

*Electronic Comments*

- Use the Commission's internet comment form (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>); or
- Send an email to [rule-comments@sec.gov](mailto:rule-comments@sec.gov). Please include File Number SR-NYSEAMER-2018-46 on the subject line.

*Paper Comments*

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Brent J. Fields, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-NYSEAMER-2018-46. This file number should be included on the subject line if email is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's internet website (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549 on official business days between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Copies of the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. All comments received will be posted without change. Persons submitting comments are cautioned that we do not redact or edit personal identifying information from comment submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-NYSEAMER-2018-46 and should be submitted on or before November 6, 2018.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>64</sup>

**Eduardo A. Aleman,**

*Assistant Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2018-22432 Filed 10-15-18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8011-01-P**

**SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION**

[Docket No. SSA-2018-0045]

**Agreement on Social Security Between the United States and the Federative Republic of Brazil; Entry Into Force**

**AGENCY:** Social Security Administration (SSA).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** We are giving notice of an agreement coordinating the United States (U.S.) and Brazilian social security programs effective on October 1, 2018. The Agreement with Brazil, which was signed on June 30, 2015, is similar to U.S. social security agreements already in force with 26 other countries—Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Korea (South), Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, the Slovak Republic, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. Section 233 of the Social Security Act authorizes agreements of this type.

Like the other agreements, the U.S.-Brazilian Agreement eliminates dual social security coverage. This situation exists when a worker from one country works in the other country and has coverage under the social security systems of both countries for the same work. Without such agreements in force, when dual coverage occurs, the worker, the worker's employer, or both may be required to pay social security contributions to the two countries simultaneously. Under the U.S.-Brazilian Agreement, a worker who is sent by an employer in one country to work in the other country for 5 or fewer years remains covered only by the sending country. The Agreement includes additional rules that eliminate dual U.S. and Brazilian coverage in other work situations.

The Agreement also helps eliminate situations where workers suffer a loss of benefit rights because they have divided their careers between the two countries. Under the Agreement, workers may qualify for partial U.S. benefits or partial Brazilian benefits based on combined (totalized) work credits from both countries.

Persons who wish to obtain copies of the Agreement or want more information about its provisions may write to the Social Security Administration, Office of International Programs, Post Office Box 17741, Baltimore, MD 21235-7741 or visit the Social Security website at [www.socialsecurity.gov/international](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/international).

The full text of the Agreement and its accompanying Administrative Arrangement is available at [https://www.ssa.gov/international/Agreement\\_Texts/brazil.html](https://www.ssa.gov/international/Agreement_Texts/brazil.html).

Nancy A. Berryhill,

*Acting Commissioner of Social Security.*

[FR Doc. 2018-22509 Filed 10-15-18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4191-02-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

[Public Notice: 10547]

**60-Day Notice of Proposed Information Collection: Brokering Prior Approval (License)**

**ACTION:** Notice of request for public comment.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of State is seeking Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval for the information collection described below. In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, we are requesting comments on this collection from all interested individuals and organizations. The purpose of this notice is to allow 60 days for public comment preceding submission of the collection to OMB.

**DATES:** The Department will accept comments from the public up to December 17, 2018.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

- *Web:* Persons with access to the internet may comment on this notice by going to [www.Regulations.gov](http://www.Regulations.gov). You can search for the document by entering "Docket Number: DOS-2018-0043" in the Search field. Then click the "Comment Now" button and complete the comment form.

- *Email:* [DDTCPublicComments@state.gov](mailto:DDTCPublicComments@state.gov).

- *Regular Mail:* Send written comments to: Directorate of Defense Trade Controls, Attn: Andrea Battista, 2401 E St. NW, Suite H-1205, Washington, DC 20522-0112.

You must include the subject (PRA 60 Day Comment), information collection title Brokering Prior Approval (License), and OMB control number (1405-0142) in any correspondence.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Direct requests for additional information regarding this collection to Andrea Battista, who may be reached at [BattistaAL@state.gov](mailto:BattistaAL@state.gov) or 202-663-3136.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

- *Title of Information Collection:* Brokering Prior Approval.
- *OMB Control Number:* 1405-0142.

<sup>64</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

- *Type of Request:* Extension of a Currently Approved Collection.
- *Originating Office:* Directorate of Defense Trade Controls (DDTC).
- *Form Number:* DS-4294.
- *Respondents:* Respondents are U.S. and foreign persons who wish to engage in International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR)-controlled brokering of defense articles and defense services.
- *Estimated Number of Respondents:* 170.
- *Estimated Number of Responses:* 170.
- *Average Time per Response:* 2 hours.
- *Total Estimated Burden Time:* 340 hours.
- *Frequency:* On occasion.
- *Obligation to Respond:* Required to Obtain Benefit.

