

Surface Transportation Board**[STB Ex Parte No. 290 (Sub No. 4)]****Railroad Cost Recovery Procedures-Productivity Adjustment****AGENCY:** Surface Transportation Board.**ACTION:** Proposed adoption of a railroad cost recovery procedures productivity adjustment.**SUMMARY:** The Surface Transportation Board proposes to adopt 1.050 (5.0%) as the measure of average growth in railroad productivity for the 1991-1995 (5-year) period. The current value of 5.9% was developed for the 1990 to 1994 period.**DATES:** Comments are due by March 5, 1997.**EFFECTIVE DATE:** The proposed productivity adjustment is effective 30 days after the date of service.**ADDRESSES:** Office of the Secretary, Case Control Branch, Surface Transportation Board, Washington, D.C. 20423.**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** H. Jeff Warren, (202) 927-6243. TDD for the hearing impaired: (202) 927-5721.**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Additional information is contained in the Board's decision. To purchase a copy of the full decision write to, call, or pick up in person from: DC NEWS & DATA, INC., Room 2229, 1201 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20423, telephone (202) 289-4357. [Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through TDD services (202) 927-5721.]

This action will not significantly affect either the quality of the human environment or energy conservation.

Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 605(b), we conclude that our action will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities within the meaning of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

Decided: February 6, 1997.

By the Board, Chairman Morgan and Vice Chairman Owen.

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-3933 Filed 2-14-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

[STB Finance Docket No. 33347]¹**Union Pacific Railroad Company—Trackage Rights Exemption—Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railway Company**

Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railway Company has agreed to grant overhead

¹ On January 28, 1997, Joseph C. Szabo, on behalf of the United Transportation Union-Illinois

trackage rights to Union Pacific Railroad Company (Union Pacific) over 11 miles of rail line between milepost 25.2 near Chicago Heights, IL, and milepost 36.2 near Griffith, IN. The transaction was expected to be consummated on, or as soon as possible after, January 31, 1997.

This notice is filed under 49 CFR 1180.2(d)(7). If the notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void *ab initio*. Petitions to revoke the exemption under 49 U.S.C. 10502(d) may be filed at any time. The filing of a petition to revoke will not automatically stay the transaction.

An original and 10 copies of all pleadings, referring to STB Finance Docket No. 33347, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Branch, 1201 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20423 and served on: Joseph D. Anthofer, General Attorney, 1416 Dodge Street, #830, Omaha, NE 68179.

As a condition to this exemption, any employees affected by the trackage rights will be protected by the conditions imposed in *Norfolk and Western Ry. Co.—Trackage Rights—BN*, 354 I.C.C. 605 (1978), as modified in *Mendocino Coast Ry., Inc.—Lease and Operate*, 360 I.C.C. 653 (1980).

Decided: February 10, 1997.

By the Board, David M. Konschnik,
Director, Office of Proceedings.
Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-3934 Filed 2-14-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY**Fiscal Service****[Dept. Circ. 570, 1996 Rev., Supp. No. 6]****Surety Companies Acceptable on Federal Bonds; Consolidated Insurance Co.**

A Certificate of Authority as an acceptable surety on Federal Bonds is hereby issued to the following company under sections 9304 to 9308, Title 31, of the United States Code. Federal bond-approving officers should annotate their reference copies of the Treasury Circular 570, 1996 Revision, on page 34288 to reflect this addition:

Consolidated Insurance Company.
Business Address: 62 Maple Avenue, Keene, NH 03431. Phone: (603) 352-3221.

Legislative Board, filed a petition to reject this notice of exemption and for stay of the effectiveness of the exemption. Union Pacific replied on January 30, 1997. The petition will be considered by the entire Board in a separate decision.

Underwriting Limitation *b/*: \$1,960,000. Surety Licenses *c/*: FL, IL, IN, IA, KY, MI, OH, TN, WA, WI. Incorporated IN: Indiana.

Certificates of Authority expire on June 30 each year, unless revoked prior to that date. The Certificates are subject to subsequent annual renewal as long as the companies remain qualified (31 CFR, part 223). A list of qualified companies is published annually as of July 1 in Treasury Department Circular 570, with details as to underwriting limitations, areas in which licensed to transact surety business and other information.

The Circular may be viewed and downloaded through the Internet (<http://www.fmd.treas.gov/c570.html>) or through our computerized public bulletin board system (FMS Inside Line) at (202) 8734-6887. A hard copy may be purchased from the Government Printing Office (GPO), Subscription Service Washington, DC, telephone (202) 512-1800. When ordering the Circular from GPO, use the following stock number: 048-000-00499-7.

Questions concerning this Notice may be directed to the U.S. Department of the Treasury, Financial Management Service, Funds Management Division, Surety Bond Branch, 3700 East-West Highway, Room 6F04, Hyattsville, MD 20782, telephone (202) 874-6905.

Dated: February 4, 1997.

