



BOSTON & MAINE CORPORATION
MAINE CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY
SPRINGFIELD TERMINAL RAILWAY COMPANY

IRON HORSE PARK
NO. BILLERICA, MASS. 01862

211407

LAW DEPARTMENT
(978) 663-1215
Fax (978) 663-1213

JUN 23 2004
RECEIVED

June 22, 2004

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

The Honorable Vernon A. Williams
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20423-0001

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

JUN 23 2004

Part of
Public Record

Re: Springfield Terminal Railway Company
--- Abandonment and Discontinuance of Service ---
Westover Industrial Track, Hampden County, Massachusetts
Docket No. AB 355 (Sub No. 30X)

Dear Secretary Williams:

Enclosed for filing in the above captioned proceeding please find an original and ten copies of the **Verified Notice of Exemption** dated June 22, 2004 filed on behalf of the Springfield Terminal Railway Company. Additionally, please find a check in the amount of \$2800.00 representing the appropriate fee for filing.

Should you have any questions in regard to this filing, please contact the undersigned. Thank you for your assistance with this matter.

FEE RECEIVED

JUN 23 2004

SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION BOARD

FILED

JUN 23 2004

SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION BOARD

Enclosure

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine E. Potter, Esq.
Staff Attorney

211407

BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DOCKET NO. AB 355 (Sub No. 30X)

SPRINGFIELD TERMINAL RAILWAY COMPANY
-ABANDONMENT AND DISCONTINUANCE OF SERVICE-
WESTOVER INDUSTRIAL TRACK, HAMPDEN COUNTY, MASSACHUSETTS

VERIFIED NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
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Public Record

FEE RECEIVED
JUN 23 2004
SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION BOARD

Katherine E. Potter, Esq.
Law Department
Iron Horse Park
North Billerica, MA 01862

Counsel for:
SPRINGFIELD TERMINAL
RAILWAY COMPANY

Dated: June 22, 2004

FILED
JUN 23 2004
SURFACE
TRANSPORTATION BOARD

BEFORE THE
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DOCKET NO. AB 355 (Sub No. 30X)

JUN 23 2004
RECEIVED

SPRINGFIELD TERMINAL RAILWAY COMPANY
-ABANDONMENT AND DISCONTINUANCE OF SERVICE-
WESTOVER INDUSTRIAL TRACK, HAMPDEN COUNTY, MASSACHUSETTS

VERIFIED NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

Springfield Terminal Railway Company ("ST") files this Verified Notice of Exemption pursuant to the Board's regulations at 49 C.F.R. §1152.50. This Notice of Exemption seeks to abandon and discontinue service by ST over a line of railroad known as the Westover Industrial Track in Chicopee, Hampden County, Massachusetts, extending from railroad milepost 0.0 to milepost 4.8.¹ In accordance with the aforementioned regulations, ST makes the following response:

RESPONSE TO 49 C.F.R. SECTION 1152.50(d)(2):

1. Proposed Consummation Date.

The proposed consummation date of this abandonment and discontinuance is August 11, 2004.

2. Certification Required in Section 1152.50(b).

The required certification is set forth as Exhibit B to this Notice of Exemption.

3. Information required in Section 1152.22(a)(1-4), (7), (8) and (e)(4).

(a) General.

(1) Exact name of applicant.

Springfield Terminal Railway Company

(2) Whether applicant is a common carrier by railroad subject to the Interstate Commerce Act.

¹ See Interstate Commerce Commission Finance Docket No. 30089; Springfield Terminal Railway Company – Acquisition and Operation Exemption (Decided January 14, 1983).

ST is a common carrier by railroad subject to the Interstate Commerce Act.

- (3) Relief sought.

ST seeks to abandon and discontinue service over the line.

- (4) Detailed map of the line.

Map is attached hereto as Exhibit A

- (7) Name, title and address of representative of applicant to whom correspondence should be sent.

Katherine E. Potter, Esq.
Springfield Terminal Railway Company
Iron Horse Park
North Billerica, MA 01862

- (8) United States Postal Service Zip Codes that the line traverses.

Zip Code 01022

- (e) Rural and community impact.

- (4) Statement of whether the properties proposed to be abandoned are suitable for use for other public purposes, including roads or highways, other forms of mass transportation, conservation, energy production or transmission, or recreation. If the applicant is aware of any restriction on the title to the property, including any reversionary interest, which would affect the transfer of title or the use of property for other than rail purposes, this shall be disclosed.

Upon the effective date of this Notice of Exemption, any interest in the property held by ST shall immediately revert to the Westover Metropolitan Development Corporation.² ST is unsure about the suitability of the Line for public non-rail purposes.

² ST acquired title to the property by deed from the Westover Metropolitan Development Corporation recorded on April 7, 1984 in the Hampden County, Massachusetts Registry of Deeds in Book 5607, Page 377

4. The Level of Labor Protection.

ST understands that, in exempting the proposed abandonment and discontinuance, the Board does not relieve a carrier of its statutory obligation to protect the interests of employees. See 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(c). Accordingly, ST anticipates that the Board will impose the conditions set forth in Oregon Short Line R. Co. – Abandonment – Goshen, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979), for the benefit of employees who may be adversely affected by the proposed abandonment and discontinuance.

5. Certificate of Compliance with the Notice Requirements of Section 1152.50(d)(1).

The required certificate is set forth as Exhibit C to this Notice of Exemption.

