

by Royal under the same name and from the same locations as prior to the transaction. (*Id.* at 7.) Further, Applicants assert that bringing Royal under the control of Fischer, who is experienced in the same market segments served by Royal (*i.e.*, private charter transportation and employee shuttle operations), will result in improved operating efficiencies, increased equipment utilization rates, and cost savings derived from economies of scale, which will help ensure the provision of adequate service to the public. (*Id.*) Applicants state that the transaction will increase fixed charges in the form of interest expense because funds will be borrowed by TKRG to assist in the funding of the transaction but that such an increase will not impact the provision of transportation to the public. (*Id.*) Applicants further state that they intend to continue existing operations of Royal and as such, the transaction will not materially impact employees or labor conditions. (*Id.* at 8.) Applicants assert that that neither competition nor the public interest will be adversely affected by the proposed transaction, as Royal's operations consist primarily of charter bus transportation, as well as limited employee commuter services, which are markets that are very competitive in the geographic areas served by Royal. (*Id.* at 9.) Applicants note that all charter service providers, including Royal, compete with other modes of passenger transportation. (*Id.* at 10.) Lastly, Applicants state the Royal's services are geographically dispersed from the service areas of TCS. (*Id.*)

The Board finds that the acquisition as proposed in the application is consistent with the public interest and should be tentatively approved and authorized. If any opposing comments are timely filed,<sup>2</sup> these findings will be deemed vacated, and, unless a final decision can be made on the record as developed, a procedural schedule will be adopted to reconsider the application. See 49 CFR 1182.6. If no opposing comments are filed by expiration of the comment period, this notice will take effect automatically and will be the final Board action.

This action is categorically excluded from environmental review under 49 CFR 1105.6(c).

Board decisions and notices are available at [www.stb.gov](http://www.stb.gov).

*It is ordered:*

1. The proposed transaction is approved and authorized, subject to the filing of opposing comments.

2. If opposing comments are timely filed, the findings made in this notice will be deemed vacated.

3. This notice will be effective October 3, 2023, unless opposing comments are filed by October 2, 2023. If any comments are filed, Applicants may file a reply by October 17, 2023.

4. A copy of this notice will be served on: (1) the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590; (2) the U.S. Department of Justice, Antitrust Division, 10th Street & Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20530; and (3) the U.S. Department of Transportation, Office of the General Counsel, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590.

Decided: August 12, 2023.

By the Board, Board Members Fuchs, Hedlund, Oberman, Primus, and Schultz.

**Raina White,**  
Clearance Clerk.

[FR Doc. 2023-17791 Filed 8-17-23; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4915-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

[Docket No. FAA-2022-1605]

#### Agency Information Collection Activities: Requests for Comments; Clearance of a New Approval of Information Collection: International Role of the Federal Aviation Administration

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

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

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, FAA invites public comments about our intention to request the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval for a new information collection. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on the following collection of information was published on February 13, 2023. The collection involves questioning, via email, telephone or other means, foreign entities to determine what collaborative opportunities exist. The information to be collected is necessary to accomplish the statutory requirements of Title 49 United States Code to "provide technical assistance on any other aspect of aviation safety that the Administrator determines is likely to enhance international aviation safety". The

information collection will be used to inform the FAA's International Strategy, which is the agency's mechanism for fulfilling its international role.

**DATES:** Written comments should be submitted by September 17, 2023.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain). Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Nicholas DeLotell by email at: [nicholas.delotell@faa.gov](mailto:nicholas.delotell@faa.gov); phone: 202-710-1163.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Public Comments Invited:** You are asked to comment on any aspect of this information collection, including (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for FAA's performance; (b) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (c) ways for FAA to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information collection; and (d) ways that the burden could be minimized without reducing the quality of the collected information.

*OMB Control Number:* 2120-XXXX.

*Title:* Agency Information Collection Activities: Requests for Comments; Clearance of a New Approval of Information Collection: International Role of the Federal Aviation Administration.

*Form Numbers:* None.

*Type of Review:* Clearance of a new information collection.

*Background:* The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on the following collection of information was published on February 13, 2023 (Volume 88 FR 9312). 49 U.S.C. 40104 requires "the Administrator to promote and achieve global improvements in the safety, efficiency, and environmental effect of air travel by engaging with foreign counterparts, in the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and its subsidiary organizations, and other international organizations and fora, and with the private sector." The statute further requires the Administrator to engage bilaterally and multilaterally on an ongoing basis to bolster international collaboration and to harmonize international aviation safety requirements, and to expand the technical assistance provided by the FAA in support of enhancing international aviation safety.

<sup>2</sup> Persons wishing to oppose the application must follow the rules at 49 CFR 1182.5 and 1182.8.

This information collection specifically facilitates work and training arrangements with foreign counterparts, ICAO and its subsidiary organizations, other international organizations and fora, and with private entities around the world; it identifies opportunities and unexpected changes; and it ultimately contributes to the fulfillment of the FAA's mission to provide the safest, most efficient aerospace system in the world.

