

See, e.g. 49 CFR 571.206 S4.2.1.1(a), S4.2.1.2(a) and S4.2.1.3(a) (discussing testing when the door latch is in the fully latched position).

Decision: In consideration of the foregoing, NHTSA has decided that the petitioner has not met its burden of persuasion that the noncompliance described is inconsequential to motor vehicle safety. Accordingly, Utilmaster's petition is hereby denied, and the petitioner must notify owners, purchasers and dealers pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 30118 and provide a remedy in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 30120.

If Utilmaster believes that vehicles it will produce in the future should not be subject to any currently applicable FMVSS No. 206 requirements, Utilmaster may consider petitioning the Agency for rulemaking. The appropriate type of petition to request a change in a rule is one filed under 49 CFR part 552 *Petitions for Rulemaking, Defect, and Non-Compliance Orders*.

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 30118, 30120; delegations of authority at CFR 1.50 and 501.8.

Issued on: August 2, 2012.

Nancy Lummen Lewis,
Associate Administrator for Enforcement.

[FR Doc. 2012-19581 Filed 8-8-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-59-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

30-Day Notice of Request for Approval: Statutory Authority To Preserve Rail Service

AGENCY: Surface Transportation Board, DOT.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: As required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. 3501-3519 (PRA), the Surface Transportation Board (STB or Board) gives notice of its intent to seek from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval of the information collections required under 49 U.S.C. 10904-05 and 10907, and 16 U.S.C. 1247(d). Under these statutory provisions, the Board administers programs designed to preserve railroad service or rail rights-of-way. When a line is proposed for abandonment, affected shippers, communities, or other interested persons may seek to preserve rail service by filing with the Board: an offer of financial assistance (OFA) to subsidize or purchase a rail line for

which a railroad is seeking abandonment (49 U.S.C. 10904), including a request for the Board to set terms and conditions of the financial assistance; a request for a public use condition (section 10905); or a trail-use request (16 U.S.C. 1247(d)). Similarly, when a line is placed on a system diagram map identifying it as an anticipated or potential candidate for abandonment, affected shippers, communities, or other interested persons may seek to preserve rail service by filing with the Board a feeder line application to purchase the identified rail line (section 10907). Additionally, the railroad owning the rail line subject to abandonment must, in some circumstances, provide information to the applicant or offeror. The Board previously published a notice about this collection in the **Federal Register** on February 10, 2012, at 77 FR 7236-37 (60-day notice). That notice allowed for a 60-day public review and comment period. No comments were received. The information collection for which approval is sought is described in detail below. Comments may now be submitted to OMB concerning: (1) The accuracy of the Board's burden estimates; (2) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; (3) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology, when appropriate; and (4) whether this collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Board, including whether the collection has practical utility.

Description of Collection

Title: Statutory Authority to Preserve Rail Service.

OMB Control Number: 2140-00##.

STB Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Existing collection in use without an OMB control number.

Respondents: Affected shippers, communities, or other interested persons seeking to preserve rail service over rail lines that are proposed or identified for abandonment, and railroads that are required to provide information to the offeror or applicant.

Number of Respondents: 40 (including informational filings required of railroads).¹

¹ In Fiscal Year (FY) 2011, there were 56 filings under 49 U.S.C. 10904-07 and the Trails Act. See

Frequency. On occasion.

TABLE—NUMBER OF YEARLY RESPONSES

Type of filing	Number of filings
Offer of Financial Assistance ...	3
OFA—Railroad Reply to Request for Information	3
OFA—Request to Set Terms and Conditions	1
Request for Public Use Condition	9
Feeder Line Application	1
Trail-Use Request	20
Trail-Use Request Extension ²	19

²In the 60-day notice, the Board did not separate trail use requests into initial trail-use requests and extension requests, but it has done so in this notice because the initial request has a capped filing fee and the extension request does not. The distinction is necessary to more accurately derive the cost to the government of this collection and the total non-hour burden cost, which increases from \$41,980 (in the 60-day notice) to \$45,780.

Total Burden Hours (annually including all respondents): 374 hours (sum total of estimated hours per response X number of responses for each type of filing).

TABLE—ESTIMATED HOURS PER RESPONSE

Type of filing	Number of hours per response
Offer of Financial Assistance ...	32
OFA—Railroad Reply to Request for Information	10
OFA—Request to Set Terms and Conditions	4
Request for Public Use Condition	2
Feeder Line Application	70
Trail-Use Request	4
Trail-Use Request Extension	4

Total "Non-hour Burden" Cost (such as filing fees): \$45,780 (sum of estimated "non-hour burden" cost per response X number of responses for each statutory section and type of filing).

