

buildings (secondary containments) of three of the Fukushima Dai-ichi units. The loss of the various barriers led to the release of radioactive materials, which further hampered operator efforts to arrest the accidents and ultimately led to the contamination of large areas surrounding the plant. Fortunately, the evacuation of local populations minimized the immediate danger to public health and safety from the loss of control of the large amount of radioactive materials within the reactor cores.

The events at Fukushima reinforced the importance of reliable operation of hardened containment vents during emergency conditions, particularly, for small containments such as the Mark I and Mark II designs. On March 12, 2012, the NRC issued Order EA-12-050¹ requiring the Licensees identified in Attachment 1 to this order to implement requirements for a reliable hardened containment venting system (HCVS) for Mark I and Mark II containments. Order EA-12-050 required licensees of BWR facilities with Mark I and Mark II containments to install a reliable HCVS to support strategies for controlling containment pressure and preventing core damage following an event that causes a loss of heat removal systems (e.g., an extended loss of electrical power). The NRC determined that the issuance of EA-12-050 and implementation of the requirements of that order were necessary to provide reasonable assurance of adequate protection of the public health and safety.

While developing the requirements for a reliable HCVS in Order EA-12-050, the NRC acknowledged that questions remained about maintaining containment integrity and limiting the release of radioactive materials if the venting systems were used during severe accident conditions. The NRC staff presented options to address these issues, including the possible use of engineered filters to control releases, for Commission consideration in SECY-12-0157, "Consideration of Additional Requirements for Containment Venting Systems for Boiling Water Reactors With Mark I and Mark II Containments" (issued November 26, 2012). Option 2 in SECY-12-0157 was to modify EA-12-050 to require severe accident capable vents (i.e., a reliable HCVS capable of operating under severe accident conditions). Other options discussed in SECY-12-0157 included the installation

of engineered filtered containment venting systems (Option 3) and the development of a severe accident confinement strategy (Option 4). In the Staff Requirements Memorandum (SRM) for SECY-12-0157, dated March 19, 2013, the Commission approved Option 2 and directed the staff to issue a modification to Order EA-12-050 requiring licensees subject to that order to "upgrade or replace the reliable hardened vents required by Order EA-12-050 with a containment venting system designed and installed to remain functional during severe accident conditions."

The requirements in this order, in addition to providing a reliable HCVS to assist in preventing core damage when heat removal capability is lost (the purpose of EA-12-050), will ensure that venting functions are also available during severe accident conditions. Severe accident conditions include the elevated temperatures, pressures, radiation levels, and combustible gas concentrations, such as hydrogen and carbon monoxide, associated with accidents involving extensive core damage, including accidents involving a breach of the reactor vessel by molten core debris. This order requires installation of reliable hardened vents that will not only assist in preventing core damage when heat removal capability is lost, but will also function in severe accident conditions (i.e., when core damage has occurred). The safety improvements to Mark I and Mark II containment venting systems required by this order are intended to increase confidence in maintaining the containment function following core damage events. Although venting the containment during severe accident conditions could result in the release of radioactive materials, venting could also prevent containment structural and gross penetration leakage failures due to overpressurization that would hamper accident management (e.g., continuing efforts to cool core debris) and ultimately result in larger, uncontrolled releases of radioactive material.

On August 28, 2013, NEI submitted NEI 13-02, "Industry Guidance for Compliance with Order EA-13-109," Revision C2 (ADAMS Accession No. ML13247A403), to provide specification for the development, implementation, and maintenance of guidance in response to the order regarding reliable hardened containment vents capable of operation under severe accident conditions. This ISG endorses, with clarifications and exceptions, the methodologies described in the industry guidance document NEI 13-02.

