

*Total Responses:* 1,000.

*Average Time Per Response:* 3 hours initially, 15 minutes annually thereafter.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden*

*Hours:* 3,000 hours one time, 250 hours annually thereafter.

*Status:* Emergency processing by OMB.

*Title:* Training Program for Inspectors.

*OMB Control Number:* New.

*Abstract:* Each affected railroad should implement a training program for the persons performing special inspections.

*Form Number(s):* N/A.

*Affected Public:* Businesses.

*Respondent Universe:* 25 railroads.

*Frequency of Submission:* No submission.

*Total Responses:* 25.

*Average Time Per Response:* 441.6 hours one time, 88 hours annually thereafter.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden*

*Hours:* 11,040 hours one time, 2,200 hours annually thereafter.

*Status:* Emergency processing by OMB.

*Title:* Provide initial briefing to inspectors.

*OMB Control Number:* New.

*Abstract:* Each affected railroad should brief all of its track and bridge inspectors on the contents of this advisory. These briefings should occur within 14 calendar days of the date of publication of this safety advisory in the **Federal Register**.

*Form Number(s):* N/A.

*Affected Public:* Businesses.

*Respondent Universe:* 25 railroads.

*Frequency of Submission:* None.

*Total Responses:* 300.

*Average Time Per Response:* 4 hours.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden*

*Hours:* 2,400 hours.

*Status:* Emergency processing by OMB.

*Title:* Review of bridges for vulnerability to high water, initial and annual.

*OMB Control Number:* New.

*Abstract:* FRA believes that the actions described in paragraphs 3, 4, and 5 should be completed within 60 calendar days of the date of publication of this safety advisory in the **Federal Register**. During this period, each affected railroad should complete an initial review of its bridges for vulnerability to high or rapidly flowing water and provide that information to its inspectors. More detailed reviews should be substantially completed and provided to inspectors during calendar year 1998 and then maintained in a current status.

*Form Number(s):* N/A.

*Affected Public:* Businesses.

*Respondent Universe:* 25 railroads.

*Frequency of Submission:* None.

*Total Responses:* 1,000.

*Average Time Per Response:* 2 hours initially in 1998, 30 minutes annually thereafter.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden*

*Hours:* 2,000 hours initially in 1998, 500 hours annually thereafter.

*Status:* Emergency processing by OMB.

*Title:* Notify FRA of bridge safety inspection programs in place.

*OMB Control Number:* New.

*Abstract:* FRA requests a letter within 45 calendar days of the date of publication of this safety advisory in the **Federal Register** from each affected railroad specifying the actions it has taken and will initiate to enhance the safety of train operations in the event of a flood or a high or rapid water condition. Such letters should be addressed to the Associate Administrator for Safety, FRA, RRS-1, Mail Stop 25, 400 Seventh Street S.W., Washington, DC 20590.

*Form Number(s):* N/A.

*Affected Public:* Businesses.

*Respondent Universe:* 25 railroads.

*Frequency of Submission:* One time.

*Total Responses:* 25.

*Average Time Per Response:* 4 hours one time.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden*

*Hours:* 200 hours one time.

*Status:* Emergency processing by OMB.

FRA cannot impose a penalty on persons for violating information collection requirements which do not display a current OMB control number, if required. Here, of course, FRA is not issuing information collection requirements and has no intention of imposing penalties under any provisions of this safety advisory. FRA intends to obtain current OMB control numbers for any information collection items contained in this Safety Advisory. The OMB control number, when assigned, will be announced by separate notice in the **Federal Register**.

For further information please contact Ms. Gloria Swanson, Office of Planning and Evaluation Division, RRS-21, Federal Railroad Administration, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20590 (telephone: (202) 632-3318) or MaryAnn Johnson, Office of Information Technology and Productivity Improvement, RAD-20, Federal Railroad Administration, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20590 (telephone: (202) 632-3226). (These telephone numbers are not toll-free.)

FRA may modify Safety Advisory 97-1, issue additional safety advisories, or

take other appropriate necessary action to ensure the highest level of safety on the Nation's railroads.

Issued in Washington, DC, on September 2, 1997.

**James T. Schultz,**

*Associate Administrator for Safety.*

[FR Doc. 97-23618 Filed 9-3-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-06-P

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Surface Transportation Board <sup>1</sup>

[Finance Docket No. 32530]

#### Kansas City Southern Railway Company—Construction and Operation Exemption—Geismar Industrial Area Near Gonzales and Sorrento, Louisiana

**AGENCY:** Surface Transportation Board.

**ACTION:** Notice of extension of time for comment period for draft environmental impact statement (EIS).

**SUMMARY:** The Kansas City Southern Railway Company (KCS) applied to the Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC), now the Surface Transportation Board (Board), for authority to construct and operate an 8.62-mile rail line from the Geismar Industrial area to its mainline near Gonzales and Sorrento, in Ascension Parish, Louisiana. On July 16, 1997, the Board's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) issued a draft EIS. Consistent with Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), SEA provided a 45-day comment period for the public review of the draft EIS, with comments due by September 8, 1997.

Several parties, including the Concerned Citizens of Ascension Parish (CCAP), Illinois Central Railroad (IC), members of Congress, and local individuals have requested that the comment period be extended an

<sup>1</sup> The ICC Termination Act of 1995, Pub. L. 104-88, 109 Stat. 803 (the Act), which was enacted on December 29, 1995, and took effect on January 1, 1996, abolished the Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC) and transferred certain functions and proceedings to the Surface Transportation Board (Board). Section 204(b)(1) of the Act provides, in general, that proceedings pending before the ICC on the effective date of that legislation shall be decided under the law in effect prior to January 1, 1996, insofar as they involve functions retained by the Act. This notice relates to a proceeding that was pending with the ICC prior to January 1, 1996, and to functions that are subject to Board jurisdiction pursuant to section 49 U.S.C. 10901. Therefore, this notice applies the law in effect prior to the Act, and citations are to the former section of the statute, unless otherwise indicated.

additional 60 days and also requested a public hearing. KCS replied to these petitions stating in essence that petitioners had not provided sufficient reason why the 45-day comment period was inadequate.

