



**PAN AM RAILWAYS**  
 1700 IRON HORSE PARK  
 NO. BILLERICA, MA 01862

ENTERED  
 Office of Proceedings  
 June 24, 2021  
 Part of  
 Public Record

**LEGAL DEPARTMENT**  
**(978) 663-1215**

June 24, 2021

Ms. Cynthia T. Brown  
 Chief, Section of Administration  
 Office of Proceedings  
 Surface Transportation Board  
 395 E Street, S.W.  
 Washington, DC 20423

**Re: STB Docket No. AB-83 (Sub No. 17X) and AB-355 (Sub No. 44X) –  
 Maine Central Railroad Company & Springfield Terminal Railway  
 Company – Abandonment and Discontinuance of Service –  
 Madison Branch – [MP 0.00 to MP 32.46] – Maine – Kennebec and  
 Somerset Counties - Verified Notice of Exemption**

Dear Ms. Brown:

Enclosed for electronic filing with the Board in the subject docket is Maine Central Railroad Company's and Springfield Terminal Railway Company's Verified Notice of Exemption for abandonment and discontinuance of service over the Madison Branch. The filing fee in the total amount of \$9,200.00 has been paid via Pay.Gov.

Should you have any questions in regard to this filing, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at (978) 663-1215. Thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter.

Very truly yours,

Robert B. Burns, Esq.  
 Maine Central Railroad Company  
 Springfield Terminal Railway Company

Encl. FILED  
 June 24, 2021  
 SURFACE  
 TRANSPORTATION BOARD

FEE RECEIVED  
 June 24, 2021  
 SURFACE  
 TRANSPORTATION BOARD

BEFORE THE  
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

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DOCKET NOS.:  
AB 83 (Sub No. 17X)  
AB 355 (Sub No. 44X)

MAINE CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY and  
SPRINGFIELD TERMINAL RAILWAY COMPANY  
--ABANDONMENT AND DISCONTINUANCE OF SERVICE--  
MADISON BRANCH, KENNEBEC and SOMERSET COUNTIES, MAINE

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VERIFIED NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

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Robert B. Burns, Esq.  
Law Department  
Iron Horse Park  
North Billerica, MA 01862

Counsel for:  
MAINE CENTRAL RAILROAD CO.  
SPRINGFIELD TERMINAL  
RAILWAY COMPANY

Dated: June 24, 2021

BEFORE THE  
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DOCKET NOS.:  
AB 83 (Sub No. 17X)  
AB 355 (Sub No. 44X)

MAINE CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY and  
SPRINGFIELD TERMINAL RAILWAY COMPANY  
--ABANDONMENT AND DISCONTINUANCE OF SERVICE--  
MADISON BRANCH, KENNEBEC and SOMERSET COUNTIES, MAINE

VERIFIED NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

Maine Central Railroad Company and Springfield Terminal Railway Company (collectively the "MEC" or "Applicants") 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 Applicants over a line of railroad known as the Madison Branch and which traverses through Oakland, Fairfield, Norridgewock, Madison, Anson and Embden, Maine, a distance of 32.46 miles +/-, in Kennebec and Somerset Counties, Maine, extending from milepost 0.00 to milepost 32.46 (the "Line"). In accordance with the aforementioned regulations, Applicants make the following responses:

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 on or about August 20, 2021.

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(s).

Maine Central Railroad Company (MEC)

Springfield Terminal Railway Company (ST)

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

MEC and ST are common carriers by railroad subject to the Interstate Commerce Act.

- (3) Relief sought.

MEC and ST seek 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.

Robert B. Burns, Esq.  
Pan Am Railways  
1700 Iron Horse Park  
North Billerica, MA 01862

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

Zip Code(s): 04963 (Oakland, ME)  
04901 (Fairfield, ME)  
04957 (Norridgewock, ME)  
04950 (Madison, ME)  
04911 (Anson, ME)  
04958 (Embden, ME)

- (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.

Applicants are unsure about the suitability of the Line for public non-rail purposes. As of the effective date of this abandonment, Applicants' intent is to sell the real property to the State of Maine, Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Parks and Lands.

4. The Level of Labor Protection

Applicants understand that, in exempting the proposed abandonment and discontinuance, the Board does not relieve the carrier of its statutory obligation to protect the interests of employees. See 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(c). Accordingly, the Applicants anticipate 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 C**, is a certificate affirming B&M's compliance with 49 C.F.R. 1105.11, 1105.7 and 1105.8.

7. Newspaper Notice.

The Newspaper Notice required by 49 C.F.R. 1105.12 was published on May 29, 2021, in the Bangor Daily News. An affidavit/certification from this newspaper is attached as **Exhibit C**.

8. Verification.

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

Respectfully submitted,



Robert B. Burns, Esq.

Law Department

Maine Central Railroad Company

Springfield Terminal Railway Company

Iron Horse Park

North Billerica, MA 01862

Attorney for:

Boston and Maine Corporation

Springfield Terminal Railway Company

Dated: June 24, 2021

- Attachments: Exhibit A -- Map  
Exhibit B -- Certificate of Compliance with 49 C.F.R. §1152.50(b)  
Exhibit C -- Certificate of Compliance with 49 C.F.R. §1152.50(d)(1) and  
§1105.7, §1105.8, §1105.9 and §1105.11.  
Exhibit D -- Environmental/Historical Report [w/ Appendix]  
Exhibit E -- Verification

# **EXHIBIT A**

# Maine Central Railroad Co.

Office of the Vice President - Engineering  
Proposed Abandonment & Discontinuance of  
Service between M.P. 0.0 (formerly M.P. 79.47)  
and M.P. 32.46 (formerly M.P. 111.40)