6. Environmental Report and Historical Report.

The Environmental/Historical Report required by 49 C.F.R. 1105.7 and 1105.8 is attached as Exhibit D to this Notice of Exemption. Attached, as Exhibit E, is a certificate affirming ST's compliance with 49 C.F.R. 1105.11.

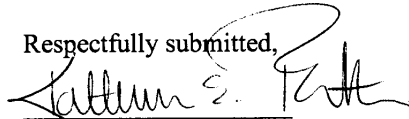
7. Newspaper Notice.

The Newspaper Notice required by 49 C.F.R. 1105.12 was published on June 11, 2004. An affidavit of publication from this newspaper is attached.

8. Verification

The required verification is set forth as Exhibit F to this Notice of Exemption.

Respectfully submitted,



Katherine E. Potter
Staff Attorney
Springfield Terminal Railway Company
Iron Hors Park
North Billerica, MA 01862

Dated: June 22, 2004

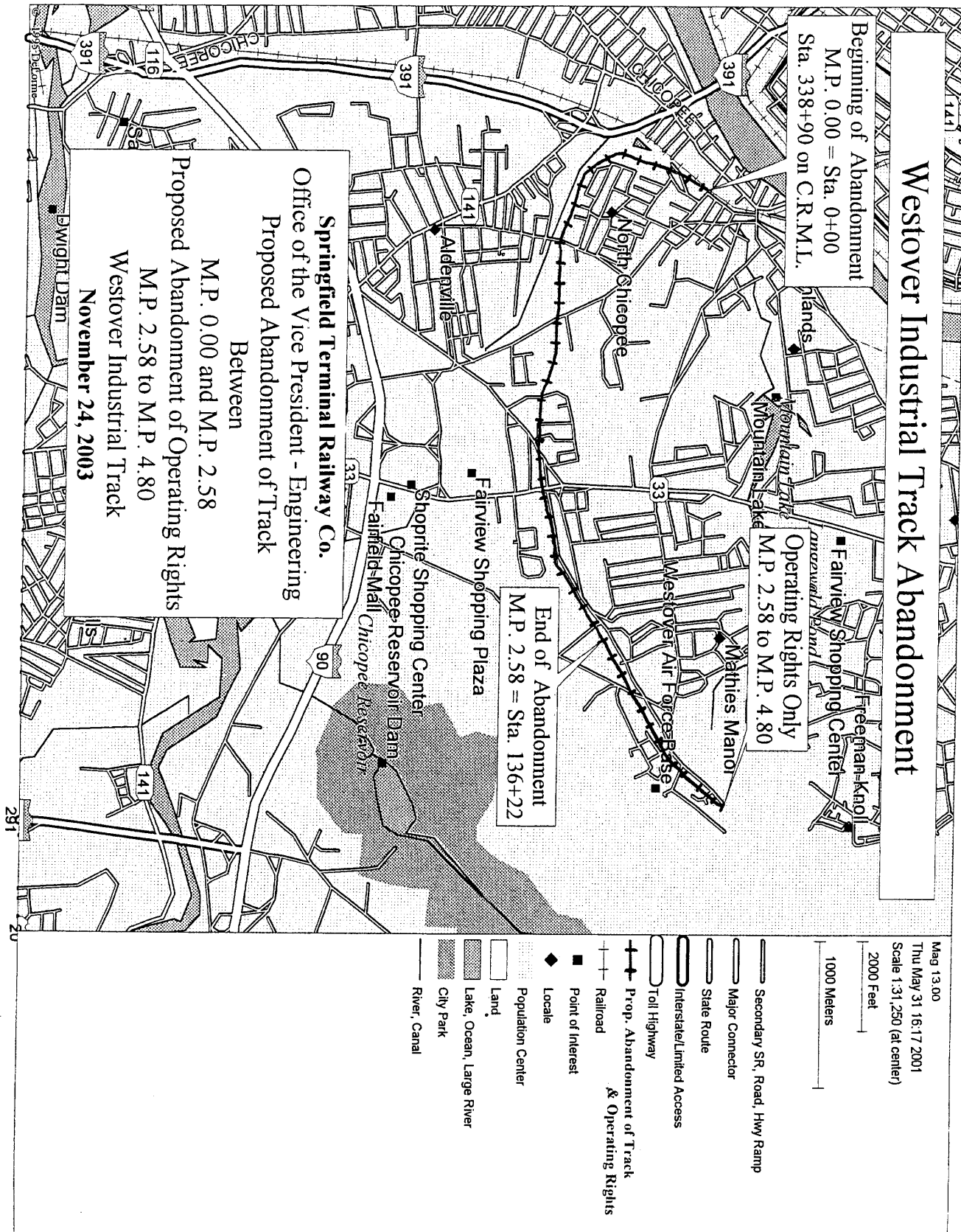
Westover Industrial Track Abandonment

Beginning of Abandonment
M.P. 0.00 = Sta. 0+00
Sta. 338+90 on C.R.M.L.

