

required data on certification labels since appropriate people at each location have been made aware of the requirement; and

5. Dorsey has not received any complaints from customers on the omission of the metric data from the certification labels and has not received any reports of accidents which were related to the omission of the metric data.

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments on the application described above. Comments should refer to the docket number and be submitted to: U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Management, Room PL-401, 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC 20590. It is requested that two copies be submitted.

All comments received before the close of business on the closing date indicated below will be considered. The application and supporting materials, and all comments received after the closing date, will also be filed and will be considered to the extent possible. When the application is granted or denied, the notice will be published in the **Federal Register** pursuant to the authority indicated below.

Comment closing date: November 2, 1998.

(49 U.S.C. 30118, 30120; delegations of authority at 49 CFR 1.50 and 501.8)

Issued on: September 28, 1998.

L. Robert Shelton,

Associate Administrator for Safety Performance Standards.

[FR Doc. 98-26435 Filed 10-1-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Research and Special Programs Administration

[Notice 98-9]

Educational Session on Bulk Packagings for Hazardous Materials

AGENCY: Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of a public meeting.

SUMMARY: RSPA will hold a public meeting to discuss the requirements in the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR) applicable to the transportation of hazardous materials in certain bulk packagings, including DOT specification IM 101 and IM 102 portable tanks, intermediate bulk containers meeting UN performance standards, and DOT exemption bulk containers. All interested persons, including manufacturers, requalifiers, owners and

users of these bulk packagings are encouraged to participate.

DATES: The public meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 17, 1998, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The public meeting will be held at the Cajun Dome, 444 Cajun Dome Boulevard, Lafayette, Louisiana, 70506.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ryan Posten, Office of Hazardous Materials Standards, Research and Special Programs Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW, 20590-0001, Telephone (202) 366-8553.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The offshore oil industry uses a wide variety of bulk packagings for the transportation of hazardous materials. RSPA has received a number of inquiries from industry members in the Gulf Coast area regarding the requirements in the HMR applicable to the transportation of hazardous materials, specifically liquids in hazard classes 3 and 8, in bulk packagings. The inquiries primarily relate to the manufacture, certification, requalification, inspection and use of packagings marked as meeting the DOT IM 101 and 102 specifications for portable tanks, UN performance standards for intermediate bulk containers, or the specific requirements for packagings authorized in DOT exemptions. At the meeting, RSPA will discuss requirements in the HMR both for: (1) design construction and certification of these containers, including internal discharge valves, structural integrity, safety relief devices, and third party inspection; and (2) use of these containers, including loading, unloading, and requalification.

RSPA is conducting this public meeting as part of its continuing efforts to improve understanding of the safety requirements for the use of bulk packagings for transportation of hazardous materials.

Issued in Washington, DC on September 28, 1998 under authority delegated in 49 CFR part 106, Appendix A.

Alan I. Roberts,

Associate Administrator for Hazardous Materials Safety.

[FR Doc. 98-26359 Filed 10-1-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 33642 (Sub-No 1)]

Kyle Railroad Company—Acquisition and Operation Exemption—Omaha Public Power District

AGENCY: Surface Transportation Board.

ACTION: Notice of exemption.

SUMMARY: The Board, under 49 U.S.C. 10502, exempts from the acquisition and operation of certain rail lines described in STB Finance Docket No. 33642¹ to permit the acquisition and operation as agreed to by the parties pursuant to a five-year contract to expire on December 31, 2003.

DATES: The exemption will be effective on November 1, 1998. Petitions to reopen must be filed by October 22, 1998.

ADDRESSES: An original and 10 copies of all pleadings referring to STB Finance Docket No. 33642 (Sub-No. 1) must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, a copy of all pleadings must be served on petitioner'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: 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., 1925 K Street, N.W., Suite 210, Washington, DC 20006. Telephone: (202) 289-4357. [Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through TDD services (202) 565-1695.]

Decided: September 29, 1998.

¹ On July 27, 1998, KR filed a notice of exemption under the Board's class exemption procedures at 49 CFR 1150.41. The notice covered the agreement by Omaha Public Power District to grant to Kyle Railroad Company temporary acquisition and operation of approximately 56.75 miles of rail line between milepost 56.30 at Collegeview, and milepost 6.10 at Arbor in Lancaster and Otoe, Counties, NE. See *Kyle Railroad Company—Acquisition and Operation Exemption—Omaha Public Power District*, STB Finance Docket No. 33642 (STB served Aug. 25, 1998). The exemption became effective and was scheduled to be consummated on or shortly after August 4, 1998.

By the Board, Chairman Morgan and Vice Chairman Owen.

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-26503 Filed 10-1-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

International Trade Data System Project Office; International Trade Data System

AGENCY: Department of the Treasury, International Trade Data System Project Office.

