

Alloy 600 and Vessel Head Degradation subheadings.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The proceedings will be published as Conference Proceedings of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NUREG/CP-series). Additional details, including lists of session chairpersons, and the contributed papers will be published on the NRC Web site: <http://www.nrc.gov> under the public meetings section of both the Alloy 600 and Vessel Head Degradation subheadings. Presentations at the conference will encompass vessel penetration cracking issues for all primary boundary locations, including upper head, lower head and pressurizer penetrations, and nickel-base alloy, or mixed metal welds used to join pressure boundary components.

The conference will consist of six sessions, chaired by domestic and international representatives of regulatory agencies, industry, and research organizations. Each session scheduled below includes invited and contributed papers on the following specific topics:

**Monday, March 24, 2003—8:30 a.m.—12 Noon**

Topics to be presented include flaw inspection procedures, descriptions of NDE results, and user experience with component mock-ups or other NDE training and certification procedures; visual inspection tools, programs underway to improve performance.

**Monday, March 24, 2003—1:30–5 p.m.**

Topics to be presented include descriptions of crack growth rate (CGR) experiments, interpretation and analysis of CGR data for Alloys 600, 690, 182/82 and 152/52.

**Tuesday, March 25, 2003—8:30 a.m.—12 Noon**

Topics to be presented include probabilistic fracture mechanics analysis of pressure boundary structural elements, including experimental or analytical stress analyses for axial and circumferential cracking of VHPs.

**Tuesday, March 25, 2003—1:30–5 p.m.**

Topics to be presented include programs that address the mitigation of the cracking or other corrective actions, especially repair procedures; future materials and fabrication techniques.

**Wednesday, March 26, 2003—8:30 a.m.—12 Noon**

Topics to be presented include application of these results in operating plants, including follow-on inspections of repaired components, and

evaluations of success or failure of these methods.

**Wednesday, March 26, 2003—1:30–5 p.m.**

Wrap up and summaries by session chairs

The conference is open to the public, and there is no registration fee. Those who wish to attend are encouraged to contact Ken Natesan ([natesan@anl.gov](mailto:natesan@anl.gov)) or Bill Cullen ([whc@nrc.gov](mailto:whc@nrc.gov)). Further information, including forms for conference registration, and a final list of presentations, will be posted on the NRC website. Those attendees needing special services, such as for the hearing impaired, are requested to notify the conference organizers as far in advance as reasonably possible.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 3rd day of January, 2003.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.  
**Nilesh C. Chokshi,**  
*Acting Director, Division of Engineering Technology, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research.*

[FR Doc. 03–375 Filed 1–8–03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7590–01–P**

**COMMISSION ON OCEAN POLICY**

**Public Meeting**

**AGENCY:** Commission on Ocean Policy.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Commission on Ocean Policy will hold a meeting to discuss the development of recommendations for a coordinated national ocean policy. This will be the fourteenth public Commission meeting.

**DATES:** The public meeting will be held Friday, January 24, 2003 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting location is the Amphitheater, Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, 1300 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington DC 20004.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Terry Schaff, U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy, 1120 20th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20036, 202–418–3442, [schaff@oceancommission.gov](mailto:schaff@oceancommission.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This meeting is being held pursuant to requirements under the Oceans Act of 2000 (Pub. L. 106–256, Section 3(e)(1)(E)). The agenda will include discussions of policy options, a public comment session, and any required administrative discussions and executive sessions. Members of the public are requested to submit their statements for the record electronically

by Tuesday, January 14, 2003 to the meeting Point of Contact. The meeting agenda, including the specific time for the public comment period, and guidelines for making public comments will be posted on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.oceancommission.gov> prior to the meeting.

Dated: January 3, 2003.

**James D. Watkins, USN (ret.),**  
*Chairman, Commission on Ocean Policy.*  
[FR Doc. 03–370 Filed 1–8–03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6820–WM–U**

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Surface Transportation Board**

**[STB Finance Docket No. 34304]**

**The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company—Trackage Rights Exemption—The Portland & Western Railroad, Inc.**

On December 20, 2002, The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company (BNSF) filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1180.2(d)(7) for overhead trackage rights between milepost 68.6 at Bush, OR, and milepost 96.5 at Albany, OR, a distance of 27.9 miles. The trackage rights operations would be conducted over part of a line owned by BNSF, which was leased to The Portland & Western Railroad, Inc. (P&WR), pursuant to a transaction exempted in *Portland & Western Railroad, Inc.—Lease and Operation Exemption—The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company*, STB Finance Docket No. 34255 (STB served Jan. 3, 2003).

