

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 July 16, 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 26, 1997. Petitions to reopen or requests for public use conditions under 49 CFR 1152.28 must be filed by July 7, 1997, with: Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423.

A copy of any petition filed with the Board should be sent to applicant's representative: James R. Paschall, General Attorney, Norfolk Southern Corporation, Three Commercial Place, Norfolk, VA 23510.

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

NW 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 June 20, 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 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), NW 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

NW's filing of a notice of consummation by June 16, 1998, and there are no legal or regulatory barriers to consummation, the authority to abandon will automatically expire.

Decided: June 9, 1997.

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

Vernon A. Williams,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-15712 Filed 6-13-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

[Treasury Directive Number 16-22]

Withdrawals From Trust and Deposit Fund Accounts; Authority Delegation

Dated: June 5, 1997.

1. *Delegation.* By virtue of the authority granted to the Fiscal Assistant Secretary by Treasury Order (TO) 101-05, the Commissioner, Bureau of the Public Debt, is delegated the authority to approve schedules for withdrawals from all trust and deposit fund accounts administered by the Bureau of the Public Debt for the Secretary of the Treasury.

2. *Redelegation.* The Commissioner, Bureau of the Public Debt, may redelegate this authority in writing to officials of the Bureau of the Public Debt, and it may be exercised in the individual capacity and under the individual title of each official receiving such authority.

3. *Authorities.* TO 101-05, "Reporting Relationships and Supervision of Officials, Offices and Bureaus, Delegation of Certain Authority, and Order of Succession in the Department of the Treasury."

4. *Cancellation.* Treasury Directive 16-22, "Withdrawals from Trust and Deposit Fund Accounts," dated October 22, 1992, is superseded.

5. *Expiration Date.* This Directive expires three years after the date of issuance unless superseded or cancelled by that date.

6. *Office of Primary Interest.* Division of Accounting Operations, Office of Public Debt Accounting, Bureau of the Public Debt.

Gerald Murphy,

Fiscal Assistant Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

[General Counsel Designation No. 232]

Appointment of Members to the Legal Division Performance Review Board

Under the authority granted to me as General Counsel of the Department of the Treasury by 31 U.S.C. 301 and 26 U.S.C. 7801, Treasury Department Order No. 101-5 (Revised), and pursuant to the Civil Service Reform Act, I hereby appoint the following persons to the Legal Division Performance Review Board:

(1) For the General Counsel Panel—
Neal S. Wolin, Deputy General Counsel, who shall serve as Chairperson;
Russell L. Munk, Assistant General Counsel (International Affairs);
Stephen J. McHale, Chief Counsel, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms;
Robert M. McNamara, Jr., Assistant General Counsel (Enforcement);
Kenneth R. Schmalzbach, Assistant General Counsel (General Law and Ethics); and
Elizabeth B. Anderson, Chief Counsel, United States Customs Service.

(2) For the Internal Revenue Service Panel—
Chairperson, Deputy Chief Counsel, IRS;
Deputy General Counsel;
Two Associate Chief Counsel, IRS; and
Two Regional Counsel, IRS.

I hereby delegate to the Chief Counsel of the Internal Revenue Service the authority to make the appointments to the IRS Panel specified in this Designation and to make the publication of the IRS Panel as required by 5 U.S.C. 4314(c)(4).

Dated: June 9, 1997.

Edward S. Knight,
General Counsel.

[FR Doc. 97-15707 Filed 6-13-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Form 23

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

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.

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 23, Application for Enrollment to Practice Before the Internal Revenue Service.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before August 15, 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: Application for Enrollment to Practice Before the Internal Revenue Service.

OMB Number: 1545-0950.

Form Number: Form 23.

Abstract: Form 23 must be completed by those who desire to be enrolled to practice before the Internal Revenue Service. The information on the form will be used by the Director of Practice to determine the qualifications and eligibility of applicants for enrollment. *Current Actions:* A space for the spouse's name was added under item 6 of Form 23 because we frequently need to request information under the spouse's name and it is difficult when the name is different from the applicant's.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Individuals and the Federal government.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 2,400.

Estimated Time Per Respondent: 1 hour.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 2,400.

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: June 10, 1997.

Garrick R. Shear,

IRS Reports Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 97-15629 Filed 6-13-97; 8:452 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-U

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Form 5558

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 5558, Application for Extension of Time To File Certain Employee Plan Returns.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before August 15, 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: Application for Extension of Time To File Certain Employee Plan Returns.

OMB Number: 1545-0212

Form Number: 5558

Abstract: This form is used by employers to request an extension of time to file the employee plan annual information return/report (Form 5500 series) or the employee plan excise tax return (Form 5330). The data supplied on Form 5558 is used to determine if such extension of time is warranted.

Current Actions:

(1) The "Extend Date" column has been added to line 2. This will allow preparers to indicate the date they need for their extension. New line 3 was added for preparers to enter the reason why an extension is needed. This information was previously requested as an attachment to the form.

(2) Lines 1b, 1c, 2, 3a, 3b, 5a, 5b, and 6 were eliminated because the information is no longer needed.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations and not-for-profit institutions.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 305,000.

Estimated Time Per Respondent: 27 min.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 138,795.

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