Operating Rights Only
M.P. 2.58 to M.P. 4.80

End of Abandonment
M.P. 2.58 = Sta. 136+22

Springfield Terminal Railway Co.
Office of the Vice President - Engineering
Proposed Abandonment of Track
Between
M.P. 0.00 and M.P. 2.58
Proposed Abandonment of Operating Rights
M.P. 2.58 to M.P. 4.80
Westover Industrial Track
November 24, 2003



Mag 13.00
Thu May 31 16:17 2001
Scale 1:31,250 (at center)
2000 Feet
1000 Meters

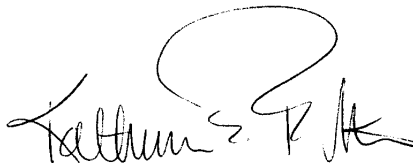
- Secondary SR, Road, Hwy Ramp
- Major Connector
- State Route
- Interstate/Limited Access
- Toll Highway
- Prop. Abandonment of Track & Operating Rights
- Railroad
- Point of Interest
- Locale
- Population Center
- Land
- Lake, Ocean, Large River
- City Park
- River, Canal

EXHIBIT B

CERTIFICATION REQUIRED

IN 49 C.F.R. SECTION 1152.50(b)

In accordance with 49 C.F.R. Section 1152.50(b), I hereby certify that, with respect to the line, which is the subject of the Notice of Exemption in Docket No. 355 (Sub. No. 30X): (1) no local traffic has moved over the line for at least two years prior to the date hereof; and (2) there is no overhead traffic on the line; and (3) no formal complaint filed by a user of rail service on the line (or state or local agency acting on behalf of such user) regarding cessation of service over the line is either pending with the Board or any U.S. District Court or has been decided in favor of a complainant within the two-year period prior to the date hereof. The foregoing certification is made on behalf of the Springfield Terminal Railway Company by the undersigned after due and careful investigation of the matters herein certified and based on the best knowledge, information and belief of the undersigned.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Katherine E. Potter", is written over a horizontal line.

Katherine E. Potter

Dated: June 22, 2004

EXHIBIT C

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE WITH
NOTICE REQUIREMENTS OF
49 C.F.R. 1152.50 (d)(1)

In accordance with 49 C.F.R. Section 1152.50(d)(2), I hereby certify that:

On June 1, 2004, I caused to be served by U.S. first-class mail, postage pre-paid, the notice required by 49 C.F.R. Section 1152.50(d)(1), upon:

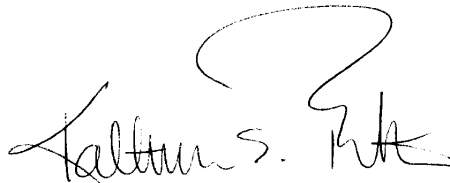
Brian Cristy
Director, Transportation Division
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Telecommunications
and Energy
One South Station
Boston, MA 02110

Office of Special Assistant for
Transportation Engineering
Railroads for National Defense Program
Military Traffic Management Command
Transportation Engineering Agency
720 Thimble Shoals Blvd. - Suite 130
Newport News, VA 23606-2574

Marie Rust
Regional Director
National Park Service, NE Region
Recreation Resources Division
U.S. Customs House
200 Chestnut St., 5th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Dale Bosworth
Chief of Forest Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250

Dated: June 22, 2004



Katherine E. Potter



**BOSTON & MAINE CORPORATION
MAINE CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY
SPRINGFIELD TERMINAL RAILWAY COMPANY**

**IRON HORSE PARK
NO. BILLERICA, MASS. 01862**

**LAW DEPARTMENT
(978) 663-1215
Fax (978) 663-1213**

June 1, 2004

To: Service List

**Re: Springfield Terminal Railway Company
--Abandonment and Discontinuance of Service ---
Westover Industrial Track
Hampden County, Massachusetts
Docket No. AB 355 (Sub No. 30X)**

Ladies and Gentlemen:

In accordance with the Surface Transportation Board's regulations at 49 CFR § 1152.50(d)(1), the Springfield Terminal Railway Company hereby gives notice that on or about June 11, 2004 it intends to file with the Surface Transportation Board, Washington, D.C. 20423 a Notice of Exemption. Said Notice will seek permission for the abandonment and discontinuance of service on the Westover Industrial Track (the "Line") in Chicopee, Hampden County, Massachusetts, extending from railroad milepost 0.0 to milepost 4.8, which traverses through United States Postal Service ZIP Code 01022, a distance of 4.8 miles, in Hampden County, Massachusetts. A map depicting the Line is attached. If permitted by the Board, the exempt procedure permitted by Subpart F of 49 CFR § 1152 will be used.

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

Sincerely,

Katherine E. Potter
Staff Attorney

Enclosure

WESTOVER INDUSTRIAL TRACK SERVICE LIST
AB 355 (Sub No. 30X)

Brian Cristy
Director, Transportation Division
Department of Telecommunications
and Energy
One South Station
Boston, MA 02110

Office of Special Assistant for
Transportation Engineering
Railroads for National Defense Program
Military Traffic Management Command
Transportation Engineering Agency
720 Thimble Shoals Blvd. - Suite 130
Newport News, VA 23606-2574

Marie Rust
Regional Director
National Park Service
U.S. Custom House
200 Chestnut St., 5th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Dale Bosworth
Chief of Forest Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
P.O. Box 96090
Washington, DC 20090-6090

