

**DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

[Public Notice 9981]

**60-Day Notice of Proposed Information Collection: Refugee Biographic Data****ACTION:** Notice of request for public comment.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of State is seeking Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval for the information collection described below. In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, we are requesting comments on this collection from all interested individuals and organizations. The purpose of this notice is to allow 60 days for public comment preceding submission of the collection to OMB.

**DATES:** The Department will accept comments from the public up to *July 3, 2017*.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

- *Web:* Persons with access to the Internet may comment on this notice by going to [www.Regulations.gov](http://www.Regulations.gov). You can search for the document by entering "Docket Number: DOS-2017-0018" in the Search field. Then click the "Comment Now" button and complete the comment form.

- *Email:* [PRM-Comments@state.gov](mailto:PRM-Comments@state.gov).
- *Regular Mail:* Send written comments to: Delicia Spruell, PRM/Admissions, 2025 E Street NW., SA-9, 8th Floor, Washington, DC 20522-0908.
- *Fax:* (202) 453-9393.

You must include the DS form number (if applicable), information collection title, and the OMB control number in any correspondence.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Direct requests for additional information regarding the collection listed in this notice, including requests for supporting documents, to Delicia Spruell, PRM/Admissions, 2025 E Street NW., SA-9, 8th Floor, Washington, DC 20522-0908.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

- *Title of Information Collection:* Refugee Biographic Data.

- *OMB Control Number:* 1405-0102.
- *Type of Request:* Extension of a Currently Approved Collection.

- *Originating Office:* Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration, Office of Admissions, PRM/A.

- *Form Number:* None.
- *Respondents:* Refugee applicants for the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program.
- *Estimated Number of Respondents:* 50,000.
- *Estimated Number of Responses:* 50,000.

- *Average Time per Response:* 30 Minutes.

- *Total Estimated Burden Time:* 25,000 hours.

- *Frequency:* Once per respondent.

- *Obligation to Respond:* Required to Obtain a Benefit.

We are soliciting public comments to permit the Department to:

- Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper functions of the Department.

- Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the time and cost burden for this proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used.

- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.

- Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Please note that comments submitted in response to this Notice are public record. Before including any detailed personal information, you should be aware that your comments as submitted, including your personal information, will be available for public review.

**Abstract of Proposed Collection**

The Refugee Biographic Data Sheet describes a refugee applicant's personal characteristics and is needed to match the refugee with a sponsoring voluntary agency for initial reception and placement in the U.S. under the United States Refugee Admissions Program administered by the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration, as cited in the Immigration and Nationality Act and the Refugee Act of 1980.

**Methodology**

Biographic information is collected in a face-to-face intake process with the applicant overseas. An employee of a Resettlement Support Center, under cooperative agreement with PRM, collects the information and enters it into the Worldwide Refugee Admissions Processing System.

**Lawrence Bartlett,**

*Director, Office of Admissions, Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration, Department of State.*

[FR Doc. 2017-08994 Filed 5-3-17; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4710-33-P**

**SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

[Docket No. AB 1242]

**Hartwell First United Methodist Church—Adverse Abandonment and Discontinuance—Hartwell Railroad Company and the Great Walton Railroad Company, Inc., in Hart County, GA**

On April 14, 2017, Hartwell First United Methodist Church (Hartwell First or Applicant) filed an application under 49 U.S.C. 10903 requesting that the Surface Transportation Board (Board) authorize the third-party, or adverse, abandonment and discontinuance of approximately 0.25 miles of rail line and associated right-of-way (the Line) owned by The Great Walton Railroad Company (GWRC). The Line, which traverses United States Postal Service Zip Code 30643, extends from Athens Street to a stub end at South Forest Avenue in Hartwell, Hart County, Ga. It is a portion of a line of railroad, which Hartwell First refers to as the Hartwell Line, between Bowersville, Ga., and Hartwell.<sup>1</sup> There are no stations associated with the Line. The application is available on the Board's Web site at <http://www.stb.gov>, or a copy can be secured from Hartwell First's counsel, whose name and address appear below.

Hartwell First currently owns property on both sides of the Line that it wishes to develop. According to Hartwell First, the Line has not been used to provide local rail service since 1996, is largely overgrown, and public crossings have been removed and/or closed by the Georgia Department of Transportation. Hartwell First states that GWRC has entered into a 99-year lease for the Line and adjacent property with a local non-profit for development of a park, walking path, and farmers' market. Thus, Hartwell First asserts that the Line cannot currently be used to conduct rail service even if GWRC wanted to do so. Hartwell First states that GWRC has refused to seek abandonment or discontinuance authority voluntarily. Accordingly, Hartwell First seeks adverse abandonment and discontinuance

<sup>1</sup> In earlier filings, Hartwell First stated that the Line is owned by Hartwell Railroad Company (HRC) and that GWRC has trackage rights over it. (See, e.g., Hartwell First Pet. for Waiver 1, May 26, 2016.) In its application, however, Hartwell First states that, based on additional research, it does not appear that HRC has any ownership or operating rights with respect to the Line. Hartwell First also contends that no carrier (including GWRC and HRC) has Board authorization to own or operate the Hartwell Line. In this notice, references to GWRC should be read to include HRC to the extent appropriate.

authority, so that it can then seek to quiet title to the Line to the extent it bisects Hartwell First's property between Athens Street and Webb Street.

