

with more frequent bus service over a broader time period; (2) greater flexibility for passengers to use buses, tickets, and terminals; (3) capital improvements; (4) continued bus service by more sound and financially stable carriers; and (5) a salutary effect on the environment.

Applicants state that competition will not be unreasonably restrained. They argue that: (1) the pooled service is subject to overwhelming intermodal competitive pressure from Amtrak, airlines, and private automobiles; and (2) other motor passenger carriers may easily enter and compete in the market.

Copies of the application may be obtained free of charge by contacting applicants' representatives. A copy of this notice will served on the Department of Justice, Antitrust Division, 10th Street & Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC. 20530.

Decided: February 25, 1997.

By the Board, Chairman Morgan and Vice Chairman Owen.

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-5282 Filed 3-3-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

[STB Finance Docket No. 33366]

Paducah & Louisville Railway, Trackage Rights Exemption, CSX Transportation, Inc.

CSX Transportation, Inc. (CSXT) has agreed to grant overhead trackage rights to Paducah & Louisville Railway (P&L) from the P&L/CSXT connection at a point approximately 2,100 feet north of milepost 179 at Central City, KY, to approximately milepost 172 south of Drakesboro, KY, and between Drakesboro (Valuation Station 0+00) and the junction with trackage leased to Midwest Coal Handling Co., Inc. (Valuation Station 47+88), a total distance of approximately 8.9 miles in Muhlenberg County, KY.

The transaction is scheduled to be consummated on March 1, 1997.

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

This notice is filed under 49 CFR 1180.2(d)(7). If it 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. 33366, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Branch, 1201 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20423.¹ In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on J. Thomas Garrett, Esq., Paducah & Louisville Railway, 1500 Kentucky Avenue, Paducah, KY 42003.

Decided: February 25, 1997.

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

Vernon A. Williams,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-5280 Filed 3-3-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

[STB Docket No. AB-485X]

Blue Mountain Railroad, Inc., Abandonment Exemption, in Whitman County, WA, and Latah County, ID

AGENCY: Surface Transportation Board,
DOT.

ACTION: Notice of exemption and interim
trail use or abandonment.

SUMMARY: The Board, under 49 U.S.C. 10502, exempts from the prior approval requirements of 49 U.S.C. 10903-05 the abandonment by Blue Mountain Railroad, Inc., of three segments of its rail line located between: (1) milepost 19.0 at Kamiaken Street and milepost 19.30 at Pullman, WA; (2) milepost 19.75 at Pullman and milepost 25.50 near Moscow, ID; and (3) milepost 26.10 near Moscow and milepost 27.50 at Line Street in Moscow, totaling 7.45 miles, in Whitman County, WA, and Latah County, ID, subject to labor protective conditions, an historic preservation condition, and environmental conditions.¹

DATES: This exemption will be effective on March 4, 1997. Petitions to reopen must be filed by March 31, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Send pleadings referring to STB Docket No. AB-485X to: (1) Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1201 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20423,² and (2) Karl Morell, Ball

¹ Due to the Board's scheduled relocation on March 16, 1997, any filings made after March 16, 1997, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423-0001.

² BMR will retain two segments of the line between mileposts 19.30 and 19.75 at Pullman and mileposts 25.50 and 26.10 near Moscow, for use in serving the two local shippers on the line.

³ Effective March 17, 1997, the Board's offices will be relocated and pleadings should be sent to:

Janik LLP, Suite 225, 1455 F Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20005.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joseph H. Dettmar, (202) 927-5660; after March 15, 1997, (202) 565-1600. [TDD for the hearing impaired: (202) 927-5721; after March 15, 1997, (202) 565-1695.]

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: DC News & Data, Inc., Room 2229, 1201 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20423. Telephone: (202) 289-4357/4359. [Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through TDD services (202) 927-5721.]³

Decided: February 25, 1997.

By the Board, Chairman Morgan and Vice Chairman Owen.

Vernon A. Williams,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-5281 Filed 3-3-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Financial Crimes Enforcement
Network, Treasury.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In order to comply with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, concerning proposed extensions of information collection requirements, the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) is soliciting comments concerning a revision of Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Form 8362, Currency Transaction Report by Casinos (CTRC) which is filed for currency transactions involving casinos under the Bank Secrecy Act regulations.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before May 5, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, Office of Regulatory Policy and Enforcement, Attn.: CTRC Comments, Suite 200, 2070 Chain Bridge Road, Vienna, VA 22182-2536. Comments may also be submitted by Internet e-mail to RegComments@fincen.treas.gov.

Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423.

³ Effective March 17, 1997, DC News & Data, Inc., will relocate its offices to 1925 K Street, NW., Suite 210, Washington, DC 20006 [telephone: (202) 289-4357].