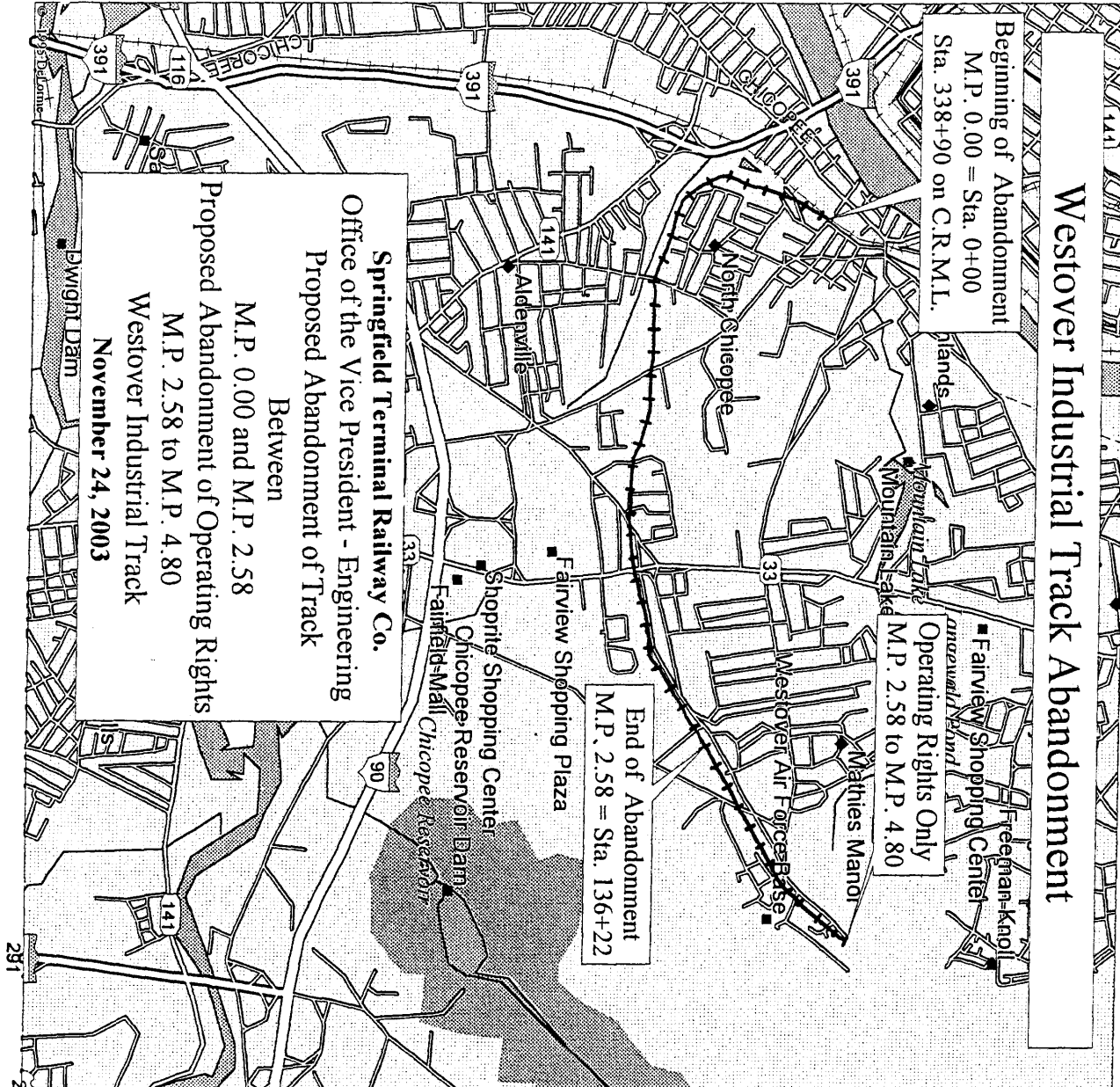
Westover Industrial Track Abandonment

Beginning of Abandonment
M.P. 0.00 = Sta. 0+00
Sta. 338+90 on C.R.M.L.

Operating Rights Only
M.P. 2.58 to M.P. 4.80

End of Abandonment
M.P. 2.58 = Sta. 136+22

Springfield Terminal Railway Co.
Office of the Vice President - Engineering
Proposed Abandonment of Track
Between
M.P. 0.00 and M.P. 2.58
Proposed Abandonment of Operating Rights
M.P. 2.58 to M.P. 4.80
Westover Industrial Track
November 24, 2003



Mag 13.00
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- Secondary SR, Road, Hwy Ramp
- Major Connector
- State Route
- Interstate/Limited Access
- Toll Highway
- Prop. Abandonment of Track & Operating Rights
- Railroad
- Point of Interest
- Locale
- Population Center
- Land
- Lake, Ocean, Large River
- City Park
- River, Canal

WESTOVER INDUSTRIAL TRACK
ENVIRONMENTAL/HISTORICAL REPORT
Docket No. AB 355 (Sub No. 30X)

I. ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

The following information is provided in accordance with 49 C.F.R.
§ 1105.7 (e):

(1) **Proposed Action and Alternatives**

The Springfield Terminal Railway Company ("ST" or the "Applicant") proposes to abandon and discontinue service over the Westover Industrial Track, which is 4.8 miles in length (the "Line") and is located in Chicopee, Massachusetts. A map of the proposed abandonment and discontinuance has previously been provided to all parties receiving this report, and is attached as Exhibit A.

Due to the inability to generate traffic over the Line, there is no reasonable alternative to abandonment and discontinuance.

(2) **Transportation System**

There will be no substantial effect on existing regional or local transportation systems or patterns.

There is no passenger or freight traffic on the Line. Any traffic previously moving over the Line was rerouted more than two years ago.

(3) **Land Use**

(i) Applicant believes that the proposed action is consistent with and in furtherance of local land use plans.

(ii) Applicant believes the proposed action will have no effect or adverse impact on any prime agricultural land.

(iii) This action is outside the boundary of the Massachusetts coastal zone. The Applicant requested comments from the Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone

Management. This office responded and has advised Applicant that "the activities associated with this project fall outside the geographical boundaries of the Massachusetts Coastal Zone ..."

(iv) The Applicant is unsure whether the right-of-way is suitable for alternative public use under 49 U.S.C. 10906. (See Item I (2) above).