Madison Branch

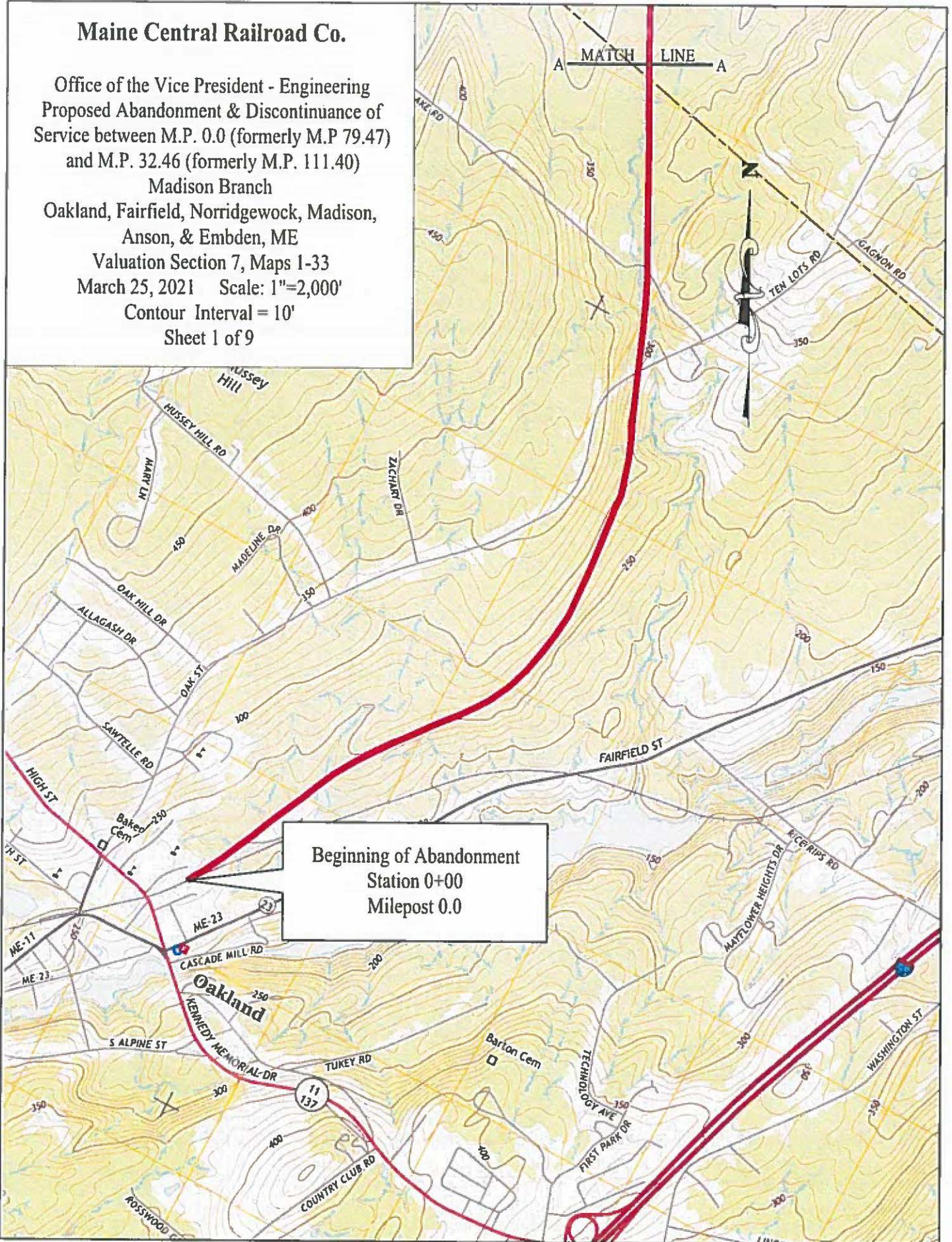
Oakland, Fairfield, Norridgewock, Madison,  
Anson, & Embden, ME

Valuation Section 7, Maps 1-33

March 25, 2021 Scale: 1"=2,000'

Contour Interval = 10'

Sheet 1 of 9



# Maine Central Railroad Co.

Office of the Vice President - Engineering  
Proposed Abandonment & Discontinuance of  
Service between M.P. 0.0 (formerly M.P. 79.47)  
and M.P. 32.46 (formerly M.P. 111.40)

Madison Branch

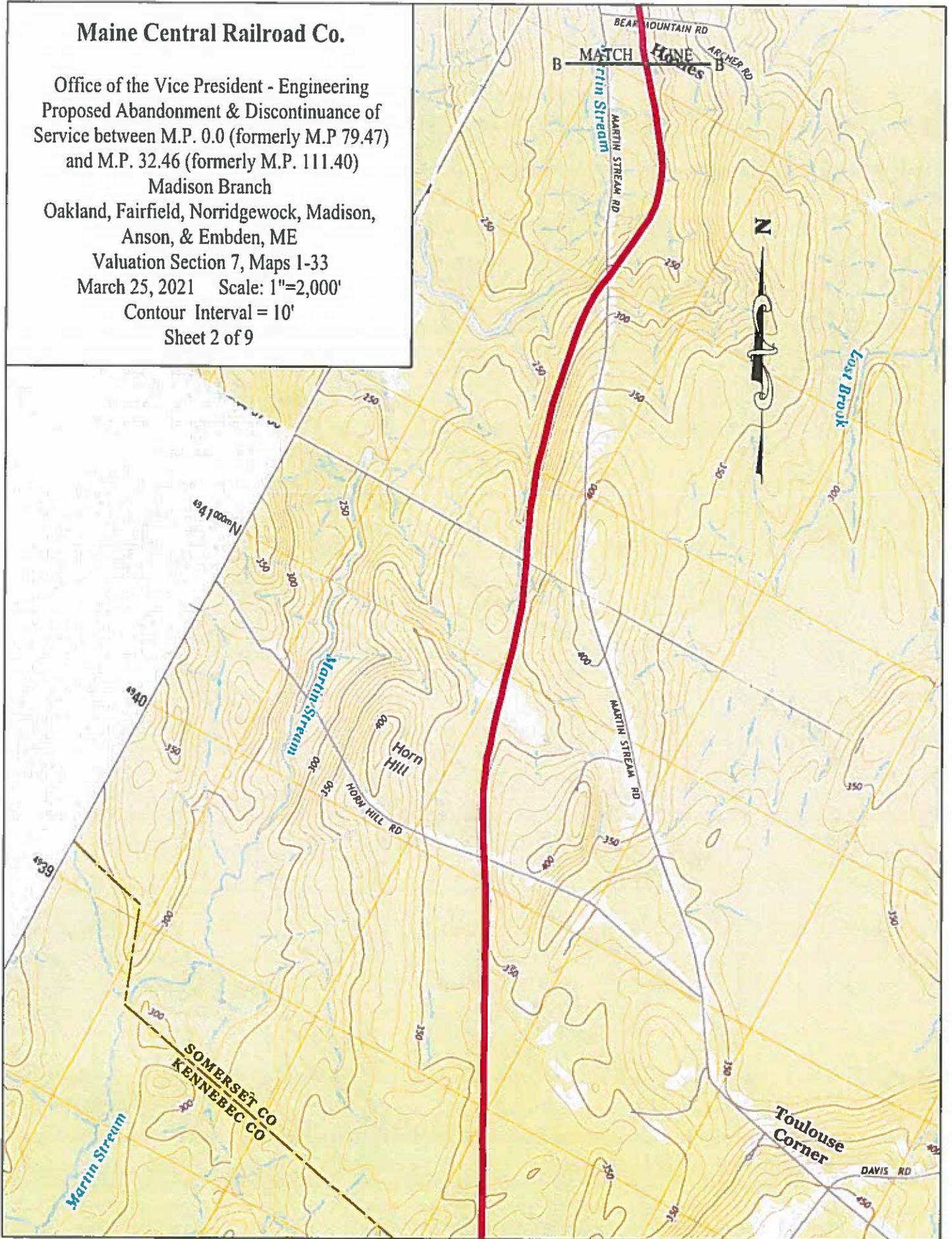
Oakland, Fairfield, Norridgewock, Madison,  
Anson, & Embden, ME

