

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Surface Transportation Board****[STB Docket No. MC-F-20914]****Greyhound Lines, Inc.—Control—
Gonzalez, Inc., d/b/a Golden State
Transportation Company****AGENCY:** Surface Transportation Board, DOT.**ACTION:** Notice tentatively approving finance transaction.

SUMMARY: Greyhound Lines, Inc. (Greyhound or applicant) has filed an application under 49 U.S.C. 14303 to acquire control of Gonzalez, Inc., d/b/a Golden State Transportation Company (Golden State).¹ Persons wishing to oppose the application must follow the rules under 49 CFR part 1182, subpart B. The Surface Transportation Board (Board) has tentatively approved the transaction, and, if no opposing comments are timely filed, this notice will be the final Board action.

DATES: Comments are due by February 2, 1998. Applicants may reply by February 17, 1998. If no comments are received by February 2, 1998, this notice is effective on that date.

ADDRESSES: Send an original and 10 copies of any comments referring to STB No. MC-F-20914 to: Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, send one copy of comments to applicant's representative: Fritz R. Kahn, Suite 750 West, 1100 New York Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20005-3934.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joseph H. Dettmar, (202) 565-1600. (TDD for the hearing impaired: (202) 565-1695.)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Greyhound is a nationwide motor common carrier of passengers over regular routes that currently controls seven regional interstate motor carriers of passengers: Valley Transit Company, Inc.; Carolina Coach Company, Inc.; Texas, New Mexico & Oklahoma Coaches, Inc.; Continental Panhandle Lines, Inc.; Vermont Transit, Inc.; Los Rapiados, Inc.; and Grupo Centro, Inc. (Grupo). Golden State operates as a motor carrier of passengers in regular-

route service primarily in California, Arizona, New Mexico, and Colorado.

Greyhound states that, as a result of this control transaction, Golden State will remain a separate corporation, controlled indirectly through Sistema Internacional de Transporte de Autobuses, Inc., Greyhound's wholly owned noncarrier holding company. Golden State will initiate trans-border service to passengers traveling between points in the United States and points in Mexico through Greyhound's interest in Autobuses Crucero S.A. de C.F., a large Mexican bus line, and Greyhound's subsidiary, Los Rapiados. By acquiring control of Golden State, Greyhound will be allied with a motor carrier of passengers with an established reputation for accommodating the travel requirements of Hispanic/Latino passengers traveling between points of entry along the United States/Mexican border and points in the United States.

Applicant asserts that the aggregate gross operating revenues of Greyhound and its affiliates exceeded \$2 million during the 12 months preceding the filing of this application. Applicant also states that the proposed transaction will have no adverse competitive effects, and that the operations of the carriers involved will remain unchanged; that the total fixed charges associated with the proposed transaction are well within Greyhound's financial means; and that there will be no change in the status of any employees. Applicant certifies that: (1) Greyhound and its affiliates (except Grupo, which is not yet rated) hold "satisfactory" safety ratings from the U.S. Department of Transportation; (2) Golden State has a "conditional" rating and will procure and maintain sufficient liability insurance to meet the established fitness requirements; (3) neither Greyhound nor Golden State is domiciled in Mexico, and neither is owned or controlled by a citizen of that country; and (4) approval of the transaction will not significantly affect either the quality of the human environment or the conservation of energy resources. Additional information may be obtained from applicant's representative.

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

On the basis of the application, we find that the proposed acquisition of control is consistent with the public interest and should be authorized. If any

opposing comments are timely filed, this finding will be deemed vacated and a procedural schedule will be adopted to reconsider the application. If no opposing comments are filed by the expiration of the comment period, this decision will take effect automatically and will be the final Board action.

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. If timely opposing comments are filed, the findings made in this decision will be deemed vacated.

3. This decision will be effective on February 2, 1998, unless timely opposing comments are filed.

4. A copy of this notice will be served on the U.S. Department of Justice, Antitrust Division, 10th Street & Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20530.

Decided: December 12, 1997.

By the Board, Chairman Morgan and Vice Chairman Owen.

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-33281 Filed 12-18-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Surface Transportation Board****[STB Ex Parte No. 290 (Sub No. 5) (98-1)]****Quarterly Rail Cost Adjustment Factor****AGENCY:** Surface Transportation Board; DOT.**ACTION:** Approval of rail cost adjustment factor.

SUMMARY: The Board has approved the rebased first quarter 1998 rail cost adjustment factor (RCAF) and cost index filed by the Association of American Railroads. As required by statute, the RCAF was rebased using the fourth quarter 1997 index value as the denominator and first quarter 1998 index value as the numerator (10/1/97=1.00). Rebasing is required every five years. The rebased first quarter 1998 RCAF (Unadjusted) is 0.996. The rebased first quarter 1998 RCAF (Adjusted) is 0.657. The rebased first quarter 1998 RCAF-5 is 0.640.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: H. Jeff Warren, (202) 565-1549. TDD for the hearing impaired: (202) 565-1695.