(4) **Energy**

(i) The transportation of energy resources will not be affected by the proposed action.

(ii) The proposed action will have no effect on the movement and/or recovery of recyclable commodities.

(iii) The proposed action will increase overall energy efficiency in that it will allow the Applicant to eliminate its potential responsibility for costly and energy-consuming maintenance operations for an unused line.

(iv) The proposed action will not cause a diversion from rail to motor carrier in excess of the threshold levels set forth at § 1105.7 (e)(4)(iv)(A) or (B).

(5) **Air**

The proposed action will not result in any of the increases set forth at § 1105.7 (e)(5).

(6) **Noise**

The proposed action will not result in or exceed any of the thresholds set forth at § 1105.7 (e)(6).

(7) **Safety**

(i) The proposed action will have no adverse effect on public health and safety.

(ii) No hazardous materials will be diverted to highway transportation.

(iii) No known hazardous waste sites or spills exist on the Line.

(8) **Biological Resources**

(i) The Applicant knows of no endangered or threatened species or critical habitats that will be affected by the proposed action. The Applicants requested comments from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in this regard. The Service responded and has advised Applicants that "no federally-listed or proposed, threatened or endangered species or critical habitat under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are known to occur in the project area(s)."

(ii) The Applicant believes no national or state parks or forests will be affected by the proposed action.

(9) **Water**

(i) The Applicant contemplates no action inconsistent with federal, state and/or local water quality standards.

(ii) The Applicant does not believe the proposed action will require any permits under § 404 of the Clean Water Act.

(iii) The Applicant does not believe the proposed action will require any permits under § 402 of the Clean Water Act.

(10) **Proposed Mitigation**

Because no adverse environmental impacts are expected to result from the proposed action, no mitigation will be needed or is planned.

(11) **Additional Information for Rail Constructions**

The proposed action is not a rail construction proposal, so this section does not apply.

II. HISTORIC REPORT

The following information is provided in accordance with 49 C.F.R.

§ 1105.8 (d):

(1) Maps

A topographic map is attached hereto as Exhibit B.

(2) Description of Right-of-Way

The portion of Line at issue is approximately 4.8 miles in length. The width of the right-of-way is, with occasional variations, approximately 66 feet. The attached topographic map indicates the Line's topography.

(3) Photographs of Railroad Structures

The Applicant knows of no significant railroad structures on the Line that are 50 years or older. The Applicant has made a written request for comments from the Massachusetts Historical Commission with regard to the anticipated effect of the proposed action on historical resources. The Historical Commission has responded and advised the "this project is unlikely to affect significant historic or archaeological resources."

(4) Construction Dates

Not applicable.

(5) History of Operations

The Applicant believes that the United States Government acquired the Line by taking in 1940 to be used exclusively by the United States Air Force stationed at the Westover Air Force Base. In December 1977, the Westover Metropolitan Development Corporation ("WMDC") obtained a right of entry onto the Line from the Secretary of the Air Force and entered into an agreement with ST affiliate, the

Boston & Maine Corporation, to provide switching to and from the Line. In 1982 and 1983, the WMDC entered into agreements with the Applicant whereby ST would own and/or operate portions of the Line. There has been no local or overhead traffic on the Line in at least two years. The proposed abandonment will not affect carrier operations in the area.

(6) **Summary of Useful Documents**

The Applicant possesses a standard valuation map depicting a portion of the Line.

(7) **Opinion as to Historical Significance**

The Applicant knows of no significant structures on the Line (such as bridges, trestles, stations, tunnels, track supports, etc.) that are 50 years or older. The Applicants are not aware of any culturally significant locations, archaeological sites or unique landforms located along the Line or that will be affected by the proposed action.

(8) **Description of Prior Subsurface Disturbance**

The Applicant knows of no prior subsurface ground disturbance or fill, or environmental conditions that might affect the archeological recovery of resources and the surrounding terrain.

III. **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

This certifies that the Applicant has served copies of this Environmental/Historical Report upon and, prior to such service, consulted, or attempted to consult, with the following parties:

**Environmental/Historical Report Service List
Westover Industrial Track - AB 355 (Sub No. 30X)**

Debra Jean, CDBG
Financial Assistant
Department of Housing and
Community Development
One Congress Street, 10th Floor
Boston, MA 02114

Mike Gorski
Regional Director
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Environmental Protection
Western Regional Office
436 Dwight Street
Springfield, MA 01103

Jane W. Mead
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs
Coastal Zone Management Program
251 Causeway Street, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114-2138

Hon. Richard R. Goyette
Mayor
City of Chicopee
City Hall
17 Springfield Street
Chicopee, MA 01013

Carl Dierker, Esq.
Regional Counsel
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
New England, Region 1
1 Congress St., Suite 1100
Boston, MA 02114-2023

Michael Amaral
Endangered Species Specialist
New England Field Office
U.S. Department of Interior
Fish & Wildlife Service
70 Commercial Street - Suite 300
Concord, NH 03301-5087

Larry Rosenberg
Chief, Public Affairs Office
New England District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
696 Virginia Road
Concord, MA 01742-2751

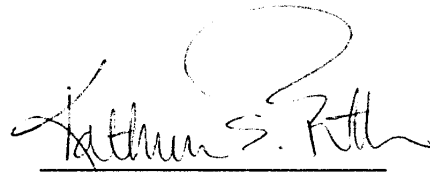
Regional Director
Northeast Region
National Park Service
U.S. Customs House
200 Chestnut St., 5th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Dwane A. Coffey
District Conservationist
USDA - NRCS
195 Russel Street
Hadley, MA 01035

Edward J. McKay, Chief
Spatial Reference System Division
National Geodetic Survey
NOAA, N/NGS2
1315 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3293

Eric S. Johnson
Archaeologist/Preservation Planner
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Blvd.
Boston, MA 02125

Date: May 20, 2004

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Katherine E. Potter", written over a horizontal line.