ACTION: General notice.

SUMMARY: This document announces the availability of a draft report recommending the design and implementation of the interagency International Trade Data System (ITDS), solicits public comments on that draft, and announces a public briefing on the ITDS recommendations.

DATES: The public briefing will take place on Thursday, November 5, 1998, beginning at 9 a.m. Requests to appear to present views at the briefing must be received on or before October 21, 1998. Requests to attend the briefing must be received on or before November 2, 1998. Written comments must be received on or before November 12, 1998.

ADDRESSES: The public briefing will take place in the Department of Commerce Auditorium located at 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC. Requests to appear at or attend the briefing must be submitted to the ITDS Project Office by telephone at (202) 216-2760, or by e-mail at the ITDS Web Site (www.itds.treas.gov). Comments may be submitted in writing to the Department of the Treasury, International Trade Data System Project Office, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 4000, Washington, DC 20229, or by e-mail at ITDS@usa.net.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Richard A. Kuzmack, Deputy Director, ITDS Project Office (202-216-2760).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The International Trade Data System ("ITDS") is a Federal Government information technology initiative of the National Performance Review. The ITDS will provide the public with a single window through which to submit data and make payments required by all Federal Government agencies that regulate international trade transactions. It will also provide the public with a single, convenient point for accessing data on international trade. The ITDS will contribute to the creation of a

government that works better and costs less by: (1) Reducing the cost and burden of processing international trade transactions for both the private trade community and the government; (2) improving the enforcement of and compliance with government trade regulations (such as those addressing public health and safety, animal and plant health, consumer protection, etc.); and (3) providing access to international trade data and information that are more accurate, complete, and timely.

The ITDS initiative is led by a Board of Directors chaired by the Department of the Treasury and composed of representatives from government agencies that are major participants in government international trade data processes. Agencies represented on the ITDS Board of Directors include the Treasury Department, Agriculture Department, Customs Service, Food and Drug Administration, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Transportation Department, Commerce Department, International Trade Commission, and the Office of the U. S. Trade Representative. The initiative is also supported by a project office hosted by the Department of the Treasury.

The ITDS Board of Directors has reviewed and approved for public comment a draft project plan for implementing the ITDS system. Although agency reviews and other work continue on the draft, the ITDS Board has determined that it is appropriate at this point to seek public comment as part of the review process. Toward this end, the Board is posting major portions of the ITDS Draft Design Report on the Internet for public review and comment. The report can be accessed from the link on the ITDS Web Site at <http://www.itds.treas.gov>. The report consists of a series of sections each serving a specific purpose with the objective of satisfying government guidelines and requirements for the design, development, and administration of the scope of the ITDS.

The various sections of the ITDS Design Report are as follows.

Concept of Operations

The Concept of Operations is central to the Draft Design Report. It provides an overview of ITDS and forms the basis for the contents of the other sections. The conceptual basis for the Design Report was derived from the IT-06 Task Force Report dated May 1995. The key components outlined in the IT-06 Report that form the foundation of ITDS are: Border Operations, including commercial cargo and conveyance processing; License and Permitting, including the accounting for goods

processed against specific licenses or permits; Statistics, Analysis, and Policy Development; and Trade Promotion. Another important factor regarding the functional content of the Concept of Operations is the design principles adopted by the ITDS Board of Directors.

Information Technology Architecture Guidelines

The guidance contained in OMB Memorandum (M-97-16), Information Technology Architectures, and the recommended Department of the Treasury Information Technology Architecture (ITA), were used in the development of the ITA Guidelines for the proposed system. The technical section of the ITA identifies the various rules, government directives, and standards to which agency systems must adhere in developing information systems. Collectively, the sections contained within the Design Report are intended to fulfill the guidelines outlined in M-97-16 in addition to satisfying the requirements of the Clinger-Cohen Act, OMB Circular A-130, and OMB Policy on Funding Information Systems Investments.

Hardware and Software Alternatives

The Hardware and Software alternatives section describes the alternative approaches (centralized, distributed, or a completely outsourced system). This section of the Design Report discusses how each alternative would be addressed: including transaction processing, network communications, security, ITDS applications, data warehouse, backup power supplies, and a backup data center. The ITDS is looking for the most cost-effective means of operating the system over the long term and, toward this end, is seriously considering designing the system to facilitate outsourcing.

Risk Management

The Risk Management section describes a systematic approach to identifying and controlling factors that could adversely affect the implementation of ITDS. It includes the procedures and automated tools to be used in tracking risks, assessing the likelihood of their occurrence, their consequences, and mitigating plans. The ITDS Project Office has identified ten risks, which are included in this section.

Configuration Management

The Configuration Management section provides a framework for identifying and managing changes to the