In a decision served in this proceeding on August 29, 2016 (August 2016 Decision), Hartwell First was granted exemptions from several statutory provisions as well as waivers of certain Board regulations at 49 CFR pt. 1152 that were not relevant to its adverse abandonment application or that sought information not available to it. Specifically, Hartwell First was granted an exemption from 49 U.S.C. 10903(c) and waiver of 49 CFR 1152.22(a)(5) pertaining to System Diagram Maps; waivers of certain requirements pertaining to the notice of intent prescribed at 49 CFR 1152.21; waiver of 49 CFR 1152.20(a)(1) to the extent it requires service of the notice on the Board by certified letter rather than electronic or other delivery after a proceeding has been instituted; waiver of 49 CFR 1152.20(a)(2)(x) that notice be served on Amtrak; exemption from 49 U.S.C. 10903(a)(3)(B) concerning posting the notice of intent at agency stations or terminals; waiver of 49 CFR 1152.22(b)–(e), which require that discontinuance and abandonment applications include information regarding the condition of properties, service performed, attributable revenue and cost data, and rural and community impact; waiver of 49 CFR 1152.22(i) concerning the wording of the draft **Federal Register** notice; exemption from 49 U.S.C. 10904 and waiver of 49 CFR 1152.27, which govern an offer of financial assistance (OFA) to continue common carrier rail service; exemption from the public use provisions of 49 U.S.C. 10905 and waiver of the corresponding regulation at 49 CFR 1152.28; and waiver of the requirement under 49 CFR 1152.29(e)(2) that the abandonment be consummated within one year after the abandonment application.

In the August 2016 Decision, Hartwell First was directed to amend certain language in its notice of intent; serve copies of the notice on any significant shippers identified by HRC and/or GWRC; serve copies of the notice on any duly certified labor organizations identified by HRC and/or GWRC as representing their employees; and serve a copy of the notice on the U.S. Railroad Retirement Board. Hartwell First has complied with these requirements.

Hartwell First states that the Line does not contain federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in Hartwell First's possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it. Hartwell First's entire case-in-chief

for adverse abandonment and discontinuance was filed with the application.

The interests 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).

Any interested person may file written comments concerning the proposed adverse abandonment and discontinuance or protests (including protestant's entire opposition case) by May 29, 2017. Persons who may oppose the proposed adverse abandonment and discontinuance but who do not wish to participate fully in the process by submitting verified statements of witnesses containing detailed evidence should file comments. Persons opposing the proposed adverse abandonment and discontinuance who wish to participate actively and fully in the process should file a protest, observing the filing, service, and content requirements of 49 CFR 1152.25. Hartwell First's reply is due by June 13, 2017.

Any request for an interim trail use/railbanking condition under 16 U.S.C. 1247(d) and 49 CFR 1152.29 must be filed by May 29, 2017, and should address whether the issuance of a certificate of interim trail use in this case would be consistent with the grant of an adverse abandonment and discontinuance application. Each trail use request must be accompanied by a \$300 filing fee. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(27).

All filings in response to this notice must refer to Docket No. AB 1242 and must be sent to: (1) Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street SW., Washington, DC 20423–0001; (2) Eric M. Hocky, Esq., Clark Hill PLC, 2005 Market Street, Suite 1000, Philadelphia, PA 19103, (215) 640–8500.

Filings may be submitted either via the Board's e-filing format or in the traditional paper format. Any person using e-filing should comply with the instructions found on the Board's "www.stb.gov" Web site, at the "E-FILING" link. Any person submitting a filing in the traditional paper format should send the original and 10 copies of the filing to the Board with a certificate of service. Except as otherwise set forth in 49 CFR pt. 1152, every document filed with the Board must be served on all parties to this adverse abandonment and discontinuance proceeding. 49 CFR 1104.12(a).

An environmental assessment (EA) (or environmental impact statement (EIS), if necessary) prepared by the Board's

Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) will be served upon all parties of record and upon any agencies or other persons who commented during its preparation. Any other persons who would like to obtain a copy of the EA (or EIS) may contact OEA by phone at the number listed below. EAs in these abandonment proceedings normally will be made available within 33 days of the filing of the application. The deadline for submission of comments on the EA will generally be within 30 days of its service. The comments received will be addressed in the Board's decision. A supplemental EA or EIS may be issued where appropriate.

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

Board decisions and notices are available on our Web site at "WWW.STB.GOV."

Decided: May 1, 2017.

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

**Jeffrey Herzig,**  
Clearance Clerk.

[FR Doc. 2017–09135 Filed 5–3–17; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4915–01–P**

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[Docket No. FMCSA–2014–0383]

#### Qualification of Drivers; Exemption Applications; Hearing

**AGENCY:** Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of renewal of exemptions; request for comments.

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**SUMMARY:** FMCSA announces its decision to renew exemptions for 9 individuals from the hearing requirement in the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs) for interstate commercial motor vehicle (CMV) drivers. The exemptions enable these hard of hearing and deaf individuals to continue to operate CMVs in interstate commerce.