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for additional information or for a copy of the form should be directed to Leonard Senia, Senior Financial Enforcement Officer; Office of Regulatory Policy and Enforcement, (703) 905-3931, or by inquiry to the Internet e-mail address shown above. A copy of the CTRC form, as well as all other forms required by the Bank Secrecy Act, can be obtained through the Internet at <http://www.irs.ustreas.gov/prod/forms-pubs/forms.html>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Currency and Foreign Transactions Reporting Act (commonly known as the Bank Secrecy Act) Titles I and II of Pub. L. 91-508, as amended, codified at 12 U.S.C. 1829b, 12 U.S.C. 1951-1959, and 31 U.S.C. 5311-5314, 5316-5326, 5328-5330, authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury, *inter alia*, to issue regulations requiring records and reports that are determined to have a high degree of usefulness in criminal, tax, and regulatory matters. Regulations implementing Title II of the Bank Secrecy Act (BSA) (codified at 31 U.S.C. 5311-5314, 5316-5326, 5328-5330) appear at 31 CFR Part 103. The authority of the Secretary to administer the BSA regulations has been delegated to the Director of FinCEN.

The Bank Secrecy Act specifically authorizes the Secretary to issue regulations that require a report when "a domestic financial institution is involved in a transaction for the payment, receipt, or transfer of United States coins or currency (or other monetary instruments the Secretary of the Treasury prescribes), in an amount, denomination, or amount and denomination, or under circumstances the Secretary prescribes * * *". See 31 U.S.C. 5313(a). The BSA also defines casinos as financial institutions. 31 U.S.C. 5312(a)(2)(X). See 31 CFR 103.11(n)(7)(i). The authority of 31 U.S.C. 5313(a) to require domestic financial institutions to report certain transactions has been implemented through regulations promulgated at 31 CFR 103.22(a)(2) and through promulgation of the CTRC, IRS Form 8362.

Information collected on the CTRC is made available, in accordance with strict safeguards, to appropriate criminal law enforcement and regulatory personnel in the official performance of their duties. The information collected is used for regulatory purposes and in investigations involving international and domestic money laundering, tax violations, fraud, and other financial crimes.

This notice proposes changes to the current text of the CTRC and to its instructions, as well as the extension of this information collection requirement. The CTRC is being revised to enhance its value to law enforcement personnel and, in many instances, to simplify it by eliminating non-critical items. Also, FinCEN intends to replace the current OMB Control Number for this collection requirement with a new OMB Control Number. This technical change will facilitate FinCEN's oversight over BSA information collection requirements by obtaining a unique OMB Control Number for each form.

In accordance with requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A), and its implementing regulations, 5 CFR 1320, the following information concerning the collection of information on the CTRC is presented to assist those persons wishing to comment on the information collection. (Since the number of respondents has significantly increased during 1996 because of the inclusion of tribal casinos under the BSA, the estimates below are based on 1996 filings.)

Title: Currency Transaction Report by Casinos.

Form Number: IRS Form 8362.

OMB Number: 1506-0003.

Description of Respondents: All United States casinos, except those in Nevada. A separate form will be authorized for use by casinos in Nevada, which are subject to state imposed reporting and recordkeeping requirements, pursuant to 31 CFR 103.45.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 300.

Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 93,000.

Frequency: As required.

Estimate of Burden: Reporting average of 19 minutes per response; recordkeeping average of 5 minutes per response.

Estimate of Total Annual Burden on Respondents: Reporting burden estimate = 29,450 hours; recordkeeping burden 5 estimate = 7,750 hours. Estimated combined total of 37,200 hours.

Estimate of Total Annual Cost to Respondents for Hour Burdens: Based on \$20 per hour, the total cost to the public is estimated to be \$744,000.

Estimate of Total Other Annual Costs to Respondents: None.

Type of Request: Revision and extension of a currently approved information collection.

Request for Comments

FinCEN specifically invites comments on the following subjects: (a) Whether

the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the mission of FinCEN, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of FinCEN's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

In addition, the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 requires agencies to estimate the total annual cost burden to respondents or recordkeepers resulting from the collection of information. Thus, FinCEN also specifically requests comments to assist with this estimate. In this connection, FinCEN requests commenters to identify any additional costs associated with the completion of the form. These comments on costs should be divided into two parts: (1) any additional costs associated with reporting; and (2) any additional costs associated with recordkeeping.

Responses to the questions posed by this notice will be summarized and included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval. All comments will become a matter of public record.

Dated: February 21, 1997

Stanley E. Morris,

Director, Financial Crimes Enforcement Network.

[FR Doc. 97-5305 Filed 3-3-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4820-3-P

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury, 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 collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms within the Department of the Treasury is soliciting comments concerning the Distilled Spirits Plants, Excise Taxes.