

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Claretta Duren, (202) 366-4636, Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, Office of Pavement Technology, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590. Office hours are from 7:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Issued on: October 30, 2003.

**James R. Kabel,**

*Chief, Management Programs and Analysis Division.*

[FR Doc. 03-28052 Filed 11-6-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-22-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Highway Administration

[Docket No. FHWA-2003-16313]

#### Notice of Request for Renewal of a Currently Approved Information Collection; Federal-Aid Highway Construction Equal Employment Opportunity, OMB Control Number: 2125-0019

**AGENCY:** U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

**ACTION:** Notice and request for public comments.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the requirements in section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the intention of the FHWA to request the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to renew its clearance for the currently approved FHWA collection of information identified below under Supplementary Information.

**DATES:** Please submit comments by January 6, 2004.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments identified by DOT DMS Docket Number FHWA-2003-16313 by any of the following methods:

- *Web site:* <http://dms.dot.gov>.

Follow the instructions for submitting comments on the DOT electronic docket site.

- *Fax:* 1-202-493-2251.

- *Mail:* Docket Management Facility; U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Nassif Building, Room PL-401, Washington, DC 20590.

- *Hand Delivery:* Room PL-401 on the plaza level of the Nassif Building, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC, between 9 am and 5 pm, Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

*Docket:* For access to the docket to read background documents or

comments received, go to <http://dms.dot.gov> at any time or to Room PL-401 on the plaza level of the Nassif Building, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

*Public Comments Invited:* Interested parties are invited to send comments regarding any aspect of this information collection, including, but not limited to: (1) The necessity and utility of the information collection for the proper performance of the functions of the FHWA; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the collected information; and (4) ways to minimize the collection burden without reducing the quality of the collected information. Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the requests for OMB's clearance of the following collection of information.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Title:* Federal-Aid Highway Construction Equal Employment Opportunity.

*OMB Control Number:* 2125-0019 (Expiration Date: January 31, 2004).

*Background:* Title 23, part 140(a), requires the FHWA to ensure equal opportunity regarding contractors' employment practices on Federal-aid highway projects. To carry out this requirement the contractors must submit to the State highway agencies an annual report providing employment work force data, which includes the number of minorities, women, and non-minorities in each construction craft. This information is reported on Form PR-1391, Federal-Aid Highway Construction Contractors Summary of Employment Data. The statute also requires the State highway agencies to submit a report to the FHWA summarizing the data entered on the PR-1391 forms. This summary data is provided on Form PR-1392, Federal-Aid Highway Construction Contractors Summary of Employment Data. The FHWA uses this data to identify patterns and trends of employment in the highway construction industry, and to determine the adequacy and impacts of the FHWA's contract compliance and on-the-job training programs.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* The FHWA estimates the total annual burden hours imposed on the public by this collection is 6,580 hours; *i.e.*, 2,080 hours is required by the 52 State highway agencies to complete and submit the Form PR-1392, and an additional 4,500 hours is required for 4,500 Federal-aid highway construction

contractors to complete and submit the Form PR-1391.

*Number of Respondents:* 52 State highway agencies and 4,500 Federal-aid highway construction contractors.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Charles Klemstine, (202) 366-6753, Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, Office of Civil Rights, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590. Office hours are from 7:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

**Authority:** 23 U.S.C. 140(a); 23 CFR 635.126; 29 U.S.C. 2; 23 U.S.C. 123; 23 U.S.C. 116; 23 U.S.C. 130; 49 CFR 1.48.

Issued on: November 3, 2003.

