

information will have practical utility; the accuracy of FRA's estimates of the burden of the proposed information collections; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the collections of information on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

A comment to OMB is best assured of having its full effect if OMB receives it within 30 days of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**.

**Authority:** 44 U.S.C. 3501–3520.

Issued in Washington, DC, on March 21, 2013.

**Rebecca Pennington,**  
*Chief Financial Officer, Federal Railroad Administration.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket No. FRA 2013–0002–N–6]

#### Proposed Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Federal Railroad Administration, DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 and its implementing regulations, the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) hereby announces that it is seeking renewal of the following currently approved information collection activities. Before submitting these information collection requirements (ICRs) for clearance by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), FRA is soliciting public comment on specific aspects of the activities identified below.

**DATES:** Comments must be received no later than May 28, 2013.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit written comments on any or all of the following proposed activities by mail to either: Mr. Robert Brogan, Office of Safety, Planning and Evaluation Division, RRS–21, Federal Railroad Administration, 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE., Mail Stop 17, Washington, DC 20590, or Ms. Kimberly Toone, Office of Information Technology, RAD–20, Federal Railroad Administration, 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE., Mail Stop 35, Washington, DC 20590. Commenters requesting FRA to acknowledge receipt of their respective comments must include a self-addressed

stamped postcard stating, “Comments on OMB control number \_\_\_\_\_.” Alternatively, comments may be transmitted via facsimile to (202) 493–6216 or (202) 493–6497, or via email to Mr. Brogan at *Robert.Brogan@dot.gov*, or to Ms. Toone at *Kim.Toone@dot.gov*. Please refer to the assigned OMB control number in any correspondence submitted. FRA will summarize comments received in response to this notice in a subsequent notice and include them in its information collection submission to OMB for approval.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Robert Brogan, Office of Planning and Evaluation Division, RRS–21, Federal Railroad Administration, 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE., Mail Stop 17, Washington, DC 20590 (telephone: (202) 493–6292) or Ms. Kimberly Toone, Office of Information Technology, RAD–20, Federal Railroad Administration, 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE., Mail Stop 35, Washington, DC 20590 (telephone: (202) 493–6132). (These telephone numbers are not toll-free.)

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), Public Law 104–13, § 2, 109 Stat. 163 (1995) (codified as revised at 44 U.S.C. 3501–3520), and its implementing regulations, 5 CFR part 1320, require Federal agencies to provide 60-days notice to the public for comment on information collection activities before seeking approval for reinstatement or renewal by OMB. 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A); 5 CFR 1320.8(d)(1), 1320.10(e)(1), 1320.12(a). Specifically, FRA invites interested respondents to comment on the following summary of proposed information collection activities regarding (i) Whether the information collection activities are necessary for FRA to properly execute its functions, including whether the activities will have practical utility; (ii) the accuracy of FRA's estimates of the burden of the information collection activities, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used to determine the estimates; (iii) ways for FRA to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information being collected; and (iv) ways for FRA to minimize the burden of information collection activities on the public by automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology (e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses). See 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)(I)–(iv); 5 CFR 1320.8(d)(1)(I)–(iv). FRA believes that soliciting public comment will promote its efforts to reduce the administrative

and paperwork burdens associated with the collection of information mandated by Federal regulations. In summary, FRA reasons that comments received will advance three objectives: (i) Reduce reporting burdens; (ii) ensure that it organizes information collection requirements in a “user friendly” format to improve the use of such information; and (iii) accurately assess the resources expended to retrieve and produce information requested. See 44 U.S.C. 3501.

Below are brief summaries of three currently approved information collection activities that FRA will submit for clearance by OMB as required under the PRA:

*Title:* Filing of Dedicated Cars.

*OMB Control Number:* 2130–0502.

*Type of Request:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Affected Public:* Businesses.

*Form(s):* N/A.

*Abstract:* Title 49, Part 215 of the Code of Federal Regulations, prescribes certain conditions to be followed for the movement of freight cars that are not in compliance with this Part. Dedicated service means the exclusive assignment of railroad cars to the transportation of freight between specified points under the following conditions: (1) The cars are operated primarily on track that is inside an industrial or other non-railroad installation; and only occasionally over track of a railroad; (2) The cars are not operated at speeds of more than 15 miles per hour; and over track of a railroad—(A) for more than 30 miles in one direction; or (B) on a round trip for more than 60 miles; (3) The cars are not freely interchanged among railroads; (4) The words “Dedicated Service” are stenciled, or otherwise displayed, in clear legible letters on each side of the car body; and (5) The cars have been examined and found safe to operate in dedicated service. These cars must be identified in a written report to FRA before they are assigned to dedicated service, and these reports must be filed with FRA 30 days before the cars operate in dedicated service. FRA uses the information collected under § 215.5(d) to determine the number of railroads affected, the number and type of cars involved, the commodities being carried, and the territorial and speed limits within which the cars will be operated. FRA reviews these reports to determine if the equipment is safe to operate and if the operation qualifies for dedicated service. The information collected indicates to FRA inspectors that the particular or “dedicated” car is in special service and that certain exceptions have been provided for

regarding the application of this regulation spelled out in § 215.3. Cars not in compliance with § 215.5(d) will be cited for violations by FRA inspectors. The information collected is also used by railroads to provide identification and control so that dedicated cars remain in the prescribed service.

