

2021–008 and should be submitted on or before July 6, 2021.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.³⁴

J. Matthew DeLesDernier,
Assistant Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice: 11440]

Notice of Public Meeting

As required by the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Public Law 92–463, the Department of State gives notice of a meeting of the Advisory Committee on International Postal and Delivery Services. This Committee will meet virtually on Thursday, July 15, 2021, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, hosted on a Webex platform, meeting number 199 494 5652, code ddMnU572653 (33668572 from phones).

Members of the public interested in providing input to the meeting should contact Ms. Shereece Robinson, whose contact information is listed below (see the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION** section of this notice). Individuals providing oral input are requested to limit their comments to five minutes. Requests to be added to the speakers list must be received in writing (by email) prior to the close of business on Thursday, July 8, 2021; written comments from members of the public for distribution at this meeting must reach Ms. Robinson by email on this same date. Requests received after that date, including any requests for reasonable accommodation, will be considered but might not be able to be fulfilled.

The agenda of the meeting will focus on U.S. positions on issues for the 27th Congress of the Universal Postal Union, currently scheduled for August 9–27 in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire. Issues under consideration at the Congress include modifications to the rules of procedure

to allow hybrid (*i.e.*, mixed virtual and physically present) Congresses, the opening of the UPU to wider postal sector actors, reform of the system of member states' contributions, and interpretation of the 2019 Geneva accord on compensation for E-format items.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Please contact Ms. Shereece Robinson of the Office of Specialized and Technical Agencies (IO/STA), Bureau of International Organization Affairs, U.S. Department of State, at tel. (202) 538–4442 or by email at *RobinsonSA2@state.gov*.

Zachary A. Parker,
Director, Office of Directives Management,
U.S. Department of State.

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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

[Docket No. EP 682 (Sub-No. 12)]

2020 Tax Information for Use in the Revenue Shortfall Allocation Method

AGENCY: Surface Transportation Board.
ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Board is publishing, and providing the public an opportunity to comment on, the 2020 weighted average state tax rates for each Class I railroad, as calculated by the Association of American Railroads (AAR), for use in the Revenue Shortfall Allocation Method (RSAM).

DATES: Comments are due by July 14, 2021. If any comments opposing AAR's calculation are filed, AAR's reply will be due by August 3, 2021. If no comments are filed by July 14, 2021, AAR's calculation of the 2020 weighted average state tax rates will be automatically adopted by the Board, effective July 15, 2021.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be filed with the Surface Transportation Board via e-filing on the Board's website.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nathaniel Bawcombe at (202) 245–0376. Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877–8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The RSAM figure is one of three benchmarks that together are used to determine the reasonableness of a challenged rate under the Board's Simplified Standards for Rail Rate Cases, EP 646 (Sub-No. 1), slip op. at 10 (STB served Sept. 5, 2007),¹ as further revised in Simplified Standards for Rail Rate Cases—Taxes in Revenue Shortfall Allocation Method (Simplified Standards—Taxes in RSAM), EP 646 (Sub-No. 2) (STB served Nov. 21, 2008). RSAM is intended to measure the average markup that the railroad would need to collect from all of its “potentially captive traffic” (traffic with a revenue-to-variable-cost ratio above 180%) to earn adequate revenues as measured by the Board under 49 U.S.C. 10704(a)(2) (*i.e.*, earn a return on investment equal to the railroad industry cost of capital). Simplified Standards—Taxes in RSAM, EP 646 (Sub-No. 2), slip op. at 1. In Simplified Standards—Taxes in RSAM, EP 646 (Sub-No. 2), slip op. at 3, 5, the Board modified its RSAM formula to account for taxes, as the prior formula mistakenly compared pre-tax and after-tax revenues. In that decision, the Board stated that it would institute a separate proceeding in which Class I railroads would be required to submit the annual tax information necessary for the Board's annual RSAM calculation. Id. at 5–6.

Pursuant to 49 CFR 1135.2, AAR is required to annually calculate and submit to the Board the weighted average state tax rate for each Class I railroad for the previous year. On May 28, 2021, AAR filed its calculation of the weighted average state tax rates for 2020, listed below for each Class I railroad:

WEIGHTED AVERAGE STATE TAX RATES

Railroad	2020 (%)	2019 (%)	% Change
BNSF Railway Company	5.119	5.234	–0.115
CSX Transportation, Inc	5.101	5.097	0.004
Grand Trunk Corporation	8.124	8.129	–0.005
The Kansas City Southern Railway Company	5.139	5.711	–0.572
Norfolk Southern Combined Railroad Subsidiaries	5.713	5.697	0.016
Soo Line Corporation	8.122	8.181	–0.059

³⁴ 17 CFR 200.30–3(a)(12).

¹ Aff'd sub nom. *CSX Transp., Inc. v. STB*, 568 F.3d 236 (D.C. Cir. 2009), vacated in part on reh'g, 584 F.3d 1076 (D.C. Cir. 2009).