

U.S.C. 307 and 23 U.S.C. 315, which place the responsibility on the Secretary of Transportation for management decisions that affect transportation. 23 CFR 1.5 and 49 CFR 1.48 provide the Federal Highway Administrator with authority to request information to administer the Federal-Aid Highway Program. Estimates of future highway needs of the Nation are mandated by Congress on a biennial basis (23 U.S.C. 307(h)). Data are used for assessing highway system performance under FHWA's strategic planning and performance reporting process developed in accordance with requirements of the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA, Sec 3 and Sec 4) and for apportioning Federal-aid highway funds under the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21, Sec 1103). The HPMS data collected are essential to FHWA and Congress in evaluating effectiveness of the Federal-aid highway program providing miles, lane-miles, and travel components of apportionment formulae. The information is used by FHWA to develop and implement legislation and by State and Federal transportation officials to adequately plan, design, and administer effective, safe, and efficient transportation systems. A recently completed reassessment of the HPMS resulted in the elimination and/or streamlining of approximately 20 percent of the required data. Therefore, a reduction in burden hours for this currently-approved information collection is anticipated.

Respondents: State governments of the 50 United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the four territories (American Samoa, Guam, Northern Marianas, and Virgin Islands).

Estimated Average Burden Per Response: The estimated average burden per response for the annual collection and processing of the HPMS data is 1,440 hours for the States, the District of Columbia and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico; and 20 hours for each of the four territories.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: The estimated total annual burden is 74,960 hours.

Frequency: The data is compiled by the respondents and submitted to FHWA annually.

Public Comments Invited: Interested parties are invited to send comments regarding any aspect of this information collection, including, but not limited to: (1) the necessity and utility of the information collection for the proper performance of the functions of the FHWA; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways to enhance the quality,

utility, and clarity of the collected information; and (4) ways to minimize the collection burden without reducing the quality of the collected information. Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB's clearance of this information collection.

Electronic Availability: An electronic copy of this document may be downloaded using a modem and suitable communications software from the Federal Register electronic bulletin board service (telephone number: 202-512-1661). Internet users may reach the Federal Register's WWW site at http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs.

Authority: 23 U.S.C. 307; 23 U.S.C. 315; 23 CFR 1.5; and 49 CFR 1.48.

Issued on: May 17, 1999.

Michael J. Vecchietti,

Director, Office of Information and Management Services.

[FR Doc. 99-12791 Filed 5-19-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

Notice and Request for Comments

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this notice announces that the Information Collection Requirement (ICR) abstracted below has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The ICR describes the nature of the information collection and its expected burden. The **Federal Register** notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on the following collection of information was published on March 18, 1999 (64 FR 13465).

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before June 21, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Robert Brogan, Office of Safety, Planning and Evaluation Division, RRS-21, Federal Railroad Administration, 1120 Vermont Ave., N.W., Mail Stop 17, Washington, D.C. 20590 (telephone: (202) 493-6292), or Ms. Dian Deal, Office of Information Technology and Productivity Improvement, RAD-20, Federal Railroad Administration, 1120 Vermont Ave., N.W., Mail Stop 35, Washington, D.C. 20590 (telephone: (202) 493-6133). (These telephone numbers are not toll-free.)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), Pub. L. 104-13, Section 2, 109 Stat. 163 (1995) (codified as revised at

44 U.S.C. 3501-3520), and its implementing regulations, 5 CFR Part 1320, require Federal agencies to issue two notices seeking public comment on information collection activities before OMB may approve paperwork packages. 44 U.S.C. 3506, 3507; 5 CFR 1320.5, 1320.8(d)(1), 1320.12. FRA received no comments after issuing the 60-day notice referenced earlier. Accordingly, DOT announces that these information collection activities have been reevaluated and certified under 5 CFR 1320.5(a) and forwarded to OMB for review and approval pursuant to 5 CFR 1320.12(c).

Before OMB decides whether to approve these proposed collections of information, it must provide 30 days for public comment. 44 U.S.C. 3507(b); 5 CFR 1320.12(d). Federal law requires OMB to approve or disapprove paperwork packages between 30 and 60 days after the 30 day notice is published. 44 U.S.C. 3507 (b)-(c); 5 CFR 1320.12(d); see also 60 FR 44978, 44983, Aug. 29, 1995. OMB believes that the 30 day notice informs the regulated community to file relevant comments and affords the agency adequate time to digest public comments before it renders a decision. 60 FR 44983, Aug. 29, 1995. Therefore, respondents should submit their respective comments to OMB within 30 days of publication to best ensure having their full effect. 5 CFR 1320.12(c); see also 60 FR 44983, Aug. 29, 1995.

The summaries below describe the nature of the information collection requirements (ICRs) and the expected burden. The revised requirements and one additional requirement are being submitted for clearance by OMB as required by the PRA.

Title: Railroad Worker Protection (49 CFR 214).

OMB Control Number: 2130-0539.

Type of Request: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Railroads.