*Total Annual Estimated Responses:* 4.

*Total Annual Estimated Burden:* 4 hours.

*Title:* Special Notice for Repairs.

*OMB Control Number:* 2130–0504.

*Type of Request:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Affected Public:* Businesses.

*Form(s):* FRA F 6180.8; FRA F 6180.8A.

*Abstract:* The Special Notice for Repairs is issued to notify the carrier in writing of an unsafe condition involving a locomotive, car, or track. The carrier

must return the form after repairs have been made. The collection of information is used by State and Federal inspectors to remove freight car or locomotives until they can be restored to a serviceable condition. It is also used by State and Federal inspectors to reduce the maximum authorized speed on a section of track until repairs can be made.

*Total Annual Estimated Responses:* 32.

*Total Annual Estimated Burden:* 10 hours.

*Title:* Remotely Controlled Switch Operations.

*OMB Control Number:* 2130–0516.

*Abstract:* Title 49, Section 218.30 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), ensures that remotely controlled switches are lined to protect workers who are vulnerable to being struck by moving cars as they inspect or service

equipment on a particular track or, alternatively, occupy camp cars. FRA believes that production of notification requests promotes safety by minimizing mental lapses of workers who are simultaneously handling several tasks. Sections 218.30 and 218.67 require the operator of remotely controlled switches to maintain a record of each notification requesting blue signal protection for 15 days. Operators of remotely controlled switches use the information as a record documenting blue signal protection of workers or camp cars. This record also serves as a valuable resource for railroad supervisors and FRA inspectors monitoring regulatory compliance.

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

*Affected Public:* Businesses.

*Respondent Universe:* 728 railroads.

*Frequency of Submission:* On occasion.

CFR section	Respondent universe	Total annual responses	Average time per response (minute)	Total annual burden hours
218.30—Blue signal protection of workmen.	70 railroads .....	3,600,000 notifications .....	1	60,000
218.77—Protection of occupied camp cars.	4 railroads .....	2,300 notifications .....	1	38

*Total Estimated Responses:* 3,602,300.  
*Total Estimated Annual Burden:* 60,038 hours.

*Status:* Regular Review.

*Title:* Bad Order and Home Shop Card.

*OMB Control Number:* 2130–0519.

*Abstract:* Under 49 CFR part 215, each railroad is required to inspect freight cars placed in service and take the necessary remedial action when defects are identified. Part 215 defects are specific in nature and relate to items

that have or could have caused accidents or incidents. Section 215.9 sets forth specific procedures that railroads must follow when it is necessary to move defective cars for repair purposes. For example, railroads must affix a “bad order” tag describing each defect to each side of the freight car. It is imperative that a defective freight car be tagged “bad order” so that it may be readily identified and moved to another location for repair purposes only. At the repair point, the “bad

order” tag serves as a repair record. Railroads must retain each tag for 90 days to verify that proper repairs were made at the designated location. FRA and State inspectors review all pertinent records to determine whether defective cars presenting an immediate hazard are being moved in transportation.

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

*Affected Public:* Businesses.

*Frequency of Submission:* On occasion.

CFR section	Respondent universe	Total annual responses	Average time per response (minutes)	Total annual burden hours
215.9—Movement of Defective Cars for Repair—Tagging.	728 railroads .....	150,000 tags .....	5	12,500
—Notifications of Removal of Defective Car Tags.	728 railroads .....	75,000 notifications .....	2	2,500
215.11—Designated Inspectors—Records.	718 railroads .....	45,000 records .....	1	750

*Respondent Universe:* 728 railroads.  
*Total Estimated Responses:* 270,000.  
*Total Estimated Annual Burden:* 15,750 hours.

*Status:* Regular Review.

Pursuant to 44 U.S.C. 3507(a) and 5 CFR 1320.5(b), 1320.8(b)(3)(vi), FRA informs all interested parties that it may not conduct or sponsor, and a respondent is not required to respond

to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

**Authority:** 44 U.S.C. 3501–3520.

Issued in Washington, DC on March 21, 2013.

**Rebecca Pennington,**

*Chief Financial Officer, Federal Railroad Administration.*

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