Katherine E. Potter
Staff Attorney
Springfield Terminal Railway Co.
Iron Horse Park
North Billerica, MA 01862

Map 13.00
Thu May 31 16:17 2001
Scale 1:31,250 (at center)

2000 Feet
1000 Meters

Secondary SR, Road, Hwy Ramp
Major Connector
State Route
Interstate/Limited Access
Toll Highway
Prop. Abandonment of Track & Operating Rights
Railroad
Point of Interest
Locale
Population Center
Land
Lake, Ocean, Large River
City Park
River, Canal

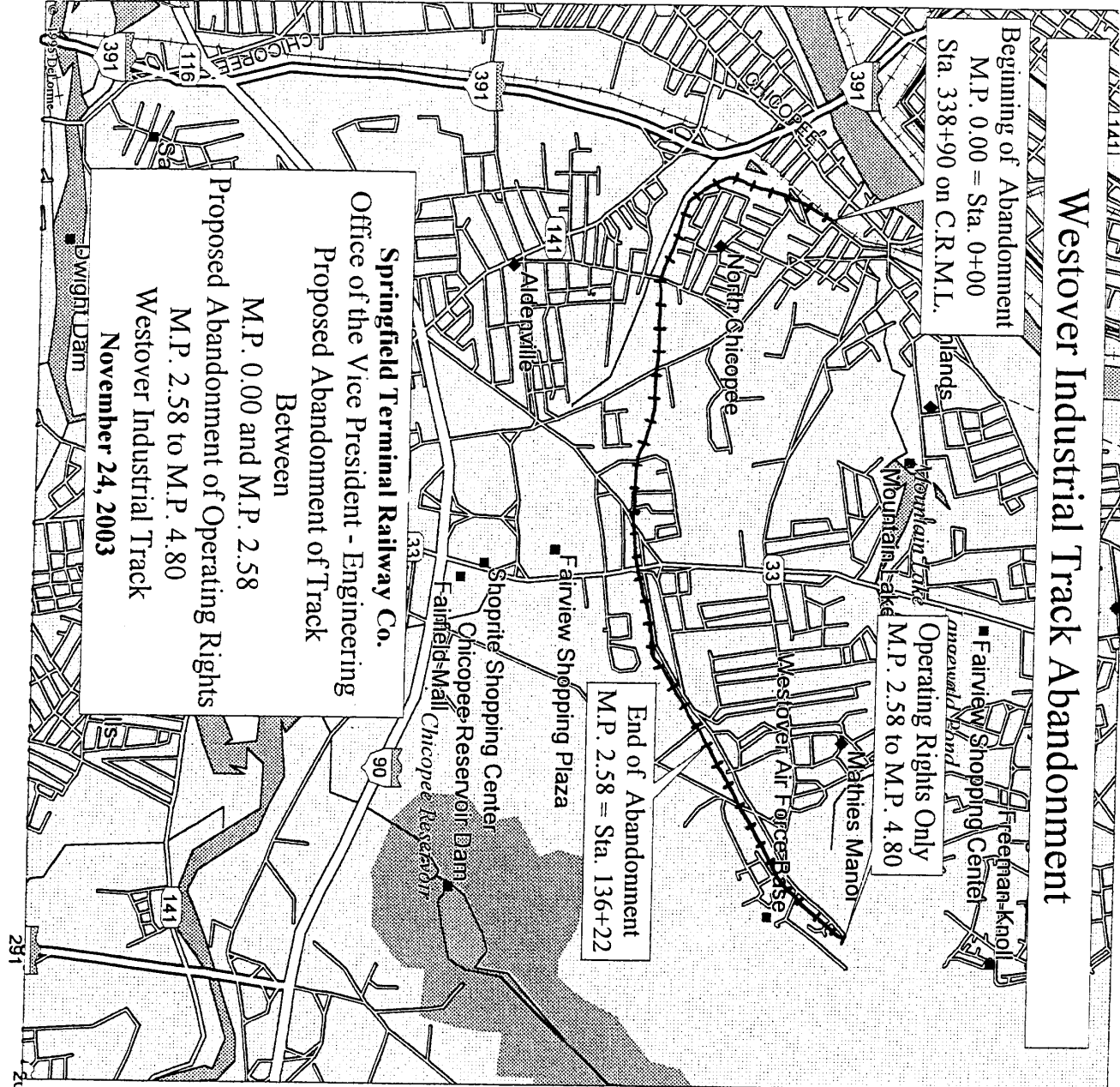
Westover Industrial Track Abandonment

Beginning of Abandonment
M.P. 0.00 = Sta. 0+00
Sta. 338+90 on C.R.M.L.

