

NM, and Denver, CO; (4) Walsenburg, CO, and Santa Fe, NM; and (5) Raton, NM, and Taos, NM.

CME (MC-169174),¹ a motor common carrier of passengers, holds interstate and intrastate operating rights authorizing: (a) charter and special operations within CO; and (b) regular route service between Denver and Grand Junction and Aspen, CO.

Applicants state that the aggregate gross operating revenues conducted by REI and CME, for the 12-month period that ended on December 31, 1996, exceeded \$2 million. They assert that the proposed transaction will not affect competition in the involved market because REI and CME do not compete materially in the same territory. They state that the availability of needed capital and management expertise from East West will improve REI's ability to meet the needs of the traveling public in the area. Additionally, applicants state that the transaction's total fixed charges are approximately \$4.9 million, and East West anticipates offering employment to all of REI's employees.

REI holds a satisfactory safety rating from the U.S. Department of Transportation. Applicants certify that: (1) they have sufficient insurance to cover the services they intend to offer; (2) no party to the transaction is either domiciled in Mexico or owned or controlled by persons of that country; and (3) approval of the transaction will not significantly affect either the quality of the human environment or the conservation of energy resources.

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

the public interest and should be authorized.

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

It is ordered:

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

2. This notice will be effective on July 7, 1997, but will be deemed vacated if opposing comments are filed on or before that date.

3. A copy of this notice will be served on: (1) the U.S. Department of Transportation, Office of Motor Carriers-HIA 30, 400 Virginia Avenue, SW, Suite 600, Washington, DC 20024; and (2) the Department of Justice, Antitrust Division, 10th Street & Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20530.

Decided: May 15, 1997.

By the Board, Chairman Morgan and Vice Chairman Owen.

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-13633 Filed 5-22-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Docket No. AB-471 (Sub-No. 1X)]

South Kansas and Oklahoma Railroad, Inc.—Abandonment Exemption—in Neosho and Wilson Counties, KS

South Kansas and Oklahoma Railroad, Inc. (SKO) has filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F—Exempt Abandonments to abandon a 19-mile portion of its line of railroad between milepost 130.0, near Chanute, and milepost 149.0, near Fredonia, in Neosho and Wilson Counties, KS. The line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Codes 66720, 66714, 66726 and 66710.

SKO has certified that: (1) no local traffic has moved over the line for at least 2 years; (2) any overhead traffic can be rerouted over other lines; (3) no formal complaint filed by a user of rail service on the line (or by a state or local government entity acting on behalf of such user) regarding cessation of service over the line either is pending with the Surface Transportation Board (Board) or with any U.S. District Court or has been decided in favor of complainant within the 2-year period; and (4) the requirements at 49 CFR 1105.7 (environmental reports), 49 CFR 1105.8 (historic reports), 49 CFR 1105.11 (transmittal letter), 49 CFR 1105.12

(newspaper publication), and 49 CFR 1152.50(d)(1) (notice to governmental agencies) have been met.

As a condition to this exemption, any employee adversely affected by the abandonment shall be protected under Oregon Short Line R. Co.—

Abandonment—Goshen, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979). To address whether this condition adequately protects affected employees, a petition for partial revocation under 49 U.S.C. 10502(d) must be filed.

Provided no formal expression of intent to file an offer of financial assistance (OFA) has been received, this exemption will be effective on June 22, 1997, unless stayed pending reconsideration. Petitions to stay that do not involve environmental issues,¹ formal expressions of intent to file an OFA under 49 CFR 1152.27(c)(2),² and trail use/rail banking requests under 49 CFR 1152.29³ must be filed by June 2, 1997. Petitions to reopen or requests for public use conditions under 49 CFR 1152.28 must be filed by June 12, 1997, with: Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20423.

A copy of any petition filed with the Board should be sent to applicant's representative: Karl Morel, Ball Janik LLP, 1455 F St., N.W., Suite 225, Washington, DC 20005.

If the verified notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void *ab initio*.

