

documents, as well as interim and final products submitted pursuant to this notice and docket;

(b) Participation of the general public and interest groups through attendance at national workshop(s) and/or meeting(s);

(c) Participation of the transportation community at large through the Transportation Research Board (TRB);

(d) Participation of States through the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO);

(e) Participation of the metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) through the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (AMPO);

(f) Participation of organizations which represent non-government users of the HPMS data; and,

(g) Continued participation by the existing HPMS Steering Committee. Comments on the elements of an appropriate outreach program are invited.

The final step will focus upon the synthesis of the working paper on alternatives, the outside study of the HPMS, and the results of the outreach and involvement program to define appropriate changes to the HPMS. The synthesis is expected to be completed by September 30, 1997; and the results will be published for comment. The FHWA is initiating this strategic reassessment with the intention to maximize public input and provide as much flexibility as possible in meeting future HPMS data needs. However, there are a number of principal objectives that will guide the outcome of the reassessment effort. First, the future HPMS will need to support any changes to the FHWA's stewardship responsibilities that may result from the reauthorization of the ISTEA. In addition, the future HPMS will need to continue to support various Congressional requirements, including the Conditions and Performance Reports and those imposed by the GPRA. Finally, the outcome of the strategic reassessment process must recognize the national interest in the NHS and the need to continue to assess highway conditions and performance at the national level.

Authority: 23 U.S.C. 315; 49 CFR 1.48.

Issued on: December 12, 1996.

Rodney E. Slater,

Federal Highway Administrator.

[FR Doc. 96-32479 Filed 12-20-96; 8:45 am]

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National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

[Docket Number 96-120; Notice 1]

Proposed Collection; Comment Request for 49 CFR 537

AGENCY: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), Department of Transportation.

ACTION: Request for public comment on proposed collections of information.

SUMMARY: The Department of Transportation, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 United States Code (U.S.C.) 3506 (c)(2)(A)). Currently, NHTSA is soliciting comments concerning 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 537—Automotive Fuel Economy Reports.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before February 21, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Comments must refer to the docket and notice number cited at the beginning of this notice and be submitted to Docket Section, Room 5109, NHTSA, 400 Seventh Street, Southwest, Washington, D.C. 20590. Please identify the proposed collection of information for which a comment is provided, by referencing its OMB Clearance Number. It is requested, but not required, that one original plus two copies of the comments be provided. The Docket Section is open on weekdays from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Complete copies of each request for collection of information may be obtained at no charge from Mr. Edward Kosek, NHTSA Information Collection Clearance Officer, NHTSA, 400 Seventh Street, Southwest, Room 6123, Washington, D.C. 20590. Mr. Kosek's telephone number is (202) 366-2590. Please identify the relevant collection of information by referring to its OMB Clearance Number.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: 49 CFR 537—Automotive Fuel Economy Reports.

OMB Number: 2127-0019.

Form Number: This collection of information uses no standard form.

Abstract: Part 537 requires that automobile manufacturers submit semi-annual reports to NHTSA regarding their efforts to improve fuel economy.

Type of Review: Reinstatement of a previously approved collection.

Affect Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 18.

Requested Expiration Date: Three years from approval date.

Summary of the Collection of Information: NHTSA ensures that automobile manufacturers comply with 49 CFR Part 537—Automotive Fuel Economy Reports. Part 537 requires that automobile manufacturers submit reports to NHTSA regarding their efforts to improve automotive fuel economy.

Section 32907 of Chapter 329 of Title 49 of the United States Code requires each automobile manufacturer (other than those low volume manufacturers which were granted an alternative fuel economy standard under section 32902 (d)) to submit semi-annual reports to the agency relating to that manufacturers' efforts to comply with average fuel economy standards. One report is due during the 30-day period preceding the beginning of each model year (the "pre-model year report") and the other is due during the 30-day period beginning on the 180th day of the model year (the "mid-model year report").

Section 32907 (a)(1) of Chapter 329 provides that each report must contain a statement as to whether the manufacturer will comply with average fuel economy standards for that year, a plan describing the steps the manufacturer took or will take to comply with the standards, and any other information the agency may require. Whenever a manufacturer determines that a plan it has submitted in one of its reports is no longer adequate to assure compliance, it must submit a revised plan.

