

The ARCI seeks a permanent waiver of compliance from section 232.2 of the Railroad Power Brakes and Drawbars Standards (49 CFR Part 232). That section states in part: "The maximum height of drawbars for freight cars—shall be 34½ inches, and the minimum height of drawbars for freight cars on such standard-gauge railroads—shall be 31½ inches,—ARCI is requesting to increase the maximum allowable coupler height one inch from 34.5 inches to 35.5 inches for bottom shelf E couplers and top and bottom shelf E couplers only. ARCI states that the granting of this waiver will allow railroads and car builders to build safer and more efficient cars. It claims industry's need for safer suspension systems is being hampered by the small range of allowable coupler heights. Railroads, truck manufacturers, and freight car manufacturers know that rail worthiness of many cars would be improved if spring travel could be increased. For example, cars negotiating changes in super-elevation as they enter and exit curves would be subject to less wheel unloading if they had softer, more compliant, longer travel suspensions. Wheel unloading is most undesirable in curves, as the wheel set is often developing high lateral forces. High lateral forces combined with wheel unloading can result in derailment. The small range of allowable coupler heights severely limits the use of longer travel springs. By increasing the allowable range of coupler height by one inch would allow designers to make a significant improvements in rail worthiness.

FRA has determined that a public hearing will be held in this matter. Due to extreme weather conditions which closed Federal buildings in Washington, DC., FRA was unable to hold the public hearing scheduled for January 10, 1996. As a consequence, FRA is rescheduling the public hearing to 10:00 a.m. on February 28, 1996. The hearing location remains the same and will be held in room 8236-8238 of the Nassif Building, DOT Headquarters Building, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC. We apologize for any inconvenience this rescheduling may cause.

The hearing will be informal and will be conducted in accordance with Rule 25 of the FRA Rules of Practice (49 CFR Part 211.25), by a representative designated by the FRA. The hearing will be a nonadversary proceeding in which all interested parties will be given the opportunity to express their views regarding this waiver petition.

Interested parties are invited to participate in these proceedings by submitting written views, data or

comments. All communications concerning these proceedings should identify the appropriate docket number (e.g., Waiver Petition Number PB-95-3 and must be submitted in triplicate to the Docket Clerk, Office of Chief Counsel, Federal Railroad Administration, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590.

Issued in Washington, DC on February 1, 1996.

Phil Olekszyk,

Deputy Associate Administrator for Safety Compliance and Program Implementation.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

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 take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning Form 3115, Application for Change in Accounting Method.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before April 8, 1996 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Garrick R. Shear, Internal Revenue Service, T:FP, room 5571, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection should be directed to Martha R. Brinson, (202) 622-3869, Internal Revenue Service, T:FP, room 5571, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Application for Change in Accounting Method.

OMB Number: 1545-0152.

Form Number: 3115.

Abstract: Form 3115 is used by taxpayers who wish to change their method of computing their taxable income. The form is used by the IRS to

determine if electing taxpayers have met the requirements and are able to change to the method requested.

Current Actions: Form 3115 is revised to encourage the submission of detailed and complete information from applicants. Many of the questions have been reorganized by category to simplify preparation. Some of the general questions have been clarified and a number of questions in the various schedules have been eliminated or combined.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved form.

Affected Public: Individuals, corporations, cooperatives, qualified personal service corporations, exempt organizations, partnerships, S corporations, and insurance companies.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 6,400.

Estimated Time Per Respondent: 42 hrs., 16 min.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 270,490.

Request for Comments: Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Written comments should address the accuracy of the burden estimates and ways to minimize burden including the use of automated collection techniques or the use of other forms of information technology, as well as other relevant aspects of the information collection request.

Approved: January 31, 1996.

Garrick R. Shear,

IRS Reports Clearance Officer.

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UTAH RECLAMATION MITIGATION AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Utah Lake Wetland Preserve; Notice of Availability

AGENCY: Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission.

ACTION: Notice of Availability.

SUMMARY: The Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for Establishment of the Utah Lake Wetland Preserve is available for review. The EA addresses the establishment of a preserve through acquisition from willing sellers of private land, water rights, or other property interests occurring in a specific area along the southern shore of Utah Lake, Utah County, Utah. This establishment would entail limited management to restore and protect