

connection with these proceedings since the facts do not appear to warrant a hearing. If any interested parties desire an opportunity for oral comment and a public hearing, they should notify FRA, in writing, before the end of the comment period and specify the basis for their request.

All communications concerning these proceedings should identify the appropriate docket number and may be submitted by any of the following methods:

- *Website:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
- *Fax:* 202-493-2251.
- *Mail:* Docket Operations Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, W12-140, Washington, DC 20590.
- *Hand Delivery:* 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

Communications received by April 2, 2018 will be considered by FRA before final action is taken. Comments received after that date will be considered if practicable.

Anyone can search the electronic form of any written communications and comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the document, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). Under 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its processes. DOT posts these comments, without edit, including any personal information the commenter provides, to www.regulations.gov, as described in the system of records notice (DOT/ALL-14 FDMS), which can be reviewed at <https://www.transportation.gov/privacy>. See also <https://www.regulations.gov/privacyNotice> for the privacy notice of regulations.gov.

Issued in Washington, DC.

Robert C. Lauby,
Associate Administrator for Railroad Safety,
Chief Safety Officer.

[FR Doc. 2018-03210 Filed 2-15-18; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket Number FRA-2018-0015]

Notice of Application for Approval To Discontinue or Modify a Railroad Signal System

Under part 235 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) and 49 U.S.C. 20502(a), this provides the public notice that on January 21, 2018, Norfolk Southern Corporation (NS) petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) seeking approval to discontinue or modify a signal system. FRA assigned the petition Docket Number FRA-2018-0015.

Applicant: Norfolk Southern Corporation, Mr. B. L. Sykes, Chief Engineer C&S Engineering, 1200 Peachtree Street NE, Atlanta, GA 30309.

NS seeks to discontinue the existing signal location at milepost (MP) SC-127.5 on the Charleston District, Piedmont Division, at the west end of Andrews Yard, Columbia, SC. The existing positive signal, MP SC127.5, will be retired from service. A new crossover will be installed from the SC mainline to the yard track lead to allow trains to enter and exit the yard from multiple tracks. The existing westbound automatic signal located at MP SC-128.1 will become a positive signal and govern movements out of the yard per NS rules. The existing eastbound automatic signal at MP SC 128.0 will be removed from service.

NS states the reason for the proposed change is to increase efficiency of yard operations at the expanded west end of the yard and expedite train movements in and out of the yard.

A copy of the petition, as well as any written communications concerning the petition, is available for review online at www.regulations.gov and in person at the U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) Docket Operations Facility, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, W12-140, Washington, DC 20590. The Docket Operations Facility is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

Interested parties are invited to participate in these proceedings by submitting written views, data, or comments. FRA does not anticipate scheduling a public hearing in connection with these proceedings since the facts do not appear to warrant a hearing. If any interested parties desire an opportunity for oral comment and a public hearing, they should notify FRA, in writing, before the end of the comment period and specify the basis for their request.

All communications concerning these proceedings should identify the appropriate docket number and may be submitted by any of the following methods:

- *Website:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
- *Fax:* 202-493-2251.
- *Mail:* Docket Operations Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, W12-140, Washington, DC 20590.
- *Hand Delivery:* 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

Communications received by April 2, 2018 will be considered by FRA before final action is taken. Comments received after that date will be considered if practicable.

Anyone can search the electronic form of any written communications and comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the document, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). Under 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its processes. DOT posts these comments, without edit, including any personal information the commenter provides, to www.regulations.gov, as described in the system of records notice (DOT/ALL-14 FDMS), which can be reviewed at <https://www.transportation.gov/privacy>. See also <https://www.regulations.gov/privacyNotice> for the privacy notice of regulations.gov.

Issued in Washington, DC.

Robert C. Lauby,
Associate Administrator for Railroad Safety,
Chief Safety Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Office of the Comptroller of the Currency

Agency Information Collection Activities: Information Collection Renewal; Submission for OMB Review; Investment Securities

AGENCY: Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and request for comment.

SUMMARY: The OCC, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other federal

agencies to take this opportunity to comment on a continuing information collection as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA).

In accordance with the requirements of the PRA, the OCC may not conduct or sponsor, and respondents are not required to respond to, an information collection unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number.

