhibit A***. Copies of Right of Way and Station Maps, showing Lands, Tracks, and Structures, prepared by the Office of the Chief Engineer of the Detroit, Toledo & Ironton

Railroad and dated June 30, 1918, and revised July 13, 1925, are attached hereto as ***Exhibit B***.

The Rail Lines are highlighted in yellow on ***Exhibit B***.

Description of the Right of Way

49 C.F.R. §1105.8(d)(2)

The width of the right of way of the Rail Lines is 10' on either side of the Center of Track from College Ave. (MP 46.3) to Merrick Ave. (MP 46.0), where they run through a commercial / light industrial district.

From Merrick Avenue (MP 46.0) to Main St. (MP 45.95), the width of the right of way of the Rail Lines is 20' on either side of the Center of Track, where the Rail Lines run through woodlands, and adjacent to a City Park.

From Main St. (MP 45.95) to the point at which the rail lines enter the right of way of the Adrian & Blissfield Rail Road Company ("ADBF") (MP 45.7) (formerly the right of way of the New York Central Railroad Company), the width of the right of way is generally 15' on either side of the Center of Track. From MP 45.7 to its point of interchange with ADBF (MP 45.5), the Rail Lines were constructed within the New York Central Railroad Company's 50' right of way. From Main St. (MP 45.95) to the point of interchange with ADBF (MP 45.5), the Rail Lines run through a residential district.

Photographs of the Railroad Structures, Property, and Surrounding Area

49 C.F.R. §1105.8(d)(3)

Photographs (taken on June 5, 2002) of the property over which the Rail Lines run, and the immediately surrounding area, are attached hereto as ***Exhibit C***. The location that these photographs were taken, along with the direction in which they were taken, is shown on ***Exhibit B***.

Dates of Construction and Modification of Railroad Structures

49 C.F.R. §1105.8(d)(4)

The Rail Lines and their structure were originally constructed in the early 1900's (the property conveyance documents are dated from 1897 to 1907). As part of normal maintenance, a railroad's ties, spikes, ballast, and sometimes rail is regularly replaced and upgraded. The maintenance history of the Rail Lines is not known. The bridge over the River Raisin (MP 46.1) (**Photos D and E**, on **Exhibits C-2 and C-3**) is believed to be at least 50 years old.

History of Carrier Operations Over the Rail Lines

49 C.F.R. §1105.8(d)(5)

The Rail Lines were originally constructed by the Detroit and Lima Northern Railway Company ("D&LN Ry") in the late 1890's as part of a line of railroad extending 11.14 miles from South Adrian, Michigan (at the TBCR's current interchange with the Norfolk Southern Railroad (f/k/a Wabash, see **Exhibit A**) to Tecumseh, Michigan. In 1898, the D&LN Ry was placed into receivership, and was purchased in 1901 by the Detroit Southern Railroad Company ("DSRR"). DSRR likewise entered receivership in 1904, and was sold in 1905 to Detroit, Toledo and Ironton Railway Company ("DT&I"). In the 1980's, the then Norfolk & Western Railway Company (n/k/a Norfolk Southern Railroad Company) purchased the DT&I, and abandoned that portion of the original line of railroad that extended north to Tecumseh, Michigan beyond MP 46.3 (the point at which the Rail Lines subject to this exempt abandonment begin). In 2001, the TCBR purchased the Rail Lines, along with that portion of the original railroad constructed by the D&LN Ry that extends from the current interchange with the Adrian & Blissfield Rail Road Company's mainline at MP 45.5 to its interchange with the Norfolk Southern Railroad's mainline in South Adrian, Michigan.

In the past, the Rail Lines' shippers consisted primarily of agriculture concerns, with some industrial customers. There have been no shipments originating on the Rail Lines for more than two years.

Summary of Documents in Carrier's Possession

49 C.F.R. §1105.8(d)(6)

TBCR has, in its possession, the aforementioned Right of Way and Station Maps (excerpts of which are attached as *Exhibit B*), along with a limited number of property conveyance documents. All of the property conveyance documents related to the Rail Lines are on file with the Lenawee County Register of Deeds.

Structures that Meet the Criteria for Listing on the National Register of Historic Places

49 C.F.R. §1105.8(d)(7)

After reviewing the provisions of 36 C.F.R. §60.4 (U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service regulations that set forth the criteria to be evaluated as to whether a structure qualifies to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places), and reviewing documents and other information that is in the TBCR's possession, this writer (General Counsel for TBCR) is of the opinion that the Rail Lines and any structures situated thereon do not meet the criteria for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. This writer is also of the opinion that, based upon a review of documents and information in TBCR's possession, as well as in the public record, that there is little, if any, likelihood of archeological resources or other previously unknown historic properties in the vicinity of the Rail Lines.

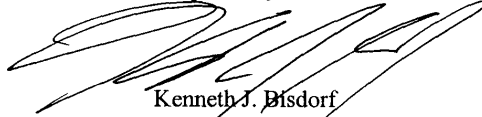
Prior Ground Disturbances, Fill, or Environmental Conditions that Might Affect Archeological Recovery

49 C.F.R. §1105.8(d)(8)

Other than the aforementioned regular railroad maintenance that has been performed on the Rail Lines (see section entitled "Dates of Construction and Modification of Railroad Structures", on page 3, above), TBCR is unaware of any prior subsurface ground disturbances or fill that might affect the archeological recovery of resources. It should be noted, however, that

certain portions of the Rail Lines run through *extremely heavily* wooded areas of woodlands.

