

June 24, 1997. A Task Force on engineering issues was established by the Working Group on Locomotive Crashworthiness to review collision history and design options and additional research was commissioned. The Working Group reviewed results of the research and is drafting standards for freight and passenger locomotives to present to the RSAC for consideration. Contact: Sean Mehrvazi (202) 493-6237.

Task 97-2—Evaluating the extent to which environmental, sanitary, and other working conditions in locomotive cabs affect the crew's health and the safe operation of locomotives, proposing standards where appropriate. This Task was accepted June 24, 1997. A draft sanitation NPRM is under review by the Working Group on Cab Working Conditions. Task forces on noise and temperature were formed to identify and address issues. The Noise Task Force is preparing draft recommendations for noise exposure requirements. Contact: Brenda Hattery (202) 493-6326.

Task 97-3—Developing event recorder data survivability standards. This Task was accepted on June 24, 1997. An Event Recorder Working Group and Task Force have been established and are actively meeting. A draft proposed rule is being reviewed. Contact: Edward English (202) 493-6321.

Task 97-4 and Task 97-5—Defining Positive Train Control (PTC) functionalities, describing available technologies, evaluating costs and benefits of potential systems, and considering implementation opportunities and challenges, including demonstration and deployment.

Task 97-6—Revising various regulations to address the safety implications of processor-based signal and train control technologies, including communications-based operating systems. These three tasks were accepted on September 30, 1997, and assigned to a single Working Group. A Data and Implementation Task Force, formed to address issues such as assessment of costs and benefits and technical readiness, completed a report on the future of PTC systems. The report was accepted as RSAC's Report to the Administrator at the September 8, 1999, meeting. The Standards Task Force, formed to develop PTC standards, is developing draft recommendations for performance-based standards for processor-based signal and train control standards for presentation to the RSAC. Contact: Grady Cothen (202) 493-6302.

Task 97-7—Determining damages qualifying an event as a reportable train accident. This Task was accepted on September 30, 1997. A working group

was formed to address this task and conducted their initial meeting February 8, 1999. Contact: Robert Finkelstein (202) 493-6280.

Task 00-1—Determining the need to amend regulations protecting persons who work on, under, or between rolling equipment and persons applying, removing or inspecting rear end marking devices. A working group is being formed. Contact: Tom Keane (202) 493-6234.

Please refer to the notice published in the **Federal Register** on March 11, 1996 (61 FR 9740) for more information about the RSAC.

Issued in Washington, D.C. on May 9, 2000.

George Gavalla,

Associate Administrator for Safety.

[FR Doc. 00-12111 Filed 5-12-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-06-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Transit Administration

[FTA Docket No. FTA 00-7347]

Agency Information Collection Activity Under OMB Review

AGENCY: Federal Transit Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this notice announces that the Information Collection Request (ICR) abstracted below has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for extension of a currently approved collection. The ICR describes the nature of the information collection and its expected burden. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on the following collection of information was published on February 11, 2000 [FR 65 pages 7096 and 7097].

DATES: Comments must be submitted before June 14, 2000. A comment to OMB is most effective if OMB receives it within 30 days of publication.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sylvia L. Barney, Office of Administration, Office of Management Planning (202) 366-6680.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: 49 U.S.C. 5312(a) Research, Development, Demonstration and Training Projects.

Type of Request: Extension of a currently approved collection.

OMB Control Number: 2132-0546.

Abstract: 49 U.S.C. Section 5312(a) authorizes the Secretary of

Transportation to make grants or contracts for research, development, and demonstration projects that will reduce urban transportation needs, improve mass transportation service, or help transportation service meet the total urban transportation needs at a minimum cost. In carrying out the provisions of this section, the Secretary is also authorized to request and receive appropriate information from any source.

The information collected is submitted as part of the application for grants and cooperative agreements and is used to determine eligibility of applicants. Collection of this information also provides documentation that the applicants and recipients are meeting program objectives and are complying with FTA Circular 6100.1B and other Federal requirements.

Estimated Annual Burden Hours: 13,940 hours.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, 725-17th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20503, Attention: FTA Desk Officer.

Comments Are Invited On: Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; the accuracy of the Department's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Issued: May 10, 2000.

Dorrie Y. Aldrich,

Associate Administrator for Administration.

[FR Doc. 00-12161 Filed 5-12-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 33872]

Alabama & Gulf Coast Railway LLC—Trackage Rights Exemption—The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company

The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company has agreed to grant overhead trackage rights to Alabama & Gulf Coast Railway LLC (AGR) of Monroeville, AL, between the end of

AGR's line at milepost 776.10 near Kimbrough, AL, and a point of connection with the Norfolk Southern Railway Company (NS) at milepost 774.10 near Kimbrough, AL, a distance of approximately 2 miles in Wilcox County, AL.