¹ Greyhound will acquire 51% of the stock of Golden State and will exercise control of Golden State through its wholly owned subsidiary, Sistema Internacional de Transporte de Autobuses, Inc. Mr. Gonzalez and members of his family will retain the remaining 49% stock interest through a trust, the Francisco & Josefa Gonzalez Family Limited Partnership.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Additional information is contained in the Board's decision. To purchase a copy of the full decision, write to, call, or pick up in person from: DC NEWS & DATA, INC., Suite 210, 1925 K Street, NW, Washington, DC 20423, telephone (202) 289-4357. (Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through TDD services (202) 565-1695.)

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

Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 605(b), we conclude that our action will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities within the meaning of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

Decided: December 12, 1997.

By the Board, Chairman Morgan and Vice Chairman Owen.

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-33235 Filed 12-18-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Surface Transportation Board**

[STB Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 556X)]

**CSX Transportation, Inc.—
Abandonment Exemption—in Raleigh
County, WV**

On December 1, 1997, CSX Transportation, Inc. filed with the Surface Transportation Board (Board) a petition under 49 U.S.C. 10502 for exemption from the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 10903 to abandon that portion of its C&O Business Unit, Jarrolds Valley Subdivision, between milepost CLP-15.3 at R.O. Junction and milepost CLP-18.3 at the end of track at Picard, a distance of 3.0 miles in Raleigh County, WV. The line traverses U.S. Postal Service Zip Codes 25008 and 25044.

The line does not contain federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in the railroad's possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it. The interest of railroad employees will be protected by the conditions set forth in *Oregon Short Line R. Co.—Abandonment—Goshen*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979).

By issuance of this notice, the Board is instituting an exemption proceeding pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 10502(b). A final decision will be issued by March 20, 1998.

Any offer of financial assistance under 49 CFR 1152.27(b)(2) will be due no later than 10 days after service of a

decision granting the petition for exemption. Each offer of financial assistance must be accompanied by a \$900 filing fee. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).

All interested persons should be aware that, following abandonment of rail service and salvage of the line, the line may be suitable for other public use, including interim trail use. Any request for a public use condition under 49 CFR 1152.28 or for trail use/rail banking under 49 CFR 1152.29 will be due no later than January 8, 1998. Each trail use request must be accompanied by a \$150 filing fee. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(27).

All filings in response to this notice must refer to STB Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 556X) and must be sent to: (1) Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street NW., Washington, DC 20423-0001, and (2) Charles M. Rosenberger, 500 Water Street, Jacksonville, FL 32202.

Persons seeking further information concerning abandonment procedures may contact the Board's Office of Public Services at (202) 565-1592 or refer to the full abandonment or discontinuance regulations at 49 CFR part 1152. Questions concerning environmental issues may be directed to the Board's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) at (202) 565-1545. [TDD for the hearing impaired is available at (202) 565-1695.]

An environmental assessment (EA) (or environmental impact statement (EIS), if necessary) prepared by SEA will be served upon all parties of record and upon any agencies or other persons who commented during its preparation. Other interested persons may contact SEA to obtain a copy of the EA (or EIS). EAs in these abandonment proceedings normally will be available within 60 days of the filing of the petition. The deadline for submission of comments on the EA will generally be within 30 days of its service.

Decided: December 10, 1997.

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

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-33073 Filed 12-18-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

**Submission for OMB Review;
Comment Request**

December 10, 1997.

The Department of Treasury has submitted the following public information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling the Treasury Bureau Clearance Officer listed. Comments regarding this information collection should be addressed to the OMB reviewer listed and to the Treasury Department Clearance Officer, Department of the Treasury, Room 2110, 1425 New York Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20220.

**Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and
Firearms (BATF)**

OMB Number: 1512-0116.

Form Number: ATF F 2145 (5200.11).

Type of Review: Extension.

Title: Notice of Release/Return of Tobacco Products, Cigarette Papers and Tubes.

Description: Documents removal or release of tobacco products without payment of tax from U.S. Customs custody or return by a U.S. Government agency to bonded tobacco products factories and manufacturers of cigarette papers and tubes.

Respondents: Business or other for-profit, Federal Government.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 153.

Estimated Burden Hours Per Respondent: 15 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Total Reporting Burden: 306 hours.

OMB Number: 1512-0118.

Form Number: ATF F 2148 (5200.17).

Type of Review: Extension.

Title: Bond—Drawback Tax on Tobacco Products, Cigarette Papers, or Tubes.

Description: ATF F 2148 (5200.17) is necessary to secure payment of tax on tobacco products or cigarette papers or tubes on which a drawback of tax has been claimed and paid.

Respondents: Not-for-profit institutions.

Estimated Number of Recordkeepers: 50.

Estimated Burden Hours Per Recordkeeper: 1 hour.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Total Recordkeeping Burden: 50 hours.

OMB Number: 1512-0333.

Recordkeeping Requirement ID Number: ATF REC 5130/1.