

*Abstract (Needs and Uses):* The questionnaire is completed by OPIC-assisted investors annually. The questionnaire allows OPIC's assessment of effects of OPIC-assisted projects on the U.S. economy and employment, as well as on the environment and economic development abroad.

Dated: June 2, 2003.

**Eli Landy,**

*Senior Counsel, Administrative Affairs,  
Department of Legal Affairs.*

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**BILLING CODE 3210-01-M**

## OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

### January 2003 Pay Adjustments

**AGENCY:** Office of Personnel Management.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The President adjusted the rates of basic pay and locality payments for certain categories of Federal employees effective in January 2003. This notice documents those pay adjustments for the public record.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Carey Johnston, (202) 606-2858, FAX (202) 606-0824, or email to [pay-performance-policy@opm.gov](mailto:pay-performance-policy@opm.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On December 31, 2002, the President signed Executive Order 13282 (68 FR 1133, January 8, 2003), which implemented the January 2003 across-the-board increase of 3.1 percent in the rates of basic pay for the statutory pay systems. On March 21, 2003, the President signed Executive Order 13291 (68 FR 14525, March 25, 2003), which amended Executive Order 13282 to provide a locality pay increase costing approximately 1 percent of payroll retroactive to the first day of the first pay period beginning on or after January 1, 2003. The President made these adjustments consistent with Public Law 108-7, February 20, 2003, which authorized an overall average pay increase of 4.1 percent for General Schedule (GS) employees.

Schedule 1 of Executive Order 13282 provides the rates for the 2003 General Schedule and reflects a 3.1 percent across-the-board increase. Executive Order 13291 provides the percentage amounts of the 2003 locality payments. (See section 5 of Executive Order 13282 and Schedule 9 of Executive Order 13291.)

The publication of this notice satisfies the requirement in section 5(b) of Executive Order 13282 that the Office of

Personnel Management (OPM) publish appropriate notice of the 2003 locality payments in the **Federal Register**.

GS employees receive locality payments under 5 U.S.C. 5304. Locality payments apply in the 48 contiguous States and the District of Columbia. In 2003, locality payments ranging from 9.62 percent to 21.08 percent apply to GS employees in 32 locality pay areas. These 2003 locality pay percentages, which replaced the locality pay percentages that were applicable in 2002, became effective on the first day of the first applicable pay period beginning on or after January 1, 2003. An employee's locality-adjusted annual rate of pay is computed by increasing his or her scheduled annual rate of basic pay (as defined in 5 U.S.C. 5302(8) and 5 CFR 531.602) by the applicable locality pay percentage. (See 5 CFR 531.604 and 531.605.)

Executive Order 13282 establishes the new Executive Schedule, which incorporates the 3.1 percent increase (rounded to the nearest \$100) required under 5 U.S.C. 5318. The Executive order also reflects a decision by the President to increase the rates of basic pay for members of the Senior Executive Service (SES) by 3.1 percent (rounded to the nearest \$100). The maximum rate of basic pay for SES members is limited by law to the rate for level IV of the Executive Schedule, which is now \$134,000. (See 5 U.S.C. 5382.)

The Executive order adjusted the rates of basic pay for administrative law judges (ALJs) by 3.1 percent (rounded to the nearest \$100). The maximum rate of basic pay for ALJs is also limited by law to the rate for level IV of the Executive Schedule, which is now \$134,000. (See 5 U.S.C. 5372.)

The rates of basic pay for Board of Contract Appeals (BCA) members are calculated as a percentage of the rate for level IV of the Executive Schedule. (See 5 U.S.C. 5372a.) Therefore, BCA rates of basic pay were increased by approximately 3.1 percent. Also, the maximum rate of basic pay for senior-level (SL) and scientific or professional (ST) positions was increased by approximately 3.1 percent (to \$134,000) because it is tied to the rate for level IV of the Executive Schedule. The minimum rate of basic pay for SL/ST positions is equal to 120 percent of the minimum rate of basic pay for GS-15 and thus was increased by 3.1 percent (to \$102,168). (See 5 U.S.C. 5376.)

On December 5, 2002, the President's Pay Agent extended the 2003 locality-based comparability payments to the same Governmentwide and single-agency categories of non-GS employees that received the 2002 locality

payments. The Governmentwide categories include members of the SES, employees in SL/ST positions, ALJs, and BCA members. The maximum locality rate of pay for these employees is the rate for level III of the Executive Schedule (\$142,500 in 2003). By law, Executive Schedule officials are not authorized to receive locality pay. (See 5 U.S.C. 5304(h)(1)(iii).)

OPM published "Salary Tables for 2003," (OPM Doc. 124-48-6) in May 2003. This publication provides complete salary tables incorporating the 2003 pay adjustments, information on general pay administration matters, locality pay area definitions, Internal Revenue Service withholding tables, and other related information. The rates of pay shown in this publication are the official rates of pay for affected employees and are hereby incorporated as part of this notice. You may purchase copies of "Salary Tables for 2003" from the Government Printing Office (GPO) by calling (202) 512-1800 (outside the DC area: 1-866-512-1800) or FAX (202) 512-2250. You may order copies directly from GPO on the Internet at <http://bookstore.gpo.gov>.

In addition, you can find pay tables on OPM's Internet Web site at <http://www.opm.gov/oca/payrates/index.asp>.

Office of Personnel Management.

**Kay Coles James,**

*Director.*

[FR Doc. 03-14244 Filed 6-5-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6325-39-P**

## RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

### Privacy Act of 1974; Proposed Changes to Systems of Records

**AGENCY:** Railroad Retirement Board.

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed routine uses.