Valuation Section 7, Maps 1-33

March 25, 2021 Scale: 1"=2,000'

Contour Interval = 10'

Sheet 2 of 9



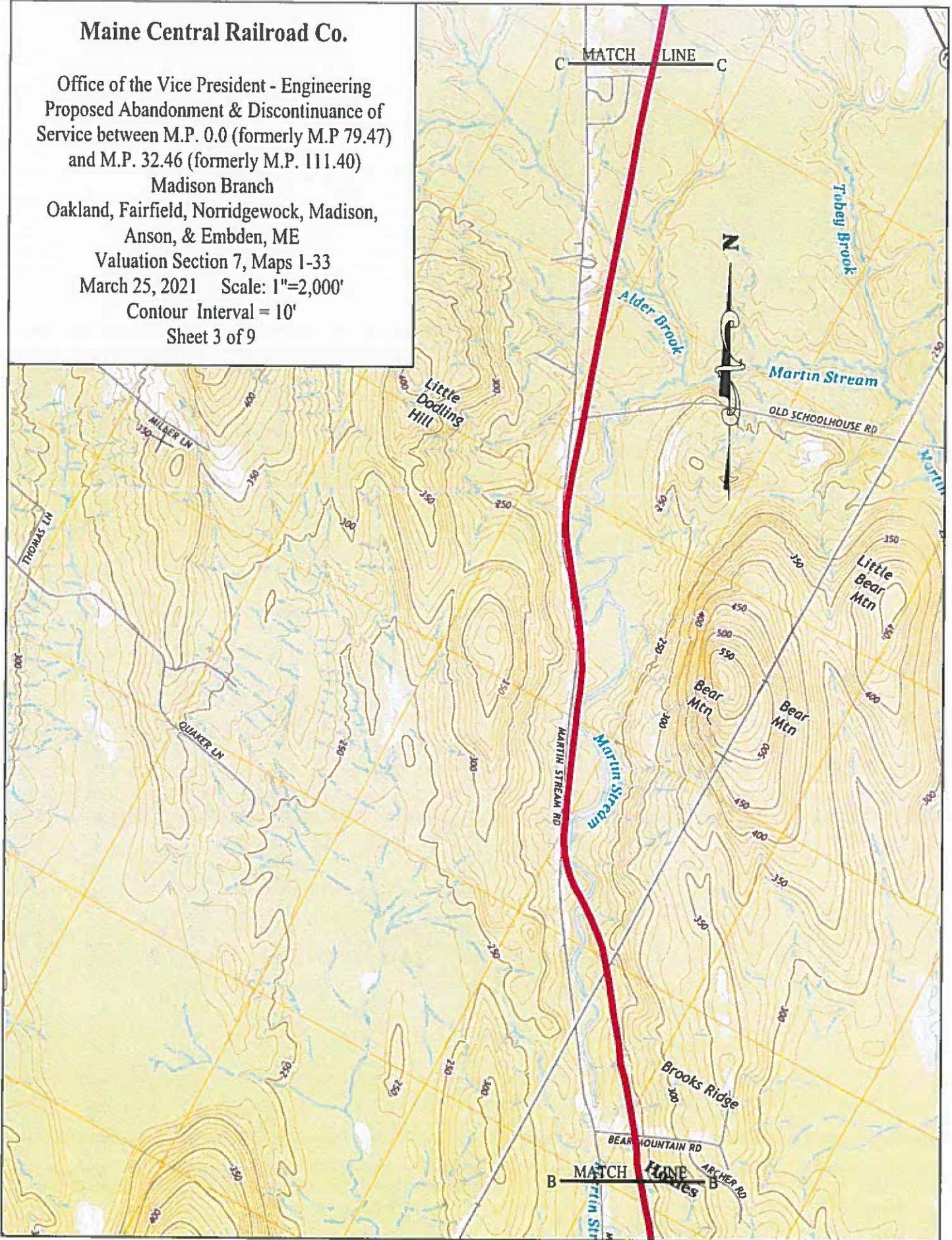
# Maine Central Railroad Co.

