

*Date and Time:* September 16–17, 1996 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

*Place:* National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22230, Rm. 1060.

*Type of Meeting:* Closed.

*Contact Person:* Boris Kayser, Program Director for Theoretical Physics, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22230. Telephone: (703) 306–1890.

*Purpose of Meeting:* To advise the National Science Foundation on the best way to support the future health and vitality of theoretical physics.

*Agenda:* Discussion of the future directions of theoretical physics, the optimum balance between different components of the theoretical physics grant portfolio, and the appropriate levels of support of students, postdoctoral fellows, computation, and other aspects of individual projects.

*Reason for Closing:* The project plans being reviewed include information of a proprietary or confidential nature, including technical information; information on personnel and proprietary data for present and future subcontracts. These matters are exempt under 5 U.S.C. 552b(c) (4) and (6) of the Government in the Sunshine Act.

Dated: August 26, 1996.

M. Rebecca Winkler,

*Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 96–22101 Filed 8–28–96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555–01–M

## RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

### Proposed Data Collection Available for Public Comment and Recommendations

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the requirement of Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 which provides opportunity for public comment on new or revised data collections, the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) will publish periodic summaries of proposed data collections.

*Comments are invited on:* (a) Whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information has practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the RRB's estimate of the burden of the collection of the information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden related to the collection of information on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

*Title and purpose of information collection:* Gross Earnings Reports; OMB 3220–0132.

In order to carry out the financial interchange provisions of section 7(c)(2) of the Railroad Retirement Act (RRA),

the RRB obtains annually from railroad employer's the gross earnings for their employees on a one-percent basis, i.e., 1% of each employer's railroad employees. The gross earnings sample is based on the earnings of employees whose social security numbers end with the digits "30." The gross earnings are used to compute payroll taxes under the financial interchange.

The gross earnings information is essential in determining the tax amounts involved in the financial interchange with the Social Security Administration and Health Care Financing Administration. Besides being necessary for current financial interchange calculations, the gross earnings file tabulations are also an integral part of the data needed to estimate future tax income and corresponding financial interchange amounts. These estimates are made for internal use and to satisfy requests from other government agencies and interested groups. In addition, cash flow projections of the social security equivalent benefit account, railroad retirement account and cost estimates made for proposed amendments to laws administered by the RRB are dependent on input developed from the information collection.

The RRB utilizes Form BA–11 or its electronic equivalent to obtain gross earnings information from railroad employers. One response is requested of each railroad employer. Completion is mandatory.

The RRB proposes minor, non-burden impacting editorial revisions to Form BA–11.

*Estimate of Annual Respondent Burden:* Gross earnings reports are required annually from all employers reporting railroad service and compensation. There are approximately 633 railroad employers who currently report gross earnings to the RRB. Most large railroad employers include their railroad subsidiaries in their gross earnings reports. This results in the RRB collection less than 633 earnings reports. Also, there are a large number of railroad employers having work forces so small that they do not have employees with social security numbers ending in "30." Currently, there are 399 such employers in this category who file "negative" BA–11 responses to the RRB. Overall, on an annual basis, the RRB receives 28 reports consisting of computer prepared tapes or listings and 104 by means of manually prepared Form BA–11. The RRB estimates an average preparation time of 5 hours for each gross earnings report submitted by computer tape or listing and 30 minutes for each manually prepared BA–11.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS:

To request more information or to obtain a copy of the information collection justification, forms, and/or supporting material, please call the RRB Clearance Officer at (312) 751–3363. Comments regarding the information collection should be addressed to Ronald J. Hodapp, Railroad Retirement Board, 844 N. Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611–2092. Written comments should be received within 60 days of this notice.

Chuck Mierzwa,

*Clearance Officer.*

[FR Doc. 96–22090 Filed 8–28–96; 8:45 am]

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### Privacy Act of 1974; Proposed Changes to Systems of Records

**AGENCY:** Railroad Retirement Board.

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed new system of records.

**SUMMARY:** The purpose of this document is to give notice of a proposed new Privacy Act system of records.

**DATES:** The proposed new system of records shall become effective as proposed without further notice in 40 calendar days from the date of this publication unless comments are received before this date which would result in a contrary determination.

**ADDRESS:** Send comments to Beatrice Ezerski, Secretary to the Board, Railroad Retirement Board, 844 North Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611–2092.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** LeRoy Blommaert, Privacy Act Officer, Railroad Retirement Board, 844 North Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611–2092, (312) 751–4548.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Railroad Retirement Board has had for some time a computerized system for capturing telephone call detail information. It had been used only to verify the correctness of telephone service billing. This system may also be used to detect and deter possible improper use of agency telephones by agency employees and contractors which will require query by personal identifier. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has issued guidelines on the Telephone Call Detail Program. They were published at 52 FR 12990 (April 20, 1987) and encouraged agencies to establish Privacy Act systems of records to cover information pertaining to the monitoring of telephone usage to determine the use and/or abuse of Government telephone systems. The RRB is publishing this notice of its intent to establish a new