**James R. Kabel,**

*Chief, Management Programs and Analysis Division.*

[FR Doc. 03-28053 Filed 11-6-03; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 34305]

#### The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company—Construction and Operation Exemption—in Merced County, CA

**AGENCY:** Surface Transportation Board, Transportation.

**ACTION:** Notice of Availability of Environmental Assessment and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Surface Transportation Board's (Board) Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) in response to a petition filed by the Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company. The petition seeks an exemption under 49 U.S.C. 10502 from the prior approval requirements of 49 U.S.C. 10901 for authority to construct and operate an 850-foot long rail line in Merced, California. The EA identifies the natural and man-made resources in the area of the proposed rail line and analyzes the potential impacts of the rail line construction and operation on these resources. Based on the information provided from all sources to date and its independent analysis, SEA preliminarily concludes that construction and operation of the proposed rail line would have no significant environmental impacts if the Board imposes and the Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company implements the recommended mitigation measures set forth in this EA. Copies of the EA have been served on

all interested parties and will be made available to additional parties upon request. The entire EA is also available on the Board's Web site (<http://www.stb.dot.gov>) by clicking on the "Decisions & Notices" button and searching by Service Date (November 7, 2003), Docket Number (FD 34305) or Full Text (key word "Quebecor"). SEA will consider all comments received when making its final environmental recommendations to the Board. The Board will then consider SEA's final recommendations and the complete environmental record in making its final decision in this proceeding.

**DATES:** The EA is available for public review and comment. Comments must be postmarked December 10, 2003.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments (an original and 10 copies) should be sent in writing to: Surface Transportation Board, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423. The lower left corner of the envelope should be marked: Attention: Mr. David Navecky, Environmental Comments, Finance Docket No. 34305.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** David Navecky by mail at the address above, by telephone at (202) 565-1593 (FIRS for the hearing impaired (1-800-877-8339)), or by e-mail at [naveckyd@stb.dot.gov](mailto:naveckyd@stb.dot.gov).

By the Board, Victoria Rutson, Chief, Section of Environmental Analysis.

**Vernon Williams,**  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03-27970 Filed 11-6-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Internal Revenue Service

[REG-209682-94]

#### Proposed Collection: Comment Request for Regulation Project

**AGENCY:** Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

**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, Pub. L. 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning final regulation, REG-209682-94 (TD 8847),

Adjustments Following Sales of Partnership Interests, (§§ 1.732-1 and 1.743-1).

**DATES:** Written comments should be received on or before January 6, 2004, to be assured of consideration.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to R. Joseph Durbala, Internal Revenue Service, room 6411, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of regulations should be directed to Carol Savage at Internal Revenue Service, room 6407, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224, or at (202) 622-3945, or through the internet at [carol.a.savage@irs.gov](mailto:carol.a.savage@irs.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Title:* Adjustments Following Sales of Partnership Interests.

*OMB Number:* 1545-1588.

*Regulation Project Number:* REG-209682-94.

*Abstract:* Partnerships, with a section 754 election in effect, are required to adjust the basis of partnership property following certain transfers of partnership interests. This regulation relates to the optional adjustments to the basis of partnership property following certain transfers of partnership interests under section 743, the calculation of gain or loss under section 751(a) following the sale or exchange of a partnership interest, the allocation of basis adjustments among partnership assets under section 755, the allocation of a partner's basis in its partnership interest to properties distributed to the partner by the partnership under section 732(c), and the computation of a partner's proportionate share of the adjusted basis of depreciable property (or depreciable real property) under section 1017.

*Current Actions:* There are no changes being made to the regulation at this time.

*Type of Review:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit organizations.

*Estimated Number of Respondents/Recordkeepers:* 226,000.

*Estimated Time Per Respondent/Recordkeeper:* 4 hrs.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 904,000.

The following paragraph applies to all of the collections of information covered by this notice:

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a collection

of information must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

*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: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (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; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Approved: October 31, 2003.

**R. Joseph Durbala,**

*IRS Reports Clearance Officer.*

[FR Doc. 03-28010 Filed 11-6-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Internal Revenue Service

#### Information Reporting Program Advisory Committee; Renewal of Charter

**AGENCY:** Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Charter for the Information Reporting Program Advisory Committee will renew for a two-year period beginning November 5, 2003.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Lorenza Wilds, National Public Liaison, 202-622-6440 (not a toll-free number).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notice is hereby given pursuant to section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. (1988), and with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury to announce the renewal of the Information Reporting Program Advisory Committee (IRPAC). The primary purpose of the Advisory Committee is to provide an organized public forum for senior Internal Revenue Service executives and