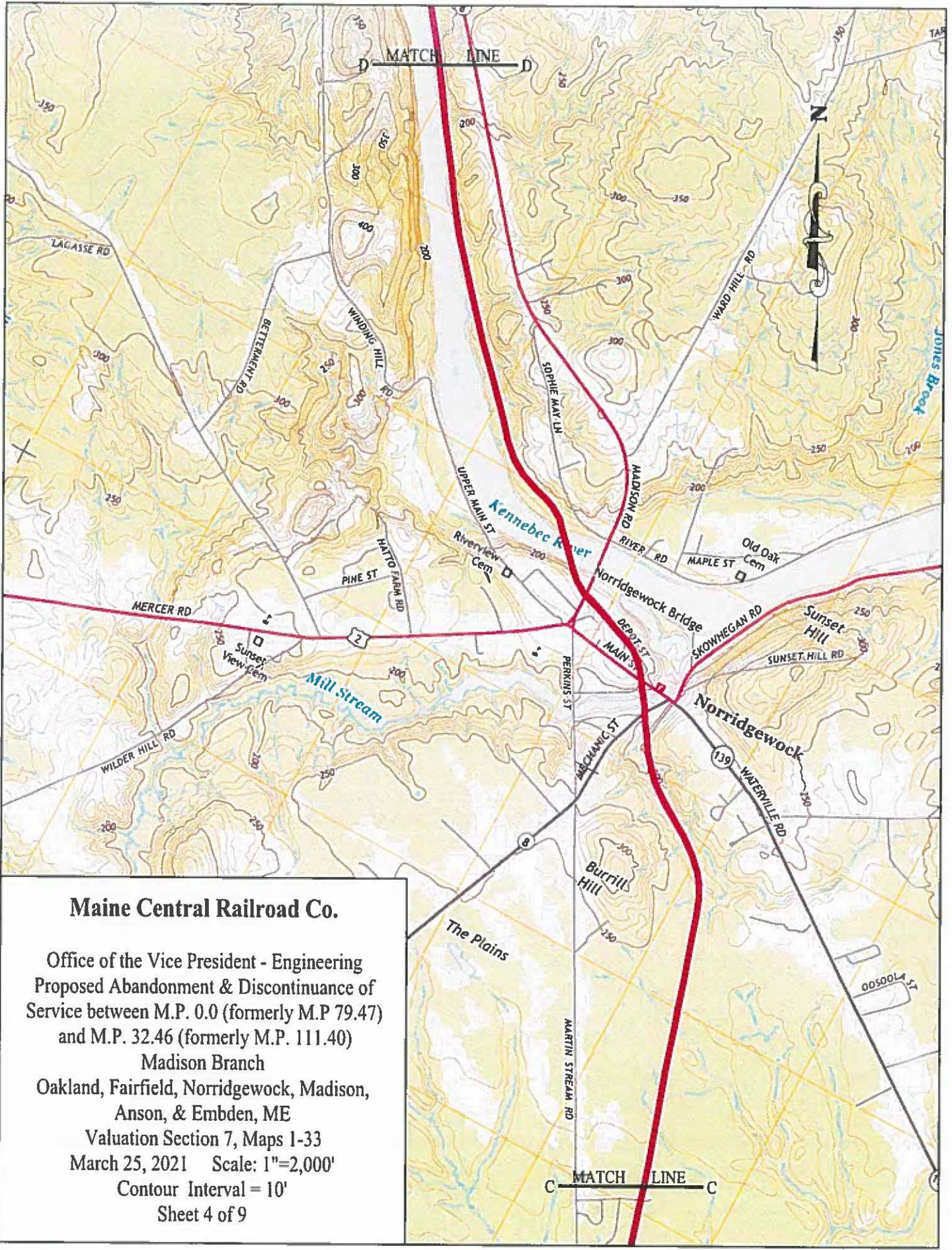
Office of the Vice President - Engineering  
Proposed Abandonment & Discontinuance of  
Service between M.P. 0.0 (formerly M.P. 79.47)  
and M.P. 32.46 (formerly M.P. 111.40)

Madison Branch  
Oakland, Fairfield, Norridgewock, Madison,  
Anson, & Embden, ME

Valuation Section 7, Maps 1-33  
March 25, 2021 Scale: 1"=2,000'

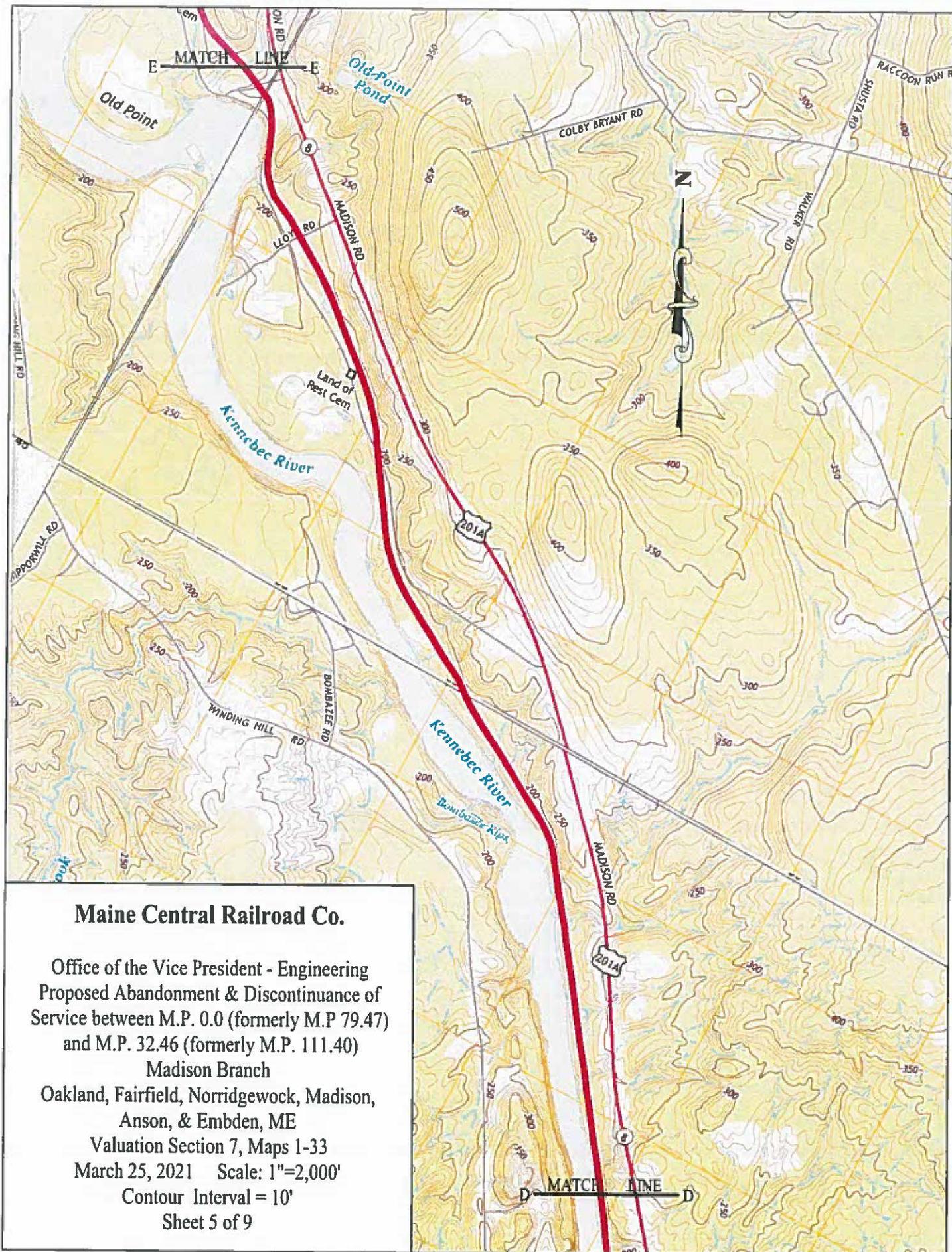
Contour Interval = 10'  
Sheet 3 of 9





**Maine Central Railroad Co.**

Office of the Vice President - Engineering  
 Proposed Abandonment & Discontinuance of  
 Service between M.P. 0.0 (formerly M.P. 79.47)  
 and M.P. 32.46 (formerly M.P. 111.40)  
 Madison Branch  
 Oakland, Fairfield, Norridgewock, Madison,  
 Anson, & Embden, ME  
 Valuation Section 7, Maps 1-33  
 March 25, 2021 Scale: 1"=2,000'  
 Contour Interval = 10'  
 Sheet 4 of 9



