

210255

BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
WASHINGTON, D.C.

FILED

MAR - 8 2004

**SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

Finance Docket No.34484



JAMES RIFFIN, dba THE NORTHERN CENTRAL RAILROAD – ACQUISITION AND
OPERATION EXEMPTION–ON CONRAIL’S FORMER LINE CODE 1224, BETWEEN THE
MARYLAND / PENNSYLVANIA LINE (MP 35.1) AND GRANTLEY (MP 56), A
DISTANCE OF APPROXIMATELY 20.9 MILES--ALL LINES LOCATED IN YORK
COUNTY, PA; AND BETWEEN MP 14.2 (COCKEYSVILLE) AND MP 16.2 (ASHLAND);
AND BETWEEN MP 24.3 (BLUE MOUNT) AND MP 25.2 (BLUE MOUNT QUARRY), A
DISTANCE OF APPROXIMATELY 2.9 MILES--ALL LINES LOCATED IN BALTIMORE
COUNTY, MARYLAND.

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

MAR - 8 2004

Part of
Public Record

VERIFIED NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

FEE RECEIVED

MAR - 8 2004

**SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

James Riffin dba The Northern Central Railroad (Applicant), a Non-Carrier, provides the following as his verified exemption notice to acquire and operate exemptions of approximately 20.9 miles of line within York County, PA, and 2.9 miles of line within Baltimore County, Md, pursuant to 49 U.S.C. §10901. This action comes within the class of transactions which are exempt from regulations under 49 U.S.C. §10901.

1. The following 49 CFR §1150.33 details are provided:

(a) and (b): **APPLICANT** and representative to whom correspondences should be sent:

James Riffin dba The Northern Central Railroad
1941 Greenspring Drive
Timonium, MD 21093

Phone: (443) 414 - 6210 Fax: (410) 667-3533

(c): No agreement has been reached. One may be reached following a determination by the Board.

(d): James Riffin dba The Northern Central Railroad will be the operator of the property.

(e): The following is a brief summary of the proposed activity:

The Applicant proposes (a) to acquire and operate approximately 20.9 miles of abandoned (circa 2002) line (Conrail's former Line Code 1224) between MP 35.1 (at the Maryland / Pennsylvania line) and MP 56 (Grantley), all line in York County, PA, (b) to acquire and operate approximately 2.0 miles of abandoned (circa 1988) line (Conrail's former Line Code 1224) between MP 14.2 (Cockeysville) and MP 16.2 (Ashland), all line in Baltimore County, Maryland, and (c) to acquire and operate approximately 0.9 miles of abandoned (circa 1976) line (Conrail's former Line Code 1224) between MP 24.3 (Blue Mount) and MP 25.2 (Blue Mount Quarry), all line in Baltimore County, Maryland. Applicant proposes to interchange with the Genesee and Wyoming Railroad. Applicant proposes to commence these activities within 90 days from the date this Verified Notice of Exemption is filed.

(f): A map is attached hereto.

(g): The Petitioner certifies that projected annual revenues of the property will not exceed the Class III carrier threshold.

2. Caption Summary required by 49 CFR §1150.34 is attached.

3. Environmental and Historical Impact:

Petitioner certifies that these activities will not exceed the thresholds established in 49 CFR §§1105.7 (e) (4) or (5), that per 49 CFR §1105.6 (c) (2) no environmental documentation need be

prepared, and that the proposed activities will not affect any historic structures.

Respectfully submitted,



Date: March 8th, 2004

James Riffin dba The Northern Central Railroad,

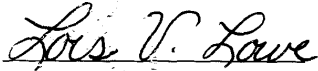
VERIFICATION

I, James Riffin dba the Northern Central Railroad, having been duly sworn, state that I am the majority owner of James Riffin dba the Northern Central Railroad, that I have read the foregoing Notice of Exemption, and that its contents are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.



