

action may have on U.S. vessel builders or businesses in the U.S. that use U.S.-flag vessels. If MARAD determines, in accordance with 46 U.S.C. 12121 and MARAD's regulations at 46 CFR Part 388, that the issuance of the waiver will have an unduly adverse effect on a U.S.-vessel builder or a business that uses U.S.-flag vessels in that business, a waiver will not be granted. Comments should refer to the docket number of this notice and the vessel name in order for MARAD to properly consider the comments. Comments should also state the commenter's interest in the waiver application, and address the waiver criteria given in § 388.4 of MARAD's regulations at 46 CFR Part 388.

#### Privacy Act

Anyone is able to search the electronic form of all comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the comment, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** published on April 11, 2000 (Volume 65, Number 70; Pages 19477–78).

By Order of the Maritime Administrator.  
Dated: December 17, 2013.

**Julie P. Agarwal,**

*Secretary, Maritime Administration.*

[FR Doc. 2013–30369 Filed 1–2–14; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910–81–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Surface Transportation Board

[Docket No. AB 303 (Sub-No. 43X)]

#### Wisconsin Central Ltd.—Abandonment Exemption—in Barron County, WI

On December 16, 2013, Wisconsin Central Ltd. (WCL)<sup>1</sup> filed with the Surface Transportation Board (Board) a petition under 49 U.S.C. 10502 for exemption from the prior approval requirements of 49 U.S.C. 10903 to abandon a 0.80-mile line of railroad between mileposts 55.2 and 56.0 in Rice Lake, Barron County, Wis. (the Line).<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> WCL is a wholly owned indirect subsidiary of Canadian National Railway Company.

<sup>2</sup> WCL states that the Line is a stub-ended line that begins at a connection with its mainline at milepost 55.2 and ends at milepost 56.0. The track north of milepost 56.0 was approved for abandonment in *Wisconsin Central Ltd.—Abandonment Exemption—in Douglas, Washburn, & Barron Counties, Wis.*, AB 303 (Sub-No. 12X) (ICC served Apr. 20, 1993). According to WCL, the abandoned line in that proceeding is now a trail, except for a small portion immediately north of milepost 56.0, on which abandonment was consummated, but the track remains in place to allow for headroom for switching purposes.

The Line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Code 54868.

WCL states that, based on information in its possession, the Line does not contain federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in WCL'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 Railroad—Abandonment Portion Goshen Branch Between Firth & Ammon, In Bingham & Bonneville Counties, Idaho*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979).

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, 2014.

Any offer of financial assistance (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. Each OFA must be accompanied by a \$1,600 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 23, 2014. Each trail use request must be accompanied by a \$250 filing fee. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(27).

All filings in response to this notice must refer to Docket No. AB 303 (Sub-No. 43X) and must be sent to: (1) Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street SW., Washington, DC 20423–0001; and (2) Audrey L. Brodrick, Fletcher & Sippel LLC, 29 North Wacker Drive, Suite 920, Chicago, IL 60606. Replies to the petition are due on or before January 23, 2014.

Persons seeking further information concerning abandonment procedures may contact the Board's Office of Public Assistance, Governmental Affairs and Compliance at (202) 245–0238 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 Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) at (202) 245–0305. [Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1–800–877–8339.]

An environmental assessment (EA) (or environmental impact statement (EIS), if necessary) prepared by OEA 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 OEA 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 generally will be within 30 days of its service.

Board decisions and notices are available on our Web site at “[WWW.STB.DOT.GOV](http://WWW.STB.DOT.GOV).”

Decided: December 30, 2013.

By the Board, Rachel D. Campbell,  
Director, Office of Proceedings.

**Derrick A. Gardner,**  
*Clearance Clerk.*

[FR Doc. 2013–31465 Filed 1–2–14; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4915–01–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Surface Transportation Board

[Docket No. AB 290 (Sub-No. 351X)]

#### Norfolk Southern Railway Company—Abandonment Exemption—in Botetourt County, VA

On December 16, 2013, Norfolk Southern Railway Company (NSR) filed with the Surface Transportation Board (Board) a petition under 49 U.S.C. 10502 for exemption from the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 10903 to abandon approximately 0.71 miles of rail line, consisting of part of the Cloverdale Branch and extending from milepost C 8.19 to milepost C 8.90 in Troutville, Botetourt County, Va. The line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Code 24175. There is one station on the line that will remain open to serve the remainder of the Cloverdale Branch.<sup>1</sup>

NSR states that, based on information in its possession, the line does not contain federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in NSR'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 Railroad—Abandonment Portion Goshen Branch Between Firth & Ammon, in Bingham & Bonneville Counties, Idaho*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979).

By issuing this notice, the Board is instituting an exemption proceeding

<sup>1</sup> NSR states that there is one shipper on the line, Roanoke Cement Company LLC (Roanoke). According to NSR, Roanoke has requested abandonment to allow expansion of its facilities, and Roanoke will continue to be served by NSR post-abandonment. NSR seeks expedited consideration in this proceeding to allow Roanoke to move forward with its plans as soon as possible. This request will be addressed in the final decision.

pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 10502(b). A final decision will be issued by April 4, 2014.