# Maine Central Railroad Co.

Office of the Vice President - Engineering  
Proposed Abandonment & Discontinuance of  
Service between M.P. 0.0 (formerly M.P. 79.47)  
and M.P. 32.46 (formerly M.P. 111.40)

Madison Branch

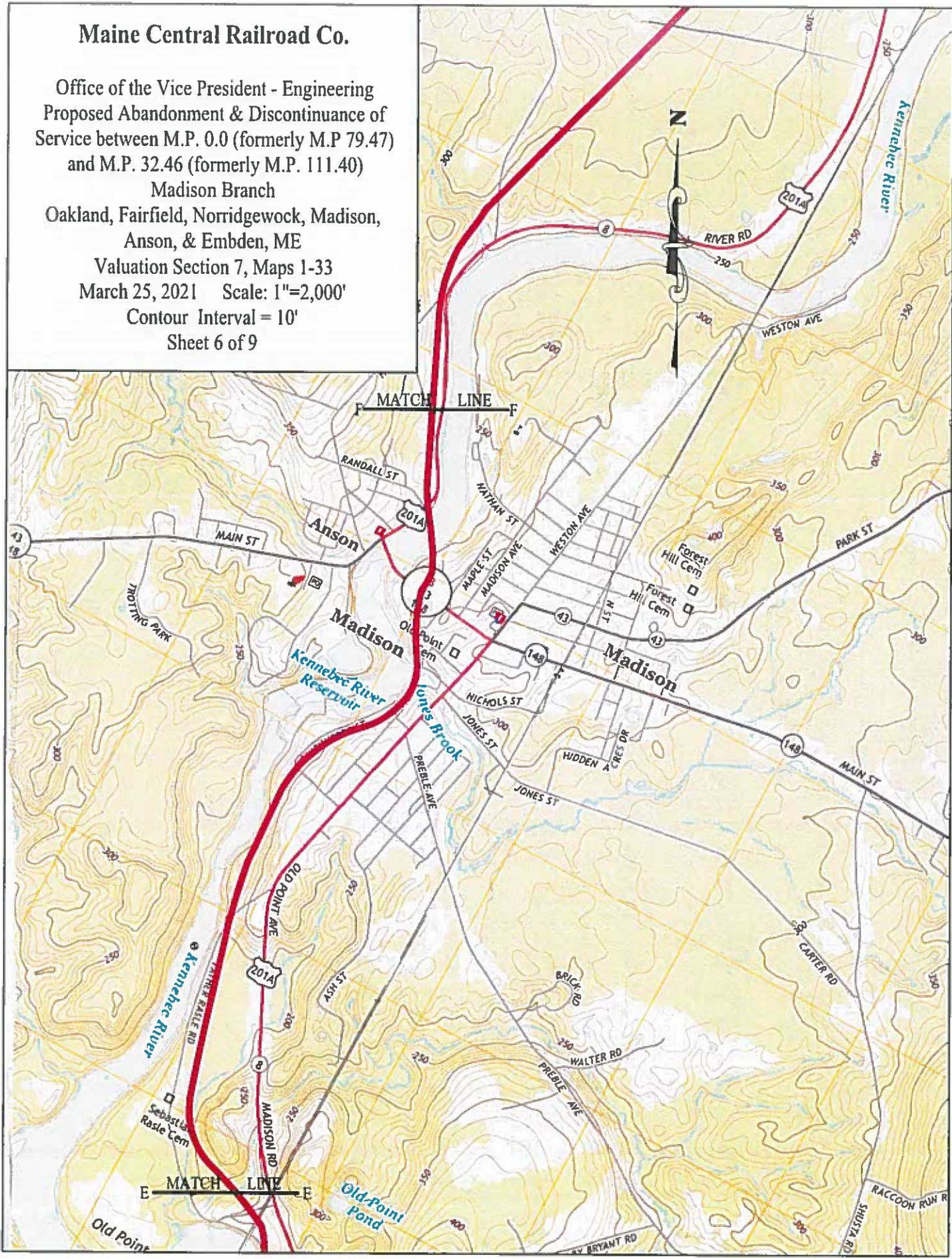
Oakland, Fairfield, Norridgewock, Madison,  
Anson, & Embden, ME

Valuation Section 7, Maps 1-33

March 25, 2021 Scale: 1"=2,000'

Contour Interval = 10'

Sheet 6 of 9



# Maine Central Railroad Co.

Office of the Vice President - Engineering  
Proposed Abandonment & Discontinuance of  
Service between M.P. 0.0 (formerly M.P. 79.47)  
and M.P. 32.46 (formerly M.P. 111.40)

