

evaluations establish that desired improvements with the valves have been achieved. According to CN, during the extensive testing period, which began in 1987 and involved approximately 1,200 locomotives, the reliability of the braking systems was never an issue, therefore, train operating safety is not at risk. With the high number of locomotives operating in international service, CN states that managing two different braking system maintenance intervals would be both problematic and costly. Further, to revert to a 36 month cleaning interval after almost ten years of successful testing at 48 month intervals, would not provide any additional safety benefits. CN would like the 48-month maintenance interval to be accepted for all of their locomotives that operate in the United States.

Interested parties are invited to participate in these proceedings by submitting written views, data, or comments. FRA does not anticipate scheduling a public hearing in connection with these proceedings since the facts do not appear to warrant a hearing. If any interested party desires an opportunity for oral comment, they should notify FRA, in writing, before the end of the comment period and specify the basis for their request.

All communications concerning these proceedings should identify the appropriate docket number (e.g., Waiver Petition Docket Number LI-96-2) and must be submitted in triplicate to the Docket Clerk, Office of Chief Counsel, FRA, Nassif Building, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20590. Communications received within 45 days of the date of this notice will be considered by FRA before final action is taken. Comments received after that date will be considered as far as practicable. All written communications concerning these proceedings are available for examination during regular business hours (9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.) at FRA's temporary docket room located at 1120 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Room 7051, Washington, D.C. 20005.

Issued in Washington, D.C. on January 8, 1997.

Phil Olekszyk,

Deputy Associate Administrator for Safety Compliance and Program Implementation.
[FR Doc. 97-957 Filed 1-14-97; 8:45 am]

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[FRA Docket No. H-92-3]

Petition for Waiver of Compliance

In accordance with Part 211 of Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), notice is hereby given that the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) received a request for an extension of a waiver of compliance with certain provisions of its safety standards. The individual petition is described below, including the party seeking relief, the regulatory provisions involved, and the nature of the relief being requested.

Westinghouse Air Brake Company

[Waiver Petition Docket Number H-92-3]

In 1992, the Westinghouse Air Brake Company (WABCO) was granted a waiver for their EPIC microprocessor-based locomotive braking equipment. Specifically, the waiver excludes 1000 locomotives equipped with EPIC braking equipment from the requirements of 49 CFR 229.29 by extending the required time interval for cleaning, testing, and inspecting locomotive air brake valves from 736 calendar days to five years. WABCO requests that the waiver condition which limits the number of locomotives permitted to be equipped with EPIC microprocessor-based braking equipment, be adjusted to include *all* locomotives in the United States that are equipped with EPIC 3102 and EPIC II electronic brake equipment. The EPIC 3101 series electronic brake equipment is *not* included in this request.

Interested parties are invited to participate in these proceedings by submitting written views, data, or comments. FRA does not anticipate scheduling a public hearing in connection with these proceedings since the facts do not appear to warrant a hearing. If any interested party desires an opportunity for oral comment, they should notify FRA, in writing, before the end of the comment period and specify the basis for their request.

All communications concerning these proceedings should identify the appropriate docket number (e.g., Waiver Petition Docket Number H-92-3) and must be submitted in triplicate to the Docket Clerk, Office of Chief Counsel, FRA, Nassif Building, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20590. Communications received within 45 days of the date of this notice will be considered by FRA before final action is taken. Comments received after that date will be considered as far as practicable. All written communications concerning these proceedings are available for examination during regular

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Issued in Washington, D.C. on January 8, 1997.

Phil Olekszyk,

Deputy Associate Administrator for Safety Compliance and Program Implementation.
[FR Doc. 97-959 Filed 1-14-97; 8:45 am]

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[BS-AP-No. 3393]

The New Orleans Public Belt Railroad; Public Hearing

The New Orleans Public Belt Railroad has petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) seeking approval of the proposed discontinuance and removal of 15 signals (No.'s 48, 47, 46, 45, 40, 39, 38, 37, 33, 2, 14, 16, 18, 20, and 22) on the two Running tracks, between Lampert Junction, milepost J.O.2 and East Bridge Junction, milepost J.3.0, in New Orleans, Louisiana.

This proceeding is identified as FRA Block Signal Application Number (BS-AP-No.) 3393.

The FRA has issued a public notice seeking comments of interested parties and conducted a field investigation in this matter. After examining the carrier's proposal and the available facts, FRA has determined that a public hearing is necessary before a final decision is made on this proposal.

Accordingly, a public hearing is hereby set for 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 19, 1997, in the New Orleans Union Passenger Terminal, Room 201, located at 1001 Loyola Avenue, New Orleans, Louisiana. Interested parties are invited to present oral statements at the hearing.

The hearing will be an informal one and will be conducted in accordance with Rule 25 of the FRA Rules of Practice (Title 49 CFR Part 211.25), by a representative designated by the FRA.

The hearing will be a nonadversary proceeding and, therefore, there will be no cross-examination of persons presenting statements. The FRA representative will make an opening statement outlining the scope of the hearing. After all initial statements have been completed, those persons wishing to make brief rebuttal statements will be given the opportunity to do so in the same order in which they made their initial statements. Additional procedures, if necessary for the conduct of the hearing, will be announced at the hearing.

Issued in Washington, D.C. on January 8, 1997.

Phil Olekszyk,

Deputy Associate Administrator for Safety Compliance and Program Implementation.