Table—Number of Yearly Responses. In the 60-day notice, the Board indicated that there were approximately 60 respondents. Although no comments were filed, it has come to our attention that approximately 30% of the filings were additional filings submitted by railroads or trail users that had already submitted filings during the time period. Therefore, the number of respondents has been revised to approximately 40, which is 30% less than the number of filings.

TABLE—ESTIMATED “NON-HOUR BURDEN” COST PER RESPONSE

Type of filing	Filing costs	Other costs	Total costs
Offer of Financial Assistance	\$1,500	\$90	\$1,590
OFA—Railroad Reply to Request for Information	0	30	30
OFA—Request to Set Terms and Conditions	23,100	30	23,130
Request for Public Use Condition	0	30	30
Feeder Line Application	2,600	200	2,800
Trail-Use Request	250	30	280
Trail-Use Request Extension	450	30	480

Needs and Uses: Under the Interstate Commerce Act, as amended by the ICC Termination Act of 1995, Public Law No. 104–88, 109 Stat. 803 (1995), and Section 8(d) of the National Trails System Act, 16 U.S.C. 1247(d) (Trails Act), persons seeking to preserve rail service may file pleadings before the Board to acquire or subsidize a rail line for continued service, or to impose a trail use or public use condition. Under 49 U.S.C. 10904, the filing of an OFA starts a process of negotiations to define the financial assistance needed to purchase or subsidize the rail line sought for abandonment. Once the OFA is filed, the offeror may request additional information from the railroad, which the railroad must provide. If the parties cannot agree to the sale or subsidy, either party also may file a request for the Board to set the terms and conditions of the financial assistance. Under section 10905, a public use request allows the Board to impose a 180-day public use condition on the abandonment of a rail line, permitting the parties to negotiate a public use for the rail line. Under section 10907, a feeder line application provides the basis for authorizing an involuntary sale of a rail line. Finally, under 16 U.S.C. 1247(d), a trail-use request, if agreed upon by the abandoning carrier, requires the Board to condition the abandonment by issuing a Notice of Interim Trail Use (NITU) or Certificate of Interim Trail Use (CITU), permitting the parties to negotiate an interim trail use/rail banking agreement for the rail line.

The collection by the Board of these offers, requests, and applications, and the railroad's replies (when required), enables the Board to meet its statutory duty to regulate the referenced rail transactions.

Retention Period: Information in these collections is maintained by the Board for 10 years, after which it is transferred to the National Archives as permanent records.

DATES: Comments on this information collection should be submitted by September 10, 2012.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be identified as “Paperwork Reduction Act Comments, Surface Transportation Board, Statutory Authority to Preserve Rail Service.” These comments should be directed to the Office of Management and Budget, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Patrick Fuchs, Surface Transportation Board Desk Officer, by fax at (202) 395–5167; by mail at OMB, Room 10235, 725 17th Street NW., Washington, DC 20500; or by email at OIRA_SUBMISSION@OMB.EOP.GOV.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Marilyn Levitt, (202) 245–0269. [Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) for the hearing impaired: (800) 877–8339.] Relevant STB regulations are referenced below and may be viewed on the STB's Web site under E–Library > Reference: STB Rules, http://www.stb.dot.gov/stb/elibrary/ref_stbrules.html.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Respondents seeking authority from the Board to preserve rail lines must submit certain information required under the Board's related regulations and, in some circumstances, railroads seeking to abandon a line must disclose certain information to the offeror or applicant.

Offer of Financial Assistance. When a rail line would otherwise be approved for abandonment (or discontinuance), any financially responsible person may seek to acquire the line for continued rail service (after abandonment has been approved), or may seek to temporarily subsidize continued operations by the incumbent railroad (after abandonment or discontinuance has been approved), by filing an OFA under 49 U.S.C. 10904 and 49 CFR 1152.27. An OFA may be submitted to the Board as soon as the railroad seeks abandonment (or discontinuance) authority. Once an OFA is submitted, the abandoning railroad must, upon request, promptly provide to any party considering an OFA and to the Board an estimate of the annual subsidy or minimum purchase price; a report on the physical condition of line; and data on traffic, revenues, net liquidation value, and the cost to rehabilitate to class I (minimum) track

standards. If the parties are not able to agree upon the purchase price or subsidy, then, to move forward, either party may ask the Board to set the price or subsidy, which will be binding upon the parties if the offeror chooses to accept the terms set by the Board and proceed with the purchase.