The OCC is soliciting comment concerning the renewal of its information collection titled, "Investment Securities." The OCC also is giving notice that it has sent the collection to OMB for review.

DATES: You should submit written comments by March 19, 2018.

ADDRESSES: Because paper mail in the Washington, DC area and at the OCC is subject to delay, commenters are encouraged to submit comments by email, if possible. Comments may be sent to: Legislative and Regulatory Activities Division, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Attention: 1557-0205, 400 7th Street SW, Suite 3E-218, Washington, DC 20219. In addition, comments may be sent by fax to (571) 465-4326 or by electronic mail to prainfo@occ.treas.gov. You may personally inspect and photocopy comments at the OCC, 400 7th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20219. For security reasons, the OCC requires that visitors make an appointment to inspect comments. You may do so by calling (202) 649-6700 or, for persons who are deaf or hearing impaired, TTY, (202) 649-5597. Upon arrival, visitors will be required to present valid government-issued photo identification and submit to security screening in order to inspect and photocopy comments.

All comments received, including attachments and other supporting materials, are part of the public record and subject to public disclosure. Do not include any information in your comment or supporting materials that you consider confidential or inappropriate for public disclosure.

Additionally, please send a copy of your comments by mail to: OCC Desk Officer, 1557-0205, U.S. Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street NW, #10235, Washington, DC 20503 or by email to oira_submission@omb.eop.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Shaquita Merritt, OCC Clearance Officer, (202) 649-5490 or, for persons who are deaf or hearing impaired, TTY, (202) 649-5597, Legislative and Regulatory Activities Division, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, 400 7th Street SW, Washington, DC 20219.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520), federal agencies must obtain approval from the OMB for each collection of information that they conduct or sponsor.

"Collection of information" is defined in 44 U.S.C. 3502(3) and 5 CFR 1320.3(c) to include agency requests or requirements that members of the public submit reports, keep records, or provide information to a third party. The OCC requests that OMB extend its approval of this collection.

Title: Investment Securities.

OMB Control No.: 1557-0205.

Description: Under 12 CFR 1.3(h)(2), a national bank may request an OCC determination that it may invest in an entity that is exempt from registration under section 3(c)(1) of the Investment Company Act of 1940¹ if the portfolio of the entity consists exclusively of assets that a national bank may purchase and sell for its own account. The OCC uses the information contained in the request as a basis for ensuring that the bank's investment is consistent with its investment authority under applicable law and does not pose unacceptable risk.

Under 12 CFR 1.7(b), a national bank may request OCC approval to extend the five-year holding period for securities held in satisfaction of debts previously contracted for up to an additional five years. In its request, the bank must provide a clearly convincing demonstration of why any additional holding period is needed. The OCC uses the information in the request to ensure, on a case-by-case basis, that the bank's purpose in retaining the securities is not speculative and that the bank's reasons for requesting the extension are adequate. The OCC also uses the information to evaluate the risks to the bank of extending the holding period, including potential effects on the bank's safety and soundness.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Businesses or other for-profit.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 25.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 460 hours.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Comments: The OCC issued a notice for 60 days of comment regarding this collection on November 21, 2017, 82 FR 55487. The OCC received one comment from an individual.

The comment related to 12 CFR 1.7(b). Twelve CFR 1.7(b) provides that a bank may hold securities in satisfaction of debts previously

contracted for a period of five years and permits the OCC to extend the holding period up to an additional five years if the bank provides a clearly convincing demonstration as to why an additional holding period is needed.

The commenter stated that banks should rarely need to hold securities in satisfaction of debts previously contracted longer than five years. The commenter requested that the OCC conduct a retrospective analysis on the need, fairness, and appropriateness of the text in 12 CFR 1.7(b) that permits the OCC to extend the holding period beyond five years. The commenter stated that this retrospective analysis would enable the OCC to narrow the requirements for an extended holding period and to specify in 12 CFR 1.7(b) the rare and unusual reasons why banks may need more than five years to dispose of a security. The commenter further stated that 12 CFR 1.7(b) currently encourages banks to speculate on securities acquired in satisfaction of debts previously contracted.