SKO has filed an environmental report which addresses the abandonment's effects, if any, on the environment and historic resources. The Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) will issue an environmental assessment (EA) by May 28, 1997. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the EA by writing to SEA (Room 500, Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423) or by calling SEA, at (202) 565-1545. Comments on environmental and historic preservation matters must be filed within 15 days

¹ CME holds certificates of public convenience and necessity issued to CME's predecessor, Colorado Mountain Express Investors Inc., formerly known as Colorado Mountain Express, Inc., in Docket No. MC-169174 and subnumbers thereunder. In Airport Shuttle Colorado, Inc.-Control-Aspen Limousine Service, Inc., d/b/a Vans To Vail, Inc., Docket No. MC-F-20786 (ICC served Dec. 19, 1995), CME acquired certificates issued to Airport Shuttle Colorado, Inc., in Docket No. MC-174332 and subnumbers thereunder. In Colorado Mountain Express, Inc., and Airport Shuttle Colorado, Inc., d/b/a Aspen Limousine Service, Inc.—Consolidation and Merger—Colorado Mountain Express, STB No. MC-F-20902 (STB served Nov. 27, 1996), CME's predecessor, Colorado Mountain Express Investors, Inc., was authorized to be merged into CME.

¹ The Board will grant a stay if an informed decision on environmental issues (whether raised by a party or by the Board's Section of Environmental Analysis in its independent investigation) cannot be made before the exemption's effective date. See Exemption of Out-of-Service Rail Lines, 5 I.C.C.2d 377 (1989). Any request for a stay should be filed as soon as possible so that the Board may take appropriate action before the exemption's effective date.

² Each offer of financial assistance must be accompanied by the filing fee, which currently is set at \$900. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).

³ The Board will accept late-filed trail use requests as long as the abandonment has not been consummated and the abandoning railroad is willing to negotiate an agreement.

after the EA becomes available to the public.

Environmental, historic preservation, public use, or trail use/rail banking conditions will be imposed, where appropriate, in a subsequent decision.

Pursuant to the provisions of 49 CFR 1152.29(e)(2), SKO shall file a notice of consummation with the Board to signify that it has exercised the authority granted and fully abandoned the line. If consummation has not been effected by SKO's filing of a notice of consummation by May 23, 1998, and there are no legal or regulatory barriers to consummation, the authority to abandon will automatically expire.

Decided: May 15, 1997.

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

Vernon A. Williams,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-13632 Filed 5-22-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Form 6468

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury, 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 proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning Form 6468, How to Prepare Media Label for Form W-4.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before July 22, 1997 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Garrick R. Shear, Internal Revenue Service, room 5571, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection should be directed to Carol Savage, (202) 622-3945, Internal Revenue Service, room 5569, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: How to Prepare Media Label for Form W-4.

OMB Number: 1545-0410.

Form Number: Form 6468.

Abstract: Internal Revenue Code section 3402 requires all employers making payment of wages to withhold tax on such payments. Employers are further required under regulation section 31.3402(f)(2)-1(g) to submit certain withholding certificates (Form W-4) to the Internal Revenue Service. Form 6468 is sent to employers who prefer to file this information on magnetic tape.

Current Actions: The IRS media label, Form 6469, has been eliminated. Filers will prepare their own pressure sensitive label containing the required information specified in Form 6468.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations, not-for-profit institutions, farms, and Federal, state, local or tribal governments.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 400.

Estimated Time Per Respondent: 5 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 33.

The following paragraph applies to all of the collections of information covered by this notice:

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

Request for Comments

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency'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 of information 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.

Approved: May 16, 1997.

Garrick R. Shear,

IRS Reports Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 97-13681 Filed 5-22-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-U

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Form 1040A and Schedules 1,2,3, and EIC

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury, 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 proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning Form 1040A and Schedules 1,2,3, and EIC, U.S. Individual Income Tax Return. **DATES:** Written comments should be received on or before July 22, 1997, to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Garrick R. Shear, Internal Revenue Service, room 5571, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the form and instructions should be directed to Martha R. Brinson, (202) 622-3869, Internal Revenue Service, room 5571, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: U.S. Individual Income Tax Return.

OMB Number: 1545-0085.

Form Number: 1040A and Schedules 1,2,3, and EIC.

Abstract: This form is used by individuals to report their income subject to income tax and to compute their correct tax liability. The data are used to verify that the income reported on the form is correct and are also for statistics use.

Current Actions: Changes to Form 1040A.