

Estimated Time per Response: 0.50 hours.

Frequency: Intermittent for approximately three (3) years. (Reports are submitted when there is a qualifying event, *i.e.*, a close call occurs within a pilot site. The frequency of such an event is estimated to be two per day.)

Total Annual Burden: 365.00 hours.

II. Background

Continuing to collect data on the Nation's transportation system is an important component of the BTS responsibility to the transportation community and is authorized in BTS statutory authority (49 USC 111(c)(1) and (2) and 49 USC 111(c)(5) (j)). BTS and FRA share a common interest in promoting rail safety based on better data. To that end, FRA's Office of Research and Development is sponsoring the Confidential Close Call Reporting System (C³RS) Demonstration Project to investigate the effectiveness of such a data collection system in improving rail safety. The data collection phase of this study was initiated in February, 2009 and is scheduled to continue for approximately 3 more years.

A close call represents a situation in which an ongoing sequence of events was stopped from developing further, preventing the occurrence of potentially serious safety-related consequences. This might include the following: (1) Events that happen frequently, but have low safety consequences; (2) events that happen infrequently but have the potential for high consequences (*e.g.*, a train in dark territory proceeds beyond its authority); (3) events that are below the FRA reporting threshold (*e.g.*, an event that causes a minor injury); and (4) events that are reportable to FRA but have the potential for a far greater accident than the one reported (*e.g.*, a slow speed collision with minor damage to the equipment and no injuries.)

Employees involved in a close call are asked to fill out a questionnaire and mail it to BTS. Blank forms of the questionnaire will be made available on the Web for download and at the employees work site. The respondent is asked to provide information such as: (1) Name and contact information; (2) time and location of the close call event; (3) a short description of the event; (4) contributing factors to the close call; and (5) any other information that might be useful in determining a root cause of such event.

BTS collects close call reports submitted by railroad employees and protects the confidentiality of these data through its own statute (49 U.S.C. 111(i)) and the Confidential Information

Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002 (CIPSEA). In addition, BTS is developing an analytical database containing the reported data and other pertinent information to determine root causes of frequently reported close calls. The database is a valuable tool to railroad carriers and the FRA in their effort to identify safety issues and provide corrective measures before an accident occurs.

Voluntary reporting of close calls to a confidential system can provide a tool to identify and correct weaknesses in railroad safety systems before an accident actually occurs. The C³RS demonstration project offers a voluntary, cooperative, non-punitive environment to communicate safety concerns. Through the analysis of close calls the FRA and the railroad community receive information about factors that may contribute to unsafe events and the error recovery mechanisms that prevented an adverse consequence from occurring. Such information is used to develop new training programs, identify root causes of potentially adverse events, assess risk and allocate resources to address those risks more efficiently. In addition, the database provides rail safety researchers with valuable information regarding precursors to safety risks and contributes to research and development of intervention programs aimed at preventing accidents and fatalities.

III. Request for Comments

BTS requests comments on any aspects of these information collections, including: (1) The accuracy of the estimated burden; (2) ways to enhance the quality, usefulness, and clarity of the collected information; and (3) ways to minimize the collection burden without reducing the quality of the information collected, including additional use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Issued in Washington, DC, on October 15, 2009.

Steven D. Dillingham,

Director, Bureau of Transportation Statistics, Research and Innovative Technology Administration.

[FR Doc. E9-25316 Filed 10-20-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-HY-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

Notice of Intent To Rule on Request To Release Airport Property at the Punxsutawney Municipal Airport, Punxsutawney, PA

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) DOT.

ACTION: Notice of request to release airport property.

SUMMARY: The FAA proposes to rule and invite public comment on the release of land at the Punxsutawney Municipal Airport, Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania under the provisions of Section 47125(a) of Title 49 United States Code (U.S.C.).

DATES: Comments must be received on or before November 20, 2009.

ADDRESSES: Comments on this application may be mailed or delivered to the following address: Ricky Young, Manager, Punxsutawney Municipal Airport Authority, 500 Chestnut Street, Punxsutawney, PA 15767, and at the FAA Harrisburg Airports District Office: Lori K. Pagnanelli, Manager, Harrisburg Airports District Office, 3905 Hartzdale Dr., Suite 508, Camp Hill, PA 17011.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lori B.R. Ledeborn, Planner, Harrisburg Airports District Office location listed above.

The request to release property may be reviewed in person at this same location.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FAA invites public comment on the request to release property at the Punxsutawney Municipal Airport under the provisions of Section 47125(a) of Title 49 U.S.C.

On July 28, 2009, the FAA and the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation Bureau of Aviation determined that the request to release property at the Punxsutawney Municipal Airport submitted by the Punxsutawney Municipal Airport Authority (Authority) met the procedural requirements.

