

The purpose of environmental reviews is to ensure that policymakers and the public are informed about reasonably foreseeable environmental impacts of trade agreements (both positive and negative), to identify complementarities between trade and environmental objectives, and to help shape appropriate responses if environmental impacts are identified. Reviews are intended to be one tool, among others, for integrating environmental information and analysis into the fluid, dynamic process of trade negotiations. USTR and the Council on Environmental Quality jointly oversee implementation of the Order and Guidelines. USTR, through the Trade Policy Staff Committee (TPSC), is responsible for conducting the individual reviews.

Written Comments

In order to facilitate prompt processing of submissions of comments, the Office of the United States Trade Representative strongly urges and prefers e-mail submissions in response to this notice. Persons submitting comments by e-mail should use the following e-mail address: FR04034@ustr.gov with the subject line: "Panama Interim Environmental Review." Documents should be submitted as either Word Perfect, MSWord, or text (.TXT) files. Persons who make submissions by e-mail should not provide separate cover letters; information that might appear in a cover letter should be included in the submission itself. To the extent possible, any attachments to the submission should be included in the same file as the submission itself, and not as separate files. If submission by e-mail is impossible, comments should be made by facsimile to (202) 395-6143, attention: Gloria Blue.

Written comments will be placed in a file open to public inspection in the USTR Reading Room at 1724 F Street, NW., Washington DC. An appointment to review the file may be made by calling (202) 395-6186. The Reading Room is open to the public from 10-12 a.m. and from 1-4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

General information concerning the Office of the United States Trade Representative may be obtained by accessing its Internet Web site (www.ustr.gov).

Carmen Suro-Bredie,

Chair, Trade Policy Staff Committee.

[FR Doc. 04-15705 Filed 7-9-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3190-W3-U

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 34514]

Raritan Central Railway, L.L.C.— Operation Exemption—Heller Industrial Parks, Inc.

Raritan Central Railway, L.L.C. (Raritan), a Class III rail carrier, has filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1150.41 to operate approximately 1.0 route mile and approximately 2.0 track miles of railroad trackage and right-of-way inside Heller Industrial Park, Edison Township, Middlesex County, NJ. Raritan indicates that it has executed a license agreement effective August 15, 2004, with Heller Industrial Parks, Inc., granting Raritan the exclusive right to use all railroad trackage on Heller's property for the purpose of providing railroad service to all railroad customers within Heller Industrial Park. Raritan advises that, although the subject trackage is currently served by Consolidated Rail Corporation (Conrail), Raritan will replace Conrail as the exclusive provider of rail service on the subject trackage. Raritan has further advised, in a separate pleading filed June 24, 2004, that it will not operate on track owned by Conrail.

Raritan certifies that its projected annual revenues as a result of this transaction will not exceed \$5 million, and thus the transaction will not result in the creation of a Class I or Class II rail carrier.

The transaction is scheduled to be consummated on or about August 15, 2004.

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. 34514, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street NW., Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, one copy of each pleading must be served on John D. Heffner, Esq., John D. Heffner, PLLC, 1920 N Street, NW., Suite 800, Washington, DC 20036.

Board decisions and notices are available on our Web site at "www.stb.dot.gov."

Decided: July 2, 2004.

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

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 04-15609 Filed 7-9-04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Form 8877

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, Pub. L. 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning Form 8877, Request for Waiver of Annual Income Recertification Requirement for the Low-Income Housing Credit.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before September 10, 2004 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Glenn P. Kirkland, Internal Revenue Service, room 6411, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the form and instructions should be directed to Carol Savage at Internal Revenue Service, room 6407, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224, or at (202) 622-3945, or through the Internet at CAROL.A.SAVAGE@irs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Request for Waiver of Annual Income Recertification Requirement for the Low-Income Housing Credit.

OMB Number: 1545-1882.

Form Number: 8877.

Abstract: Owners of low-income housing buildings that are 100% occupied by low-income tenants may request a waiver from the annual recertification of income requirements, as provided by Code section 42(g)(8)(B).

Current Actions: There are no changes being made to the form at this time.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations, and individuals.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 200.

Estimated Time per Respondent: 7 hours, 59 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 1,598.

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.

Approved: July 2, 2004.

Glenn P. Kirkland,

IRS Reports Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 04-15753 Filed 7-9-04; 8:45 am]

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