Public Use Request. Any person may request that the Board prohibit an abandoning railroad from disposing of the right-of-way—for up to 180 days—without first offering the right-of-way (on reasonable terms) for other suitable public purposes (such as mass transit, pipeline, transmission lines, recreation, etc.). Such requests are governed by 49 U.S.C. 10905 and 49 CFR 1152.28.

Feeder Line Application. When a line has been identified on a railroad's system diagram map as a potential candidate for abandonment (or discontinuance), but before abandonment (or discontinuance) authority has been sought, any financially responsible person (other than a Class I or II railroad) may, by filing a feeder line application under 49 U.S.C. 10907 and 49 CFR part 1151, seek to acquire the line for continued rail service under the forced sale provisions of the feeder railroad development program.

Trail-Use Request. The Trails Act provides a mechanism whereby any interested person may seek to “railbank” a rail right-of-way that has been approved for abandonment and use the property in the interim as a recreational trail. The Board has a ministerial role in this process; under 49 CFR 1152.29, interested persons may submit a request to the Board for a trail use condition, and if the statutory conditions are met, the Board must authorize the parties to negotiate a trail-use agreement by issuing a CITU, or, in an exemption proceeding, a NITU. The CITU or NITU typically permit negotiations for 180 days, but the negotiations can be extended upon request to the Board. Under the Trails Act, trail-use agreements are consensual, not forced. The abandoning railroad is free to choose whether or not to enter into or continue negotiations to

transfer (all or part of) the right-of-way to a trail sponsor.

Under the PRA, a Federal agency conducting or sponsoring a collection of information must display a currently valid OMB control number. A collection of information, which is defined in 44 U.S.C. 3502(3) and 5 CFR 1320.3(c), includes agency requirements that persons submit reports, keep records, or provide information to the agency, third parties, or the public. Under section 3506(b) of the PRA, Federal agencies are required to provide, concurrent with an agency's submitting a collection to OMB for approval, a 30-day notice and comment period, through publication in the **Federal Register**, concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of an existing collection of information.

Dated: August 6, 2012.

Jeffrey Herzig,
Clearance Clerk.

[FR Doc. 2012-19555 Filed 8-8-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Office of Investment Security, 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 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 Office of Investment Security within the Department of the Treasury is soliciting comments concerning the information collection provisions of the Regulations Pertaining to Mergers, Acquisitions and Takeovers by Foreign Persons, 31 CFR 800.402.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before October 9, 2012 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Aimen Mir, Director, Office of Investment Security, Department of the Treasury, 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Room 5221, Washington, DC 20220—(202) 622-1860.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information should be directed to Amad Judeh, Office of Investment Security,

Department of the Treasury, 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20220—(202) 622-1715; or Francine McNulty Barber, Senior Counsel, Department of the Treasury, Room 1014, 1500 Pennsylvania Ave. NW., Washington, DC 20220—(202) 622-1947.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: *Title:* Regulations Pertaining to Mergers, Acquisitions and Takeovers by Foreign Persons.

OMB Number: 1505-0121.

Abstract: The information request in this proposed collection is contained in 31 CFR 800.402. The information collected under these regulations is used by the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS), an inter-agency committee chaired by the Secretary of the Treasury and comprised of the Secretaries of State, Defense, Treasury, Commerce, Homeland Security, Energy, and Labor; the Attorney General; the U.S. Trade Representative; and the Directors of National Intelligence and the Office of Science and Technology Policy. CFIUS, on behalf of the President, is authorized under section 721 of the Defense Production Act of 1950 to conduct reviews to determine the effects on the national security of transactions proposed or pending after the date of enactment (August 23, 1988) by or with foreign persons that could result in foreign control of any person engaged in interstate commerce in the United States ("covered transactions").

Current Actions: Extension.

Type of Review: Extension.

Affected Public: Foreign businesses and foreign individuals.

Estimated Number of Responses: 105.

Estimated Time per Respondent: This varies, depending on individual circumstances, with an average of 100 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 10,500 hours.

Requests 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 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.

Dated: August 6, 2012.

Dawn D. Wolfgang,

Treasury PRA Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2012-19560 Filed 8-8-12; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request

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, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before October 9, 2012 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Yvette B. Lawrence, Internal Revenue Service, Room 6129, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

Please send separate comments for each specific information collection listed below. You must reference the information collection's title, form number, reporting or record-keeping requirement number, and OMB number (if any) in your comment.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To obtain additional information, or copies of the information collection and instructions, or copies of any comments received, contact Joel Goldberger at (202) 927-9368 or at Internal Revenue Service, room 6129, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224, or through the Internet, at Joel.P.Goldberger@irs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Request for Comments

The Department of the Treasury and the Internal Revenue Service, as part of their continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invite the general public and other