

service provider, bank, insurance company, or other person maintaining the information necessary to file the request for reconsideration or appeal is within such an area.

#### Premiums

The PBGC will waive the late payment penalty charge with respect to any premium payment required to be made on or after January 6, 1996, and before January 31, 1996, if the payment is made by January 31, 1996. The PBGC is not permitted by law to waive late payment interest charges. (ERISA section 4007(b); 29 CFR 2610.7 and 2610.8(b)(3).)

#### Section 4071 Penalties

The PBGC will not assess a section 4071 penalty for a failure to file any of the following notices required to be filed with the PBGC on or after January 6, 1996, and before January 31, 1996, if the notice is filed by January 31, 1996:

- (1) Post-distribution certification for single-employer plan (PBGC Form 501 or 602; ERISA section 4041(b)(3)(B) or (c)(3)(B); 29 CFR 2617.28(h) or 2616.29(b)),
- (2) Notice of termination for multiemployer plans (ERISA section 4041A; 29 CFR 2673.2),
- (3) Notice of plan amendments increasing benefits by more than \$10 million (ERISA section 307(e)), and
- (4) Reportable event notice, except for reportable events related to bankruptcy or insolvency (or similar proceeding or settlement), liquidation or dissolution, or transactions involving a change in contributing sponsor or controlled group (29 CFR 2615.21, 2615.22, and 2615.23), or reportable events described in amended ERISA section 4043(c)(9)-(12). (Subsection (b) of section 4043 was redesignated as subsection (c) and amended, in part, with the addition of new reportable events in paragraphs (9) through (12) by section 771(c)(3) of the Retirement Protection Act of 1994 ("RPA amendments").)

The PBGC will not assess a section 4071 penalty for a failure to provide certain supporting information and documentation when any of the following notices is timely filed:

- (1) Notice of failure to make required contributions totaling more than \$1 million (including interest) (PBGC Form 200; ERISA section 302(f)(4); 29 CFR 2615.31). The timely filed notice must include at least items 1 through 7 and items 11 and 12 of Form 200; the responses to items 8 through 10, with the certifications in items 11 and 12, may be filed late.
- (2) Notice of a reportable event related to bankruptcy or insolvency (or similar proceeding or settlement), liquidation or dissolution, or a transaction involving a change in contributing sponsor or controlled group. The timely filed notice must include at least the information specified in 29 CFR 2615.3(b) (1) through (5); the information that may be filed late is that specified in 29 CFR

2615.3(b) (6) through (9) and 2615.3(c) (5) and (6), as applicable.

(3) Notice of a reportable event described in the RPA amendments for which notice is required no later than 30 days after the event occurs.

(A) If the event is reportable under both the RPA amendments and 29 CFR 2615, the notice will be considered timely filed if the notice satisfies the requirements described in paragraph (2) above.

(B) If the event is reportable only under the RPA amendments, the notice will be considered timely filed if the notice includes at least the information specified in 29 CFR 2615.3(b) (1) through (5); the information that may be filed late is that specified in 29 CFR 2615.3(b) (6) through (9).

(4) Notice of a reportable event described in the RPA amendments for which notice is required at least 30 days before the event occurs. The notice will be considered timely filed if the filer makes a good faith effort to include with the notice at least the information specified in 29 CFR 2615.3(b) (1) through (5); the information specified in 29 CFR 2615.3(b) (6) through (9) and 2615.3(c) (5) and (6), as applicable, may be filed late and should be as soon thereafter as it is available.

This relief applies to notices required to be filed with the PBGC on or after January 6, 1996, and before January 31, 1996, provided that all supporting information and documentation are filed by January 31, 1996.

#### Standard and Distress Termination Notices and Distribution of Assets

With respect to a standard termination for which the standard termination notice is required to be filed, or the distribution of plan assets is required to be completed, on or after January 6, 1996 and before January 31, 1996, the PBGC is (pursuant to 29 CFR 2617.25(a)(2) and 2617.28(f)(4)) extending to January 31, 1996, the time within which the standard termination notice must be filed (and, thus, the time within which notices of plan benefits must be provided) and the time within which the distribution of plan assets must be completed. With respect to a distress termination for which the distress termination notice is required to be filed or, in the case of a plan that is sufficient for guaranteed benefits, other actions must be taken on or after January 6, 1996 and before January 31, 1996, the PBGC is (pursuant to 29 CFR 2616.10(a) and 2616.24(d)) extending to January 31, 1996, the time within which the termination notice must be filed and, in the case of a plan that is sufficient for guaranteed benefits, notices of benefit distribution must be provided and plan assets must be distributed. In addition, as noted above, the PBGC is providing relief from penalties for late filing of the post-distribution certification.

