

be considered by FRA before final action is taken. Comments received after that date will be considered as far as practicable. All written communications concerning these proceedings are available for examination during regular business hours (9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.) at the above facility. All documents in the public docket are also available for inspection and copying on the Internet at the docket facility's web site at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

Issued in Washington, D.C. on February 24, 2000.

Grady C. Cothen, Jr.,

Deputy Associate Administrator for Safety Standards and Program Development.

[FR Doc. 00–5539 Filed 3–7–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–06–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

Petition for Waiver of Compliance

In accordance with Part 211 of Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), notice is hereby given that the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) received a request for a waiver of compliance with certain requirements of its safety standards. The individual petition is described below, including the party seeking relief, the regulatory provisions involved, the nature of the relief being requested, and the petitioner's arguments in favor of relief.

Union Pacific Railroad Company

[Docket Number FRA–2000–6848]

Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP) seeks a permanent waiver of compliance with the Blue Signal Protection of Workers, 49 CFR Part 218.29(a)(3), which requires that as part of an alternate method of protection “a blue signal must be attached to each controlling locomotive at a location where it is readily visible to the engineman or operator at the controls of that locomotive.” UP requests that at their Hinkle Locomotive Facility located in Hermiston, Oregon, they be allowed to designate the east and west locomotive at the respective end of each repair track as the controlling locomotive regardless of it being set up in control.

Interested parties are invited to participate in these proceedings by submitting written views, data, or comments. FRA does not anticipate scheduling a public hearing in connection with these proceedings since the facts do not appear to warrant a hearing. If any interested party desires an opportunity for oral comment, they

should notify FRA, in writing, before the end of the comment period and specify the basis for their request.

All communications concerning these proceedings should identify the appropriate docket number (e.g., Waiver Petition Docket Number 2000–6848) and must be submitted to the Docket Clerk, DOT Docket Management Facility, Room PL–401 (Plaza Level), 400 7th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20590. Communications received within 45 days of the date of this notice will be considered by FRA before final action is taken. Comments received after that date will be considered as far as practicable. All written communications concerning these proceedings are available for examination during regular business hours (9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.) at the above facility. All documents in the public docket are also available for inspection and copying on the Internet at the docket facility's web site at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

Issued in Washington, D.C. on February 24, 2000.

Grady C. Cothen, Jr.,

Deputy Associate Administrator for Safety Standards and Program Development.

[FR Doc. 00–5538 Filed 3–7–00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 33811]

Wisconsin Central Transportation Corporation—Continuance in Control Exemption—Wisconsin Chicago Link Ltd.

AGENCY: Surface Transportation Board.

ACTION: Notice of exemption.

SUMMARY: Under 49 U.S.C. 10502, the Board exempts from the prior approval requirements of 49 U.S.C. 11323–25, the control by Wisconsin Central Transportation Corporation of Wisconsin Chicago Link Ltd, a Class III rail common carrier, subject to the employee protection conditions in *New York Dock Ry.—Control—Brooklyn Eastern Dist.*, 360 I.C.C. 60 (1979).

DATES: The exemption will be effective April 7, 2000. Petitions for stay must be filed by March 20, 2000. Petitions for reconsideration must be filed by March 28, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Send an original and 10 copies of any comments referring to STB Finance Docket No. 33811 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 any comments to applicant's representative: Thomas J. Litwiler, Oppenheimer Wolff & Donnelly (Illinois), Two Prudential Plaza, 45th Floor, 180 North Stetson Avenue, Chicago, IL 60601–6710.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Joseph H. Dettmar (202) 565–1600 [TDD for the hearing impaired: 1–800–877–8339.]

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: Da-to-Da Office Solutions, 1925 K Street, NW, Suite 210, Washington, DC 20006. Telephone: (202) 289–4357. [Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through TDD services 1–800–877–8339.]

Board decisions and notices are available on our website at WWW.STB.DOT.GOV.

Decided: February 29, 2000.

By the Board, Chairman Morgan, Vice Chairman Burkes, and Commissioner Clyburn.

Vernon A. Williams,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00–5374 Filed 3–7–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010–01–M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Bureau of Transportation Statistics

[Docket No. BTS–99–5889]

Motor Carrier Financial and Operating Information; Requests for Exemption From Public Release of Reports

AGENCY: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, DOT.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Class I and Class II motor carriers of property and household goods are required to file annual and quarterly reports with the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS). As provided by statute, carriers may request that their reports be withheld from public release. On September 3, 1999, BTS invited comments on several requests submitted by carriers (64 FR 48452). BTS has issued its decisions and these are available through the DOT Dockets Management System. Please follow the instructions listed below.

ADDRESSES: You can read BTS's decision on the exemption requests using the DOT Dockets Management System. This is located at the Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Room PL–401, Washington, DC 20590, and is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through

Friday, except federal holidays. Internet users can access the Dockets Management System at <http://dms.dot.gov>. Please follow the instructions online for more information and help. The exemption requests and public comments on them are also available through this system.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

David Mednick, K-1, Bureau of Transportation Statistics, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590; (202) 366-8871; fax: (202) 366-3640; e-mail: david.mednick@bts.gov.

Rolf R. Schmitt,

Associate Director for Transportation Studies.

[FR Doc. 00-5653 Filed 3-7-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-FE-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0563]

Agency Information Collection Activities Under OMB Review

AGENCY: Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995 (44 U.S.C., 3501 *et seq.*), this notice announces that the Veterans Health Administration (VHA), Department of

Veterans Affairs, has submitted the collection of information abstracted below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The PRA submission describes the nature of the information collection and its expected cost and burden; it includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATE: Comments must be submitted on or before April 7, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR A COPY OF THE SUBMISSION CONTACT:

Denise McLamb, Information Management Service (045A4), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420, (202) 273-8030 or FAX (202) 273-5981. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0563."

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Army Chemical Corps Vietnam Veterans Health Study, Phase II, VA Form 10-20998(NR).

OMB Control Number: 2900-0563.

Type of Review: Reinstatement, without change, of a previously approved collection for which approval has expired.

Abstract: A contractor to VA will conduct telephone surveys, analyze serum for TCDD, retrieve medical records and provide automated databases to VA. VA researchers will use the study data to determine whether there are indications that Army Chemical Corps Vietnam veterans suffer from illnesses at higher or unusual rates than Vietnam era Army Chemical Corps veterans. The relationship between

health outcomes and possible exposure to herbicides will also be evaluated.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on this collection of information was published on June 22, 1999, at page 33345.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 2,448 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 30 minutes.

Frequency of Response: One time.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 4,895.

Send comments and recommendations concerning any aspect of the information collection to VA's OMB Desk Officer, Allison Eydt, OMB Human Resources and Housing Branch, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503 (202) 395-4650. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0563" in any correspondence.

Dated: February 16, 2000.

By direction of the Secretary.

Donald L. Neilson,

Director, Information Management Service.

[FR Doc. 00-5570 Filed 3-7-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P