DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket Number FRA-2019-0108]

Notice of Application for Approval of Discontinuance or Modification of a Railroad Signal System

Under part 235 of title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) and 49 U.S.C. 20502(a), this provides the public notice that on December 23, 2019, representatives of the Florida, Gulf & Atlantic Railroad LLC (FGA) petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) seeking approval to discontinue or modify a signal system. FRA assigned the petition Docket Number FRA-2019-0108.

Applicant: Florida, Gulf & Atlantic Railroad LLC

Mr. Thomas G. Healey

Fletcher & Sippel LLC

29 North Wacker Drive, Suite 800

Chicago, IL 60606-3208

Specifically, FGA requests permission to discontinue its existing centralized traffic control system (TCS) on “the Line”, which is the only portion of the FGA that has TCS installed. The Line (148.7 miles) originates at the connection with CSX Transportation (CSXT) milepost (MP) SP 653.3 at Baldwin, Florida, and terminates in connections with FGA’s remaining rail system MP SP 802.0 at Tallahassee, Florida.
Upon discontinuance of the TCS, operations will be governed by track warrant control (TWC) which is currently the system of operations on the remainder of FGA’s rail system.

The stated reason for the discontinuance is that TWC, in lieu of TCS, will substantially reduce operating costs, allow for investment in critical capital projects, and not reduce the overall safety of operations.

A copy of the petition, as well as any written communications concerning the petition, is available for review online at www.regulations.gov and in person at the U.S. Department of Transportation’s (DOT) Docket Operations Facility, 1200 New Jersey Ave., SE, W12-140, Washington, DC 20590. The Docket Operations Facility is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

Interested parties are invited to participate in these proceedings by submitting written views, data, or comments. FRA does not anticipate scheduling a public hearing in connection with these proceedings since the facts do not appear to warrant a hearing. If any interested parties desire an opportunity for oral comment and a public hearing, they should notify FRA, in writing, before the end of the comment period and specify the basis for their request.

All communications concerning these proceedings should identify the appropriate docket number and may be submitted by any of the following methods:

- Web site:  http://www.regulations.gov. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
- Fax: 202-493-2251.

Hand Delivery: 1200 New Jersey Ave., SE, Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

Communications received by [INSERT DATE 45 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER] will be considered by FRA before final action is taken. Comments received after that date will be considered if practicable.

Anyone can search the electronic form of any written communications and comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the document, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). Under 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its processes. DOT posts these comments, without edit, including any personal information the commenter provides, to www.regulations.gov, as described in the system of records notice (DOT/ALL–14 FDMS), which can be reviewed at www.dot.gov/privacy. See also http://www.regulations.gov/#!privacyNotice for the privacy notice of regulations.gov.

Issued in Washington, DC.

John Karl Alexy,

Associate Administrator for Railroad Safety,
Chief Safety Officer.