

otherwise, including, where necessary, the construction of connecting lines with the lines of other companies, and

- (h) the probable future transportation needs of the area served by the branch line. 5

Date of abandonment.

(4) If the Commission determines that the operation of an uneconomic branch line or segments thereof should be abandoned, the Commission shall by order fix such dates for the abandonment of the operation of the line or segments thereof as to the Commission appear to be in the public interest; but an abandonment date shall be 10

- (a) not earlier than thirty days from the date of the order; and

- (b) not later than five years from the date of the order. 15

Continuing operation of uneconomic branch line subject to review.

(5) If the Commission determines that the operation of an uneconomic branch line or segment thereof should not be abandoned, the Commission shall so order and thereafter shall reconsider the application for abandonment at intervals not exceeding five years from the date of the original application or last consideration thereof, as the case may be, for the purpose of determining whether the operation of the line should be abandoned; and 20

- (a) if the Commission finds that the branch line or a segment thereof has, since the last consideration, become an economic line of railway, it shall reject the application for the abandonment of the line but without prejudice to any application that may subsequently be made for the abandonment of the operation of the line; or 25

- (b) if the Commission finds that the branch line or a segment thereof continues to be an uneconomic line of railway, it shall determine whether the operation of the line or segment thereof should be abandoned as provided in subsection (4) or continued as provided by this subsection. 30 35 40

Posting of order or direction of the Commission.

(6) The company shall post in each station on the branch line to be abandoned under this section and keep so posted for such period as may be prescribed by the Commission a notice of any order or direction under subsection (4) or (5) made in respect of that line. 45