

This notice, which is published entirely as a matter of discretion, invites comments on maritime policy issues that may be raised by APL/ASM's proposal relating to transfer of the ODS and MSP contracts to ASM. This application may be inspected in the Office of the Secretary, Maritime Administration. Any person, firm, or corporation having any interest in such request and desiring to submit comments concerning the application must file written comments in triplicate with the Secretary, Maritime Administration, Room 7210, Nassif Building, 400 Seventh Street SW., Washington, D.C. 20590. Comments must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on July 23, 1997. This notice is published as a matter of discretion and the fact of its publication should in no way be considered a favorable or unfavorable decision on the application, as filed or as may be amended. The Maritime Subsidy Board/Maritime Administrator will consider any comments submitted and take such action with respect thereto as may be deemed appropriate.

By Order of the Maritime Administration.

Dated: July 3, 1997.

Joel C. Richard,

Secretary, Maritime Administration.

[FR Doc. 97-18048 Filed 7-8-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-81-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

Notice of Public Information Collection Submitted to OMB for Review

AGENCY: Surface Transportation Board.

ACTION: Extension of a currently approved collection.

SUMMARY: The Surface Transportation Board has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for review and approval the following proposal for collection of information as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Pub. L. 104-13 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).
OMB Form Number: 2140-0003.

Title: Financial Assistance of Railroad Lines.

No. of Respondents: 15.

Total Annual Hours: 625.

Title: System Diagram Maps.

No. of Respondents: 75.

Total Annual Hours: 2,400.

DATES: Persons wishing to comment on this information collection should submit comments by September 8, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Direct all comments to Case Control, Surface Transportation Board, Room 706, 1925 K Street, NW,

Washington, DC 20423. When submitting comments refer to the OMB number and title of the information collection.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Charles L. Renninger, (202) 565-1631.

Requests for copies of the information collection may be obtained by contacting Ellen R. Keys, Forms Clearance Officer, (202) 565-1654.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Surface Transportation Board is, by statute, responsible for the economic regulation of surface transportation carriers operating in interstate and foreign commerce. The ICC Termination Act of 1995, Pub. L. No. 104-88, 109 Stat. 803 (1995), which took effect on January 1, 1996 abolished the Interstate Commerce Commission and transferred the responsibility for regulating rail transportation, including the proposed abandonment and discontinuance of rail lines, to the Surface Transportation Board.

The Board needs, in abandonment proceedings, information concerning offers of financial assistance. Respondents are those making offers.

The regulations and reporting requirements relate to the filing of system diagram maps by railroads. The rules are necessary for the Board to learn what lines are contemplated for abandonment. Respondents are railroads.

Dated: July 1, 1997.

Vernon A. Williams,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-17949 Filed 7-8-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 33416]

The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company; Trackage Rights Exemption; Union Pacific Railroad Company

Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP) has agreed to grant overhead trackage rights to The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company (BNSF) over trackage located between a point in Houston, TX, near UP's milepost 377.98 (Gulf Coast Jct.), and a point in Beaumont, TX, near UP's milepost 458.69, a distance of approximately 80.7 miles.

The transaction is expected to be consummated on June 26, 1997, the effective date of the exemption.

The purpose of the trackage rights is to improve UP's and BNSF's operating efficiencies.

As a condition to this exemption, any employees affected by the trackage rights will be protected by the conditions imposed in *Norfolk and Western Ry. Co.—Trackage Rights—BN*, 354 I.C.C. 605 (1978), as modified in *Mendocino Coast Ry., Inc.—Lease and Operate*, 360 I.C.C. 653 (1980).

This notice is filed under 49 CFR 1180.2(d)(7). 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 stay the transaction.

An original and 10 copies of all pleadings, referring to STB Finance Docket No. 33416, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on Michael E. Roper, Senior General Attorney, The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company, 3017 Lou Menk Drive, P.O. Box 961039, Fort Worth, TX 76161-0039.

Decided: June 27, 1997.

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

Vernon A. Williams,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-17862 Filed 7-8-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 33418]

The Texas Mexican Railway Company; Trackage Rights Exemption; Southern Pacific Transportation Company

Southern Pacific Transportation Company (SP) has agreed to grant bridge trackage rights to The Texas Mexican Railway Company over trackage located between a point in Houston, TX, at or near SP's milepost 360.42, and a point in Beaumont, TX, at or near SP's milepost 282.4, a distance of approximately 78.02 miles.

The transaction is expected to be consummated on June 26, 1997, the effective date of the exemption.

The purpose of the trackage rights is to enable SP to implement directional operations between Houston and Beaumont.

As a condition to this exemption, any employees affected by the trackage

rights will be protected by the conditions imposed in *Norfolk and Western Ry. Co.—Trackage Rights—BN*, 354 I.C.C. 605 (1978), as modified in *Mendocino Coast Ry., Inc.—Lease and Operate*, 360 I.C.C. 653 (1980).

This notice is filed under 49 CFR 1180.2(d)(7). 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 stay the transaction.

