

authorized to grant waivers of the U.S.-build requirement of the coastwise laws under certain circumstances. A request for such a waiver has been received by MARAD. The vessel, and a description of the proposed service, is listed below. Interested parties may comment on the effect this action may have on U.S. vessel builders or businesses in the U.S. that use U.S.-flag vessels. If MARAD determines that in accordance with Pub. L. 105-383 and MARAD's regulations at 46 CFR Part 388 (65 FR 6905; February 11, 2000) that the issuance of the waiver will have an unduly adverse effect on a U.S.-vessel builder or a business that uses U.S.-flag vessels, a waiver will not be granted.

DATES: Submit comments on or before July 26, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Comments should refer to docket number MARAD-2000-7550. Written comments may be submitted by hand or by mail to the Docket Clerk, U.S. DOT Dockets, Room PL-401, Department of Transportation, 400 7th St., S.W., Washington, D.C. 20590-0001. You may also send comments electronically via the Internet at <http://dmses.dot.gov/submit/>. All comments will become part of this docket and will be available for inspection and copying at the above address between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., E.T., Monday through Friday, except federal holidays. An electronic version of this document and all documents entered into this docket is available on the World Wide Web at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael Hokana, U.S. Department of Transportation, Maritime Administration, MAR-832 Room 7201, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20590. Telephone 202-366-0760.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Title V of P.L. 105-383 provides authority to the Secretary of Transportation to administratively waive the U.S.-build requirements of the Jones Act, and other statutes, for small commercial passenger vessels (less than 12 passengers). This authority has been delegated to the Maritime Administration per 49 CFR 1.66, Delegations to the Maritime Administrator, as amended. By this notice, MARAD is publishing information on a vessel for which a request for a U.S.-build waiver has been received, and for which MARAD requests comments from interested parties. Comments should refer to the docket number of this notice and the vessel name in order for MARAD to properly consider the comments. Comments should also state the commenter's interest in the waiver application, and address the waiver

criteria given in § 388.4 of MARAD'S regulations at 46 CFR Part 388.

Vessel Proposed for Waiver of the U.S.-build Requirement

(1) Name of vessel and owner for which waiver is requested: Name of vessel: REEF DIVER. Owner: Richard R. Reth.

(2) Size, capacity and tonnage of vessel: According to the Applicant: The vessel is 38 feet long, 12 feet wide and depth of 5 feet. The gross tonnage is 21.9 tons or 17.5 net tons.

(3) Intended use for vessel, including geographic region of intended operation and trade: According to the applicant: The use of the vessel is for 6 passenger recreational dive chartering on the Western shore of Lake Michigan. The intended region of operation is from Port Washington, WI, North to Kenosha, WI, South.

(4) Date and place of construction and (if applicable) rebuilding: Date of construction: unknown. Place of original construction: construction was believed to have taken place in Winona, MN, USA. However, due to the absence of sufficient builder certification necessary to meet U.S. documentation standards to qualify for a coastwise endorsement, for the purposes of waivers permitted under Pub. L. 105-383 the vessel is considered to not have been built in the United States.

(5) A statement on the impact this waiver will have on other commercial passenger vessel operators. According to the applicant: The impact of this waiver on the commercial vessel operators is probably of no significance. The vessel is the only dive charter between Milwaukee, WI and Kenosha, WI. Further, according to the applicant, the three major and oldest dive charter operators out of the Milwaukee area encourage this new venture and have said the more the better. The applicant also claims a beneficial working relationship with other existing operators. For example, the owner claims operators exchange passengers when needed and help each other to find wrecks. Lastly the applicant states that the operation of all dive charters in the area is to: charter passengers out to dive sites, and provide a safe and enjoyable means to see the historic ships of the past, that had the unexpected fate of sinking, mostly due to weather.

(6) A statement on the impact this waiver will have on U.S. shipyards. According to the applicant: The release of the U.S. build requirements should have no adverse effect on the U.S. shipyards, because as of this letter, all vessels being used today in this area are

refitted existing vessels for this activity. Therefore the shipbuilders should not be effected.

Dated: June 20, 2000.

