

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

**Rena Laws-Byrum,**  
Clearance Clerk.

[FR Doc. 2017-16433 Filed 8-3-17; 8:45 am]

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## OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

[Docket Number USTR-2017-0012]

### Request for Comments and Notice of Public Hearing Concerning Russia's Implementation of Its WTO Commitments

**AGENCY:** Office of the United States  
Trade Representative.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for  
comments.

**SUMMARY:** The interagency Trade Policy  
Staff Committee (TPSC) will convene a  
public hearing and seeks comments to  
assist the Office of the United States  
Trade Representative (USTR) in the  
preparation of its annual report to  
Congress on Russia's implementation of  
its obligations as a member of the World  
Trade Organization (WTO).

#### DATES:

*September 22, 2017:* Deadline for  
filing a summary of testimony and  
requests to appear at the September 28,  
2017 public hearing, and for submitting  
public comments.

*September 28, 2017:* The TPSC will  
convene a public hearing on Russia's  
implementation of its obligations as a  
member of the WTO at 9:30 a.m. in  
Rooms 1 & 2, 1724 F Street NW.,  
Washington, DC 20508.

**ADDRESSES:** USTR strongly prefers  
electronic submissions made through  
the Federal eRulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the  
instructions for submitting comments in  
section 3 below. The docket number is  
USTR-2017-0012. For alternatives to  
on-line submissions, please contact  
Yvonne Jamison, Trade Policy Staff  
Committee, at (202) 395-3475.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For  
procedural questions concerning written  
comments or participating in the public  
hearing, contact Yvonne Jamison at  
(202) 395-3475. Direct all other  
questions regarding this notice to Betsy  
Hafner, Deputy Assistant United States  
Trade Representative for Russia and  
Eurasia, at (202) 395-9124.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### 1. Background

Russia became a member of the WTO  
on August 22, 2012, and on December  
21, 2012, following the termination of

the application of the Jackson-Vanik  
amendment to Russia and the extension  
of permanent normal trade relations to  
the products of Russia, the United States  
and Russia both filed letters with the  
WTO withdrawing their notices of non-  
application and consenting to have the  
WTO Agreement apply between them.  
In accordance with section 201(a) of the  
Russia and Moldova Jackson-Vanik  
Repeal and Sergei Magnitsky Rule of  
Law Accountability Act of 2012 (Pub. L.  
112-208), USTR is required to submit,  
by December 21st of each year, a report  
to Congress on the extent to which  
Russia is implementing the WTO  
Agreement, including the Agreement on  
the Application of Sanitary and  
Phytosanitary Measures and the  
Agreement on Trade Related Aspects of  
Intellectual Property Rights. The report  
also must assess Russia's progress on  
acceding to the Government  
Procurement Agreement (GPA) and the  
Information Technology Agreement, the  
latter of which Russia implemented  
fully in 2016. In addition, to the extent  
that USTR finds that Russia is not  
implementing fully the WTO Agreement  
or is not making adequate progress in  
acceding to the GPA, USTR must  
describe in the report the actions it  
plans to take to encourage Russia to  
improve its implementation and/or  
increase its accession efforts. In  
accordance with section 201(a), and to  
assist it in preparing this year's report,  
the TPSC is soliciting comments on  
these issues.

The terms of Russia's accession to the  
WTO are contained in the Marrakesh  
Agreement Establishing the World  
Trade Organization and the Protocol on  
the Accession of the Russian Federation  
to the WTO (including its annexes)  
(Protocol). The Report of the Working  
Party on the Accession of the Russian  
Federation (Working Party Report)  
provides detail and context to the  
commitments listed in the Protocol. You  
can find the Protocol and Working Party  
Report on USTR's Web site at <https://ustr.gov/node/5887> or on the WTO Web  
site at <http://docsonline.wto.org>  
(document symbols: WT/ACC/RUS/70,  
WT/MIN(11)/2, WT/MIN(11)/24, WT/L/  
839, and WT/ACC/RUS/70/Add.1, WT/  
ACC/RUS/70/Add.2).

##### 2. Public Comments and Hearing

USTR must receive written comments  
no later than 11:59 p.m. on Friday,  
September 22, 2017. USTR invites  
written comments and/or oral testimony  
on Russia's implementation of the  
commitments made in connection with  
its accession to the WTO, including, but  
not limited to, commitments in the  
following areas:

- a. Import regulation (e.g., tariffs, tariff-  
rate quotas, quotas, import licenses).
- b. Export regulation.
- c. Subsidies.
- d. Standards and technical  
regulations.
- e. Sanitary and phytosanitary  
measures.
- f. Trade-related investment measures.
- g. Taxes and charges levied on  
imports and exports.
- h. Other internal policies affecting  
trade.
- i. Intellectual property rights  
(including intellectual property rights  
enforcement).
- j. Services.
- k. Rule of law issues (e.g.,  
transparency, judicial review, uniform  
administration of laws and regulations).
- l. Trade-related investment measures.
- m. Other WTO commitments.

The TPSC will convene a public  
hearing on Thursday, September 28,  
2017, in Rooms 1 & 2, 1724 F Street  
NW., Washington, DC 20508. We must  
receive your written requests to present  
oral testimony at the hearing and a  
summary of that testimony by noon on  
by 11:59 p.m. on Friday, September 22,  
2017. You must make the intent to  
testify notification in the "Type  
Comment" field under docket number  
USTR-2017-0012 on the  
[www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) Web site and you  
should include the name, address,  
telephone number and email address, if  
available, of the person presenting the  
testimony. You should attach a  
summary of the testimony by using the  
"Upload File" field. The name of the  
file also should include who will be  
presenting the testimony. Remarks at  
the hearing should be limited to no  
more than five minutes to allow for  
possible questions from the TPSC.