The transaction was scheduled to be consummated on or after December 27, 2002, the effective date of the exemption. The purpose of the trackage rights is to allow BNSF to operate over the leased line: (1) Moving trains containing loaded or empty cars interchanged with P&WR and other carriers having interchanges at Albany; or (2) for pre-positioning or storage of cars as agreed to between BNSF and P&WR.<sup>1</sup>

As a condition to this exemption, any employees affected by the trackage rights will be protected by the conditions imposed in *Norfolk and*

<sup>1</sup> On December 23, 2002, BNSF filed a motion to dismiss this notice on the ground that separate Board approval of its trackage rights is unnecessary. John D. Fitzgerald, on behalf of the United Transportation Union—General Committee of Adjustment, replied on December 30, 2002. The motion to dismiss will be addressed in a separate decision.

*Western Ry. Co.—Trackage Rights—BN*, 354 I.C.C. 605 (1978), as modified in *Mendocino Coast Ry., Inc.—Lease and Operate*, 360 I.C.C. 653 (1980).

The notice is filed under 49 CFR 1180.2(d). If the notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void *ab initio*. Petitions to revoke the exemption under 49 U.S.C. 10502(d) may be filed at any time. The filing of a petition to revoke will not automatically stay the transaction.

An original and 10 copies of all pleadings, referring to STB Finance Docket No. 34304, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on Sarah W. Bailiff, The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company, PO Box 961039, Fort Worth, TX 76161-0039.

Board decisions and notices are available on our Web site at <http://www.stb.dot.gov>.

Decided: January 3, 2003.

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

**Vernon A. Williams,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 03-396 Filed 1-8-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Surface Transportation Board

[STB Docket No. AB-290 (Sub-No. 215X)]

#### Norfolk Southern Railway Company— Abandonment Exemption—Between Williamson and Cinderella, in Mingo County, WV

The Norfolk Southern Railway Company (NSR) has filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 subpart F—*Exempt Abandonments* to abandon a 2.5-mile line of railroad between milepost FG-0.0 at Williamson and milepost FG-2.5 at Cinderella, in Mingo County, WV. The line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Code 25661.

NSR has certified that: (1) No local traffic has moved over the line for at least 2 years; (2) there has been no overhead traffic on the line for at least 2 years; (3) no formal complaint filed by a user of rail service on the line (or by a state or local government agency acting on behalf of such user) regarding cessation of service over the line either is pending with the Surface Transportation Board (Board) or with any U.S. District Court or has been decided in favor of complainant within the 2-year period; and (4) the requirements at 49 CFR 1105.7 (environmental reports), 49 CFR 1105.8

(historic reports), 49 CFR 1105.11 (transmittal letter), 49 CFR 1105.12 (newspaper publication), and 49 CFR 1152.50(d)(1) (notice to governmental agencies) have been met.

As a condition to this exemption, any employee adversely affected by the abandonment shall be protected under *Oregon Short Line R. Co.—*

*Abandonment—Goshen*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979). To address whether this condition adequately protects affected employees, a petition for partial 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 February 8, 2003,<sup>1</sup> unless stayed pending reconsideration. Petitions to stay that do not involve environmental issues,<sup>2</sup> formal expressions of intent to file an OFA under 49 CFR 1152.27(c)(2),<sup>3</sup> and trail use/rail banking requests under 49 CFR 1152.29 must be filed by January 17, 2003. Petitions to reopen or requests for public use conditions under 49 CFR 1152.28 must be filed by January 29, 2003, with the Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423-0001.

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

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

NSR has filed a separate environmental report which addresses the abandonment's effects, if any, on the environment and historic resources. SEA will issue an environmental assessment (EA) by January 14, 2003. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the EA by writing to SEA (Room 500, Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423-0001) or by calling SEA, at (202) 565-1552. (Assistance for the hearing impaired is

<sup>1</sup> NSR initially proposed a consummation date of February 6, 2003. NSR's representative has subsequently acknowledged that consummation cannot occur before February 8, 2003, based on the December 20, 2002 filing date of the notice of exemption. See 49 CFR 1152.50(d)(2).

<sup>2</sup> 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 (SEA) 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.

<sup>3</sup> Each OFA must be accompanied by the filing fee, which currently is set at \$1,100. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).

available through the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.) 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), NSR 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 NSR's filing of a notice of consummation by January 9, 2004, and there are no legal or regulatory barriers to consummation, the authority to abandon will automatically expire.

Board decisions and notices are available on our Web site at <http://www.stb.dot.gov>.

Decided: January 2, 2003.

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

**Vernon A. Williams,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 03-395 Filed 1-8-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Transportation Security Administration

#### Aviation Security Advisory Committee Meeting

**AGENCY:** Transportation Security Administration (TSA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces a closed meeting of the Aviation Security Advisory Committee (ASAC).

**DATES:** The meeting will take place on January 29, 2003, from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn Capitol, 550 C Street, SW., Washington, DC 20024.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dan Mullarkey, Office of Security Regulation and Policy, 400 7th St., SW., Washington, DC 20590, Room 3034, telephone 202-385-1236.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This meeting is announced pursuant to section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Act) (Pub. L. 92-463; 5 U.S.C. App. 11). In accordance with section 10(d) of the Act, TSA has determined that this meeting will be closed in its entirety to the public in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(3).