

city or town in which or most near where the accident occurred and the State in which the accident occurred; driver name; number of injuries; number of fatalities; and whether hazardous materials, other than fuel spilled from the fuel tanks of motor vehicles involved in the accident, were released. In addition, the register must contain copies of all accident reports required by State or other governmental entities or insurers.

There are no prescribed forms. The records are used by the FHWA and its representatives as a source of information for investigations or special studies, and to assess the effectiveness of motor carriers' safety management controls.

*Estimated Annual Burden Hours:* 3,305.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, 725-17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20503, Attention FHWA Desk Officer. Comments are invited on: whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; the accuracy of the Department's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

A comment to OMB is best assured of having its full effect if OMB receives it within 30 days of publication.

Issued in Washington, DC, on March 26, 1998.

**Phillip A. Leach,**

*Clearance Officer, United States Department of Transportation.*

[FR Doc. 98-8662 Filed 4-1-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-62-P

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

[Docket No. 98-NHTSA-98-3651; Notice 1]

#### Long Range Strategic Planning

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

**ACTION:** Notice and Request for Comment.

**SUMMARY:** NHTSA has published a draft Strategic Plan that supports Secretary Slater's recently published Department of Transportation Strategic Plan. The agency invites comments and suggestions that will be used in development of the final plan.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Eleanor A. Hunter, Strategic Planning Division, NPP-11, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington D.C. 20590, telephone 202/366-2573, facsimile 202/366-2559. Copies of the draft Strategic Plan are available on the NHTSA Home Page (<http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov>) or by written request to NHTSA. Copies of all public comments will be available on the DOT Home Page 24 hours after receipt in the docket.

**DATES:** Comments are due no later than May 18, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should refer to the docket and notice number of this notice and be submitted to: Docket Management, Room PL-401, 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC 20590. (Docket Room hours are 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. EST, Monday-Friday.)

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's mission is to prevent motor vehicle crashes, save lives, prevent injuries, and reduce resulting health care and other economic costs. The agency develops and promotes educational, engineering, and enforcement strategies to end preventable tragedies and reduce economic costs of vehicle use and highway travel.

Traffic safety in the United States has experienced a dramatic improvement in the past twenty years. Fewer people are killed and injured in crashes, and travel on U.S. roadways is the safest on record. These gains result from: improved vehicle crashworthiness and crash avoidance; positive change in driver and passenger safety behavior; heightened public interest in safety; a national commitment to healthier lifestyles; and advances in medical care. Programs promoted by the agency are credited with saving over a quarter million lives and \$700 billion in societal cost.

Traffic safety nonetheless remains a major public health issue. Traffic crashes result in 94 percent of the deaths and 99 percent of the injuries in U.S. transportation. Traffic crashes are the leading cause of death for ages 6 to 27, the major cause of occupational injury, and the leading source of health care costs. The yearly economic cost to society exceeds \$150 billion.

Since publishing its first strategic plan in November 1994, NHTSA has expanded safety partnerships, focused attention on injury prevention, given a human face to the tragedy of crashes, and provided tools to empower safety advocates to take responsibility and work with us. Safety trends demonstrated that strategies guiding agency programs have been successful, but recently, indicators of traffic safety have stagnated, showing little if any improvement.

The agency's programs are closely aligned with the DOT strategic goals, and the linkage with our program areas is indicated in the plan. In September 1997, DOT published its new strategic plan containing five goals: safety; mobility; economic growth and trade; human and natural environment; and national security. NHTSA's primary role in the Department is to improve U.S. traffic safety and provide leadership for improving vehicle safety worldwide. Our programs make secondary contributions to DOT's mobility, economic growth and trade, and human and natural environment goals.

As the country approaches the new millennium, the agency views this as an important opportunity to reassess traffic safety issues facing this country and determine effective strategies for continuing historic improvements in traffic safety. The so-called "easy program fixes" have been made; achieving safety gains in the future will become more difficult, thus new strategies will be needed. The approaches traditionally promoted by NHTSA need to be reassessed jointly with the traffic safety community. New ideas and strategies must be defined and then added to the safety agenda of traditional programs that have demonstrated effectiveness in benefitting vehicle and behavioral safety.

NHTSA's goal (developed jointly with the Federal Highway Administration) is to reduce traffic fatalities and injuries 20 percent by the year 2008. Reaching this goal means deaths will decline from 41,900 (1996) to 33,500 (2008) and injuries will decline from 3.5 million to 2.8 million. Achieving these goals would reduce the traffic fatality rate by 35 percent, and save \$2.3 billion annually in health care costs. The agency looks forward to working with its partners and the general public to design a final plan that will help NHTSA achieve its goal.

