

harbor tours. Other area interests are powerboat harbor tours, ferry boats, or bare boats none of which will be competing for the same customer base. In my inquiries I have found no other crewed vessels in the area, which will compete, for the same clientele * * * My presence in this market area will not unduly adversely affect other commercial passenger vessels.”

(6) A statement on the impact this waiver will have on U.S. shipyards. According to the applicant: “For over five years I searched intently for the vessel I would choose to charter. * * * I found that less than one percent of the yachts in the 50 ton category are U.S. manufactured, and of those which are supposedly U.S. manufactured many have the subcomponents including hulls manufactured in foreign countries and only the final assemble is done in the U.S. * * * The fact that no U.S. shipyard is manufacturing this vessel or a similar design with a deck salon would indicate that the presence of this vessel does not unduly adversely affect U.S. shipyards. * * * As a practicable matter this vessel, which was not available in the U.S., was delivered into the U.S. and commissioned entirely by U.S. labor in U.S. yards with U.S. purchased components, which amounted to about 1/6 the cost of the vessel. Every year thousands of dollars in yard work and slip fees are paid by this vessel to U.S. shipyards. This will continue for the life of the vessel as long as it is U.S. flagged. I can only view this as a positive impact to U.S. shipyards that otherwise would not have enjoyed any revenue from this vessel.”

Dated: May 3, 2001.

By Order of the Maritime Administrator.

Joel C. Richard,

Secretary, Maritime Administration.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Research and Special Programs Administration

International Standards on the Transport of Dangerous Goods; Public Meetings

AGENCY: Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA), Department of Transportation.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice is to advise interested persons that RSPA will conduct a public meeting in preparation for the nineteenth session of the United Nation's Sub-Committee of Experts on

the Transport of Dangerous Goods (UNSCOE) to be held July 2-6, 2000 in Geneva, Switzerland and the first session of the United Nation's Sub-Committee on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (Geneva, Switzerland—July 9-11, 2001).

DATES: June 19, 2001, 9:30 am-12:30 pm, Room 6332-6336.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at DOT Headquarters, Nassif Building, Room 6332-6336, 400 Seventh Street SW., Washington, DC 20590.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bob Richard, Acting International Standards Coordinator, Office of Hazardous Materials Safety, Department of Transportation, Washington, DC 20590; (202) 366-0656.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The primary purpose of the meeting will be to prepare and discuss positions for the nineteenth session of the UNSCOE and the first session of the United Nation's Sub-Committee on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals. Topics to be covered during the public meeting will include (1) Global harmonization of classification criteria, (2) Criteria for Environmentally Hazardous Substances, (3) Intermodal requirements for the transport of solids in bulk containers, (4) Harmonized requirements for compressed gas cylinders, (5) Classification of individual substances, (6) Requirements for packagings used to transport hazardous materials, (7) Requirements for infectious substances, and (8) Hazard communication requirements. The meeting will be held in conjunction with the Coast Guard's public meeting in preparation for the sixth session of the Dangerous Goods, Solid Cargoes and Containers Sub-Committee. This public meeting will be held from 1:00-3:30 pm on June 19, 2001 in Nassif Bldg. Room 6332-6336.

The public is invited to attend without prior notification.

Documents

Copies of documents for the UNSCOE meeting may be obtained by downloading them from the United Nations Transport Division's web site at <http://www.unece.org/trans/main/dgdb/dgsubc/c3doc.html>. Information concerning UN dangerous goods meetings include agendas can be downloaded at <http://www.unece.org/trans/main/dgdb/dgsubc/c3.html>. These sites may also be accessed through RSPA's Hazardous Materials Safety Homepage at <http://hazmat.dot.gov/intstandards.htm>. RSPA's site provides information regarding the UNSCOE and

the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling for Chemicals, a summary of decisions taken at the 21st session of the UN Committee of Experts, meeting dates and a summary of the primary topics which are to be addressed in the 2001-2002 biennium.

Robert A. McGuire,

Associate Administrator for Hazardous Materials Safety.

[FR Doc. 01-11708 Filed 5-8-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Docket No. MC-F-20981]

Laidlaw Inc.—Continuance in Control—Victoria Tours Limited

AGENCY: Surface Transportation Board, Transportation.

ACTION: Notice Tentatively Approving Finance Transaction.

SUMMARY: Laidlaw Inc. (Laidlaw), a noncarrier, filed an application under 49 U.S.C. 14303 for Laidlaw to continue in indirect control of Victoria Tours Limited (Victoria), upon Victoria's becoming a regulated motor passenger carrier. Persons wishing to oppose the application must follow the rules at 49 CFR 1182.5 and 1182.8. The Board has tentatively approved the transaction, and, if no opposing comments are timely filed, this notice will be the final Board action.

DATES: Comments must be filed by June 25, 2001. Applicant may file a reply by July 9, 2001. If no comments are filed by June 25, 2001, this notice is effective on that date.

ADDRESSES: Send an original and 10 copies of any comments referring to STB Docket No. MC-F-20981 to: Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, send one copy of comments to applicant's representative: Fritz R. Kahn, 1920 N Street, NW. (8th floor), Washington, DC 20036-1601.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Beryl Gordon, (202) 565-1600. (TDD for the hearing impaired: 1-800-877-8339.)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Laidlaw controls, either directly or indirectly, a family of motor passenger carriers, including Greyhound Lines, Inc. (Greyhound) (MC-1515). With the exception of Greyhound, which conducts mainly nationwide, scheduled, regular-route operations, the controlled carriers are engaged

primarily in charter and special operations.

