

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Surface Transportation Board**

[STB Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 582X)]

**CSX Transportation, Inc.—
Discontinuance of Trackage Rights
Exemption—in Bristol County, MA**

CSX Transportation, Inc. (CSXT) has filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F—*Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuances of Trackage Rights* to discontinue trackage rights over an approximately 2.5-mile line of railroad owned by the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) between milepost QVJ-0.6 and milepost QVJ 3.1 near Seekonk, in Bristol County, MA. The line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Codes 02771 and potentially 02703.

CSXT has certified that: (1) No local traffic has moved over the line for at least 2 years; (2) there is no overhead traffic on the line; (3) no complaint filed by a user of rail service on the line (or by a state or local government entity acting on behalf of such user) regarding cessation of service over the line either is pending with the Surface Transportation Board (Board) or with any U.S. District Court or has been decided in favor of complainant within the 2-year period; and (4) the requirements at 49 CFR 1105.7 (environmental reports), 49 CFR 1105.8 (historic reports), 49 CFR 1105.11 (transmittal letter), 49 CFR 1105.12 (newspaper publication), and 49 CFR 1152.50(d)(1) (notice to governmental agencies) have been met.

As a condition to this exemption, any employee adversely affected by the abandonment shall be protected under *Oregon Short Line R. Co.—Abandonment—Goshen*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979). To address whether this condition adequately protects affected employees, a petition for partial revocation under 49 U.S.C. 10502(d) must be filed.

Provided no formal expression of intent to file an offer of financial assistance (OFA) has been received, this exemption will be effective on December 1, 2000, unless stayed pending reconsideration. Petitions to stay and formal expressions of intent to file an OFA under 49 CFR 1152.27(c)(2)¹ must be filed by November 13, 2000. Petitions to reopen² must be filed by November 21,

¹ Each offer of financial assistance must be accompanied by the filing fee, which currently is set at \$1000. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).

² Because MBTA will continue to provide rail service over the line, there is no need to provide

2000, with: Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423.

A copy of any petition filed with the Board should be sent to applicant's representative: Natalie S. Rosenberg, Counsel, CSX Transportation, Inc., 500 Water Street J150, Jacksonville, FL 32202.

If the verified notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void *ab initio*.

Board decisions and notices are available on our website at "WWW.STB.DOT.GOV."

Decided: October 23, 2000.

By the Board, David M. Konschnik, Director, Office of Proceedings.

Vernon A. Williams,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-27805 Filed 10-31-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

[Treasury Directive Number 74-14]

Treasury Telework and Flexiplace Program

October 18, 2000.

1. Purpose

This directive establishes the Department's policy for alternative workplace arrangements. It authorizes the use of Telework programs by Treasury bureaus and offices by permitting employees to work full or part-time at approved locations other than their official duty station. This directive sets forth a program that provides an opportunity for an employee to work at an alternative work site without changing an employee's official duty station or other conditions of employment.

2. Policy

It is the policy of the Department of the Treasury to provide employees the opportunity to utilize technology in order to participate in Telework programs where practical and consistent with agency mission. Consistent with the guidance set forth in this directive, each Treasury bureau or office shall establish a Telework program that permits it to meet its specific mission while supporting teleworking.

an opportunity for trail use/rail banking or public use condition requests. Likewise, no environmental or historic documentation is required under 49 CFR 1105.6(c)(6) and 1105.8.

3. Background

Teleworking is a flexible arrangement that allows an employee to work away from the traditional office or official duty station in either (1) his/her home, (2) a Telework center, such as those established by the General Services Administration (GSA) or, (3) a virtual or mobile office setting. Telework programs may be designed to allow employees to work full or part-time, depending on the mission of the bureau and the roles and responsibilities of a particular office and its employees.

Programs may be designed for purposes such as: (1) Improving the bureau's ability to recruit and retain employees in a highly competitive market, (2) achieving cost savings by reducing real property needed for office space, (3) increasing employee morale and productivity, (4) and reducing traffic congestion, energy consumption, and air pollution.

4. Definitions

The following are definitions of terms used in this document:

a. *Flexiplace*. An alternative location at which an employee is allowed to work in lieu of reporting to the official duty station. The work site is not to be considered a barrier to an employee's ability to perform such obligations as official travel, attending face-to-face meetings and communication with colleagues and customers. Flexiplace addresses the location of the work site as opposed to the work schedule.

b. *Telework*. A program permitting employees to work at designated locations including work at home or other preapproved alternative work site.

c. *Teleworker*. An employee who, with the approval of his/her supervisor, works full or part-time at locations or work sites other than the official duty station.

d. *Telework Center*. A facility established under section 210(1) of the Federal Property and Administration Services Act of 1949 (40 U.S.C. 490(1)) or other Federal law, composed of generic workstations designed to accommodate employees from different agencies. Telework centers are equipped with telecommunications and other office equipment to facilitate communication with the official duty station and other places of business, to perform daily routine work responsibilities. Telework centers are generally located in easily accessible light industrial or commercial zones near large residential areas.

e. *Full time Employee*. One who works a 40-hour workweek consisting of specific days and hours at a designated

work site(s). Full time employees must meet all obligations of the position regardless of work site arrangement.