#### Requests for Reconsideration or Appeals

For persons who are aggrieved by certain agency determinations and for whom a request for reconsideration or an appeal is required to be filed on or after January 6, 1996, and before January 31, 1996, the PBGC is (pursuant to 29 CFR 2606.4(b)) extending the time for filing to January 31, 1996.

#### Participant Notices

For Participant Notices that are required to be issued on or after January 6, 1996, and before January 31, 1996, the PBGC is (pursuant to 29 CFR 2627.8) extending the due date to January 31, 1996.

#### Applying for Waivers/Extensions

A submission to the PBGC to which a waiver or an extension is applicable under this notice should be marked in bold print "BLIZZARD OF '96, State of (fill in appropriate state)" at the top center.

Issued in Washington, DC this 16th day of January, 1996.

Martin Slate,

*Executive Director, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.*

[FR Doc. 96-695 Filed 1-18-96; 8:45 am]

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#### RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

##### Proposed Data Collection Available for Public Comment and Recommendations

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the requirement of Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 which provides opportunity for public comment on new or revised data collections, the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) will publish periodic summaries of proposed data collections.

*Comments are invited on:* (a) Whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information has practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the RRB's estimate of the burden of the collection of the information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden related to the collection of information on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

##### Title and Purpose of Information Collection

*Railroad Job Vacancies:* OMB 3220-0122.

Section 12(k) of the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act (RUIA), authorizes the RRB to operate an employment service. In conjunction with this service, the RRB requests railroad employers to report job vacancy information to the agency. Although furnishing the job information is voluntary, failure to comply defeats the purpose of the RRB's placement program by decreasing the opportunities for reemployment of persons claiming railroad unemployment insurance benefits. This, in turn, increases the amounts of benefits charged to employers, and can affect contribution rates under the RUIA. The RRB maintains and distributes a list of railroad job vacancies by class and craft based on information furnished by rail carriers to the RRB. Railroad employers report railroad job vacancies to office(s) of the RRB via telephone or mail. The information collected is electronically distributed to all RRB field offices to assist agency personnel in finding jobs for individuals separated from their railroad employer.

The RRB issues instructions in the form of a circular letter which explains in detail how rail carriers should report job vacancies to the RRB. The circular letter is distributed to railroad hiring officials and chief executives of all covered employers. A minor editorial change is being proposed to the informational circular letter.

#### Estimate of Annual Respondent Burden

The annual respondent burden is estimated to be 125 hours annually. The estimate is based on 250 rail carriers filing an average of 3 reports annually with each report taking about 10 minutes to complete.

#### Additional Information or Comments

To request more information or to obtain a copy of the information collection justification, forms, and/or supporting material, please call the RRB Clearance Officer at (312) 751-3363. Comments regarding the information collection should be addressed to Ronald J. Hodapp, Railroad Retirement Board, 844 N. Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611-2092. Written comments should be received within 60 days of this notice.

Chuck Mierzwa,

*Clearance Officer.*

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#### Proposed Data Collection Available for Public Comment and Recommendations

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the requirement of Section 3506 (c) (2) (A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 which provides opportunity for public comment on new or revised data collections, the Railroad Retirement Board will publish periodic summaries of proposed data collections.

*Comments are invited on:* (a) Whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information has practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the RRB's estimate of the burden of the collection of the information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden related to the collection of information on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

#### Title and Purpose of Information Collection

##### *Availability for Work*

Under Section 1(k) of the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act, unemployment benefits are not payable for any day for which the claimant is not available for work.

Under Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) regulation 20 CFR 327.5, "available for work" is defined as being willing and ready for work. This section further provides that a person is "willing" to work if that person is willing to accept and perform for hire such work as is reasonably appropriate to his or her employment circumstances. The section also provides that a claimant is "ready" for work if her or she; (1) is in a position to receive notice of work and is willing to accept and perform such work, and (2) is prepared to be present with the customary equipment at the location of such work within the time usually allotted.

Under RRB regulation 20 CFR 327.15, a claimant may be requested at any time to show, as evidence of willingness to work, that he or she is making reasonable efforts to obtain work. In order to determine whether a claimant is; a) available for work, and b) willing to work, the RRB utilizes Forms UI-38 and UI-38s to obtain information from the claimant and Form ID-8k from his union employer. One response is completed by each respondent. Minor editorial changes are being proposed to all three forms.

#### Estimate of Annual Respondent Burden

The estimated annual respondent burden is as follows:

Form No.	Annual responses	Time (Min)	Burden (Hrs)
UI-38s:			
In person .....	300	6	30
By mail .....	700	10	117
UI-38 .....	5,300	11.5	1,016
ID-8k .....	4,300	5	358
Total .....	10,600	.....	1,521