**SUMMARY:** The purpose of this document is to give notice of three proposed new routine uses (in different systems of records) and a revision of another routine use in two systems of records.

**DATES:** The proposed and amended routine uses shall become effective as proposed without further notice in 40 calendar days from the date of this publication unless comments are received before this date which would result in a contrary determination.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments to Beatrice Ezerski, Secretary to the Board, Railroad Retirement Board, 844 North Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611-2092.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** LeRoy Blommaert, Privacy Act Officer, Railroad Retirement Board, 844 North

Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611–2092, (312) 751–4548.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The RRB proposes three new routine uses, one for its System of Records, RRB–5, Master File of Railroad Employees' Creditable Compensation, one for its System of Records, RRB–20, Health Insurance and Supplementary Medical Insurance Enrollment and Premium Payment System (MEDICARE) and one for its System of Records RRB–22, Railroad Retirement Survivor and Pensioner Benefit System.

The first proposed routine use ("r") in RRB–5 would permit the RRB to furnish to AMTRAK an employee's service history information (such as whether the employee had service before a certain date and whether the employee had at least a given number of years of service) when such information would be needed for AMTRAK to make a determination whether to award a travel pass to either the employee or the employee's widow.

The second proposed routine use ("w") in RRB–20 would permit the RRB to furnish to a legitimate health care provider whether a qualified railroad retirement beneficiary is enrolled in Medicare part A or part B, and if so, the effective date(s) of such enrollment when such information is needed to verify Medicare enrollment.

The third proposed routine use ("qq") in RRB–22 would permit the RRB to furnish to AMTRAK an employee's date last worked, annuity filing date, annuity beginning date, and month and year of death when such information would be needed for AMTRAK to make a determination whether to award a travel pass to either the employee or the employee's widow.

The RRB also proposes to amend an existing routine use found in two of its systems of records. The amendment would permit the disclosure of the gender of the subject individual to Members of Congress when they request the name and address in order to communicate with their constituents on matters affecting the railroad retirement or railroad unemployment and sickness programs. The current routine in the two systems of records ("q" in RRB–5 and "ff" in RRB–22) permits disclosure of the subject individual's name and address. The subject's gender is needed to select the correct salutation (Mr. and Ms.) in addressing letters when only the first initial of the first name is given or when the gender cannot be ascertained from the first name (e.g., Lee).

On May 28, 2003, the Railroad Retirement Board filed a new/alterd system report for this system with the

House Committee on Government Operations, the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs, and the Office of Management and Budget. This was done to comply with section 3 of the Privacy Act of 1974 and OMB Circular No. A–130, Appendix I.

By Authority of the Board.

**Beatrice Ezerski,**  
*Secretary to the Board.*

#### RRB–5

##### SYSTEM NAME:

Master File of Railroad Employees' Creditable Compensation.

\* \* \* \* \*

##### ROUTINE USES OF RECORDS MAINTAINED IN THE SYSTEM, INCLUDING CATEGORIES OF USERS AND THE PURPOSES OF SUCH USES:

\* \* \* \* \*

Paragraph "q" is revised to read as follows:

q. The name, address and gender of a railroad worker may be released to a Member of Congress when the Member requests it in order that he or she may communicate with the worker about legislation which affects the railroad retirement or railroad unemployment and sickness insurance program.

\* \* \* \* \*

Paragraph "r" is added to read as follows:

r. The service history of an employee (such as whether the employee had service before a certain date and whether the employee had at least a given number of years of service) may be disclosed to AMTRAK when such information would be needed by AMTRAK to make a determination whether to award a travel pass to either the employee or the employee's widow.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### RRB–20

##### SYSTEM NAME:

Health Insurance and Supplemental Medical Insurance Enrollment and Premium Payment System (Medicare)

\* \* \* \* \*

Paragraph "w" is added to read as follows:

w. Whether a qualified railroad retirement beneficiary is enrolled in Medicare part A or part B, and if so, the effective date(s) of such enrollment may be disclosed to a legitimate health care provider, in response to its request, when such information is needed to verify Medicare enrollment.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### RRB–22

##### SYSTEM NAME:

Railroad Retirement, Survivor, and pensioner Benefit System.

\* \* \* \* \*

Paragraph "ff" is revised to read as follows:

ff. The name, address, and gender of an annuitant may be released to a Member of Congress when the Member requests it in order that he or she may communicate with the annuitant about legislation which affects the railroad retirement system.

\* \* \* \* \*

Paragraph "qq" is added to read as follows:

qq. An employee's date last worked, annuity filing date, annuity beginning date, and the month and year of death may be furnished to AMTRAK when such information is needed by AMTRAK to make a determination whether to award a travel pass to either the employee's widow.

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**BILLING CODE 7905–01–M**

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

Upon Written Request, Copies Available From: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Filings and Information Services, Washington, DC 20549.

#### Extension:

Rule 12b–1; SEC File No. 270–188; OMB Control No. 3235–0212.

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501), the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget ("OMB"), a request for extension of the previously approved collection of information discussed below.

Rule 12b–1 permits a registered open-end investment company ("mutual fund") to distribute its own shares and pay the expenses of distribution out of the mutual fund's assets provided, among other things, that the mutual fund adopts a written plan ("rule 12b–1 plan") and has in writing any agreements relating to the implementation of the rule 12b–1 plan. The rule in part requires that (i) the adoption or material amendment of a rule 12b–1 plan be approved by the mutual fund's directors and shareholders; (ii) the board review