

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION****Federal Highway Administration****Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement: Pulaski County, Arkansas**

**AGENCY:** Federal Highway Administration, (FHWA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent.

**SUMMARY:** The FHWA is issuing this notice to advise the public that a Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS) will be prepared for a proposed highway project in Pulaski County, Arkansas.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Elizabeth A. Romero, Environmental Specialist, Federal Highway Administration, Arkansas Division, 700 West Capitol Avenue, Room 3130, Little Rock, Arkansas, 72201-3298, Telephone: (501) 324-6430.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The FHWA, in cooperation with the Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department will prepare a Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS) on a proposal to construct a four-lane, divided, fully controlled access facility located on new alignment. In 1994, a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and a Record of Decision (ROD) identified a selected alignment. However, a portion of this alignment was not compatible with the City of Sherwood's Master Street Plan and was not included in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) developed by Metroplan, the responsible Metropolitan Planning organization. Due to the time (3 years +) since the ROD and existence of the local concerns, a reevaluation was deemed necessary. This preliminary reevaluation resulted in the identification of a new alternative alignment more compatible with the City of Sherwood's Master Street Plan, thereby necessitating the need for the proposed Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS).

The proposed project will primarily serve central Arkansas including Little Rock, North Little Rock, Sherwood, Jacksonville, and northern Pulaski County, Arkansas. The Supplemental Draft EIS will address a new alternative and three previously studied alternatives located between the Highway 107/Brockington Road interchange and the eastern boundary of Camp Robinson near Maryland Avenue and Batesville Pike. These three previously studied alternatives were

evaluated in the project's Draft EIS in 1991 and Final EIS in 1994.

The Supplemental EIS will focus on the study area between Batesville Pike and Brockington Road in northern Pulaski County, since this is the portion of the proposed corridor where several alternative alignments are being considered. The remaining portions of the selected and approved Northbelt Freeway alignment to the east toward U.S. Highway 67/167 and to the west through Camp Robinson ending at the I-430/I-40 interchange will be reviewed only to a level to document if any substantial changes have taken place since the completion of the project's Final EIS.

In addition to documenting the engineering and environmental aspects of a new alignment alternative and updating three previously studied alignment alternatives, the SDEIS will provide a comparative analysis of the project's feasible alternatives with the primary goal of the identification of a preferred alternative for the entire freeway project from U.S. 67/167 to the I-430/I-40 interchange. This evaluation will also include a determination of how these project alternatives relate to Metroplan's and the City of Sherwood's Long-Range Plans and Master Street Plans.

Letters describing the proposed action and soliciting comments will be sent to appropriate federal, state, and local agencies and to private organizations who have expressed interest in the project in the past. A formal public hearing will be held in the North Little Rock/Sherwood area during the circulation of the SDEIS. Public notice in major Arkansas newspapers including news releases and specific advertisements will be used to inform the public of the time and place of the public hearing. The SDEIS will be available for public and agency review and comment prior to the public hearings. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency are cooperating agencies for the EIS. A formal scoping meeting for these Northbelt freeway alternatives will be held and an opportunity for public comment will be provided.

To ensure that the full range of issues related to this proposed action and all significant issues are identified, comments and suggestions are invited from all interested parties. Comments or questions concerning this proposed action and the EIS should be directed to the FHWA Arkansas Division at the address provided above.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program 20.205, Highway Planning and Construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 12372 regarding intergovernmental consultation of Federal programs and activities apply to this program.)

Issued on: February 11, 1999.

**Elizabeth A. Romero,**

*Environmental Specialist FHWA, Little Rock, Arkansas.*

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BILLING CODE 4910-22-M

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION****Surface Transportation Board**

[STB Docket No. AB-325 (Sub-No. 1X)]

**Florida Midland Railroad Company, Inc.—Abandonment Exemption—in Polk County, FL**

Florida Midland Railroad Company, Inc. (FMID) has filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F—*Exempt Abandonments* to abandon an approximately 0.18-mile line of railroad on the Lake Wales Spur from milepost SV-967.47 at Scenic Highway to milepost SV-967.65 at Fourth Street, in Lakes Wales, Polk County, FL. The line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Code 33853.

FMID has certified that: (1) no local traffic has moved over the line for at least 2 years; (2) any overhead traffic on the line can be rerouted over other lines; (3) no formal complaint filed by a user of rail service on the line (or by a state or local government entity acting on behalf of such user) regarding cessation of service over the line either is pending with the Surface Transportation Board (Board) or with any U.S. District Court or has been decided in favor of complainant within the 2-year period; and (4) the requirements at 49 CFR 1105.7 (environmental reports), 49 CFR 1105.8 (historic reports), 49 CFR 1105.11 (transmittal letter), 49 CFR 1105.12 (newspaper publication), and 49 CFR 1152.50(d)(1) (notice to governmental agencies) have been met.

As a condition to this exemption, any employee adversely affected by the abandonment shall be protected under *Oregon Short Line R. Co.—Abandonment—Goshen*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979). To address whether this condition adequately protects affected employees, a petition for partial revocation under 49 U.S.C. 10502(d) must be filed. Provided no formal expression of intent to file an offer of financial assistance (OFA) has been received, this exemption will be effective on March 20, 1999, unless

stayed pending reconsideration. Petitions to stay that do not involve environmental issues, <sup>1</sup> formal expressions of intent to file an OFA under 49 CFR 1152.27(c)(2), <sup>2</sup> and trail use/rail banking requests under 49 CFR 1152.29 must be filed by March 1, 1999. Petitions to reopen or requests for public use conditions under 49 CFR 1152.28 must be filed by March 10, 1999, with: Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423.