Operating Rights Only
M.P. 2.58 to M.P. 4.80

End of Abandonment
M.P. 2.58 = Sta. 136+22

Springfield Terminal Railway Co.
Office of the Vice President - Engineering
Proposed Abandonment of Track
Between
M.P. 0.00 and M.P. 2.58
Proposed Abandonment of Operating Rights
M.P. 2.58 to M.P. 4.80
Westover Industrial Track
November 24, 2003



281
20

WESTOVER INDUSTRIAL TRACK ABANDONMENT

EXHIBIT B

Beginning of Abandonment
M.P. 0.0 = Sta. 0+00
Sta. 338+90 on
Connecticut River Main Line

End of Abandonment
M.P. 2.58 = Sta. 136+22

Operating Rights Only
M.P. 2.58 to M.P. 4.80

Springfield Terminal Railway Co.
Office of the Vice President-Engineering
Proposed Abandonment of Track
Between
M.P. 0.0 and M.P. 2.58
Proposed Abandonment of Operating Rights
M.P. 2.58 to M.P. 4.8
Westover Industrial Track
April 15, 2004



APPENDIX TO
ENVIRONMENTAL/HISTORICAL REPORT



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
OFFICE OF COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT
251 Causeway Street, Suite 900, Boston, MA 02114-2136
(617) 626-1200 fax: (617) 626-1240

April 13, 2004

Ms. Katherine E. Potter
Guilford Rail System
Iron Horse Park
North Billerica, MA 01862

RE: Westover Industrial Track- Discontinuance of Service, Chicopee

Dear Ms. Potter:

The Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management (CZM) has received your package of information, including plans, for the Westover Industrial Track Abandonment and Discontinuance of Service.

The activities associated with this project fall outside the geographical boundaries of the Massachusetts Coastal Zone as delineated in Chapter 5: Massachusetts Coastal Regions and An Atlas of Resources, 1 June 1977 and further described in the Massachusetts Coastal Zone Management Plan and therefore are not subject to federal consistency review by this office.

Thank you for submitting the information to CZM. If you have any questions regarding our review process, feel free to call me at (617) 626-1219.

Sincerely,

Alex Strysky
Project Review Coordinator

AJS/pb

cc: Crystal Gardner, Chief
Regulatory Branch, NED, US Army Corps of Engineers
Maeve Vallety-Bartlett
MA Executive Office of Transportation and Construction





United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

New England Field Office
70 Commercial Street, Suite 300
Concord, New Hampshire 03301-5087



December 19, 2003

Reference:	<u>Project</u>	<u>Location</u>
	Railroad abandonment	Chicopee, MA

Katerine Potter
Boston & Maine Corporation
Iron Horse Park
No. Billerica, MA 01862

Dear Ms. Potter:

This responds to your recent correspondence requesting information on the presence of federally-listed and/or proposed endangered or threatened species in relation to the proposed activity(ies) referenced above.

Based on information currently available to us, no federally-listed or proposed, threatened or endangered species or critical habitat under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are known to occur in the project area(s). Preparation of a Biological Assessment or further consultation with us under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act is not required.

This concludes our review of listed species and critical habitat in the project location(s) and environs referenced above. No further Endangered Species Act coordination of this type is necessary for a period of one year from the date of this letter, unless additional information on listed or proposed species becomes available.

Thank you for your coordination. Please contact us at 603-223-2541 if we can be of further assistance. **Please keep in mind that we have 30 days from receipt of endangered species inquiries in which to reply.**

Sincerely yours,

Michael J. Amaral
Endangered Species Specialist
New England Field Office

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ABANDON AND DISCONTINUE RAIL SERVICE

The Springfield Terminal Railway Company gives notice that on or about June 14, 2004, it intends to file with the Surface Transportation Board, Washington, D.C. 20423, a notice of exemption under 49 C.F.R. 1152 Subpart F - Exempt Abandonments permitting the abandonment and discontinuance of service over approximately 4.8 miles of railroad track known as the Westover Industrial Track between milepost 0.0 and milepost 4.8 (the "Line"). The Line is located in Hampden County, Massachusetts and traverses through United States Postal Service Zip Code 01022. The proceeding will be docketed as No. AB 355 (Sub No. 30X).

The Board's Section of Environmental 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 and energy 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 (SEA), Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423 or by calling that office at 202-927-6211.

Appropriate offers of financial assistance to continue rail service can be filed with the Board. Requests for environmental conditions, public use conditions, or rail banking/trails use also can be filed with the Board. An original and ten (10) copies of any pleading that raises matters other than environmental issues (such as trail use, public use, and offers of financial assistance) must be filed directly with the Board's Office of the Secretary, 1925 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20423 [See 49 C.F.R. 1104.1(a) and 1104.3(a)], and one copy must be served on applicant's representative [See 49 C.F.R. 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 request for conditions should be served on:

Katherine E. Potter
Staff Attorney
Springfield Terminal Railway Company
Iron Horse Park
North Billerica, MA 01862

(June 11)

regarding environmental matters by writing to the Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA), Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423 or by calling that office at 202-927-6211.

Appropriate offers of financial assistance to continue rail service can be filed with the Board. Requests for environmental conditions, public use conditions, or rail banking/trails use also can be filed with the Board. An original and ten (10) copies of any pleading that raises matters other than environmental issues (such as trail use, public use, and offers of financial assistance) must be filed directly with the Board's Office of the Secretary, 1925 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20423 [See 49 C.F.R. 1104.1(a) and 1104.3(a)], and one copy must be served on applicant's representative [See 49 C.F.R. 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 request for conditions should be served on:

Katherine E. Potter
Staff Attorney
Springfield Terminal Railway Company
Iron Horse Park
North Billerica, MA 01862



BOSTON & MAINE CORPORATION
MAINE CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY
SPRINGFIELD TERMINAL RAILWAY COMPANY

IRON HORSE PARK
NO. BILLERICA, MASS. 01862

LAW DEPARTMENT
(978) 663-1215
FAX (978-663-1213

FILE COPY

May 20, 2004

To: Service List

Re: **Westover Industrial Track Abandonment and Discontinuance of Service
AB 355 (Sub No. 30X)**