Charles F. Schwan III,

*Director, Funds Management Division,
Financial Management Service.*

[FR Doc. 97-3905 Filed 2-14-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810-35-M

[Dept. Circ. 570, 1996 Rev., Supp. No. 7]**Surety Companies Acceptable on Federal Bonds; Excelsior Insurance Co.**

A Certificate of Authority as an acceptable surety on Federal Bonds is hereby issued to the following company under sections 9304 to 9308, Title 31, of the United States Code. Federal bond-approving officers should annotate their reference copies of the Treasury Circular 570, 1996 Revision, on page 34290 to reflect this addition:

Excelsior Insurance Company. Business Address: 62 Maple Avenue, Keene, NH 03432. Phone: (603) 352-3221. Underwriting Limitation *b/*: \$2,349,000. Surety Licenses *c/*: CT, DE, DC, FL, GA, IN, KY, ME, MD, NH, NJ, NY, NC, PA, VA. Incorporated in: New Hampshire.

Certificates of Authority expire on June 30 each year, unless revoked prior to that date. The Certificates are subject to subsequent annual renewal as long as

the companies remain qualified (31 CFR, part 223), A list of qualified companies is published annually as of July 1 in Treasury Department Circular 570, with details as to underwriting limitations, areas in which licensed to transact surety business and other information.

The Circular may be viewed and downloaded through the Internet (<http://www.fms.treas.gov/c570.htm1>) or through our computerized public bulletin board system (FMS Inside Line) at (202) 874-6887. A hard copy may be purchased from the Government Printing Office (GPO), Subscription Service Washington, DC, telephone (202) 512-1800. When ordering the Circular from GPO, use the following stock number: 048-000-00499-7.

Questions concerning this Notice may be directed to the U.S. Department of the Treasury, Financial Management Service, Funds Management Division, Surety Bond Branch, 3700 East-West Highway, Room 6F04, Hyattsville, MD 20782, telephone (202) 874-6905.

Dated: February 4, 1997.

Charles F. Schwan III,

*Director, Funds Management Division,
Financial Management Service.*

[FR Doc. 97-3903 Filed 2-14-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810-35-M

[Dept. Circ. 570, 1996 Rev., Supp. No. 8]

Surety Companies Acceptable on Federal Bonds; Indiana Insurance Company

A Certificate of Authority as an acceptable surety on Federal Bonds is hereby issued to the following company under sections 9304 to 9308, Title 31, of the United States Code. Federal bond-approving officers should annotate their reference copies of the Treasury Circular 570, 1996 Revision, on page 34296 to reflect this addition:

Indiana Insurance Company. Business Address: 62 Maple Avenue, Keene, NH 03431. Phone: (603) 352-3221. Underwriting Limitation *b/*: \$8,992,000. Surety Licenses *c/*: FL, IL, IN, IA, KY, MI, OH, TN, WA, WI. Incorporated IN: Indiana.

Certificates of Authority expire on June 30 each year, unless revoked prior to that date. The Certificates are subject to subsequent annual renewal as long as the companies remain qualified (31 CFR, part 223). A list of qualified companies is published annually as of July 1 in Treasury Department Circular 570, with details as to underwriting limitations, areas in which licensed to transact surety business and other information.

The Circular may be viewed and downloaded through the Internet (<http://www.fmd.treas.gov/c570.html>) or through our computerized public bulletin board system (FMS Inside Line) at (202) 874-6887. A hard copy may be purchased from the Government Printing Office (GPO), Subscription Service Washington, DC, telephone (202) 512-1800. When ordering the Circular from GPO, use the following stock number: 048-000-00499-7.

Questions concerning this Notice may be directed to the U.S. Department of the Treasury, Financial Management Service, Funds Management Division, Surety Bond Branch, 3700 East-West Highway, Room 6F04, Hyattsville, MD 20782, telephone (202) 874-6850.

Dated: February 4, 1997.

Charles F. Schwan III,

*Director, Funds Management Division,
Financial Management Service.*

[FR Doc. 97-3904 Filed 2-14-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810-35-M

Internal Revenue Service

[PS-92-90]

Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Regulation Project

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning an existing final regulation, PS-92-90 (TD 8395), Special Valuation Rules (§§ 25.2701-2, 25.2701-4, and 301.6501(c)-1).

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before April 21, 1997 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Garrick R. Shear, Internal Revenue Service, room 5571, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection should be directed to Carol Savage, (202) 622-3945, Internal Revenue Service, room 5569, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Special Valuation Rules.

OMB Number: 1545-1241.

Regulation Project Number: PS-92-90.

Abstract: Section 2701 of the Internal Revenue Code allows various elections by family members who make gifts of common stock or partnership interests and retain senior interests in the same entity. This regulation provides guidance on how taxpayers make these elections, what information is required, and how the transfer is to be disclosed on the gift tax return (Form 709).

Current Actions: There is no change to this existing regulation.

Type of Review: Extension of OMB approval.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1,200.

Estimated Time Per Respondent: 25 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 496.

The following paragraph applies to all of the collections of information covered by this notice:

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

Request for Comments

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on: (a) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.