Respectfully submitted,



Kenneth J. Bisdorf
2301 West Big Beaver Road
Suite 600
Troy, Michigan 48084-3329

General Counsel for the Tecumseh Branch
Connecting Railroad Company

Date: June 10, 2002

**MAP WILL BE SCANNED
AT A LATER DATE**

**MAP WILL BE SCANNED
AT A LATER DATE**

**MAP WILL BE SCANNED
AT A LATER DATE**

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EXHIBIT E

CERTIFICATE REQUIRED BY 49 C.F.R. §1152.50(d)(2) and §1105.11

The undersigned, Vice President and General Counsel of the Tecumseh Branch Connecting Railroad Company (the "Applicant"), certifies that the notice requirements of 49 C.F.R. §1152.50(d)(1) were complied with on June 14, 2002, by mailing (via U.S. Post Office Express Mail) written notice of its intent to abandon the Rail Lines to the governmental authorities listed in 49 C.F.R. §1152.50(d)(1).

The undersigned further certifies that, because there has been no local or overhead traffic on the Rail Lines for over two years, the proposed abandonment of the Rail Lines is exempt from environmental review under 49 C.F.R. §§1105.6(c)(2) because the actions proposed herein will not cause any operating changes that will exceed the thresholds established in 49 C.F.R. §§1105.7(e)(4) or (5), and thus service of Environmental Documentation (as that term is defined in 49 C.F.R. §1105.4(e)) on governmental authorities is not required.

The undersigned further certifies that he complied with the Historic Report notice requirement set forth in 49 C.F.R. §1105.11 on June 10, 2002, by mailing (via U.S.P.O. Express Mail, airbill number ET881752234US) Applicant's Historic Report (required by 49 C.F.R.

§1105.8) to the Michigan Department of State, Michigan Historical Commission, Sandra S.

Clark, Director.

Date: July 1, 2002

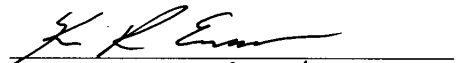


Kenneth J. Bisdorf
2301 West Big Beaver Road
Suite 600
Troy, Michigan 48084-3329

Vice President and General Counsel for the
Tecumseh Branch Connecting Railroad
Company

State of Michigan)
)ss.
County of Oakland)

On July 1, 2002, Kenneth J. Bisdorf appeared before me, and after being duly sworn, stated that he executed the above Certificate Required by 49 C.F.R. §1152.50(d)(2) and §1105.11 as his own free act and deed, and that the information contained herein is true and accurate to the best of his knowledge after due inquiry.



NOTARY PUBLIC, Oakland Cty, Michigan
My commission expires: May 31, 2004

KENNETH J. BISDORF
NOTARY PUBLIC - MICHIGAN
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES MAY 31, 2004

F

AFFIDAVITS OF PUBLICATION

UNITED STATES
SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION
BOARD
ABANDONMENT DOCKET
NO. AB 602X

NOTICE OF INTENT TO
ABANDON OUT-OF-
SERVICE RAIL LINE

Tecumseh Branch
Connecting Railroad
Company ("Applicant")
gives notice that on or
shortly after July 2, 2002, it
intends to file with the
Surface Transportation
Board, 1925 K. Street NW,
Washington D.C. 20423-
0001, a notice under 49
CFR 1152 Subpart F,
Exempt Abandonments
permitting the abandon-
ment of a .8 mile line of rail-
road between Mile Post
45.5, in Adrian, Lenawee
County, Michigan 49221
and Mile Post 46.3 also in
Adrian, Lenawee County,
Michigan 49221. The pro-
ceeding will be docketed.
as No. AB 602X

The Board's Section of En-
vironmental Analysis (SEA)
will generally prepare an
Environmental Assessment
(EA), which will normally be
available 25 days after the
filing of the notice of
exemption. Comments on
environmental, energy, and
historic matters should be
filed no later than 15 days
after the EA becomes
available to the public and
will be addressed in a
Board decision. Interested
persons may obtain a copy
of the EA or make inquiries
regarding environmental
matters by writing to the
Section of Environmental
Analysis, Surface Trans-
portation Board, 1925 K.
Street NW, Washington,
D.C. 20423-0001, or by
calling that office at
(202)565-1545.

Appropriate offers of finan-
cial assistance to continue
rail service can be filed with
the Board. Requests for
environmental conditions,
public use conditions, or
rail banking / trials use also
can be filed with the Board.
An original and 10 copies
of any pleading that raises
matters other than environ-
mental issues (such as
trails use, public use, and
offers of financial assis-
tance) must be filed directly
with the Board's Office of
the Secretary, 1925 K.
Street NW, Washington,
D.C. 20423-0001 (see 49
CFR 1104.1 (a), and 49
CFR 1004.3 (a)), and one
copy must be served on
Applicant's representatives
(see 49 CFR 1104.12 (a)).
Questions regarding offers
of financial assistance,
public use or trails use may
be directed to the Board's
Office of Congressional
and Public Services at
(202) 565-1592. Copies of
any comments or requests
for conditions should be
served on the Applicant's
representative: Kenneth J.
Bisdorf, Esq., 2301 West
Big Beaver Road, Suite
600, Troy, Michigan 48064-
3329, (248)649-9653.
2T June 14, 20

STATE OF MICHIGAN
County of Lenawee
City of Adrian

Christine M Schlieger being first duly sworn, says that she
is the PRINCIPAL CLERK of The Daily Telegram
a newspaper published in the English language for the dis-
semination of local or transmitted news and intelligence of a
general character, which is a duly qualified newspaper, and
that annexed here to is a copy of a certain order taken from
said newspaper, in which the order was published on the

June 14, 20 day of 2002

Christine Schlieger

Paid Amount Due \$83.40

Subscribed and sworn to before me this
day of June 24 2002

Sheri L. Myers
Sheri L. Myers
Notary Public, Lenawee County, Michigan
My Commission Expires: June 17, 2004