Madison Branch

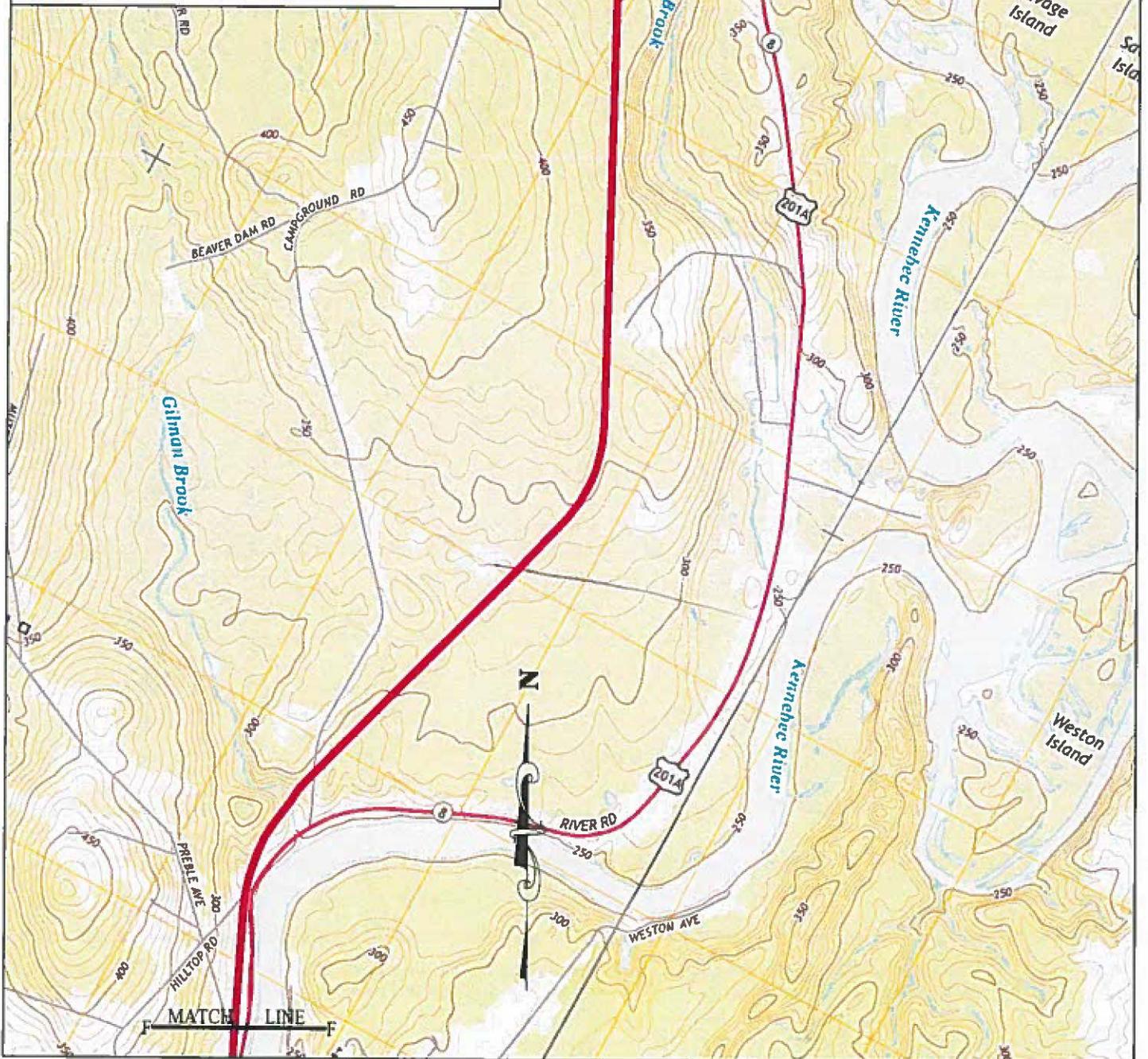
Oakland, Fairfield, Norridgewock, Madison,  
Anson, & Embden, ME

Valuation Section 7, Maps 1-33

March 25, 2021 Scale: 1"=2,000'

Contour Interval = 10'

Sheet 7 of 9



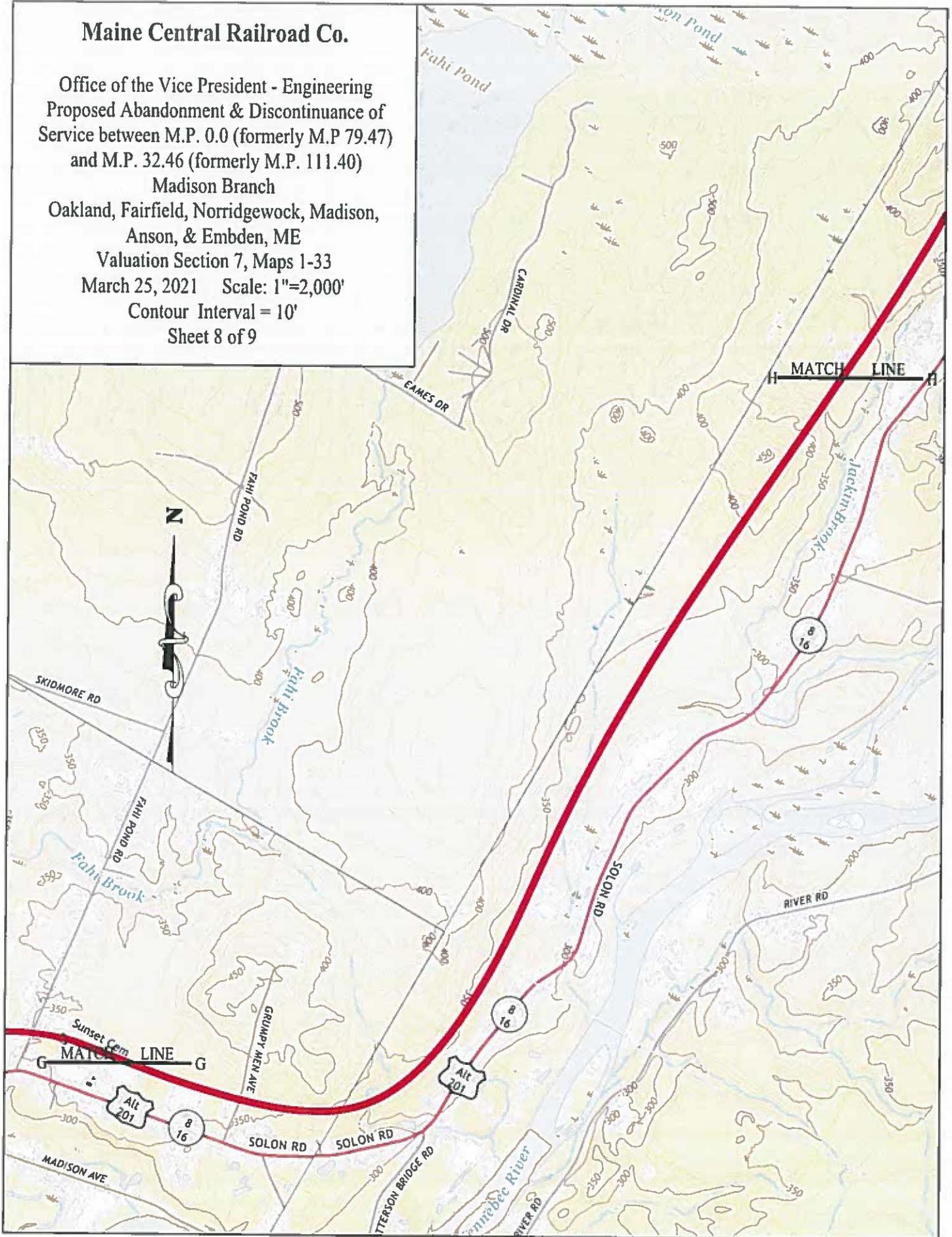
# Maine Central Railroad Co.

