

SW, Suite 6050, Washington, DC 20416, (202) 205-6734.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given that as a result of the President’s major disaster declaration on 05/30/2024, applications for disaster loans may be submitted online using the MySBA Loan Portal <https://lending.sba.gov> or other locally announced locations. Please contact the SBA disaster assistance customer service center by email at disastercustomerservice@sba.gov or by phone at 1-800-659-2955 for further assistance.

The following areas have been determined to be adversely affected by the disaster:

Primary Counties (Physical Damage and Economic Injury Loans): Benton, Boone, Marion.

Contiguous Counties (Economic Injury Loans Only):

Arkansas: Baxter, Carroll, Madison, Newton, Searcy, Washington

Missouri: McDonald, Barry, Ozark, Taney

Oklahoma: Adair, Delaware

The Interest Rates are:

	Percent
<i>For Physical Damage:</i>	
Homeowners with Credit Available Elsewhere	5.375
Homeowners without Credit Available Elsewhere	2.688
Businesses with Credit Available Elsewhere	8.000
Businesses without Credit Available Elsewhere	4.000
Non-Profit Organizations with Credit Available Elsewhere ...	3.250
Non-Profit Organizations without Credit Available Elsewhere	3.250
<i>For Economic Injury:</i>	
Business and Small Agricultural Cooperatives without Credit Available Elsewhere	4.000
Non-Profit Organizations without Credit Available Elsewhere	3.250

The number assigned to this disaster for physical damage is 20362C and for economic injury is 203630.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number 59008)

Francisco Sánchez, Jr.,

Associate Administrator, Office of Disaster Recovery & Resilience.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice: 12421]

International Security Advisory Board (ISAB) Meeting Notice; Closed Meeting

In accordance with section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. 1009(a)(2), the Department of State announces a meeting of the International Security Advisory Board (ISAB) to take place on June 25, 2024, at the Department of State, Washington, DC. Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. 1009(d), and 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(1), it has been determined that this Board meeting will be closed to the public because the Board will be reviewing and discussing matters properly classified in accordance with Executive Order 13526. The purpose of the ISAB is to provide the Department with a continuing source of independent advice on all aspects of arms control, disarmament, nonproliferation, outer space, critical infrastructure, cybersecurity, the national security aspects of associated technologies, international security, and related aspects of public diplomacy. The agenda for this meeting will include classified discussions related to the Board’s ongoing studies on current U.S. policy and issues regarding biotechnology and military-civil fusion strategy, multilateral disarmament structures, and security cooperation and arms transfers.

For more information, contact Michelle Dover, Executive Director of the International Security Advisory Board, Department of State, Washington, DC 20520, telephone: (202) 736-7524.

Michelle E. Dover,

Executive Director, International Security Advisory Board Department of State.

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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

[Docket No. FD 36759]

Tarantula Corporation—Acquisition of Control Exemption—Texas Central Railroad Company

By petition filed on March 22, 2024, Tarantula Corporation (Tarantula), seeks an exemption under 49 U.S.C. 10502 from the prior approval requirements of 49 U.S.C. 11323 to acquire control of Texas Central Railroad Company (Texas Central), a Class III carrier, through the purchase of all outstanding Texas Central capital stock from Birdsong

Corporation (Birdsong).¹ As discussed below, the Board will grant the exemption.

Background

Tarantula is a noncarrier holding company that controls Fort Worth & Western Railroad Company (FWWR), Fort Worth & Dallas Railroad Company, and Fort Worth & Dallas Belt Railroad Company, all of which are Class III rail carriers. (Pet. 1 & n.1); *see also Tarantula Corp.—Continuance in Control Exemption—Fort Worth & Dallas Belt R.R.*, FD 32515 (ICC served July 25, 1994).

Pursuant to a stock purchase agreement dated March 21, 2024, Tarantula has reached an agreement to acquire from Birdsong all of the outstanding capital stock of Texas Central. (See Pet., Ex. B at 1.) Upon consummation of this transaction, Tarantula would indirectly control Texas Central. (*Id.*) According to the petition, Texas Central owns—but does not operate—24.9 miles of rail line running from Dublin, Tex., to Gorman, Tex. (the Line). (Pet. 2.) FWWR, a Tarantula subsidiary, has leased and operated the Line since 1998. (*Id.*); *see also Fort Worth & W. R.R.—Acquis. Exemption—S. Orient R.R.*, FD 33681 (STB served Nov. 30, 1998).²

In support of the petition, Tarantula asserts that the transaction will allow it to make capital improvements to infrastructure on the Line. (Pet. 3, 7.) Tarantula states that, as FWWR already operates over the Line, the transaction will not affect the level of operations or maintenance of the Line or any of the other lines operated by the other railroads in the Tarantula corporate family. (*Id.* at 6-7.) Tarantula has attached to the petition letters supporting the transaction from both shippers located on the Line, Birdsong and Gorman Milling Company, Inc. (See Pet., Ex. C.) Tarantula has also asked the Board for expedited consideration of its petition and a decision issued and effective by June 15, 2024. (Pet. 7.) Tarantula states that it would like an earlier effective date to commence infrastructure improvements on a faster schedule in support of increased safety, improved reliability, enhanced efficiency, and improved connectivity which can lead to greater marketability

¹ Texas Central Railroad Company is a separate and distinct entity from Texas Central Partners, LLC, which is proposing to construct high-speed passenger rail between Dallas-Fort Worth and Houston, Tex.

² Texas Central’s Line connects with FWWR’s rail line at Dublin. Tarantula explains that, for that reason, the transaction does not qualify for the class exemption under 49 CFR 1180.2(d)(2). (Pet. 1.)