Any offer of financial assistance (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. Each OFA must be accompanied by a \$1,600 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 23, 2014. Each trail use request must be accompanied by a \$250 filing fee. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(27). However, NSR states that, because it seeks abandonment to allow expansion of Roanoke's facilities, NSR is unwilling to negotiate interim trail use.

All filings in response to this notice must refer to Docket No. AB 290 (Sub-No. 351X) and must be sent to: (1) Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street SW., Washington, DC 20423-0001; and (2) Robert A. Wimbish, Baker & Miller PLLC, 2401 Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Suite 300, Washington, DC 20037. Replies to the petition are due on or before January 23, 2014.

Persons seeking further information concerning abandonment procedures may contact the Board's Office of Public Assistance, Governmental Affairs and Compliance at (202) 245-0238 or refer to the full abandonment or discontinuance regulations at 49 CFR pt. 1152. Questions concerning environmental issues may be directed to the Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) at (202) 245-0305. Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

An environmental assessment (EA) (or environmental impact statement (EIS), if necessary) prepared by OEA will be served upon all parties of record and upon any agencies or other persons who comment during its presentation. Other interested persons may contact OEA 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 generally will be within 30 days of its service.

Board decisions and notices are available on our Web site at [www.stb.dot.gov](http://www.stb.dot.gov).

Decided: December 30, 2013.

By the Board, Rachel D. Campbell, Director, Office of Proceedings.

**Derrick Gardner,**

*Clerk*

[FR Doc. 2013-31466 Filed 1-2-14; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4915-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Fiscal Service

#### Prompt Payment Interest Rate; Contract Disputes Act

**AGENCY:** Bureau of the Fiscal Service, Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** For the period beginning January 1, 2014, and ending on June 30, 2014, the prompt payment interest rate is 2 $\frac{1}{8}$  per centum per annum.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments or inquiries may be mailed to: Sam Doak, Reporting Team Lead Accountant, Bureau of the Fiscal Service, Federal Borrowings Branch, Room 119, Parkersburg Warehouse & Operations Center Dock 1, 257 Bosley Industrial Park Drive, Parkersburg, West Virginia 26101. Comments or inquiries may also be emailed to [borrowings@bpd.treas.gov](mailto:borrowings@bpd.treas.gov). A copy of this notice is available at <http://www.treasurydirect.gov>.

**DATES:** Effective January 1, 2014, to June 30, 2014.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Adam Charlton, Manager, Fiscal Accounting Operations, Federal Borrowings Branch, (304) 480-5248; Sam Doak, Reporting Team Lead Accountant, Fiscal Accounting Operations, Federal Borrowings Branch, (304) 480-5117; or Elisha S. Garvey, Attorney-Advisor, Office of the Chief Counsel, (202) 504-3715.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** An agency that has acquired property or service from a business concern and has failed to pay for the complete delivery of property or service by the required payment date shall pay the business concern an interest penalty. 31 U.S.C. 3902(a). The Contract Disputes Act of 1978, Sec. 12, Public Law 95-563, 92 Stat. 2389, and the Prompt Payment Act, 31 U.S.C. 3902(a), provide for the calculation of interest due on claims at the rate established by the Secretary of the Treasury.

The Secretary of the Treasury has the authority to specify the rate by which the interest shall be computed for interest payments under section 12 of the Contract Disputes Act of 1978 and under the Prompt Payment Act. Under the Prompt Payment Act, if an interest

penalty is owed to a business concern, the penalty shall be paid regardless of whether the business concern requested payment of such penalty. 31 U.S.C. 3902(c)(1). Agencies must pay the interest penalty calculated with the interest rate, which is in effect at the time the agency accrues the obligation to pay a late payment interest penalty. 31 U.S.C. 3902(a). "The interest penalty shall be paid for the period beginning on the day after the required payment date and ending on the date on which payment is made." 31 U.S.C. 3902(b).

Therefore, notice is given that the Secretary of the Treasury has determined that the rate of interest applicable for the period beginning January 1, 2014, and ending on June 30, 2014, is 2 $\frac{1}{8}$  per centum per annum.

**Mark Reger,**

*Deputy Assistant Secretary for Accounting Policy.*

[FR Doc. 2013-31205 Filed 1-2-14; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4810-39-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0001]

#### Proposed Information Collection (Veteran's Application for Compensation and/or Pension) Activity: Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), is announcing an opportunity for public comment on the proposed collection of certain information by the Agency. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, Federal agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each revision of a currently approved collection and allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments on information needed to determine a veteran's eligibility, dependency, and income, as applicable, for compensation and/or pension benefit sought.

**DATES:** Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before March 4, 2014.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit written comments on the collection of information through [www.Regulations.gov](http://www.Regulations.gov); or to Nancy J.