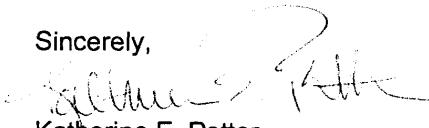
Ladies and Gentlemen:

On or about June 9, 2004, the Springfield Terminal Railway Company ("ST") will file a notice with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") seeking an exemption for the abandonment and discontinuance of service over approximately 4.8 miles of railroad track known as the Westover Industrial Track between milepost 0.0 and milepost 4.8 (the "Line"). The Line is located in Hampden County, Massachusetts. Attached is an Environmental/Historical Report describing the proposed action and any expected environmental/historical 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 environmental 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 STB's environmental review process, please contact the Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA), 1925 K Street, NW, Washington, DC 20423, telephone (202) 565-1526 and refer to the above docket number. Because the applicable statutes and regulations impose stringent deadlines for processing this action, your written comments to SEA would be appreciated within three (3) weeks. Additionally, please provide a copy of any comments to the undersigned at the above address.

Your comments will be considered by STB in evaluating the environmental/historical preservation impacts of the contemplated action. If there are any questions concerning this proposal, please contact the undersigned at (978) 663-1215 or by mail at the above address.

Sincerely,


Katherine E. Potter
Staff Attorney

Enclosures

EXHIBIT E

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE
WITH NOTICE REQUIREMENTS OF
49 C.F.R. 1105.11 AND 1105.7(b)

In accordance with 49 C.F.R. Section 1105.7(b), I hereby certify that on May 20, 2004, a copy of the Environmental/Historical Report was served upon the parties listed below, by first-class mail, postage prepaid:

Debra Jean, CDBG
Financial Assistant
Department of Housing and
Community Development
One Congress St., 10th Floor
Boston, MA 02114

Mike Gorski
Regional Director
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Environmental Protection
Western Regional Office
436 Dwight Street
Springfield, MA 01103

Jane W. Mead
Massachusetts Office of
Coastal Zone Management
251 Causeway Street, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114-2138

Richard Goyette
Mayor, City of Chicopee
City Hall
17 Springfield Street
Chicopee, MA 01013

Carl Dierker, Esq.
Regional Counsel
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
New England, Region 1
1 Congress St., Suite 1100
Boston, MA 02114-2023

Michael Amaral
Endangered Species Specialist
U.S. Department of Interior
Fish & Wildlife Service
70 Commercial Street - Suite 300
Concord, NH 03301-5087

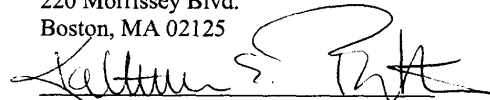
Larry Rosenberg
Chief, Public Affairs Office
New England District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
696 Virginia Road
Concord, MA 01742-2751

Regional Director
Northeast Region
National Park Service
U.S. Custom House
200 Chestnut St., 5th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Dwane A. Coffey
District Conservationist
USDA - NRCS
195 Russel Street
Hadley, MA 01035

Edward J. McKay, Chief
Spatial Reference System Division
National Geodetic Survey
NOAA, N/NGS2
1315 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3293

Eric S. Johnson
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Blvd.
Boston, MA 02125


Katherine E. Potter

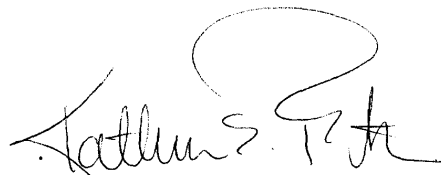
Dated: June 22, 2004

EXHIBIT F

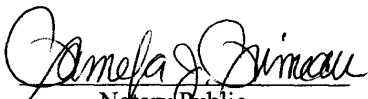
VERIFICATION

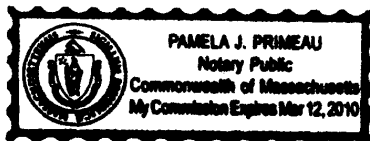
State of Massachusetts)
)
Middlesex County)

Katherine E. Potter, being duly sworn, states that she is a Staff Attorney for the Springfield Terminal Railway Company; that she is authorized to verify and file with the Surface Transportation Board the foregoing Notice of Exemption in Docket No. AB 355 (Sub No. 30X) on behalf of the Springfield Terminal Railway Company; that she has carefully examined all of the statements in the Notice of Exemption; that she has knowledge of the facts and matters relied upon in the Notice of Exemption; and that all representations set forth therein are true and correct to the best of her knowledge, information and belief.


Katherine E. Potter

Subscribed and sworn to before me,
a Notary Public in and for the State
and County above named, this
22nd day of June, 2004.


Notary Public
My Commission Expires: _____



AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

I, Danile J. Buendo, of Chicopee, County of Hampden, Editor and
Publisher of The Chicopee Herald, a newspaper published in said County, hereby
certify that the attached legal notice and copy of map was published in said newspaper in
the issues dated June 11, 2004.

Dated at _____, this 15, day of June, 2004.

Danile J. Buendo
(Signature)

County of Hampden

Date: June 16th 2004

Personally appeared the above-named Danile Buendo and made oath
that the foregoing certificate by him/her subscribed is true.

James Ann Hall
Notary Public
My Commission Expires: 4/24/09

On this 16th day of June 2004, before me, the undersigned notary public, personally
appeared Daniel Buendo, proved to me through satisfactory evidence of identification, to
be the person whose name is signed on the preceding document in my presence.