Foreign affairs specialists assigned to the FAA Office of International Affairs will collect information from respondents (foreign counterparts, ICAO and its subsidiary organizations, other international organizations and fora, or from private foreign entities) verbally, in-person or telephonically, or in writing via letter, email, or other electronic means.

**Respondents:** You are asked to comment on any aspect of this information collection, including (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for FAA's performance; (b) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (c) ways for FAA to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information collection; and (d) ways that the burden could be minimized without reducing the quality of the collected information. The agency will summarize and/or include your comments in the request for OMB's clearance of this information collection.

**Frequency:** The FAA estimates this collection of information would result in approximately twenty instances of international technical assistance per year.

**Estimated Average Burden per Response:** Given unique requirements the FAA and respondents may have, and the ongoing dialog necessary to conduct work with foreign entities, the FAA estimates a cumulative burden of approximately 4 hours per response.

**Estimated Total Annual Burden:** We estimate 20 responses per year at an average of 4 hours per response, for a total annual hourly burden of 80 hours. We found that these activities are typically performed by the respondents' equivalent to a FAA foreign affairs specialist, for which the FAA assumes a mid-grade GS-13 salary, Rest of USA locality. Annual salary is \$111,628, divided by 2,080 hours for an hourly rate of \$53.66. The FAA uses a fringe benefits and overhead cost, for FAA employees, of 100%. This results in a fully loaded wage of \$107.33 per hour. The total hourly burden of 80 multiplied by the fully loaded hourly rate of \$107.33 results in an annual economic burden of \$8,586.77.

Issued in Washington, DC, on August 14, 2023.

**India Pinkney,**

*Executive Director, Office of International Affairs.*

[FR Doc. 2023-17771 Filed 8-17-23; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-13-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Railroad Administration

#### Notice of Funding Opportunity for Special Transportation Circumstances Projects

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

**ACTION:** Notice of funding opportunity (NOFO or notice).

**SUMMARY:** This notice details the application requirements and procedures for the states of Alaska, South Dakota, and Wyoming to obtain Special Transportation Circumstances (STC) directed grant funding for eligible rail Capital Projects. The funding has been made available for the program by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017; Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019; Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020; Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021; Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022; Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023; and the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (2022 and 2023 supplemental Appropriations) (together, the Appropriations Acts). The opportunities described in this notice are available under Assistance Listing number 20.325, "Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements." Alaska, South Dakota, and Wyoming must each submit applications for projects meeting the requirements of this notice to receive directed funding. Should FRA identify additional available funding after the release of this NOFO, FRA may elect to award such additional funding to a project submitted for funding under this NOFO, as permitted by law.

**DATES:** Applications for funding under this solicitation are due no later than 5:00 p.m. ET, on Friday, September 29, 2023. Applications for funding, or supplemental material in support of applications, received after that date, will not be considered for funding. Incomplete applications for funding will not be considered for funding. See Section D of this notice for additional information on the application process.

**ADDRESSES:** Applications must be submitted via [www.GrantSolutions.gov](http://www.GrantSolutions.gov).

Only applicants who comply with all submission requirements described in this notice and submit applications through [www.GrantSolutions.gov](http://www.GrantSolutions.gov) will be eligible for award. For any supporting application materials that an applicant is unable to submit via [www.GrantSolutions.gov](http://www.GrantSolutions.gov) (such as oversized engineering drawings), an applicant may submit an original and two (2) copies to Mr. Leonardo Maldonado, Office of Railroad Development, Federal Railroad Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590. However, due to delays caused by enhanced screening of mail delivered via the U.S. Postal Service, applicants are advised to use other means of conveyance (such as courier service) to assure timely receipt of materials before the application deadline.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For further information concerning this Notice, please contact the FRA NOFO Support program staff via email at [FRA-NOFO-Support@dot.gov](mailto:FRA-NOFO-Support@dot.gov) or Ryan Arbuckle at 202-617-0212.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

**Notice to applicants:** FRA recommends that applicants read this notice in its entirety prior to preparing application materials. The definitions of key terms used throughout the NOFO are listed under the Program Description in Section A(2). These key terms are capitalized throughout the NOFO. There are several administrative and eligibility requirements described herein with which applicants must comply. Additionally, applicants should note that the required Project Narrative component of the application package may not exceed 25 pages in length.

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#### A. Program Description

##### 1. Purpose

The purpose of this notice is to solicit applications from the states of Alaska, Wyoming, and South Dakota for grants funded under the Appropriations Acts <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017, Public Law 115-31, Div. K, Tit I, (2017 Appropriation); Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019, Public Law 116-6, Div. G, Tit. I (2019 Appropriation); Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020, Public Law 116-94, Div. H, Tit. I (2020 Appropriation); Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, Public Law