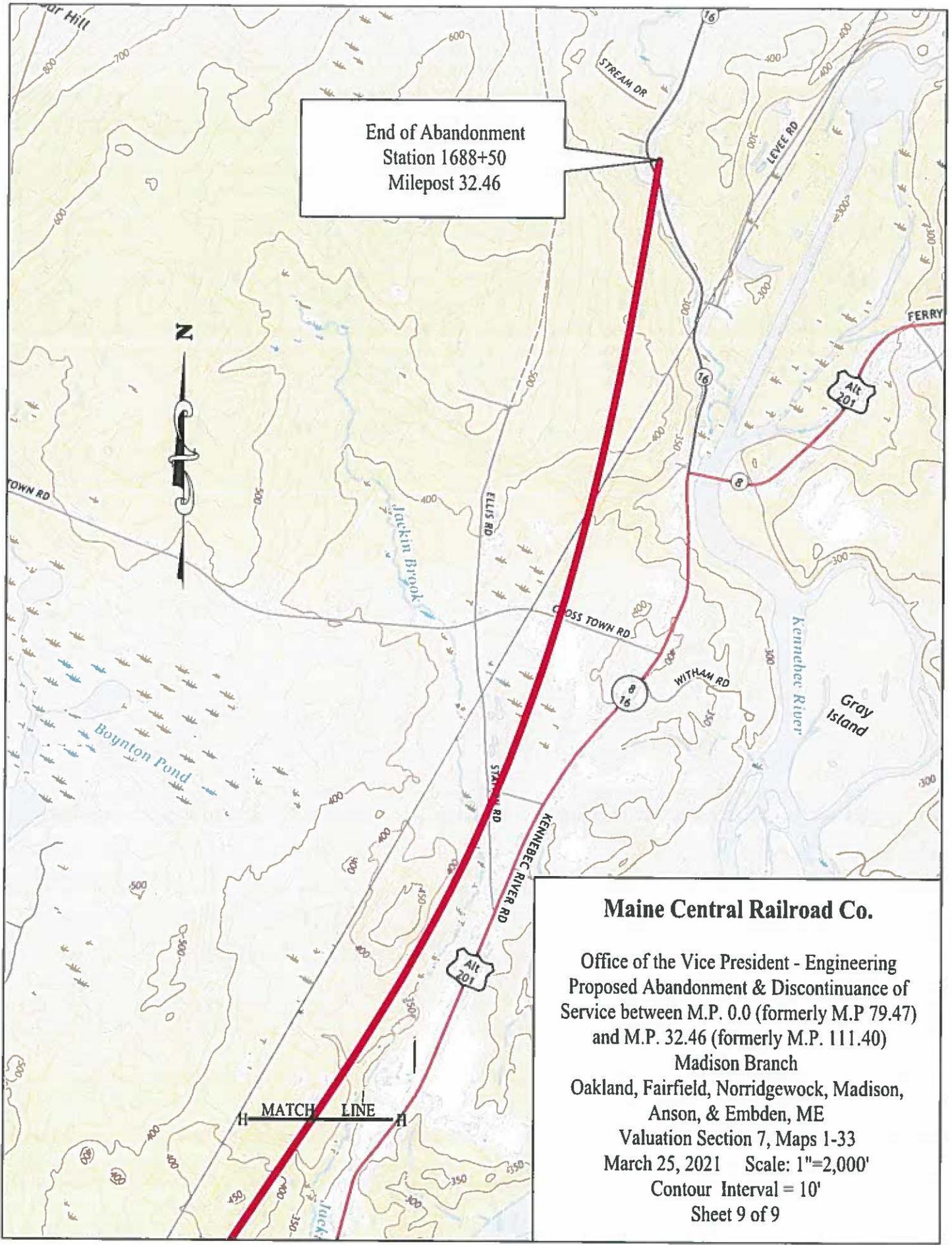
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Proposed Abandonment & Discontinuance of  
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Madison Branch  
Oakland, Fairfield, Norridgewock, Madison,  
Anson, & Embden, ME

Valuation Section 7, Maps 1-33  
March 25, 2021 Scale: 1"=2,000'

Contour Interval = 10'  
Sheet 8 of 9





# **EXHIBIT B**

**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. AB 83 (Sub No. 17X) and AB 355 (Sub No. 44X) and: (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 Maine Central Railroad Company and 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.

  
Robert B. Burns, Esq.

Dated: June 24, 2021

# **EXHIBIT C**

**CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE WITH  
NOTICE REQUIREMENTS OF  
49 C.F.R. §1152.50(d)(1)  
AND  
49 C.F.R. §1105.11  
AND  
49 C.F.R. §1105.9  
AND  
49 C.F.R. 1105.8 and 1105.7**

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

(A) On May 27, 2021, at least 10 days prior to the date of filing of the Notice of Exemption to which this certificate is attached, 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 the following: (I) the Public Service Commission (or equivalent agency) in the State(s) where the line will be abandoned or the service of trackage rights discontinued; (ii) Department of Defense (Military Traffic Management Command Transportation Engineering Agency, Railroads for National Defense Program); (iii) National Park Service, Recreation Resources Division; and (iv) U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Chief of Forest Service.

(B) On May 11, 2021, I complied with all the requirements of the provisions of 49 C.F.R. §1105.7 and §1105.8, §1105.9 and §1105.11 as set-forth therein, including but not limited to, by serving (at least 20 days prior to filing the Notice of Exemption) a copy of the Environmental/Historical Report upon the parties listed in §1105.7(b), and/or the appropriate State Historic Preservation Officer(s), as required by §1105.11, via First Class Mail, postage prepaid. Pursuant to 1105.9, I hereby certify that the line is not within the State coastal zone.

(C) In accordance with 49 C.F.R. § 1105.7(c), I hereby certify that with respect to the line, which is the subject of the Notice of Exemption filed herewith, and pursuant to 49 C.F.R. 1105.12, I have published a notice in a newspaper of general circulation in each county in which the line is located before the date of the Notice of Exemption was filed (see attached certification of the Bangor Daily News).

Dated: June 24, 2021

  
Robert B. Burns

# **EXHIBIT D**

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MADISON BRANCH

ENVIRONMENTAL/HISTORICAL REPORT

Docket Nos. AB 83 (Sub No. 17 X) and AB 355 (Sub No. 44 X)

**I. ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT**

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

(1) **Proposed Action and Alternatives**

The Maine Central Railroad Company and Springfield Terminal Railway Company (the “Applicants”) propose to abandon and discontinue service respectively, over an approximate thirty-two (32.46) mile branch of the so-called “Madison Branch” line of railroad (the “Line”). A map of the proposed abandonment and discontinuance has previously been provided to all parties receiving this report, and is attached hereto.

Due to the inability to generate traffic over the Line, there is no reasonable alternative to abandonment and discontinuance. Applicants expect to sell the Line to the State of Maine, Dept. of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry.