A copy of any petition filed with the Board should be sent to applicant's representative: Thomas J. Litwiler, Oppenheimer Wolff & Donnelly, Two Prudential Plaza, 45th Floor, 180 North Stetson Avenue, Chicago, IL 60601.

If the verified notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void *ab initio*.

FMID has filed an environmental report which addresses the abandonment's effects, if any, on the environment and historic resources. The Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) will issue an environmental assessment (EA) by February 23, 1999. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the EA by writing to SEA (Room 500, Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423) or by calling SEA, at (202) 565-1545. Comments on environmental and historic preservation matters must be filed within 15 days after the EA becomes available to the public.

Environmental, historic preservation, public use, or trail use/rail banking conditions will be imposed, where appropriate, in a subsequent decision.

Pursuant to the provisions of 49 CFR 1152.29(e)(2), FMID shall file a notice of consummation with the Board to signify that it has exercised the authority granted and fully abandoned the line. If consummation has not been effected by FMID's filing of a notice of consummation by February 18, 2000, and there are no legal or regulatory barriers to consummation, the authority to abandon will automatically expire.

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

<sup>1</sup> The Board will grant a stay if an informed decision on environmental issues (whether raised by a party or by the Board's Section of Environmental Analysis in its independent investigation) cannot be made before the exemption's effective date. See *Exemption of Out-of-Service Rail Lines*, 5 I.C.C.2d 377 (1989). Any request for a stay should be filed as soon as possible so that the Board may take appropriate action before the exemption's effective date.

<sup>2</sup> Each offer of financial assistance must be accompanied by the filing fee, which currently is set at \$1000. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).

Decided: February 12, 1999.

By the Board, Joseph H. Dettmar, Acting, Director, Office of Proceedings.

**Vernon A. Williams,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 99-3976 Filed 2-17-99; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Office of the Comptroller of the Currency

#### Proposed Renewal of Information Collections; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC), Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** The OCC, 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 continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. Currently, the OCC is soliciting comment concerning its extension, without change, of several information collections.

**DATES:** Written comments should be submitted by April 19, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to the Communications Division, Attention: 1557-L299, Third Floor, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, 250 E Street, SW., Washington, DC 20219. In addition, comments may be sent by facsimile transmission to (202)874-5274, or by electronic mail to [regs.comments@occ.treas.gov](mailto:regs.comments@occ.treas.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** You can request additional information or a copy of the collection from Jessie Gates or Camille Dickerson, (202)874-5090, Legislative and Regulatory Activities Division (1557-L299), Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, 250 E Street, SW., Washington, DC 20219. You can inspect and photocopy the comments at the OCC's Public Reference Room, 250 E Street, SW., Washington, DC, between 9:00am and 5:00pm on business days. You can make an appointment to inspect the comments by calling (202)874-5043.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The OCC is proposing to extend OMB approval of the following three information collections:

#### 1. Title: Fiduciary Activities of National Banks—12 CFR 9

OMB Number: 1557-0140.

*Form Number:* None.

*Abstract:* This submission covers an existing regulation and involves no change to the regulation or to the information collections embodied in the regulation. The OCC requests only that OMB renew its approval of the information collections in the current regulation.

OCC regulations at 12 CFR part 9 require national banks with fiduciary powers to retain fiduciary records related to an account for three years after termination of the account or of related litigation. Part 9 also requires that national banks note annually in their board minutes the results of fiduciary audits. Part 9 also requires that national banks operate their collective investment funds in accordance with a written plan. The plan is analogous to a prospectus required for registered investment companies by Securities and Exchange Corporation requirements. In order to avail itself of certain regulatory exemptions, a national bank must submit its collective investment fund plan to OCC for approval. Finally, each national bank must prepare an annual financial report on each fund and notify participants of its availability.

The requirements in 12 CFR part 9 are located as follows:

Record retention: 12 CFR 9.8(b).  
Noting audit in board minutes: 12 CFR 9.9(a) and (b).

Surrender of fiduciary powers: 12 CFR 9.17(a).

Disclosing plan: 12 CFR 9.18(b)(1).  
Preparing/Amending plan: 12 CFR 9.18(b)(1).

Preparing financial report: 12 CFR 9.18(b)(6)(ii).

Disclosing financial report: 12 CFR 9.18(b)(6)(iv).

Requesting special exemptions: 12 CFR 9.18(c)(5).

National banks use these records to establish operational parameters for their collective investment funds and to disclose information to fund participants. Participants and other members of the public use the fund plan and report to obtain information about the fund, including its financial performance. The plan and the annual financial report inform and protect the public. The OCC uses the information in the examination process, to ensure bank compliance with provisions of 12 CFR 9.18, and to ensure bank safety and soundness.

Below are the OCC's current estimates of the paperwork attributable to 12 CFR part 9. These estimates were prepared pursuant to the notice-and comment rulemaking process undertaken in 1995 and were approved by OMB in February 1996.