The transaction was scheduled to be consummated on or shortly after May 4, 2000.

The purpose of the trackage rights is to permit AGR to directly interchange traffic with NS for the handling of traffic to and from MacMillan, AL.

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. 33872, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, one copy of each pleading must be served on Fritz R. Kahn, 1920 N Street, NW., 8th Floor, Washington, DC 20036-1601.

Board decisions and notices are available on our website at "WWW.STB.DOT.GOV."

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

Decided: May 5, 2000.

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-11841 Filed 5-12-00; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Treasury Advisory Committee on Commercial Operations of the U.S. Customs Service

AGENCY: Departmental Offices, Treasury.

ACTION: Renewal of Treasury Advisory Committee on Commercial Operations of the U.S. Customs Service and solicitation of applications for committee membership.

SUMMARY: It is in the public interest to renew the Advisory Committee for another two-year term. This notice also

establishes criteria and procedures for the selection of members.

Title: The Treasury Advisory Committee on Commercial Operations of the U.S. Customs Service.

Purpose: The purpose of the Committee is to present advice and recommendations to the Secretary of the Treasury regarding commercial operations of the U.S. Customs Service and to submit a report to Congress containing a summary of its operations and its views and recommendations.

Statement of Public Interest: It is in the public interest to continue the existence of the Committee upon expiration, under the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, of its current two-year term. The Committee provides a critical forum for distinguished representatives of diverse industry sectors to present their views on major issues involving commercial operations of the Customs Service. These views are offered directly to senior Treasury and Customs officials on a regular basis in a candid atmosphere. There exists no other single body that serves a comparable function.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

In the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1987 (Pub. L. 100-203), Congress repealed the statutory mandate for a Customs User Fee Advisory Committee and directed the Secretary of the Treasury to create a new Advisory Committee on Commercial Operations of the U.S. Customs Service. The original Committee consisted of 20 members drawn from industry sectors affected by Customs commercial operations. The Committee's charter was filed on October 17, 1988 and expired two years later. Charters were subsequently filed for second, third, fourth, fifth, and sixth two-year terms. The current charter will expire on October 15, 2000. The Treasury Department plans to file a new charter by that date renewing the Committee for a seventh two-year term.

Objective, Scope and Description of the Committee

The Committee's objectives are to advise the Secretary of the Treasury on issues relating to the commercial operations of the Customs Service. It is expected that, during its seventh two-year term, the Committee will consider such issues as the Customs Entry Revision Project (ERP), the Merchandise Processing Fee, the budget for commercial operations, carrier issues, the administration of staff and resources for commercial operations, informed compliance and compliance assessment,

automated systems, commercial enforcement, international efforts to harmonize customs practices and procedures, strategic planning, and northern border and southern border issues and the relationships with Canadian Customs and Mexican Customs.

The Committee will be chaired by the Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Enforcement. The Committee will function for a two-year period before renewal or termination and will meet approximately eight times (quarterly) during the period. Additional special meetings of the full Committee or a subcommittee thereof may be convened if necessary.

The meetings will generally be held in the Treasury Department, Washington, D.C. However, typically one or two meetings per year may be held outside of Washington at a Customs port. In recent years, meetings have been held in Memphis, Portland, Boston, New Orleans, Nogales, Los Angeles and Seattle, among other locations.

The meetings are open to public observers, including the press, unless special procedures have been followed to close a meeting. During the first six terms of the Committee, only a portion of one meeting was closed.

The members shall be selected by the Secretary of the Treasury from representatives of the trade or transportation community serviced by Customs, the general public, or others who are directly affected by Customs commercial operations. In addition, members shall represent major regions of the country, and not more than ten members may be affiliated with the same political party. No person who is required to register under the Foreign Agents Registration Act as an agent or representative of a foreign principal may serve on an advisory committee. Members shall not be paid compensation nor shall they be considered Federal Government employees for any purpose. No per diem, transportation, or other expenses are reimbursed for the cost of attending Committee meetings at any location.

Members who are serving on the Committee during its expiring two-year term are eligible to reapply for membership. A new application letter and updated resume are required. It is expected that approximately half of the current membership of the Committee will be replaced with new appointees.

Membership on the Committee is personal to the appointee. Under the Charter, a member may not send an alternate to represent him or her at a Committee meeting. However, since Committee meetings are open to the