Description of the Need for the Information and Proposed Use of the Information

This information assists NHTSA in evaluating automobile manufacturers' plans for complying with average fuel economy standards and in preparing an annual review of the average fuel economy standards. The information is collected by NHTSA by having the automobile manufacturers mail their semi-annual automotive fuel economy reports and/or submit a copy on computer diskette to the agency. The required information is used for four basic purposes. These purposes are: (a) to give NHTSA advance indication if any manufacturer will fail to comply with the applicable average fuel economy standards; (b) to give NHTSA necessary information to prepare its annual fuel economy report to Congress, as required by 49 U.S.C. 32916; (c) to assist NHTSA in responding to general

information requests concerning automotive fuel economy, which are routinely received from Congress, other parts of the Executive branch, and the public; and (d) to provide NHTSA with detailed and accurate technical and economic information used to evaluate possible future average fuel economy standards which may be established by NHTSA.

Request for Comments

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on:

(i) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(ii) The burden of the proposed collection of information, including the methodology and assumptions used;

(iii) How to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected;

(iv) How to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses;

(v) Estimates of annual hours required to prepare and submit these reports to NHTSA; and

(vi) Estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information to NHTSA.

Issued on: December 3, 1996.

Noble Bowie,

Acting Director, Office of Planning and Consumer Programs, Safety Performance Standards.

[FR Doc. 96-32482 Filed 12-20-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-59-P

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 33303]

Clark County, Washington— Acquisition Exemption—Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad

Clark County, Washington (CCW), a Class III rail carrier, has filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1150.41: (1) to acquire a total of approximately 3.6 miles of rail line owned by Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad and located in Clark County, Washington, between milepost 3.62 at

Rye and milepost 0.0 at Vancouver Junction (the Rye Branch). The proposed transaction was to be consummated on December 6, 1996, or as soon thereafter as the selected operator's exemption becomes effective.¹

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. 33303, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Branch, 1201 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20423 and served on: Kevin M. Sheys, Oppenheimer Wolff & Donnelly, 1020 Nineteenth Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20036.

Decided: December 16, 1996.

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

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96-32509 Filed 12-20-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

[Finance Docket No. 32760]

Union Pacific Railroad Company— Control and Merger—Southern Pacific Transportation Company: Wichita Mitigation Study

AGENCY: Surface Transportation Board,
DOT.

ACTION: Public information meeting.

SUMMARY: The Surface Transportation Board's (Board) Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) will hold a public meeting concerning its Wichita Mitigation Study. In its decision of August 12, 1996, the Board directed SEA to conduct this study in order to develop further mitigation to address the merger-related environmental impacts of increased railroad traffic on the existing Union Pacific right-of-way that runs through Sedgwick County, KS. The study will include publication of a draft mitigation plan to submit to the public for review and comment and issuance of a final mitigation plan.

The public information meeting will provide an opportunity for the public to meet members of the study team and to ask questions about and comment on the study process to date. The meeting

¹ CCW is seeking acquisition authority only. The future operator of the Rye Branch, once selected by CCW, will file its own Verified Notice of Exemption for operating authority over the Rye Branch.

will be held January 28, 1997 at the City Council Chambers, City Hall, 455 North Main St., 1st Floor, Wichita, KS. An informal open house will be held from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. during which the public may review maps and graphics illustrating the study area and the mitigation options under consideration by SEA at this time. The open house will be followed by a public meeting from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at which the SEA team will make a brief presentation.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mike Dalton, Section of Environmental Analysis, Rm 3219, Surface Transportation Board, 12th & Constitution Ave., Washington, DC 20423; Phone Number: (202) 927-6197., TDD for the hearing impaired: (202) 927-5721.

By the Board, Elaine K. Kaiser, Chief,
Section of Environmental Analysis.

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96-32510 Filed 12-20-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Community Development Financial Institutions Fund; Notice of Open Meeting of the Community Development Advisory Board

AGENCY: Community Development
Financial Institutions Fund, Department
of the Treasury.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the second meeting of the Community Development Advisory Board (the "Advisory Board"), which provides advice to the Director of the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund (the "Fund").

DATES: The second meeting of the Community Development Advisory Board will be held on Tuesday, January 7, 1997 at 10:00 a.m.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The Community Development Financial Institutions Fund, U.S. Department of Treasury, 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC, 20220, (202) 622-8662 (this is not a toll free number).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 104(d) of the Community Development Banking and Financial Institutions Act of 1994 (12 U.S.C. 4703(d)) established the Community Development Advisory Board. The charter for the Advisory Board has been filed in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, (5 U.S.C. App.), and with the