James Riffin dba the Northern Central Railroad

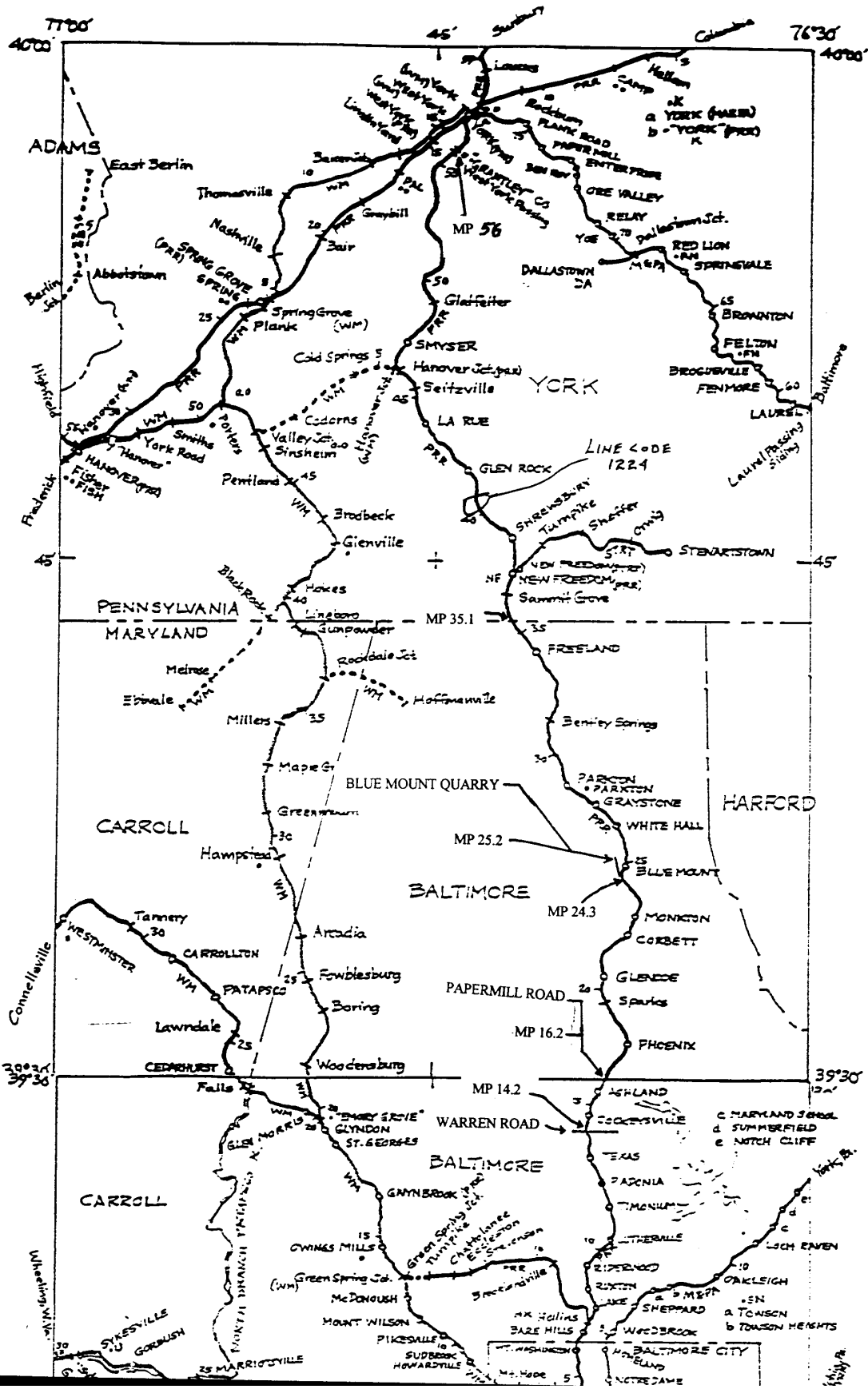
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 8th day of March, 2004.



Notary Public

(SEAL)

LOIS V. LOWE
NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF MARYLAND
My Commission Expires March 28, 2006



NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

Finance Docket No. 34484



CAPTION SUMMARY

JAMES RIFFIN, dba THE NORTHERN CENTRAL RAILROAD – ACQUISITION AND OPERATION EXEMPTION—ON CONRAIL’S FORMER LINE CODE 1224, BETWEEN THE MARYLAND / PENNSYLVANIA LINE (MP 35.1) AND GRANTLEY (MP 56), A DISTANCE OF APPROXIMATELY 20.9 MILES--ALL LINES LOCATED IN YORK COUNTY, PA; AND BETWEEN MP 14.2 (COCKEYSVILLE) AND MP 16.2 (ASHLAND); AND BETWEEN MP 24.3 (BLUE MOUNT) AND MP 25.2 (BLUE MOUNT QUARRY), A DISTANCE OF APPROXIMATELY 2.9 MILES--ALL LINES LOCATED IN BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND.

James Riffin, dba the Northern Central Railroad, a Non-Carrier, has filed a Notice of Exemption under 49 U.S.C. §10901 to acquire and operate 20.9 miles of line in York County, PA, and to acquire and operate two lines, for a total of approximately 2.9 miles in Baltimore County Maryland. This action comes within the class of transactions which are exempt from regulations under 49 U.S.C. §10901.

Comments must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board and served on James Riffin dba The Northern Central Railroad, 1941 Greenspring Drive, Timonium, MD 21093, telephone (443) 414-6210.

This Notice conforms to the format in 49 CFR §1150.34. If the notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void *ab initio*. Petitions to revoke the exemptions under 49 U.S.C. §10505 (d) may be filed at any time. Filing petitions to revoke will not automatically stay the transaction.

Dated:

By the Board: Vernon A. Williams
Secretary