Proposed Action

By this action, the NRC is requesting public comments on draft JLD-ISG-2013-02. This draft JLD-ISG proposes guidance related to requirements contained in Order EA-13-109, "Order Modifying Licenses With Regard to Reliable Hardened Containment Vents Capable of Operation Under Severe Accident Conditions". The NRC staff will make a final determination regarding issuance of the JLD-ISG after it considers any public comments received in response to this request.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 11th day of September 2013.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

David L. Skeen,

*Director, Japan Lessons-Learned Project
Directorate, Office of Nuclear Reactor
Regulation.*

[FR Doc. 2013-22688 Filed 9-17-13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. R2013-9; Order No. 1833]

International Mail Contract

AGENCY: Postal Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Commission is noticing a recent Postal Service filing concerning a bilateral rate and service agreement with Korea Post. This notice informs the public of the filing, invites public comment, and takes other administrative steps.

DATES: *Comments are due:* September 20, 2013.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments electronically via the Commission's Filing Online system at <http://www.prc.gov>. Those who cannot submit comments electronically should contact the person identified in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section by telephone for advice on filing alternatives.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stephen L. Sharfman, General Counsel, at 202-789-6820.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Table of Contents

- I. Introduction
- II. The Postal Service's Filings
- III. Supplemental Information
- IV. Commission Action
- V. Ordering Paragraphs

I. Introduction

Background. On September 10, 2013, the Postal Service filed notice, pursuant to 39 CFR 3010.40 *et seq.*, announcing

¹ "Order Modifying Licenses With Regard To Reliable Hardened Containment Vents (Effective Immediately)," EA-12-050 (March 12, 2012) (ADAMS Accession No. ML12056A043).

that it has entered into a bilateral agreement with Korea Post (Agreement), along with a Type 2 rate adjustment.¹ It asks that the Commission include the Agreement within the Inbound Market-Dominant Multi-Service Agreements with Foreign Postal Operators 1 (MC2010–35) product on grounds of functional equivalence. This Order provides public notice of the Postal Service's Notice, invites comments, and takes other administrative actions.

II. The Postal Service's Filings

Compliance with filing requirements. In addition to the Notice, the Postal Service filed an application for non-public treatment of materials filed under seal (Attachment 1); a redacted copy of the Korea Post Agreement (Attachment 2); and a redacted Excel file with supporting financial documentation. Notice at 3. The Postal Service also filed unredacted copies of the Agreement and the supporting financial documentation under seal. *Id.*

The Agreement is the most recent in a series of agreements the Postal Service has proposed for inclusion within Inbound Market-Dominant Multi-Service Agreements with Foreign Postal Operators 1 (MC2010–35).² The Postal Service identifies Korea Post, the postal operator for the Republic of Korea, and the Postal Service as the parties to the Agreement. *Id.* at 4.

The Postal Service describes the Agreement as establishing a service for delivery confirmation scanning with Letter Post small packets. *Id.* It asserts this service is similar to the service for delivery confirmation scanning with Letter Post small packets established by the China Post 2010 Agreement and other agreements approved for inclusion with the product. *Id.* It states that the Type 2 rate adjustment results in an improvement over default rates established under the Universal Postal Union Acts for inbound letter post items. *Id.* at 1.

The Postal Service identifies October 1, 2013 as the intended effective date; states that its Notice provides the requisite advance notice; identifies a Postal Service official as a contact person; provides financial data and information in the redacted workpapers; describes expected operational improvements; and addresses why the

Agreement will not result in unreasonable harm to the marketplace. *Id.* at 4–7.

Data collection and performance reporting proposals. The Postal Service proposes that no special data collection plan be created for the Agreement because it intends to report information on the Agreement through the Annual Compliance Report. *Id.* at 7. With respect to performance measurement, the Postal Service asks that it be excepted from separate reporting under 39 CFR 3055.3(a)(3), and cites the Commission's granting of similar exceptions for other agreements in support of its proposal. *Id.* at 7–8. The Postal Service further requests, pursuant to 39 CFR 3055.3(a)(3), that the Commission approve an exception to the performance reporting requirements for all agreements added to the Mail Classification Schedule as Inbound Market-Dominant Multi-Service Agreements with Foreign Postal Operators 1 because the performance of the products covered by those agreements is already included in the measurement of other products. *Id.* at 12.

