

claim, then that shorter time period still applies.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Gregory Punske, P.E., District Engineer, District B (South), Federal Highway Administration, 300 East 8th Street, Room 826 Austin, Texas 78701; *telephone:* (512) 536-5960; *e-mail:* gregory.punske@dot.gov. The FHWA Texas Division Office's normal business hours are 7:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. (central time) Monday through Friday.

You may also contact Dianna Noble, P.E., Environmental Affairs Division, Texas Department of Transportation, 118 E. Riverside Drive, Austin, Texas 78704; *telephone:* (512) 416-2734; *e-mail:* Dianna.Noble@txdot.gov. The Texas Department of Transportation normal business hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (central time) Monday through Friday.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given that the FHWA and other Federal agencies have taken final agency actions by issuing licenses, permits, and approvals for the following highway project in the State of Texas: Grand Parkway (State Highway 99) Segment G from I-45 to US 59 in Harris and Montgomery Counties; FHWA Project Reference Number: FHWA-TX-EIS-03-03-F. The project will be a 22.05 km (13.7 mi) long, four-lane controlled access toll road with intermittent frontage roads, grade-separated intersections with exit and entrance ramps at eight intersections, while the need for elevated directional interchanges will be determined during final design. It will begin in northern Harris County at I-45 and then proceed northeast through Montgomery County and end at US 59. The purpose of the project is to efficiently link the suburban communities and major roadways, enhance mobility and safety, and respond to economic growth. The actions by the Federal agencies, and the laws under which such actions were taken, are described in the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the project, approved on January 15, 2009, in the FHWA Record of Decision (ROD) issued on December 29, 2010 and in other documents in the FHWA administrative record. The FEIS, ROD, and other documents in the FHWA administrative record file are available by contacting the FHWA or the Texas Department of Transportation at the addresses provided above. The FHWA FEIS and ROD can be viewed and downloaded from the Grand Parkway Association Web site at <http://www.grandpky.com/segments/g/>.

This notice applies to all Federal agency decisions as of the issuance date

of this notice and all laws under which such actions were taken, including but not limited to:

1. *General:* National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) [42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*]; Federal-Aid Highway Act [23 U.S.C. 109].

2. *Air:* Clean Air Act [42 U.S.C. 7401-7671(q)].

3. *Land:* Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966 [23 U.S.C. 138 and 49 U.S.C. 303].

4. *Wildlife:* Endangered Species Act [16 U.S.C. 1531-1544]; Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act [16 U.S.C. 661-667(d)]; and, Migratory Bird Treaty Act [16 U.S.C. 703-712].

5. *Historic and Cultural Resources:* Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended [16 U.S.C. 470]; Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 [16 U.S.C. 470]; Archaeological and Historical Preservation Act [16 U.S.C. 469].

6. *Social and Economic:* Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 [42 U.S.C. 2000(d) *et seq.*]; Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA) [7 U.S.C. 4201-4209].

7. *Wetlands and Water Resources:* Clean Water Act [33 U.S.C. 1251-1342]; Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) [16 U.S.C. 4601-4604].

8. *Executive Orders:* E.O. 11990 Protection of Wetlands; E.O. 11988 Floodplain Management; E.O. 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low Income Populations; E.O. 11514 Protection and Enhancement of Environmental Quality.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number 20.205, Highway Planning and Construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 12372 regarding intergovernmental consultation on Federal programs and activities apply to this program.)

Authority: 23 U.S.C. 139(l)(1).

Issued on: January 4, 2011.

Gregory S. Punske,
District Engineer.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Maritime Administration

[Docket No. MARAD-2010-0111]

Stakeholder Meetings Regarding the U.S.-Flag Great Lakes Fleet Revitalization Study; Correction

AGENCY: Maritime Administration, Department of Transportation.

ACTION: Correction Notice.

SUMMARY: On December 29, 2010, at 75 FR 82141, the Maritime Administration (MARAD) published notice of three public listening-session meetings it is conducting to gather data and comments to inform the Maritime Administration's U.S.-Flag Great Lakes Fleet Revitalization Study. MARAD inadvertently listed the incorrect time zone for the listening-session meetings and this notice corrects that error.

Dates and Addresses: The Cleveland, Ohio meeting will take place on February 15, 2011, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., local time. The meeting will be held at Hyatt Regency Cleveland at The Arcade, 420 East Superior Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44114.

Persons interested in attending the meeting should register by February 4, 2011.

The Duluth, Minnesota meeting will take place on February 23, 2011, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., local time. The meeting will be held at the Inn on Lake Superior, 350 Canal Park Drive, Duluth, Minnesota 55802.

Persons interested in attending the meeting should register by February 11, 2011.

The Chicago, Illinois meeting will take place on February 25, 2011, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., local time. The meeting will be held at the Sheraton Chicago Hotel and Towers, 301 East North Water Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611.

Persons interested in attending the meeting should register by February 11, 2011.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For general background information or technical information, contact Stephen Shafer, Maritime Administration, Office of Policy and Plans, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590, or by e-mail: GreatLakesStudy@dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Registration: The meetings are open to the public. Advanced registration is recommended. To register, interested parties should send their name, group affiliation, and which of the three meetings they will attend to GreatLakesStudy@absconsulting.com. The meeting agenda will be sent to registered participants prior to the meeting.

The Public Meeting will be held at a site accessible to individuals with disabilities. Individuals who require accommodations such as sign language interpreters should contact ABS Consulting at GreatLakesStudy@absconsulting.com, as soon as possible, but preferably no less than five business days before the scheduled meeting.

By Order of the Maritime Administrator.

Dated: January 4, 2011.

