

efforts, construction of the Platform would necessitate the construction of approximately 20,000 square feet of new railroad staff facilities and rail car cleaning services.

- A Tunnel Encasement in the southern portion of the site running from Eleventh Avenue to West 30th Street to preserve right-of-way for a new trans-Hudson connection into New York Penn Station.

In addition to the Proposed Action, FRA will describe and evaluate the following types of construction activities in the Draft EIS:

- Construction staging areas at the Western Rail Yard site for the construction of all of the aforementioned project components and construction activities,
- Traffic and transportation interruptions including potential localized sidewalk and traffic lane closures.

FRA will refine the purpose of and need for the Proposed Action and identify alternatives that meet the purpose and need considering information obtained through the scoping process. The EIS will evaluate a No Action Alternative and reasonable and feasible Build Alternatives for the Proposed Action. FRA anticipates presenting the Preferred Alternative in the Draft EIS.

Possible Effects

The EIS will consider the potential effects of the project alternatives on the social, economic, and environmental resources in the study area. The analysis will include identification of study areas; documentation of the affected environment; evaluation of direct and indirect effects of the alternatives (including permanent [operational] and temporary [construction period] effects); and identification of measures to avoid and/or mitigate adverse impacts. FRA will evaluate the following resource areas:

- Land use, Land planning, and Property (acquisitions and displacements);
- Transportation (traffic, parking, transit, and pedestrian conditions);
- Air quality, Greenhouse gas emissions and Resilience
- Noise and vibration;
- Cultural Resources (including historic and archaeological resources);
- Parks and recreation areas;
- Aesthetic and visual quality;
- Contaminated materials;
- Utilities and Energy;
- Natural ecological systems (including threatened and endangered species)
- Soils and geology;

- Water resources and water quality (including floodplains);
- Coastal zone consistency;
- Socioeconomics;
- Public health;
- Environmental justice;
- Public safety and security; and
- Indirect and Cumulative effects.

Agencies within the U.S. DOT, including FRA, are subject to Section 4(f), which prohibits approval of any program or project that “uses” publicly-owned parks, recreation areas, wildlife and waterfowl refuges, and historic sites, unless there is no feasible and prudent alternative to the use of such land and such program or project includes all possible planning to minimize harm to the property. FRA will include in the Draft EIS a draft Section 4(f) evaluation in accordance with 23 CFR 774, if it is determined that the Proposed Action has the potential to result in the use of a Section 4(f) resource.

Scoping, Public Involvement, and Agency Coordination

This NOI initiates the scoping process under NEPA, which helps guide the development of the Draft EIS. FRA invites all interested individuals, organizations, and federal, state, and local agencies to comment on the scope of the EIS. Comments are encouraged on the Proposed Action’s purpose and need and alternatives to be considered in the EIS; the analyses to include in the EIS, including identification of appropriate study areas and the effects-assessment methodologies to be used; the approach for public and agency involvement; and any concerns about the anticipated impacts of the Proposed Action.

Public agencies with jurisdiction are requested to advise FRA of the applicable permit and environmental review requirements of each agency, and the scope and content of the environmental information germane to the agency’s statutory responsibilities in connection with the Proposed Action. Public agencies are requested to advise FRA if they anticipate taking a major action in connection with the Proposed Action and if they wish to cooperate in the preparation of the EIS under 40 CFR 1501.16.

FRA will coordinate with participating agencies during development of the Draft EIS consistent with 23 U.S.C. 139. FRA will also consult with Federally recognized Native American tribes and Consulting Parties identified under Section 106 of the NHPA.

The FRA will invite all Federal and non-Federal agencies and Native American tribes that may have an

interest in the Proposed Action to become participating agencies for the EIS and Consulting Parties in the Section 106 process. If an agency or tribe is not invited and would like to participate, it should contact Ms. Andrea Poole at the contact information listed above (**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION**). The FRA will develop an Agency and Public Coordination Plan summarizing how it will engage the public, agencies, and tribes in the process. The Coordination Plan will be posted to the project website at www.westernrailyardinfrastructure.com and Regulations.gov, Docket No. FRA–2020–0039. FRA will lead the outreach activities during the public scoping process, beginning with a scoping presentation made available on the project website and a scoping comment period identified under **DATES** above. FRA encourages submission of scoping comments for the project and other documents electronically. Other public involvement initiatives will be held throughout the course of the EIS. Public outreach activities will be announced on the project website at www.westernrailyardinfrastructure.com and through mailings, public notices, and advertisements.

Issued in Washington, DC.

Jamie P. Rennert,

Director, Program Delivery.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Provisions Pertaining to Certain Investments in the United States by Foreign Persons and Provisions Pertaining to Certain Transactions by Foreign Persons Involving Real Estate in the United States

AGENCY: Departmental Offices, U.S. Department of the Treasury.

ACTION: Notice.

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 comment on the proposed information collections listed below, in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before August 14, 2020.

ADDRESSES: Send comments regarding the burden estimate, or any other aspect of the information collection, including

suggestions for reducing the burden, to Treasury PRA Clearance Officer, 1750 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Suite 8100, Washington, DC 20220, or email at PRA@treasury.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Copies of the submissions may be obtained from Meena Sharma or Andrew Fair by emailing CFIUS@treasury.gov, calling (202) 622-1860, or viewing the entire information collection request at www.reginfo.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Provisions Pertaining to Certain Investments in the United States by Foreign Persons and Provisions Pertaining to Certain Transactions by Foreign Persons Involving Real Estate in the United States.

OMB Control Number: 1505-0121.

Type of Review: Extension without change of a currently approved collection.

Description: Section 721 of the Defense Production Act of 1950, as amended (section 721), provides the President, acting through the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS or the Committee), authority to review certain foreign investments in the United States in order to determine the effects of those transactions on the national security of the United States. In August 2018, section 721 was amended by the Foreign Investment Risk Review Modernization Act of 2018 (FIRRMA), Subtitle A of Title XVII, Public Law 115-232, 132 Stat. 2173 (Aug. 13, 2018). FIRRMA maintains CFIUS's jurisdiction over any merger, acquisition, or takeover that could result in foreign control of any

U.S. business, and broadens the authorities of the President and CFIUS under section 721 to review and take action to address any national security concerns arising from certain non-controlling investments and certain real estate transactions involving foreign persons.

Executive Order 13456, 73 FR 4677 (Jan. 23, 2008), directs the Secretary of the Treasury to issue regulations implementing section 721. Most recently, on January 17, 2020, the Department of the Treasury issued final regulations (85 FR 3112 and 85 FR 3158) implementing FIRRMA, including information collections related to notices and declarations filed with or submitted to the Committee regarding transactions that could result in foreign control of a U.S. business, certain non-controlling investments and certain real estate transactions involving foreign persons.

In May 2020, the Department of the Treasury launched a new CFIUS Case Management System, featuring an online public portal for external parties to submit declarations and file notices with CFIUS in a standard form. As of June 1, 2020 use of this online system is now mandatory for all CFIUS submissions and filings. The only substantive change related to the information required in order for CFIUS to review a declaration or notice is the requirement that parties use the new online public portal to submit declarations and file notices, instead of by email.

Form: None.

Affected Public: Individuals and entities.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1,100.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Total Number of Annual Responses: 1,100.

Estimated Time per Response: Varies from 15-20 hours per declaration and 116-130 hours per notice.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 57,400.

Request for Comments: Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of technology; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services required to provide information.

Authority: 44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.

Dated: June 10, 2020.

Andrew Fair,

Deputy Director, Investment Reviews and Investigations.

[FR Doc. 2020-12861 Filed 6-12-20; 8:45 am]

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