In response to this comment, the OCC notes that the OCC cannot rescind regulations through the PRA renewal process. Moreover, as part of the OCC's ten-year regulatory review required under by section 222 of the Economic Growth and Regulatory Paperwork Reduction Act ("EGRPRA"), the OCC issued notices soliciting comments on all OCC regulations, including 12 CFR part 1.² The OCC did not receive any comments regarding 12 CFR part 1 in response to the relevant OCC notice. The OCC therefore did not propose any revisions to Part 1 in connection with the review required under EGRPRA. Furthermore, the text of 12 CFR 1.7(d) explicitly states that banks may not hold securities under 12 CFR 1.7 for speculative purposes. Finally, 12 CFR 1.7(b) makes clear that the burden is on the bank to provide "a clearly convincing demonstration as to why an additional holding period is needed." In light of the prohibition on holding securities acquired under 12 CFR 1.7 for speculative purposes, as well as the high standard that a bank must meet to receive an extended holding period under 12 CFR 1.7(b), the OCC does not believe that a retrospective analysis on the need, fairness, and appropriateness of the text in 12 CFR 1.7(b) is warranted at this time.

Comments continue to be invited on:

(a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper

² See Regulatory Publication and Review Under the Economic Growth and Regulatory Paperwork Reduction Act of 1996, 79 FR 32172, 32178 (Jun. 4, 2014).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 80a-3(c)(1).

performance of the functions of the OCC, including whether the information has practical utility;

(b) The accuracy of the OCC's estimate of the burden of the collection of information;

(c) Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected;

(d) Ways to minimize the burden of the collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and

(e) Estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Dated: February 12, 2018.

Karen Solomon,

Acting Senior Deputy Comptroller and Chief Counsel, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency.

[FR Doc. 2018-03253 Filed 2-15-18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810-33-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Voluntary Service National Advisory Committee, Notice of Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) gives notice under the Federal Advisory Committee Act that the annual meeting of the Department of Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service (VAVS) National Advisory Committee (NAC) will be held April 11-13, 2018, at the Tampa Hilton Downtown, 211 North

Tampa Street, Tampa Florida. The meeting sessions are open to the public and are scheduled as follows:

Dates:	Time:
April 11, 2018	8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
April 12, 2018	8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
April 13, 2018	8:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.

The Committee, comprised of 51 national voluntary organizations, advises the Secretary, through the Office of the Under Secretary for Health, on the coordination and promotion of volunteer activities and strategic partnerships within VA facilities, in the community, and on matters related to volunteerism and charitable giving. The purposes of this meeting are: to provide for Committee review of volunteer policies and procedures; to accommodate full and open communications between organization representatives and the Voluntary Service Office and field staff; to provide educational opportunities geared towards improving volunteer programs with special emphasis on methods to recruit, retain, place, motivate, and recognize volunteers; and to provide Committee recommendations. The April 11, session will include a National Executive Committee Meeting, Health and Information Fair, and VAVS Representative and Deputy Representative training session. The April 12, business session will include welcoming remarks from local officials, and remarks by VA officials on new and ongoing VA initiatives and priorities.

The recipients of the American Spirit Recruitment Awards, VAVS Award for Excellence, and the NAC male and female Volunteer of the Year awards will be recognized. Educational workshops will be held in the afternoon and will focus on building the Episodic Volunteer Workshop, S.A.V.E Training—Suicide Prevention, Voluntary Service System, new timekeeping system to track and manage volunteer hours, and a writing workshop. On April 13, the morning business session will include subcommittee reports, the Voluntary Service Report, NAC Chair Report, and remarks by VA officials on new and ongoing VA initiatives and priorities. The educational workshops will be repeated in the afternoon. No time will be allocated at this meeting for receiving oral presentations from the public. However, the public may submit written statements for the Committee's review to Ms. Sabrina C. Clark, Designated Federal Officer, Voluntary Service Office (10B2A), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW, Washington, DC, 20420, or by email at Sabrina.Clark@va.gov. Any member of the public wishing to attend the meeting or seeking additional information should contact Ms. Clark at (202) 461-7300.

Dated: February 13, 2018.

Jelessa M. Burney,

Federal Advisory Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 2018-03265 Filed 2-15-18; 8:45 am]

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