An original and 10 copies of all pleadings, referring to STB Finance Docket No. 33418, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on Richard A. Allen, Zuckert, Scoutt & Rasenberger LLP, 888 17th Street, NW., Suite 600, Washington, DC 20006-3959.

Decided: June 27, 1997.

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

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-17861 Filed 7-8-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Departmental Offices; Rechartering of the Treasury Borrowing Committee of the Public Securities Association

AGENCY: Treasury Department, Departmental Offices.

ACTION: Notice of determination of necessity for renewal of the Treasury Borrowing Advisory Committee of the Public Securities Association.

SUMMARY: It is in the public interest to continue the existence of the Treasury Borrowing Advisory Committee of the Public Securities Association.

The Department of the Treasury announces that the charter of the Treasury Borrowing Advisory Committee of the Public Securities Association (the "Committee") has been renewed in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. I.

The Secretary of the Treasury has determined that the renewal of this Committee is necessary and in the public interest. This determination follows consultation with the Committee Management Secretariat, General Services Administration.

Purpose. The Committee provides informed advice as representatives of

the financial community to the Secretary of the Treasury and Treasury staff, upon the Secretary of the Treasury's request, in carrying out Federal financing and in the management of the public debt.

Scope. The Committee meets at the request of the Secretary and is presented with a list of items on which its advice is sought. It is usually requested to consider the current midquarter refunding operation and to provide expert advice on financing options for the entire current quarter and on longer term debt management policies. In addition to the regular quarterly meetings, the Committee may be requested to hold a special meeting to discuss debt management issues that are broader in scope.

The portion of meetings at which the Treasury presents background information on the federal debt, the financial markets, and the economic conditions are open to the public. The parts at which the Committee discusses specific subjects raised in the Treasury request and makes its recommendations are closed to the public because the Committee's activities fall within the exemption covered by law for information that would "lead to significant financial speculation in the securities markets" (5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(9)(A)(i)). A similar exception to the open meeting format is included in the provision in the Government Securities Act Amendments of 1993 (31 U.S.C. 3121 note) that generally provides for open meetings.

The day before the Committee convenes for its regular quarterly 2-day meeting, the Treasury releases to the public an updated estimate of Treasury borrowing requirements and other background information on the Treasury debt. The Treasury releases to the public each written report of the Committee, and minutes of each meeting prepared by the Treasury employee who attends, at the press conference announcing each midquarter refunding.

Membership consists of 20-25 members who are experts in government securities markets and who are involved in senior positions in debt markets as investors, investment advisors, or as dealers in debt securities. They are appointed by the Committee in consultation with the Treasury. Members must be highly competent, experienced, and actively involved in financial markets. Effort is made to get regional representation so that Committee views are a reasonable proxy for nationwide views. As far as possible, balance between dealers and investors is sought. The membership changes from time to time, reflecting changes in their

employment and interests. This provides for a rotation of membership in areas where more than one qualified candidate may be available.

Statement of Public Interest. It is in the public interest to continue the existence of the Treasury Borrowing Advisory Committee of the Public Securities Association. The Secretary of the Treasury, with the concurrence of the General Services Administration, has also approved renewal of the Committee.

Authority for this Committee will expire two years from the date the charter is filed with the appropriate Congressional committees, unless prior to the expiration of its charter, the Committee is renewed.

The Assistant Secretary (Management) has determined that this document is not a major rule as defined in Executive Order 12291 and that a regulatory impact analysis therefore is not required. Neither does this document constitute a rule subject to the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. Chapter 6).

In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App. I), the Department of the Treasury has renewed the charter of the Treasury Borrowing Advisory Committee of the Public Securities Association. The Committee members are:

Daniel S. Ahearn, President, Capital Markets Strategies Co., 50 Congress Street, Ste. 816, Boston, MA 02109
James R. Capra, President, Capra Asset Management, Inc., 555 Theodore Fremd Avenue Ste. C-204, Rye, NY 10580

Kenneth M. DeRegt, Managing Director, Morgan Stanley & Co., Incorporated, 1585 Broadway, New York, NY 10036
Stephen C. Francis, Managing Director, Fischer, Francis, Trees & Watts, Inc., 200 Park Avenue, 46th Fl., New York, NY 10166

Lisa W. Hess, Managing Director, Zesiger Capital Group LLC, 320 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10022

Gedale B. Horowitz, Senior Managing Director, Salomon Brothers, Inc., 7 World Trade Center, 39th Fl., New York, NY 10048

Timothy W. Jay, Managing Director, Lehman Government Securities, Inc., 3 World Financial Center, New York, NY 10285-0900

London Office: 1 Broadgate, 3rd Floor, London EC2M 7HA England

Thomas L. Kalaris, President, BZW Securities Inc., 222 Broadway, New York, NY 10038

Richard Kelly, Chairman of the Board, Aubrey G. Lanston & Co., Inc., One Chase Manhattan Plaza, 53rd Fl., New York, NY 10005