You should submit all documents in  
accordance with the instructions in  
section 3 below.

##### 3. Requirements for Submissions

In order to be assured of  
consideration, we must receive your  
written comments in English by 11:59  
p.m. on Friday, September 22, 2017.  
USTR strongly encourages commenters  
to make on-line submissions, using the  
[www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) Web site. On the  
first page of the submission, please  
identify it as "Russia's Implementation  
of its WTO Commitments."

To submit comments via  
[www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), enter docket  
number USTR-2017-0012 on the home  
page and click "search." The site will  
provide a search-results page listing all  
documents associated with this docket.  
Find a reference to this notice and click  
on the link entitled "Comment Now!"

For further information on using the [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) Web site, please consult the resources provided on the Web site by clicking on "How to Use Regulations.gov" on the bottom of the home page. We will not accept hand-delivered submissions.

The [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) Web site allows users to submit comments by filling in a "Type Comment" field or by attaching a document using an "Upload File" field. USTR prefers that you submit comments in an attached document. If you attach a document, it is sufficient to type "See attached" in the "Type Comment" field. USTR prefers submissions in Microsoft Word (.doc) or Adobe Acrobat (.pdf). If you use an application other than those two, please indicate the name of the application in the "Type Comment" field.

For any comments submitted electronically containing business confidential information, the file name of the business confidential version should begin with the characters "BC". Any page containing business confidential information must be clearly marked "BUSINESS CONFIDENTIAL" on the top of that page. Filers of submissions containing business confidential information also must submit a public version of their comments that we will place in the docket for public inspection. The file name of the public version should begin with the character "P". The "BC" and "P" should be followed by the name of the person or entity submitting the comments. Filers submitting comments containing no business confidential information should name their file using the name of the person or entity submitting the comments.

Please do not attach separate cover letters to electronic submissions; rather, include any information that might appear in a cover letter in the comments themselves. Similarly, to the extent possible, please include any exhibits, annexes, or other attachments in the same file as the submission itself, not as separate files.

As noted, USTR strongly urges submitters to file comments through [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). You must make any alternative arrangements with Yvonne Jamison in advance of transmitting a comment. You can contact Ms. Jamison at (202) 395-3475. General information concerning USTR is available at [www.ustr.gov](http://www.ustr.gov).

We will post comments in the docket for public inspection, except business confidential information. You can view comments on the [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) Web site by entering the relevant docket

number in the search field on the home page.

**Edward Gresser,**

*Chair, Trade Policy Staff Committee, Office of the United States Trade Representative.*

[FR Doc. 2017-16389 Filed 8-3-17; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3290-F7-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket Number FRA-2010-0059]

#### Kansas City Southern Railway Company's Request for Positive Train Control Safety Plan Approval and System Certification

**AGENCY:** Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT).

**ACTION:** Notice of availability and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** This document provides the public with notice that the Kansas City Southern Railway Company (KCS) submitted to FRA its Positive Train Control Safety Plan (PTCSP) Version 1.0, dated June 30, 2017, on FRA's Secure Information Repository site on June 30, 2017. KCS asked FRA to approve its PTCSP and issue a Positive Train Control (PTC) System Certification for KCS' Interoperable Electronic Train Management System (I-ETMS).

**DATES:** FRA will consider communications received by September 5, 2017 before taking final action on the PTCSP. FRA may consider comments received after that date if practicable.

**ADDRESSES:** All communications concerning this proceeding should identify Docket Number 2010-0059 and may be submitted by any of the following methods:

- **Web site:** <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
- **Fax:** 202-493-2251.
- **Mail:** Docket Operations Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., W12-140, Washington, DC 20590.
- **Hand Delivery:** 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Mark Hartong, Senior Scientific Technical Advisor, at (202) 493-1332, or [Mark.Hartong@dot.gov](mailto:Mark.Hartong@dot.gov); or Mr. David Blackmore, Staff Director, Positive Train Control Division, at (312) 835-3903, or [David.Blackmore@dot.gov](mailto:David.Blackmore@dot.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In its PTCSP, KCS asserts that the I-ETMS system it is implementing is designed as a vital overlay PTC system as defined in 49 CFR 236.1015(e)(2). The PTCSP describes KCS' I-ETMS implementation and the associated I-ETMS safety processes, safety analyses, and test, validation, and verification processes used during the development of I-ETMS. The PTCSP also contains KCS' operational and support requirements and procedures.

KCS' PTCSP and the accompanying request for approval and system certification are available for review online at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) (Docket Number FRA-2010-0059) and in person at DOT's Docket Operations Facility, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., W12-140, Washington, DC 20590. The Docket Operations Facility is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Interested parties are invited to comment on the PTCSP by submitting written comments or data. During its review of the PTCSP, FRA will consider any comments or data submitted. However, FRA may elect not to respond to any particular comment and, under 49 CFR 236.1009(d)(3), FRA maintains the authority to approve or disapprove the PTCSP at its sole discretion. FRA does not anticipate scheduling a public hearing regarding KCS' PTCSP because the circumstances do not appear to warrant a hearing. If any interested party desires an opportunity for oral comment, the party should notify FRA in writing before the end of the comment period and specify the basis for his or her request.

#### Privacy Act Notice

Anyone can search the electronic form of any written communications and comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the document, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). Under 49 CFR 211.3, FRA solicits comments from the public to better inform its decisions. DOT posts these comments, without edit, including any personal information the commenter provides, to [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), as described in the system of records notice (DOT/ALL-14 FDMS), which you can review at <https://www.transportation.gov/privacy>. See <https://www.regulations.gov/privacyNotice> for the privacy notice of [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov).