

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

**Vernon A. Williams,**  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. E8-8 Filed 1-4-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-01-P

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Surface Transportation Board

[STB Docket No. AB-364 (Sub-No. 12X)]

#### Mid-Michigan Railroad, Inc.— Abandonment Exemption—in Kent and Ionia Counties, MI

On December 18, 2007, Mid-Michigan Railroad, Inc. (MMRR) filed with the Surface Transportation Board (Board) a petition under 49 U.S.C. 10502 seeking an exemption from the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 10903 for the abandonment of a 15.83-mile rail line between milepost 137.83, southeast of Lowell, and milepost 122.00, east of Prairie Center, the end of the line, in Kent and Ionia Counties, MI. The line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Codes 48846, 48881, and 49331 and includes the stations of Lowell, Saranac, and Ionia.

MMRR also seeks an exemption from the offer of financial assistance (OFA) procedures of 49 U.S.C. 10904. In support, MMRR states that it has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding to sell the line to West Michigan Trails and Greenway Coalition for interim trail use/rail banking. This request for exemption from the OFA provision will be addressed in the final decision.

The line does not contain Federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in MMRR's possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it.

The interest of railroad employees will be protected by the conditions set forth in *Oregon Short Line R. Co.—Abandonment—Goshen*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979).

Petitioner indicates that the proposed abandonment may generate comments, and it requests that the Board adopt a procedural schedule to allow it to file rebuttal to any comments received. Instead of addressing the request at this time, the Board will instead allow petitioner to raise the matter again, if comments and replies in response to the petition are actually filed. Comments and replies to the petition for exemption will be due on January 28, 2008. Once comments and replies are filed, MMRR may request leave to file rebuttal.

By issuance of this notice, the Board is instituting an exemption proceeding

pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 10502(b). A final decision will be issued by April 4, 2008.

Any OFA under 49 CFR 1152.27(b)(2) will be due no later than 10 days after service of a decision granting the petition for exemption, unless the Board grants the requested exemption from the OFA process. Each OFA must be accompanied by a \$1,300 filing fee. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).

All interested persons should be aware that, following abandonment of rail service and salvage of the line, the line may be suitable for other public use, including interim trail use. Any request for a public use condition under 49 CFR 1152.28 or for trail use/rail banking under 49 CFR 1152.29 will be due no later than January 28, 2008. Each trail use request must be accompanied by a \$200 filing fee. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(27)(i).

All filings in response to this notice must refer to STB Docket No. AB-364 (Sub-No. 12X) and must be sent to: (1) Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street, SW., Washington, DC 20423-0001; and (2) Louis E. Gitomer, 600 Baltimore Avenue, Suite 301, Towson, MD 21204. Replies to the petition are due on or before January 28, 2008.

Persons seeking further information concerning the abandonment procedures may contact the Board's Office of Public Services at (202) 245-0230 or refer to the full abandonment or discontinuance regulations at 49 CFR part 1152. Questions concerning environmental issues may be directed to the Board's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) at (202) 245-0305. [Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through the Federal Information Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339.]

An environmental assessment (EA) (or environmental impact statement (EIS), if necessary), prepared by SEA will be served upon all parties of record and upon any agencies or other persons who commented during its preparation. Other interested persons may contact SEA to obtain a copy of the EA (or EIS). EAs in these abandonment proceedings normally will be made available within 60 days of the filing of the petition. The deadline for submission of comments on the EA will generally be within 30 days of its service.

Board decisions and notices are available on our Web site at <http://www.stb.dot.gov>.

Decided: January 2, 2008.

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

**Vernon A. Williams,**  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. E8-40 Filed 1-4-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-01-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Departmental Offices; 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 burdens, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on an information collection that is due for extension approval by the Office of Management and Budget. The Office of International Affairs within the Department of the Treasury is soliciting comments concerning the collection of data for the Annual Report of Foreign-Residents' Holdings of U.S. Securities, including Selected Money Market Instruments. The next such collection is to be conducted as of June 30, 2008.

**DATES:** Written comments should be received on or before March 7, 2008 to be assured of consideration.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Dwight Wolkow, International Portfolio Investment Data Systems, Department of the Treasury, Room 5422, 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20220. In view of possible delays in mail delivery, you may also wish to send a copy to Mr. Wolkow by e-mail ([dwight.wolkow@do.treas.gov](mailto:dwight.wolkow@do.treas.gov)) or FAX (202-622-2009). Mr. Wolkow can also be reached by telephone (202-622-1276).

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Copies of the proposed forms and instructions are unchanged from the previous survey that was conducted as of June 30, 2007, and are available on the Treasury International Capital (TIC) System Web page for "Forms SHL/SHLA & SHC/SHCA", at: <http://www.treas.gov/tic/forms-sh.shtml>. Requests for additional information should be directed to Mr. Wolkow.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

**Title:** Treasury Department Form SHLA/SHL, Foreign-Residents' Holdings of U.S. Securities, including Selected Money Market Instruments.

**OMB Number:** 1505-0123.

**Abstract:** These forms are used to conduct annual surveys of holdings by foreign-residents of U.S. securities for

portfolio investment purposes. These data are used by the U.S. Government in the formulation of international and financial policies and for the computation of the U.S. balance of payments accounts and the U.S. international investment position. These data will also be used to provide information to the public and to meet international reporting commitments.

The benchmark survey (Form SHL) is conducted once every five years, and requires reporting by all significant U.S.-resident custodians and U.S.-resident security issuers. In non-benchmark years an annual survey (Form SHLA) is conducted, and requires reports primarily from the very largest U.S.-resident custodians and issuers. The data requested will be the same in Form SHL and, during the four succeeding years, in Form SHLA. The determination of who must report in the annual surveys (SHLA) will be based upon the securities data submitted during the previous benchmark survey. The data collected under the annual surveys (SHLA) will be used in conjunction with the results of the previous benchmark survey to compute economy-wide estimates for the non-benchmark years.

**Current Actions:** None. No changes in the forms or instructions will be made from the previous survey that was conducted as of June 30, 2007.

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

**Affected Public:** Business/Financial Institutions.

**Forms:** TDF SHLA, Schedule 1 and Schedule 2 (1505-0123); TDF SHL, Schedule 1 and Schedule 2 (1505-0123).

**Estimated Number of Respondents:** An annual average (over five years) of 354, but this varies widely from about 1,475 in benchmark years (once every five years) to about 74 in each of the other years (four out of every five years).

**Estimated Average Time per Respondent:** An annual average (over five years) of about 89 hours, but this will vary widely from respondent to respondent. (a) In the year of a benchmark survey, which is conducted once every five years, it is estimated that exempt respondents will require an average of 16 hours; for custodians of securities, the estimate is a total of 321 hours on average, but this figure will vary widely for individual custodians; and for issuers of securities that have data to report and are not custodians, the estimate is 61 hours on average. (b) In a non-benchmark year, which occurs four years out of every five years: for the largest custodians of securities, the estimate is a total of 486 hours on

average; and for the largest issuers of securities that have data to report and are not custodians, the estimate is 110 hours on average.

**Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:** An annual average (over five years) of 31,500 hours.

**Frequency of Response:** Annual.

**Request for Comments:** Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. The public is invited to submit written comments concerning: (a) Whether the survey is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Office, including whether the information collected has practical uses; (b) the accuracy of the above burden estimates; (c) ways to enhance the quality, usefulness and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the reporting and/or recordkeeping burdens on respondents, including the use of information technologies to automate the collection of the data; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs of operation, maintenance and purchases of services to provide information.

**Dwight Wolkow,**

*Administrator, International Portfolio Investment Data Systems.*

[FR Doc. E7-25649 Filed 1-4-08; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4811-42-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Office of Foreign Assets Control

#### Unblocking of Specially Designated Narcotics Trafficker Pursuant to Executive Order 12978

**AGENCY:** Office of Foreign Assets Control, Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control ("OFAC") is publishing the name of three individuals whose property and interests in property have been unblocked pursuant to Executive Order 12978 of October 21, 1995, *Blocking Assets and Prohibiting Transactions With Significant Narcotics Traffickers*.

**DATES:** The unblocking and removal from the list of Specially Designated Narcotics Traffickers of the individuals identified in this notice whose property and interests in property were blocked pursuant to Executive Order 12978 of October 21, 1995, is effective on December 27, 2007.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Assistant Director, Compliance Outreach & Implementation, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, Washington, DC 20220, tel.: 202/622-2420.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Electronic and Facsimile Availability

This document and additional information concerning OFAC are available from OFAC's Web site (<http://www.treas.gov/ofac>) via facsimile through a 24-hour fax-on-demand service, tel.: (202) 622-0077.

##### Background

On October 21, 1995, the President, invoking the authority, *inter alia*, of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701-1706) ("IEEPA"), issued Executive Order 12978 (60 FR 54579, October 24, 1995) (the "Order"). In the Order, the President declared a national emergency to deal with the threat posed by significant foreign narcotics traffickers centered in Colombia and the harm that they cause in the United States and abroad.

Section 1 of the Order blocks, with certain exceptions, all property and interests in property that are in the United States, or that hereafter come within the United States or that are or hereafter come within the possession or control of United States persons, of: (1) The persons listed in an Annex to the Order; (2) any foreign person determined by the Secretary of Treasury, in consultation with the Attorney General and Secretary of State, to play a significant role in international narcotics trafficking centered in Colombia; or (3) to materially assist in, or provide financial or technological support for or goods or services in support of, the narcotics trafficking activities of persons designated in or pursuant to this order; and (4) persons determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Attorney General and the Secretary of State, to be owned or controlled by, or to act for or on behalf of, persons designated pursuant to this Order.

On December 27, 2007, the Director of OFAC removed from the list of Specially Designated Narcotics Traffickers the individuals listed below, whose property and interests in property were blocked pursuant to the Order.

The listing of the unblocked individuals follows:

1. GRANDE BENAVIDES, Fernando, c/o ALERO S.A., Cali, Colombia; DOB 31 Oct 1962; Cedula No. 16675553 (Colombia) (individual) [SDNT]