(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 well more than two years ago.

(3) Land Use<sup>1</sup>

- (i) The Applicants believe that the proposed action is consistent with and in furtherance of local land use plans.
- (ii) The Applicants believe the proposed action will have no effect or adverse impact on any prime agricultural land.
- (iii) This Line is not located within the boundary of the State of Maine's coastal zone.
- (iv) Applicants are unsure whether the right-of-way is suitable for alternative public use under 49 U.S.C. 10906.

(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 Applicants to eliminate their 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).

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<sup>1</sup> The Applicants attach to this Environmental/Historical Report as an Appendix, all correspondence received from federal, state, and local authorities and agencies in response to the Applicants' request for comments regarding the proposed abandonment/discontinuance of service.

(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) Applicants know of no endangered or threatened species or critical habitats that will be affected by the proposed action. The Applicants previously requested comments from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in this regard. The Service has not responded to Applicants with any federally-listed or proposed, threatened or endangered species or critical habitat under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as being known in the project area(s).”

(ii) Applicants believe 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. Applicants will not be undertaking any salvage operations. There are no indications of environmental contamination. No designated wetlands or 100-year flood plains will be affected by the proposed action.

(iii) It is not expected that permits under § 402 of the Clean Water Act will be required for the proposed action where no salvage operations will be undertaken.

(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 map of the line is attached hereto.

(2) **Description of Right-of-Way**

The Line at issue is approximately thirty-two (32.46) miles in length. The width of the right-of-way varies from 99+/- feet (for 1/3 of the Line), 66+/- feet (for 1/3 of the Line), and between 30+/- feet and 150 +/- feet (for remaining 1/3 of the Line) in width. The attached topographic map indicates the Line's topography.

(3) **Photographs of Railroad Structures**

The Applicants' records reflect that the track and structures are more than 50 years old but to Applicants' knowledge are not historically significant nor are they listed in the National Register of Historic Places. No special applications were

used in their construction. The track and structures are likely more than 100 years old. There are 61 stone box culverts most of which were constructed with the track before 1916. There are 7 steel bridges of various lengths and several concrete culvert pipes, most likely constructed after 1960 (See list attached).

The Applicants have requested comments from the Maine Historical Preservation Commission (“MHPC”) in regard to the anticipated effect of the proposed action on historical resources. The MHPC has only responded to date by letter (attached) recommending the Applicants engage outside consultants to conduct an architectural survey.

Alternatively, whereas the structures will not be negatively affected to any extent as a result of this transaction, Applicants instead recommend that the sales/conveyance documents include a statement with the following language: “Any future undertakings shall enter into consultation with the Division [i.e., MHPC] and concerned towns, if any, in order to identify possible adverse effects to the line, if changes to the line are proposed.”

(4) **Construction Dates**

The Applicants are not conducting any construction as a result of this transaction.

(5) **History of Operations**

No local or overhead traffic has moved over the Line for at least two years. The proposed abandonment will not affect carrier operations in the area.

(6) **Summary of Useful Documents**

The Applicants know of no sites or structures on the Line that are 50 years or older that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places that would be affected by this abandonment. There are photographs, Valuation Plans, bridge

plans for bridge #92.55 and a list identifying the lines various pipes, culverts and bridges along with their locations on the line available upon request.

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

The Applicants' records do not identify any sites or structures on the Line that are 50 years or older and are listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The Applicants have requested comments from the MHPC in regard to the anticipated effect of the proposed action on historical resources. 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 Applicants know of no prior subsurface ground disturbances 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 Applicants have served copies of this Environmental/Historical Report upon and, prior to such service, consulted, or attempted to consult, with the following parties:

\*\*\*\*\* *SEE ATTACHED BELOW* \*\*\*\*\*

Dated this 24 day of June, 2021.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert B. Burns, Esq.

## SERVICE LIST

National Park Service  
1849 C Street NW  
Washington, DC 20240

Environmental Protection Agency  
5 Post Office Square - Suite 100  
Boston, MA 02109-3912

Maine Dept. of Environmental Protection  
17 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333-0017

Geodetic Services Division  
National Geodetic Survey  
NOAA, N/NGS2  
1315 East-West Highway  
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3293

District Conservationist  
USDA – NRCS  
1319 Littleton Road, STE 205  
Westford, MA 01886-4133

Commissioner  
Maine Department of Transportation  
16 SHS  
Augusta, ME 04333-0016

Kennebec County Commissioners  
125 State Street  
2nd Floor  
Augusta ME, 04330

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
70 Commercial St., Suite 300  
Concord, NH 03301

U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Forest Service  
1400 Independence Ave., SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250-0003

Maine Historic Preservation Commission  
55 Capitol Street  
65 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine, 04333-0065

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

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service  
967 Illinois Avenue, Suite #3  
Bangor, ME 04401

Somerset County Commissioners  
41 Court Street  
Skowhegan, ME 04976



JANET T. MILLS  
GOVERNOR

MAINE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION  
55 CAPITOL STREET  
65 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE  
04333

KIRK F. MOHNEY  
DIRECTOR

February 17, 2021

Mr. Robert B. Burns  
Pan Am Railways  
1700 Iron Horse Park  
North Billerica, MA 01862

Project: MHPC# 0238-21 Maine Central Railroad Company  
Notice of Exemption; Abandonment & Discontinuance

Town: Madison, ME

Dear Mr. Burns:

In response to your recent request, our office has reviewed the information received February 8, 2021 to initiate consultation on the above referenced project in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

An architectural survey is recommended to identify and record information on all resources within the area of potential effect (APE) that are at least 50 years old. Survey must be completed according to our "Revised Above Ground Cultural Resource Survey Manual Project Review Specific." All surveys must be submitted electronically via our on-line CARMA database. See our website for more information: <https://www.maine.gov/mhpc/quick-links/forms-instructions>

A list of historic preservation consultants who are qualified to conduct architectural survey and have been trained in the use of the CARMA database may be found at the following page of our website: <https://www.maine.gov/mhpc/programs/survey/approved-consultants/carma-trained-consultants>

Once historic resources are identified through architectural survey, our office will be able to continue consultation in accordance with Section 106.

Please contact Megan M. Rideout of our staff at 287-2992 or [megan.m.rideout@maine.gov](mailto:megan.m.rideout@maine.gov) if you have any questions regarding above ground resources.

We look forward to continuing consultation with you on this project.

Sincerely,

*Kirk F. Mohney*

Kirk F. Mohney  
State Historic Preservation Officer

# **EXHIBIT E**