Statutory criteria. The Postal Service states that under 39 U.S.C. 3622(c)(10), the criteria for Commission review are whether the Agreement (1) improves the Postal Service's net financial position or enhances performance of operational functions; (2) will not cause unreasonable harm to the marketplace; and (3) will be available on public and reasonable terms to similarly situated mailers. *Id.* at 8. It states that it addresses the first two criteria in its Notice and views the third criterion as inapplicable, given Korea Post's status as the designated operator for Letter Post originating in the Republic of Korea. *Id.*

Functional equivalence. In support of a finding of functional equivalence, the Postal Service states that the terms of the Agreement fit within the proposed Mail Classification Schedule (MCS) language for Inbound Market-Dominant Multi-Service Agreements with Foreign Postal Operators 1, so the Agreement and the agreements previously included within this product conform to a common description. *Id.* at 9. The Postal Service also states that the Agreement and referenced agreements constructed from a similar template and contain many similar terms and conditions, including establishing a service for delivery confirmation scanning with Letter Post small packets; are with foreign postal operators; and have cost characteristics, as they relate to services for delivery confirmation scanning with

Letter Post small packets, that are similar. *Id.* at 9–10.

The Postal Service identifies two material differences between the Agreement and the Singapore Post Agreement. Article 8, Paragraph 1 provides that the Agreement may be terminated for good cause if a party fails to make timely and full payment of any undisputed invoice of portion thereof. *Id.* at 11. Annex 2 to the Agreement contains a section related to interest on past due undisputed invoices and portions thereof for inbound mailstreams. *Id.* The Postal Service states that these differences do not detract from the conclusion that the Korea Post Agreement is functionally equivalent to the Singapore Post 2011 Agreement and other agreements in the Inbound Market-Dominant Multi-Service Agreements with Foreign Postal Operators 1 product. *Id.*

III. Supplemental Information

The Notice states: "The agreement's inbound market dominant rates are planned to become effective on October 1, 2013. Public notice of these rates is being given through this Notice at least 45 days before the effective date." *Id.* at 3.³ Given the filing date of the Notice, please reconcile these two statements. A response to this inquiry is due no later than September 16, 2013.

IV. Commission Action

The Commission, in conformance with rule 3010.44, establishes Docket No. R2013–9 to consider matters raised by the Notice. The Commission invites interested persons to submit comments on whether the Notice is consistent with the policies of 39 U.S.C. 3622 and 39 CFR part 3010.40. Comments are due no later than September 20, 2013.

The public portions of the Postal Service's filings have been posted on the Commission's Web site. They can be accessed at <http://www.prc.gov>. Information on how to obtain access to non-public material is available at 39 CFR part 3007.

The Commission appoints James F. Callow to serve as Public Representative in this proceeding.

V. Ordering Paragraphs

It is ordered:

1. The Commission establishes Docket No. R2013–9 to consider matters raised by the Notice of United States Postal Service of Type 2 Rate Adjustment, and Notice of Filing Functionally Equivalent Bilateral Agreement with Korea Post, filed September 10, 2013.

³ See also 39 CFR 3010.44(b) ("[N]o rate shall take effect until 45 days after the Postal Service files a notice of rate adjustment specifying that rate.").

¹ Notice of United States Postal Service of Type 2 Rate Adjustment, and Notice of Filing Functionally Equivalent Bilateral Agreement with Korea Post, September 10, 2013 (collectively, Notice).

² See Notice at 1–2 for previous agreements. The Postal Service uses the Singapore Post Agreement for purposes of identifying differences in the Agreement.

2. Pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 505, James F. Callow is appointed to serve as an officer of the Commission (Public Representative) to represent the interests of the general public in this proceeding.

3. Comments by interested persons are due no later than September 20, 2013.

4. The response to the supplemental information requested is due no later than September 16, 2013.

5. The Secretary shall arrange for publication of this Order in the **Federal Register**.

By the Commission.