We are soliciting public comments to permit the Department to:

- Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper functions of the Department.
- Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the time and cost burden for this proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used.
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.
- Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Please note that comments submitted in response to this Notice are public record. Before including any detailed personal information, you should be aware that your comments as submitted, including your personal information, will be available for public review.

#### Abstract of Proposed Collection

In accordance with part 129 of the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR), U.S. and foreign persons who wish to engage in ITAR-controlled brokering activity of defense articles and defense services must first register with DDTC. Brokers must then submit a written request for approval to DDTC and must receive DDTC's consent prior to engaging in such activities unless exempted. This information is currently used in the review of the brokering request submitted for approval and to ensure compliance with defense trade statutes and regulations. It is also used to monitor and control the transfer of sensitive U.S. technology.

#### Methodology

Currently submissions are made via hardcopy documentation. Applicants

are referred to ITAR part 129 for guidance on information to submit regarding proposed brokering activity. Upon implementation of DDTC's new case management system, the Defense Export Control and Compliance System (DECCS), a DS-4294 may be submitted electronically.

#### Anthony M. Dearth,

Chief of Staff, Directorate of Defense Trade Controls, U.S. Department of State.

[FR Doc. 2018-22447 Filed 10-15-18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-25-P

## SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

[Docket No. FD 36222]

### BNSF Railway Company—Lease Exemption—Union Pacific Railroad Company

On September 6, 2018, BNSF Railway Company (BNSF) filed a petition under 49 U.S.C. 10502 seeking exemption from the prior approval requirements under 49 U.S.C. 11323-25 for BNSF to lease from Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP) an approximately 13.62-mile rail line (Line) in Pueblo County, Colo., between milepost 591.66 at NA Junction and milepost 605.28 at Avondale (Nyberg).

BNSF explains that, its predecessor, The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway Company (ATSF), and UP's predecessor, Missouri Pacific Railroad Company (Missouri Pacific), entered into an agreement in 1967 relating to ownership and operation, maintenance, and joint use of ATSF's and Missouri Pacific's railroad tracks and facilities between NA Junction and Pueblo, which includes the Line. Pursuant to this agreement, BNSF and UP have jointly operated over the Line for the last 50 years, and UP has been responsible for maintaining the Line. BNSF has been the primary user of the Line and currently dispatches it.

BNSF and UP have recently entered into a lease agreement that would modify certain roles and responsibilities set forth in the 1967 agreement. BNSF would "non-exclusively lease the Line in order [] to maintain, construct, repair and renew the Line's track and appurtenant structures and facilities." (Pet. 2.)<sup>1</sup> BNSF states that the lease would align track and signal

<sup>1</sup> BNSF's reference to "construction" is in connection with the planned repair and maintenance of the existing Line. See Pet. 1. Therefore, the Board does not construe that reference as involving any new line of railroad for which construction authority would be needed pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 10901, and this decision does not grant any such authority.

maintenance with BNSF's current dispatching responsibilities and is intended to streamline maintenance activity and improve planning processes in coordination with BNSF's maintenance of contiguous lines on either side of the Line. BNSF states that these changes would reduce the number and frequency of maintenance windows and outages, resulting in improved operations for customers along the route. According to BNSF, beyond this enhancement of operational efficiency, no other impacts to commercial or operational access to customers, either locally or in through service, would result from the transaction.<sup>2</sup>

BNSF asks for expedited consideration of its petition so that the exemption can become effective by November 1, 2018. BNSF explains that this would allow it to plan for and commence maintenance work necessary to remove slow orders and improve track conditions before winter weather makes maintenance difficult.

#### Discussion and Conclusions

Under 49 U.S.C. 11323(a)(2), prior Board approval is required for a rail carrier to lease the property of another rail carrier. Under 49 U.S.C. 10502, however, the Board must exempt a transaction or service from regulation when it finds that: (1) Regulation is not necessary to carry out the rail transportation policy of 49 U.S.C. 10101; and (2) either (a) the transaction or service is of limited scope, or (b) regulation is not needed to protect shippers from the abuse of market power.

Detailed scrutiny of the proposed transaction through an application for review and approval under 49 U.S.C. 11323-25 is not necessary here to carry out the rail transportation policy. The proposed transaction would align track and signal maintenance with dispatching and further align maintenance of the Line with BNSF's maintenance activities on contiguous lines, which would result in improved operations along the route. As such, the proposed transaction would, among other things, promote a safe and efficient rail transportation system (49 U.S.C. 10101(3)), ensure continuation of a sound rail transportation system with effective competition among rail carriers (49 U.S.C. 10101(4)), foster sound economic conditions in transportation and ensure effective competition (49 U.S.C. 10101(5)), and encourage honest

<sup>2</sup> Pursuant to 49 CFR 1121.3(d), BNSF certifies that the lease does not contain a provision or agreement that may limit future interchange with a third-party connecting carrier.