Christine Gurland,

Secretary, Maritime Administration.

[FR Doc. 2011-327 Filed 1-10-11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-81-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB FD 35343]

Susquehanna Union Railroad Company—Control Exemption—North Shore Railroad Company, Nittany & Bald Eagle Railroad Company, Shamokin Valley Railroad Company, Juniata Valley Railroad Company, Lycoming Valley Railroad Company, and Union County Industrial Railroad Company

On April 12, 2010, Susquehanna Union Railroad Company (SURC), a noncarrier holding company, filed a petition for exemption (petition) from the prior approval requirements of 49 U.S.C. 11323(a)(4) to acquire 100% stock control of 6 Class III railroads: North Shore Railroad Company, Nittany & Bald Eagle Railroad Company, Shamokin Valley Railroad Company, Juniata Valley Railroad Company, Lycoming Valley Railroad Company, and Union County Industrial Railroad Company (collectively, System Carriers). By a decision served on August 27, 2010, the Board instituted a proceeding. The Board will grant the exemption.¹

SURC is a noncarrier holding company owned by Richard D. Robey. Robey also is the sole owner of the System Carriers. Currently, significant management, budgeting, maintenance, and operational functions for the 6 System Carriers take place at a central office in Northumberland, Pa., all overseen by Robey. SURC states that, for the purpose of conforming the corporate structure of the System Carriers with the day-to-day functional management and operations of the System Carriers, it seeks to consolidate the System Carriers into SURC. SURC would obtain 100% stock control of the System Carriers by a noncash tender of 100% of shares in the System Carriers stock from Robey to SURC in exchange for issuance of

additional shares of SURC to Robey. As a result, Robey would own and control the 6 System Carriers through SURC.

The acquisition of control of at least 2 rail carriers by a person that is not a rail carrier requires prior approval by the Board under 49 U.S.C. 11323(a)(4). Under 49 U.S.C. 10502(a), however, the Board must exempt a transaction or service from regulation if it finds that: (1) Regulation is not necessary to carry out the rail transportation policy (RTP) of 49 U.S.C. 10101; and (2) either (a) the transaction or service is limited in scope; or (b) regulation is not needed to protect shippers from the abuse of market power.²

In this case, an exemption from the prior approval requirements of 49 U.S.C. 11323-25 is consistent with the standards of 49 U.S.C. 10502. Detailed scrutiny of the proposed transaction through an application for review and approval under 49 U.S.C. 11323-25 is not necessary to carry out the RTP. Rather, an exemption will promote that policy by minimizing the need for Federal regulatory control over the proposed transaction and ensuring the development and continuation of a sound rail transportation system that will continue to meet the needs of the shipping public. 49 U.S.C. 10101(2) and (4). By allowing the consolidation of control of the System Carriers through SURC, an exemption would encourage the efficient management of the System Carriers. 49 U.S.C. 10101(9). An exemption also would allow for the expeditious handling and resolution of this transaction. 49 U.S.C. 10101(15). Other aspects of the RTP will not be adversely affected.

Regulation of this transaction is not needed to protect shippers from an abuse of market power. SURC has indicated that the proposed transaction will not result in a change in rail operations or a lessening of competition. The transaction involves only a nominal change of control by means of consolidating 100% stock control of the System Carriers, which Robey currently owns and controls, into a noncarrier holding company, which is owned and controlled by Robey, as well. Given our finding regarding the probable effect of the transaction on market power, we need not determine whether the transaction is limited in scope.

Under 49 U.S.C. 10502(g), the Board may not use its exemption authority to relieve a rail carrier of its statutory obligation to protect the interests of its employees. Section 11326(c), however, does not provide for labor protection for transactions under §§ 11324 and 11325 that involve only Class III rail carriers. Accordingly, the Board may not impose labor protective conditions here because all the carriers involved are Class III rail carriers.

The acquisition of control is exempt from environmental reporting requirements under 49 CFR 1105.6(c)(2)(i) because it will not result in any significant change in carrier operations. Similarly, the transaction is exempt from the historic reporting requirements under 49 CFR 1105.8(b)(3) because it will not substantially change the level of maintenance of railroad properties.

This action will not significantly affect either the quality of the human environment or the conservation of energy resources.

It is ordered:

1. Under 49 U.S.C. 10502, the Board exempts from the prior approval requirements of 49 U.S.C. 11323-25 SURC's acquisition of stock control of the System Carriers.

2. Notice will be published in the **Federal Register** on January 11, 2011.

3. This exemption will be effective on February 10, 2011. Petitions for stay must be filed by January 21, 2011. Petitions to reopen must be filed by January 31, 2011.

By the Board, Chairman Elliott, Vice Chairman Nottingham, and Commissioner Mulvey.

Andrea Pope-Matheson,
Clearance Clerk.

[FR Doc. 2011-350 Filed 1-10-11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4912-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Form 15597

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

¹ SURC's petition also requested that the Board preempt and nullify, under 49 U.S.C. 11321(a), a provision of an operating agreement between SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority (JRA) and certain System Carriers that lease and operate separate lines owned by JRA. The provision requires JRA to approve any change of control of certain System Carriers. In a letter filed on July 28, 2010, JRA states that the parties successfully concluded settlement negotiations and that it consents to the proposed transaction.

² This transaction would normally be subject to the Board's class exemption under 49 CFR 1180.2(d)(3), which exempts a transaction that is within a corporate family that does not result in adverse changes in service levels, significant operational changes, or a change in the competitive balance with carriers outside the corporate family. However, SURC instead filed a petition for exemption in light of the now resolved issues arising from the operating agreement with JRA.