In carefully reviewing CCAP's concerns, as well as those expressed by other parties, SEA believes that the 45-day comment period specified by CEQ guidelines is sufficient in this case. However, in order to allow every opportunity for public input into the Board's NEPA process in this case, SEA will accept comments to the draft EIS for an additional 15 days past the current due date of September 8, 1997. Comments to the draft EIS will now be due on September 23, 1997.

If you wish to file comments on the draft EIS, send an original and 10 copies to: Vernon A. Williams, Secretary, Surface Transportation Board, Suite 700, 1925 K Street, NW, Washington, DC 20423. Mark the lower left corner of the envelope: Attention: Michael Dalton, Environmental Comments, Finance Docket No. 32530.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Michael Dalton, Section of Environmental Analysis, Room 528, Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, NW, Washington, DC 20423; phone number (202) 565-1530. TDD for the hearing impaired: (202) 565-1695.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Because the Board served the draft EIS on the parties of record on July 16, 1997 and the 45-day comment period did not begin until the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published the Notice of EIS Availability in the **Federal Register** on July 25, 1997, the actual total time between the service and distribution of the draft EIS and the end of the comment period is 55 days. The additional 15-day extension results in a 70-day comment period.

In addition, CEQ guidelines and the Board's environmental rules do not require a public hearing to solicit comments on a draft EIS. SEA believes that the submission of written comments, which is the Board's normal procedure, is sufficient to develop the record in this case. In this regard, the Board has found that written comments provide necessary and effective written documentation of environmental issues and concerns for our public record.

By the Board, Elaine K. Kaiser, Chief, Section of Environmental Analysis.

**Vernon A. Williams,**  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-23462 Filed 9-3-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Fiscal Service

#### Fee Schedule for the Service to the TREASURY DIRECT Investor of Selling Securities Held in TREASURY DIRECT Accounts in the Secondary Market

**AGENCY:** Bureau of the Public Debt, Fiscal Service, Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of the Treasury is announcing the schedule of fees to be charged to the TREASURY DIRECT investor for the service of selling unmatured securities held in TREASURY DIRECT in the secondary market. The service will be provided by a designated Federal Reserve Bank acting as fiscal agent of the United States.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** September 4, 1997.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Richard Koch, Director, Division of Customer Service, Bureau of the Public Debt, (304) 480-6748; Susan Klimas, Attorney-Adviser, Office of the Chief Counsel, Bureau of the Public Debt, (304) 480-5192; Edward C. Gronseth, Deputy Chief Counsel, Office of the Chief Counsel, Bureau of the Public Debt, (304) 480-5192.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On September 4, 1997, the Department of the Treasury amended the general regulations governing book-entry Treasury Bonds, Notes and Bills to offer TREASURY DIRECT investors the service of selling their unmatured marketable securities held in their TREASURY DIRECT accounts in the secondary market. At the request of the investor, the securities will be transferred to the designated Federal Reserve Bank, acting as fiscal agent of the United States, to be sold on behalf of the investor.

A transaction fee will be charged for each security sold on behalf of the investor. For purposes of computing the transaction fee, a security is considered as any amount within a TREASURY DIRECT account which is identified by a separate CUSIP number. Thus, if an investor has several holdings within a TREASURY DIRECT account of varying amounts, but all are identified by the same CUSIP number, and all are transferred in one transaction, only one transaction fee will be charged, since the holdings are considered as one security. If the investor has several holdings within a TREASURY DIRECT account, each with a different CUSIP number, then a separate transaction fee will be charged for each holding, as each holding with a separate CUSIP

number is considered a separate security. If an investor has two TREASURY DIRECT accounts, and each account has a security with a CUSIP identical to the security in the other account, then a separate transaction fee will be charged for each security, since each security within each account is considered a separate security. If the Federal Reserve Bank is unable to complete the sale of the security, no transaction fee will be charged. The transaction fee will be deducted from the settlement amount by the Federal Reserve Bank.

#### Schedule of Fees for the Sale of Securities in the Secondary Market

The fee schedule for the sale of an unmatured security held in TREASURY DIRECT by the designated Federal Reserve Bank in the secondary market on behalf of the investor is as follows: a fee of \$34 will be charged for each security held in a TREASURY DIRECT account which is sold in the secondary market on behalf of the investor by the designated Federal Reserve Bank acting as fiscal agent of the United States.

Dated: August 29, 1997.

**Richard L. Gregg,**

*Commissioner of the Public Debt.*

[FR Doc. 97-23570 Filed 9-3-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810-39-M

## UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY

### Training Programs for Slovakia, Slovenia, Bosnia/Croatia/Serbia, the Baltics and Poland

**ACTION:** Request for proposals.

**SUMMARY:** The Office of Citizen Exchanges of the United States Information Agency's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs announces an open competition for an assistance award. Public and private non-profit organizations meeting the provisions described in IRS regulation 26 CFR 1.501(c) may apply to develop training programs that link their international exchange interests in Central and Eastern Europe with counterpart institutions/groups in ways supportive of the aims of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. Overall grant making authority for this program is contained in the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, Public Law 87-256, as amended, also known as the Fulbright-Hays Act. The purpose of the Act is "to enable the Government of the United States to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States