By Order of the Maritime Administrator.

Joel C. Richard,

Secretary, Maritime Administration.

[FR Doc. 00-16021 Filed 6-23-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 33880]

Columbiana County Port Authority—Acquisition Exemption—Certain Rail Assets of Pittsburgh & Lake Erie Properties, Inc., in Mahoning County, OH

Columbiana County Port Authority (CCPA) has filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1150.31 to acquire certain rail assets from the bankruptcy estate of Pittsburgh & Lake Erie Properties, Inc. (P&LEP), including certain easement rights between survey stations 46+00 and 146+00 between Struthers and Youngstown, OH.

This line of railroad was previously owned by predecessors-in-interest of P&LEP and were sold to various entities, subject to easements, which, according to CCPA, allowed P&LEP to assign the operation of the line to other parties, subject to regulatory approval.¹ This transaction is related to STB Docket No. AB-556 (Sub-No. 2X), *Railroad Ventures, Inc.—Abandonment Exemption—Between Youngstown, OH, and Darlington, PA, in Mahoning and Columbiana Counties, OH, and Beaver County, PA*, in which CCPA has made an offer of financial assistance to purchase the 35.7-mile line of railroad owned by Railroad Ventures, Inc., between Darlington and Youngstown. By entering into an interchange agreement with The Ohio & Pennsylvania Railroad Company, CCPR will be able to operate from Darlington to the point of interchange with CSX Transportation, Inc., at milepost - 3.0 at

¹ In issuing this notice, the Board is making no ruling on the property or contractual rights of the parties. Therefore, by invoking the class exemption, CCPA has Board permission to acquire these assets to the extent that it has been able, or will be able, legally to obtain the property rights. See *Central Columbiana & Pennsylvania Railway, Inc.—Lease and Operation Exemption—Columbiana County Port Authority*, STB Finance Docket No. 33818 (STB served Dec. 23, 1999) in which Central Columbiana & Pennsylvania Railway, Inc. (CCPR), was authorized to operate over this 3-mile segment and over a 35.7-mile line segment between Darlington, PA, and Youngstown, OH, to be purchased by CCPA.

or near Struthers, and with Norfolk Southern Railway Company at milepost – 1.5 at Haselton Yard.

While CCPA states that consummation of the transaction occurred on April 19, 2000, the exemption that provided the regulatory approval for the transaction did not become effective until June 8, 2000, seven days after the filing of the verified notice of exemption.

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 does not automatically stay the transaction.

An original and 10 copies of all pleadings, referring to STB Finance Docket No. 33880, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20423–0001. In addition, one copy of each pleading must be served on Richard H. Streeter, Barnes & Thornburgh, Suite 500, 1401 Eye Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20005.

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

Decided: June 19, 2000.

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

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00–15970 Filed 6–23–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915–00–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

June 19, 2000.

The Department of Treasury has submitted the following public information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling the Treasury Bureau Clearance Officer listed. Comments regarding this information collection should be addressed to the OMB reviewer listed and to the Treasury Department Clearance Officer, Department of the Treasury, Room 2110, 1425 New York Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20220.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before July 26, 2000 to be assured of consideration.

Internal Revenue Service (IRS)

OMB Number: 1545–1541.

Revenue Procedure Number: Revenue Procedure 97–27.

Type of Review: Extension.

Title: Changes in Methods of Accounting.

Description: The information requested in sections 6, 8, and 13 of Revenue Procedure 97–27 is required in order for the Commissioner to determine whether the taxpayer is properly requesting to change its method of accounting and the terms and conditions of that change.

Respondents: Business or other for-profit, Individuals or households, Not-for-profit institutions, Farms.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 3,000.

Estimated Burden Hours Per Respondent: 3 hours, 13 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Total Reporting Burden: 9,633 hours.

Clearance Officer: Garrick Shear, Internal Revenue Service, Room 5244, 1111 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20224.

OMB Reviewer: Alexander T. Hunt, (202) 395–7860, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10202, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

Mary A. Able,

Departmental Reports Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 00–16018 Filed 6–23–00; 8:45 am]

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