Laidlaw indirectly controls Victoria through Laidlaw Transit Ltd. (Laidlaw Ltd.), which is authorized to transport passengers, in charter and special operations, pursuant to authority in MC-102189. Victoria conducts charter and special passenger carrier operations within Canada, and it has filed an application with the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, for authority to conduct similar operations within the United States. Laidlaw seeks authority from the Board to continue in indirect control of Victoria, through Laidlaw Ltd., upon Victoria's becoming a regulated U.S. carrier.

Laidlaw asserts that Victoria will be able to offer its passengers tour and sightseeing services over an expanded area. The affiliation of Victoria with the Laidlaw family of regulated carriers will ensure that Victoria will have an adequate number of buses to meet the travel needs of its passengers. Conversely, whenever its buses are underutilized, Victoria will be able to make them available to its Laidlaw affiliates. Laidlaw maintains that such arrangements will improve the performance of Victoria, which will inure to the benefit of the public.

Under 49 U.S.C. 14303(b), we must approve and authorize a transaction we find consistent with the public interest, taking into consideration at least: (1) The effect of the transaction on the adequacy of transportation to the public; (2) the total fixed charges that result; and (3) the interest of affected carrier employees.

Applicant has submitted the information required by 49 CFR 1182.2, including information to demonstrate that the proposed transaction is consistent with the public interest under 49 U.S.C. 14303(b). Specifically, applicant has stated that the proposed transaction will have a positive effect on the adequacy of transportation to the public and will result in no increase in fixed charges and no changes in employment. *See* 49 CFR 1182.2(a)(7). Additional information, including a copy of the application, may be obtained from applicant's representative.

On the basis of the application, we find that the proposed transaction is consistent with the public interest and should be authorized. If any opposing comments are timely filed, this finding will be deemed vacated and, unless a final decision can be made on the record as developed, a procedural schedule will be adopted to reconsider the application. *See* 49 CFR 1182.6(c). If no

opposing comments are filed by the expiration of the comment period, this decision will take effect automatically and will be the final Board action.

Board decisions and notices are available on our website at www.stb.dot.gov.

This decision will not significantly affect either the quality of the human environment or the conservation of energy resources.

It is ordered:

1. The proposed continuance in control is approved and authorized, subject to the filing of opposing comments.

2. If timely opposing comments are filed, the findings made in this decision will be deemed vacated.

3. This decision will be effective on June 25, 2001, unless timely opposing comments are filed.

4. A copy of this notice will be served on: (1) The U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration—MC—RI, 400 Virginia Avenue, SW., Suite 600, Washington, DC 20024; (2) the U.S. Department of Justice, Antitrust Division, 10th Street & Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20530; and (3) the U.S. Department of Transportation, Office of the General Counsel, 400 7th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590.

Decided: May 2, 2001.

By the Board, Chairman Morgan, Vice Chairman Clyburn, and Commissioner Burkes.

Vernon A. Williams,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 01-11526 Filed 5-8-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 34000]

Canadian National Railway Company, Grand Trunk Corporation, and WC Merger Sub, Inc.—Control—Wisconsin Central Transportation Corporation, Wisconsin Central Ltd., Fox Valley & Western Ltd., Sault Ste. Marie Bridge Company, and Wisconsin Chicago Link Ltd.

AGENCY: Surface Transportation Board, DOT.

ACTION: Decision No. 2 in STB Finance Docket No. 34000; Notice of Acceptance of Application; Issuance of Procedural Schedule.

SUMMARY: The Surface Transportation Board (Board) is accepting for consideration the application filed April

9, 2001, by Canadian National Railway Company (CNR), Grand Trunk Corporation (GTC), and WC Merger Sub, Inc. (Merger Sub),¹ and by Wisconsin Central Transportation Corporation (WCTC), Wisconsin Central Ltd. (WCL), Fox Valley & Western Ltd. (FVW), Sault Ste. Marie Bridge Company (SSMB), and Wisconsin Chicago Link Ltd. (WCLL).² The application seeks Board approval and authorization under 49 U.S.C. 11321-26 for the acquisition of control by CNR and GTC of WCTC and through it of WCTC's rail carrier subsidiaries WCL, FVW, SSMB, and WCLL.³ As a result of the transaction, WCTC and its rail carrier subsidiaries would become indirect wholly owned subsidiaries of CN. The Board further finds that this is a "minor transaction" under 49 CFR 1180.2(c).

The Board has considered applicants' petition for scheduling order, filed April 9, 2001. With a modification to provide additional time for public comments, the Board is adopting the procedural schedule applicants have proposed (which, as modified, would result in a decision being issued some 28 days prior to the statutory deadline, assuming as explained later on that no oral argument is held and no unanticipated environmental review is required). The Board's schedule provides for the issuance of a final decision no later than 45 days after the close of the record.

DATES: The effective date of this decision is May 9, 2001. Applicants must submit their Safety Integration Plan (SIP) to the Board by May 9, 2001. Applicants also must distribute their Environmental Appendix and SIP to the public and initiate publication of newspaper notices by May 14, 2001. Any person who wishes to participate in this proceeding as a party of record must file, no later than May 25, 2001, a notice of intent to participate. All comments on applicants Environmental Appendix and SIP must be filed no later than June 13, 2001. All comments, protests, requests for conditions, and any other evidence and argument in opposition to the application, including filings by the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) and U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) must be filed by June 25, 2001. Response to comments, protests, requested conditions, and other opposition, response to comments

¹ CNR, GTC, and Merger Sub are referred to collectively as CN.

² WCTC, WCL, FVW, SSMB, and WCLL are referred to collectively as WC. CN and WC are referred to collectively as applicants.

³ Merger Sub, an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of CNR, will be merged into WCTC, whereupon the separate existence of Merger Sub will cease.