Shoshana M. Grove,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2013-22608 Filed 9-17-13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7710-FW-P

RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

SUMMARY: In accordance with the requirement of Section 3506 (c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 which provides opportunity for public comment on new or revised data collections, the Railroad Retirement

Board (RRB) will publish periodic summaries of proposed data collections.

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information has practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the RRB's estimate of the burden of the collection of the information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden related to the collection of information on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Title and purpose of information collection: Application and Claim for Sickness Insurance Benefits; OMB 3220-0039.

Under Section 2 of the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act (RUIA), sickness benefits are payable to qualified railroad employees who are unable to work because of illness or injury. In addition, sickness benefits are payable to qualified female employees if they are unable to work, or if working would be injurious, because of pregnancy, miscarriage, or childbirth. Under Section 1(k) of the RUIA a statement of sickness, with respect to days of sickness of an employee, is to

be filed with the RRB within a 10-day period from the first day claimed as a day of sickness. The Railroad Retirement Board's (RRB) authority for requesting supplemental medical information is Section 12(i) and 12(n) of the RUIA. The procedures for claiming sickness benefits and for the RRB to obtain supplemental medical information needed to determine a claimant's eligibility for such benefits are prescribed in 20 CFR part 335.

The forms currently used by the RRB to obtain information needed to determine eligibility for, and the amount of, sickness benefits due a claimant follow: Form SI-1a, Application for Sickness Benefits; Form SI-1b, Statement of Sickness; Form SI-3, Claim for Sickness Benefits; Form SI-7, Supplemental Doctor's Statement; Form SI-8, Verification of Medical Information; Form ID-7H, Non-Entitlement to Sickness Benefits and Information on Unemployment Benefits; Form ID-11A, Requesting Reason for Late Filing of Sickness Benefit, and ID-11B, Notice of Insufficient Medical and Late Filing. Completion is required to obtain or retain benefits. One response is requested of each respondent.

The RRB proposes no changes to any of the forms in the information collection.

ESTIMATE OF ANNUAL RESPONDENT BURDEN

[The estimated annual respondent burden is as follows]

| Form No. | Annual responses | Time (minutes) | Burden (hours) |
|-----------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|
| SI-1a | 17,000 | 10 | 2,833 |
| SI-1b (Doctor) | 17,000 | 8 | 2,267 |
| SI-3 (manual) | 118,150 | 5 | 9,846 |
| SI-3 (Internet) | 20,850 | 5 | 1,738 |
| SI-7 | 22,600 | 8 | 3,013 |
| SI-8 | 50 | 5 | 4 |
| ID-7H | 50 | 5 | 4 |
| ID-11A | 800 | 4 | 53 |
| ID-11B | 1,000 | 4 | 67 |
| Total | 197,500 | | 19,825 |

Additional Information or Comments: To request more information or to obtain a copy of the information collection justification, forms, and/or supporting material, contact Dana Hickman at (312) 751-4981 or Dana.Hickman@RRB.GOV. Comments regarding the information collection should be addressed to Charles Mierzwa, Railroad Retirement Board, 844 North Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611-2092 or emailed to Charles.Mierzwa@RRB.GOV. Written

comments should be received within 60 days of this notice.

Charles Mierzwa,

Chief of Information Resources Management.

[FR Doc. 2013-22660 Filed 9-17-13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7905-01-P

RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

Sunshine Act; Notice of Public Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the Railroad Retirement Board will hold a meeting on September 26, 2013, 10:00

a.m. at the Board's meeting room on the 8th floor of its headquarters building, 844 North Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois, 60611. The agenda for this meeting follows:

Portion open to the public:

(1) Executive Committee Reports

The person to contact for more information is Martha P. Rico, Secretary to the Board, Phone No. 312-751-4920.

Dated: September 13, 2013.

Martha P. Rico,

Secretary to the Board.

[FR Doc. 2013-22792 Filed 9-16-13; 11:15 am]

BILLING CODE 7905-01-P