



NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Stillwater Central Railroad Plans Traffic Rerouting and Confirms Timeline; Embargo Still in Effect

PITTSBURG, KANSAS – August 21, 2007 – Stillwater Central Railroad (SLWC) traffic destined for locations affected by the current embargo will be rerouted using other rail lines. The embargo was issued yesterday due to flood damage to the Canadian River Bridge near Tuttle, Okla., approximately 25 miles southwest of Oklahoma City. The bridge received structural damage from flood waters that were a result of recent heavy rains brought on by Tropical Storm Erin. The SLWC is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Watco Companies, Inc. (Watco).

“We are happy to say we have had positive communication with our Class I partners and are able to reroute traffic for our Customers using other lines,” said Pat Cedeno, Watco’s Chief Operating Officer for the Central Region. “Our goal is to keep traffic moving as efficiently as possible while we complete repairs to the bridge.”

The inability to move traffic over the Canadian River Bridge effectively severs the railroad, as the bridge is located along a key route for traffic flow. Traffic received west of the bridge is unable to travel east and all traffic received east of the bridge is unable to travel west. Any traffic received at the Union Pacific (UP) interchange at Midwest City and Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) interchange at Oklahoma City or the BNSF interchange at Tulsa destined for locations west of Mustang are embargoed. Additionally, any traffic received at the BNSF interchange at Altus, Okla. destined for locations east of Tuttle are also embargoed. On the east side of the bridge,

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traffic from the Tulsa, Midwest City and Oklahoma City interchanges will be able to travel as far west as Wheatland. From the west side of the bridge, traffic from the Altus interchange will be able to travel as far east as Tuttle.

Teams were able to complete initial assessments yesterday and establish a working timeline for repairs to the bridge. Repairs to washouts and the bridge area will begin tomorrow and as originally estimated, are expected to be completed within 10 days if the area does not experience more rainfall. The bridge is anticipated to be open for service by Friday, August 31.

“Coordination with contractors and suppliers has gone well and work will be underway tomorrow,” said Greg Ingram, Chief Engineer for Watco’s Central Region. “The weather is a concern because more rain will hinder the process, but no rainfall should allow us to open the bridge for traffic by the end of next week.”

SLWC Customers may call Customer Service toll free at 866-889-2826 for more information.

Watco Companies, Inc. (Watco), a Pittsburg, Kansas, based company, operates 16 railroads in 14 states including the Alabama Southern, Arkansas Southern, Eastern Idaho, Great Northwest, Kansas and Oklahoma, Kaw River, Louisiana Southern, Mission Mountain, Mississippi Southern, Palouse River and Coulee City, Pennsylvania Southwestern, South Kansas and Oklahoma, Stillwater Central, Timber Rock, Vicksburg Southern and Yellowstone Valley Railroads. Watco also operates industrial switching locations and mechanical and locomotive shops across the United States and is the owner of Millennium Rail, Inc. (MRI), a fully-integrated provider of repair and maintenance services to the rail industry. MRI operates eight car repair shops across the United States. More information about Watco and MRI can be found on their website at www.watcocompanies.com.

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