The ideas and expertise of agency partners, other groups and the public are essential ingredients in the agency's strategic planning process. Therefore, the purpose of this notice is to

announce availability of the agency's proposed strategic plan for formal review and comment by all individuals and organizations interested in highway safety, vehicle safety, injury prevention, customer service, program delivery and non-safety activities of NHTSA. Comments should address specific information presented in the strategic plan and if warranted, be accompanied by supporting information. It is requested (but not required) that ten copies of the comments be submitted. Comments, exclusive of attachments, should not exceed fifteen pages (49 CFR 553.21).

Comments received by closing date (listed below) will be considered, and can be examined in the docket room (address below) and on the Internet (DOT Home Page) before and after that date. Comments filed after the closing date will be considered to the extent possible. Relevant information will continue to be filed as it becomes available, thus it is recommended that interested persons continue to examine the docket for new material. People/organizations desiring to be notified of receipt of their comments should include a self-addressed, stamped postcard, and upon official receipt of your comments, the docket supervisor will mail your postcard to you.

Issued on March 23, 1998.

**William H. Walsh,**

*Associate Administrator for Plans and Policy.*  
[FR Doc. 98-8562 Filed 4-1-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-59-P

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 33572]

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

The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company (BNSF) has agreed to grant overhead trackage rights to Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP) over two segments of BNSF's line: (1) between Council Bluffs, IA, at milepost 483.6 on BNSF's Bayard Subdivision (at a point which is equal to milepost 12.8 on BNSF's Omaha Subdivision) and Hastings, NE, at milepost 156.5 on BNSF's Hastings Subdivision, a distance of approximately 214.6 miles over a segment which extends from Council Bluffs through Omaha, NE, Ashland, NE, Lincoln, NE, Crete, NE, and Fairmont, NE, to Hastings, for the period March 30, 1998, through July 15, 1998;

and (2) between Hastings, NE, at milepost 156.5 on BNSF's Hastings Subdivision and Northport, NE, at milepost 34.4 on BNSF's Angora Subdivision, a distance of approximately 387.7 miles over a segment which extends from Hastings through Holdrege, NE, Oxford, NE, Culbertson, NE, Wray, CO, East Brush, CO, Sterling, CO, and Sidney, NE, to Northport, for the period March 30, 1998, through September 30, 1998.<sup>1</sup>

The transaction is scheduled to be consummated on or after March 30, 1998.

The purpose of the trackage rights is to permit UP to use the BNSF trackage when UP's trackage is out of service for scheduled programmed track, roadbed and structural maintenance.

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 it 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. 33572, 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 Joseph D. Anthofer, Esq., 1416 Dodge Street, #830, Omaha, NE 68179.

Decided: March 25, 1998.

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

**Vernon A. Williams,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 98-8526 Filed 4-1-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

<sup>1</sup> On March 23, 1998, UP filed a petition for exemption in STB Finance Docket No. 33572 (Sub-No. 1), *Union Pacific Railroad Company—Trackage Rights Exemption—The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company*, wherein UP requests that the Board permit the overhead trackage rights arrangement described in the present proceeding to expire for the portion of track between Council Bluffs and Hastings effective July 16, 1998, and to expire for the portion of track between Hastings and Northport effective October 1, 1998. That petition will be addressed by the Board in a separate decision.

## UNITED STATES ENRICHMENT CORPORATION

### Sunshine Act Meeting

**AGENCY:** United States Enrichment Corporation.

**SUBJECT:** Board of Directors.

**TIME AND DATE:** 9 a.m., Friday, April 3, 1998.

**PLACE:** Telephone Meeting.

**STATUS:** The Board meeting will be closed to the public. This meeting has been rescheduled from Thursday, April 2, 1998.

**MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED:** Issues related to the privatization of the Corporation and other commercial, financial and operational issues of the Corporation.

**CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:** Joseph Tomkowicz 301/564-3345.

Dated: March 31, 1998.

**William H. Timbers, Jr.,**

*President and Chief Executive Officer.*

[FR Doc. 98-8833 Filed 3-31-98; 3:05 pm]

BILLING CODE 8720-01-M

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

### Advisory Committee on Minority Veterans, Notice of Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), in accordance with Public Law 103-446, gives notice that a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Minority Veterans will be held from Monday, April 27, through Wednesday, April 29, 1998, in Washington, DC. The purpose of the Advisory Committee on Minority Veterans is to advise the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on the administration of VA benefits and services for minority veterans, to assess the needs of minority veterans and to evaluate whether VA compensation, medical and rehabilitation services, outreach, and other programs are meeting those needs. The Committee will make recommendations to the Secretary regarding such activities.

The meeting will convene in room 230, VA Central Office (VACO) Building, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC, from 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. On Monday, April 27, the Committee will focus on VA health care delivery to minority veterans and receive reports from Veterans Health Administration officials on implementation of the Advisory Committee's recommendations contained in its two previous annual reports. The Committee will also receive testimony from several Veterans Service Organizations. On Tuesday, April 28,