5. Responsibilities

a. *The Assistant Secretary for Management and Chief Financial Officer* is responsible for the overall administration of the Departmental Telework and Flexiplace program.

b. *The Deputy Assistant Secretary (Management Operations)* and the Deputy Assistant Secretary (Human Resources) shall:

(1) designate:

(a) a Departmental coordinator to serve as primary contact, and

(b) Program Managers to provide information and support resources to assist in the organization and implementation of Telework programs throughout the Department;

(2) identify training and support resources, and coordinate Treasury initiatives and reports as required.

c. *The Deputy Assistant Secretary (Information Systems)* and *Chief Information Officer* shall provide advisory information systems services to support the Telework programs as needed.

d. *The Chief Management and Administrative Programs Officer, Heads of Bureaus and Offices, the Inspector General, and the Inspector General for Tax Administration*, as it relates to their respective bureaus and offices, shall:

(1) establish Telework programs at all bureau/office locations where possible and appropriate to bureau/office mission;

(2) appoint one or more Bureau/Office Telework Coordinator(s) to serve as contact and liaison between the Department and the bureau/office;

(3) within 90 days of the effective date of this directive, establish a bureau/office baseline on employee Telework participation, to be used in program evaluations and future progress reports;

(4) submit annual reports within 30 days of the end of the fiscal year to the Departmental Coordinators on the status of the bureau/office Telework program; and

(5) complete all labor relations responsibilities.

6. Telework Arrangements

a. Participation in a telework arrangement is not an employee entitlement. An employee may participate in the program if the responsible supervisor or designee decides that the employee's job duties are appropriate for offsite work

b. The telework arrangement under which an employee will perform work

must be clearly set forth in a written agreement and signed by the respective supervisor and employee. The agreement must specify:

(1) The alternative work site (*i.e.*, work-at-home, Telework center or other),

(2) Specific hours and days per week to be worked at the alternate work place,

(3) Pertinent office equipment to be provided and by whom,

(4) Method of communication to be used between the official duty station and alternate work place, and

(5) Duties to be performed and methods of evaluation to be employed.

c. A Telework arrangement does not alter the terms and conditions of appointment, including an employee's official duty station, salary, benefits, individual rights, or obligations. All pay, leave, and travel entitlement shall be based on the official duty station. The Telework arrangement shall not affect other conditions of employment, *e.g.*, hours of work, unless otherwise specified in the Telework agreement.

d. Upon appropriate notice the bureau (manager) or designee, has the right to inspect the home or alternate work site and equipment to be used by an employee to ensure that proposed work space is safe, and all equipment is adequately installed and performing properly.

e. The Telework agreement between employee and supervisor may be terminated at the discretion of the supervisor.

f. The Telework arrangement shall be for the performance of official duties and shall not be treated as an opportunity to conduct personal business.

g. Each bureau/office may issue additional criteria in accordance with this Directive and with Treasury Publication TD P 74-14, Department of Treasury Telework Handbook, which provides additional general information and guidance regarding Telework programs. This manual is available through the Department's Office of Asset Management and the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Human Resources.

7. Authorities

a. Federal Employees Clean Air Incentives Act, (Pub. L. 103-172 (November 11, 1993).

b. Memorandum on Expanding Family-Friendly Work Arrangements in the Executive Branch, 30 Weekly Comp. Pres. Doc. 1468 (July 11, 1994).

c. Memorandum Implementing Federal Family Friendly Work

Arrangements, 32 Weekly Comp. 1119 (June 21, 1996).

d. National Telecommuting Initiative Action Plan, (President's Management Council, January 1996).

8. Office of Primary Interest

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Management and Chief Financial Officer, Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary (Human Resources), Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary (Management Operations), and Office of Asset Management.

Lisa Ross,

Acting Assistant Secretary for Management and Chief Financial Officer.

[FR Doc. 00-27973 Filed 10-31-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Payments to Persons Who Hold Certain Categories of Judgments Against Cuba or Iran

AGENCY: Department of the Treasury; Departmental Offices.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury is announcing that it will shortly prescribe procedures for making payments to persons who hold certain categories of judgments against Cuba or Iran.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Alexandra Edsall, Senior Advisor to the General Counsel, Department of the Treasury, 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Room 3018, Washington, DC 20220, telephone (202) 622-2744 (not a toll-free call).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 2002 of the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 directs the Secretary of the Treasury to make payments to persons who hold certain categories of judgments against Cuba or Iran in suits brought under 28 U.S.C. 1605(a)(7). Promptly after enactment, the Department of the Treasury will publish a notice in the **Federal Register** advising claimants what information must be provided in order to qualify for a payment under section 2002.

Dated: October 27, 2000.

Richard S. Carro,

Associate General Counsel.

[FR Doc. 00-28083 Filed 10-30-00; 10:58 am]

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