[FR Doc. 97-960 Filed 1-14-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-06-P

Surface Transportation Board

[STB No. MC-F-20903]

Greyhound Lines, Inc.; Acquisition of Control; Los RapiDOS, Inc.

AGENCY: Surface Transportation Board.

ACTION: Notice tentatively approving finance application.

SUMMARY: Greyhound Lines, Inc. (GLI or applicant), has filed an application under 49 U.S.C. 14303(a) to acquire control of Los RapiDOS, Inc. (LRI). Persons wishing to oppose the transaction must follow the rules at 49 CFR 1182, subpart B. The Board has tentatively approved the transaction, and, if no opposing comments are timely filed, this notice will be the final Board action. If opposing comments are timely filed, this tentative grant of authority will be deemed vacated, and the Board will consider the comments and any replies and will issue a further decision on the application.

DATES: Unless opposing comments are filed, this notice will be effective March 3, 1997. Comments are due by March 3, 1997, and, if any are filed, applicants may reply by March 17, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Send original and 10 copies of any comments referring to STB No. MC-F-20903 to: Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Branch, 1201 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20423. Also, send one copy of comments to applicants' representative: Fritz R. Kahn, Suite 750 West, 1100 New York Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20005.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Beryl Gordon, (202) 927-5660. [TDD for the hearing impaired: (202) 927-5721.]

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: GLI (MC-1515) is a nationwide motor common carrier of passengers over regular routes that controls the following regional interstate motor passenger carriers: Texas, New Mexico & Oklahoma Coaches, Inc.; Continental Panhandle Lines, Inc.; and Vermont Transit, Inc. LRI (MC-293638) is a motor passenger carrier operating in California in interstate and foreign commerce over regular routes between: Los Angeles and Calexico, at the Mexican border; and between Fresno and San Ysidro, at the Mexican border. As a result of this

control transaction, LRI will become a wholly owned subsidiary of GLI that will be controlled indirectly through Sistema Internacional de Transporte de Autobuses, Inc. (SITA), GLI's wholly owned noncarrier subsidiary.¹

GLI states that its aggregate gross operating revenues, and those of its affiliates, exceed the \$2 million jurisdictional threshold of 49 U.S.C. 14303(g). It asserts that acquisition of control will stimulate competition and improve the quality and adequacy of motor passenger service available to the Hispanic segment of the traveling public. Additionally, it maintains that the transaction will not cause an increase in fixed charges and that no employees will be adversely affected.

Applicant certifies that: (1) Both it and LRI hold satisfactory safety ratings from the U.S. Department of Transportation; (2) they both have sufficient insurance to cover the services they intend to offer; (3) no party to the transaction is either domiciled in Mexico or owned or controlled by persons of that country; and (4) approval of the transaction will not significantly affect either the quality of the human environment or the conservation of energy resources. Additional information may be obtained from applicant's representative.

Under 49 U.S.C. 14303(b), we must approve and authorize a transaction we find consistent with the public interest, taking into consideration at least: (1) the effect of the transaction on the adequacy of transportation to the public; (2) the total fixed charges that result; and (3) the interest of affected carrier employees. We tentatively find, based on the application, that the proposed transaction is consistent with the public interest and should be authorized.

This action will not significantly affect either the quality of the human environment or the conservation of energy resources.

It is Ordered

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

2. This notice will be effective on March 3, 1997, but will be deemed vacated if opposing comments are filed on or before that date.

3. A copy of this notice will be served on the Department of Justice, Antitrust Division, 10th Street & Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20530.

Decided: January 6, 1997.

¹ SITA on December 2, 1996, entered into a voting trust to permit it to acquire LRI's stock prior to a decision on the merits of this application.

By the Board, Chairman Morgan, Vice Chairman Owen, and Commissioner Simmons.

Vernon A. Williams,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-955 Filed 1-14-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

[STB Finance Docket No. 33325]

Lewis & Clark Railway Company, Lease and Operation Exemption; in Clark County, WA

Lewis & Clark Railway Company, a Class III rail carrier, has filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1150.41 to acquire from Clark County, Washington 3.62 miles of rail line from milepost 3.62 at Rye to milepost 0.0 at Vancouver Junction, in Clark County, WA. Consummation was expected to occur on or after December 24, 1996.

If the notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void *ab initio*. Petitions to revoke the exemption under 49 U.S.C. 10502(d) may be filed at any time. The filing of a petition to revoke will not automatically stay the transaction.

An original and 10 copies of all pleadings, referring to STB Finance Docket No. 33325, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Branch, 1201 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20423. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on Fritz R. Kahn, P.C., Suite 750 West, 1100 New York Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20005.

Decided: January 8, 1997.

By the Board, David M. Koonschnik, Director, Office of Proceedings.

Vernon A. Williams,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-954 Filed 1-14-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

[STB Finance Docket No. 33330]

Union County Industrial Railroad Company; Corporate Family Transaction Exemption; West Shore Railroad Corporation

Union County Industrial Railroad Company (UCIR) and West Shore Railroad Corporation (WSRC),¹ Class III

¹ UCIR and WSRC are owned and controlled by Richard D. Robey. UCIR owns and operates approximately 3.9 miles of rail line in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, which will be acquired by WSRC in *West Shore Railroad Corporation—Acquisition Exemption—Union County Industrial Railroad Company*, STB Finance Docket No. 33329 (STB served Jan. 15, 1997). WCRC

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