The following is a brief overview of the request:

The Punxsutawney Municipal Airport Authority requests the release of 30.4248 acres of non-aeronautical airport property to Frank M. Amundson and Mary Ann Amundson. The property was acquired without Federal participation and is currently vacant. The property is located on the Easterly corner of Ridgmont Road and Clawson Street. The purpose of this release is to allow the Punxsutawney Municipal Airport Authority (Authority) to exchange the subject land that does not

serve any aeronautical purpose at the airport. In exchange for the subject land, Amundson will transfer the terminal building and hangar to the Authority, which facilities are presently located at the Airport. The exchange will allow the Authority to gain greater control of the facilities located on dedicated airport property. There are no impacts to the Airport and the land is not needed for airport development as shown on the Airport Layout Plan. There are no proceeds expected in connection with the Transfer. Any proceeds from the sale of property are to be used for the capital and operating costs of the airport.

Any person may inspect the request by appointment at the FAA office address listed above. Interested persons are invited to comment on the proposed release from obligations. All comments will be considered by the FAA to the extent practicable.

Issued in Camp Hill, Pennsylvania, October 13, 2009.

Lori K. Pagnanelli,

Manager, Harrisburg Airports District Office.

[FR Doc. E9-25361 Filed 10-20-09; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 35300]

Central Railroad Company of Indianapolis—Lease and Operation Exemption—Norfolk Southern Railway Company

Central Railroad Company of Indianapolis (CERA), a Class III carrier, has filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1150.41 to lease and to operate, pursuant to a lease agreement (Agreement) entered into on September 14, 2009, with Norfolk Southern Railway Company (NSR), approximately 15.9 miles of NSR's rail line between milepost RK-154.5, a point just east of the grade crossing at 38th Street, in Gas City, Grant County, IN, and milepost RK-138.6 at the end of the line, at Hartford City, Blackford County, IN (the line).¹ The Agreement also includes operating rights into Goodman Yard, and any sidings or sidetracks owned by NSR that are accessed via the line.

CERA states that there is no provision or agreement that will limit future interchange with a third-party connecting carrier, whether by outright prohibition, per-car penalty, adjustment in the purchase price or rental, positive

economic inducement, or other means. See 49 CFR 1150.43(h).

CERA certifies that its projected annual revenues as a result of this transaction would not exceed those that would qualify it as a Class III rail carrier. However, because its projected annual revenues will exceed \$5 million, CERA also certifies that it has complied with notice requirements of 49 CFR 1150.42(e).

The transaction is scheduled to be consummated on December 1, 2009, at least 60 days after CERA's certification of the notice requirements of section 49 CFR 1150.42(e).

Pursuant to the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2008, Public Law No. 110-161, § 193, 121 Stat. 1844 (2007), nothing in this decision authorizes the following activities at any solid waste rail transfer facility: collecting, storing or transferring solid waste outside of its original shipping container; or separating or processing solid waste (including baling, crushing, compacting and shredding). The term "solid waste" is defined in section 1004 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, 42 U.S.C. 6903.

If the verified 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 effectiveness of the exemption. Petitions for stay must be filed no later than November 24, 2009 (at least 7 days before the exemption becomes effective).

An original and 10 copies of all pleadings, referring to STB Finance Docket No. 35300, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street, SW., Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on Louis E. Gitomer, Law Offices of Louis E. Gitomer, LLC, 600 Baltimore Avenue, Suite 301, Towson, MD 21204.

Board decisions and notices are available on our Web site at <http://www.stb.dot.gov>.

Decided: October 16, 2009.

By the Board, Rachel D. Campbell, Director, Office of Proceedings.

Jeffrey Herzig,

Clearance Clerk.

[FR Doc. E9-25312 Filed 10-20-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

[Docket No. NHTSA-2009-0168]

Technical Report on Fatalities in Frontal Crashes Despite Seat Belts and Air Bags

AGENCY: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), Department of Transportation.

ACTION: Request for comments on technical report.

SUMMARY: This notice announces NHTSA's publication of a Technical Report reviewing and evaluating the performance in frontal crashes of air-bag-equipped, late-model passenger cars, pickup trucks, SUVs and vans and the protection they offer to drivers and front-seat passengers who wear seat belts. The report's title is: *Fatalities in Frontal Crashes Despite Seat Belts and Air Bags*.

DATES: Comments must be received no later than February 18, 2010.

ADDRESSES: *Report:* The technical report is available on the Internet for viewing on line in PDF format at <http://www-nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/Pubs/811102.PDF>. You may obtain a copy of the report free of charge by sending a self-addressed mailing label to Charles J. Kahane (NVS-431), National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590.

Comments: You may submit comments [identified by Docket Number NHTSA-2009-0168] by any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

- *Fax:* 1-202-493-2251.

- *Mail:* Docket Management Facility, M-30, U.S. Department of Transportation, West Building, Ground Floor, Rm. W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590.

- *Hand Delivery:* West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., between 9 am and 5 pm Eastern Time, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

You may call Docket Management at 202-366-9826.

Instructions: For detailed instructions on submitting comments, see the Procedural Matters section of this document. Note that all comments received will be posted without change to <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Charles J. Kahane, Chief, Evaluation

¹ The line does not include a parcel of land on and adjacent to the right-of-way at milepost 145.20.