Abstract: This rule establishes regulations governing the protection of railroad employees working on or near railroad tracks. The regulation requires that each railroad devise and adopt a program of on-track safety to provide employees working along the railroad with protection from the hazards of being struck by a train or other on-track equipment. Elements of this on-track safety program include an on-track safety manual; a clear delineation of employers' responsibilities, as well as employees' rights and responsibilities thereto; well-defined procedures for communication and protection; and annual on-track safety training. The

program adopted by each railroad is subject to review and approval by FRA.

Annual Estimated Burden Hours: FRA estimates that the revised hours for these ICRs is 585,101. This is a decrease of 82,473 hours from the previous total of 667,574 hours. A significant portion of this reduction is a result of railroads fulfilling the one-time requirement in establishing on-track safety programs. The revised burden hour estimate does consider railroads amending their original on-track safety programs and the start-up of new railroads. Excursion and tourist railroads that do not operate on the general rail system of transportation are exempted by FRA from complying with this regulation.

Addressee: Send comments regarding this information collection to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, 725 Seventeenth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., 20503, Attention: FRA Desk Officer.

Comments are invited on the following: Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; the accuracy of the Department's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

A comment to OMB is best assured of having its full effect if OMB receives it within 30 days of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**.

Authority: 44 U.S.C. §§ 3501–3520.

Issued in Washington, D.C. on May 14, 1999.

Marie S. Savoy,

Director, Office of Information Technology and Support Systems, Federal Railroad Administration

[FR Doc. 99–12657 Filed 5–19–99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Docket No. AB–33 (Sub-No. 135X)]

Union Pacific Railroad Company— Abandonment Exemption—in St. Louis County, MO (Kirkwood Industrial Lead, Kirk Jct. to Billman Spur)

On April 30, 1999, Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP) filed with the Surface Transportation Board (Board) a

petition under 49 U.S.C. 10502 for exemption from the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 10903 to abandon and discontinue service over a 2.18-mile segment of a line of railroad known as the Kirkwood Industrial Lead extending from milepost 13.62 near Kirk Jct. to the end of the line at milepost 15.8 near Billman Spur, in St. Louis County, MO. The line traverses U.S. Postal Service Zip Codes 63122 (Kirkwood) and 63123 (Billman Spur) and includes the non-agency rail station of Billman Spur at milepost 15.30.

The line does not contain federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in UP's possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it.

The interest of railroad employees will be protected by the conditions set forth in *Oregon Short Line R. Co.—Abandonment—Goshen*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979).

By issuance of this notice, the Board is instituting an exemption proceeding pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 10502(b). A final decision will be issued by August 18, 1999.

Any offer of financial assistance (OFA) under 49 CFR 1152.27(b)(2) will be due no later than 10 days after service of a decision granting the petition for exemption. Each offer must be accompanied by a \$1,000 filing fee. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).

All interested persons should be aware that, following abandonment of rail service and salvage of the line, the line may be suitable for other public use, including interim trail use. Any request for a public use condition under 49 CFR 1152.28 or for trail use/rail banking under 49 CFR 1152.29 will be due no later than June 9, 1999. Each trail use request must be accompanied by a \$150 filing fee. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(27).

All filings in response to this notice must refer to STB Docket No. AB–33 (Sub-No. 135X) and must be sent to: (1) Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20423–0001, and (2) Joseph D. Anthofer, Union Pacific Railroad Company, 1416 Dodge Street, Room 830, Omaha, NE 68179–0830. Replies to the UP petition are due on or before June 9, 1999.

Persons seeking further information concerning abandonment procedures may contact the Board's Office of Public Services at (202) 565–1592 or refer to the full abandonment or discontinuance regulations at 49 CFR part 1152. Questions concerning environmental issues may be directed to the Board's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) at (202) 565–1545. [TDD for the

hearing impaired is available at (202) 565–1695.]

An environmental assessment (EA) (or environmental impact statement (EIS), if necessary) prepared by SEA will be served upon all parties of record and upon any agencies or other persons who commented during its preparation. Other interested persons may contact SEA to obtain a copy of the EA (or EIS). EAs in these abandonment proceedings normally will be made available within 60 days of the filing of the petition. The deadline for submission of comments on the EA will generally be within 30 days of its service.

Board decisions and notices are available on our website at “WWW.STB.DOT.GOV.”

Decided: May 12, 1999.

By the Board, David M. Konschnik,
Director, Office of Proceedings.

Vernon A. Williams,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99–12469 Filed 5–19–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915–00–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

May 14, 1999.

The Department of Treasury has submitted the following public information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling the Treasury Bureau Clearance Officer listed. Comments regarding this information collection should be addressed to the OMB reviewer listed and to the Treasury Department Clearance Officer, Department of the Treasury, Room 2110, 1425 New York Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20220.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before June 21, 1999, to be assured of consideration.

U.S. Customs Service (CUS)

OMB Number: 1515–0045.

Form Number: Customs Form 7533C.

Type of Review: Extension.

Title: U.S. Customs In-Transit Manifest.

Description: Customs Form 7533C is used by railroads to transport merchandise (products and manufactures of the United States) from one port to another in the United States through Canada.

Respondents: Business or other for-profit, individuals or households, not-for-profit institutions, Federal Government.