

Application	Applicant	Parties to exemption
10933-P .....	Chemical Waste Management, Inc., Sauget, IL .....	10933
11043-P .....	Chemical Waste Management, Inc., Sauget, IL .....	11043
11043-P .....	Bechem Transport, Inc., New Haven, CT .....	11043
11055-P .....	Chemical Waste Management, Inc., Sauget, IL .....	11055
11055-P .....	MSE Environmental, Inc., Camarillo, CA .....	11055
11153-P .....	General Chemical Corporation, Framingham, MA .....	11153
11156-P .....	Dixie Chemical Corporation, New Bern, NC .....	11156
11197-P .....	Chemical Waste Management, Inc., Sauget, IL .....	11197
11294-P .....	Chemical Waste Management, Inc., Sauget, IL .....	11294
11294-P .....	Bechem Transport, Inc., New Haven, CT .....	11294
11388-P .....	Nalco Chemical Company/Exxon Energy Chemicals L.P., Sugar Land, TX .....	11388
11588-P .....	Medwaste Management, Inc. of New England, North Haven, CT .....	11588
11602-P .....	Atlantic Coast Recycling, Inc., Fort Pierce, FL .....	11602
11602-P .....	Southwestern Die Casting Co., Inc., Fort Smith, AR .....	11602
11602-P .....	East Tennessee Iron & Metal, Inc., Rogersville, TN .....	11602
11624-P .....	Environmental Transportation Services, Inc., Oklahoma City, OK .....	11624
11624-P .....	Republic Environmental Systems, Hatfield, PA .....	11624
11624-P .....	Chemical Waste Management, Inc., Sauget, IL .....	11624
11821-P .....	Wyoming Steel & Fab, Inc., Reliance, WY .....	11821
11822-P .....	Westinghouse Hanford Company, Richland, WA .....	11822
11826-P .....	MG Industries Gas Technology & Services Group, Houston, TX .....	11826
11829-P .....	Parsin Chemicals Limited, Andhra Pradesh, India .....	11829
11829-P .....	ICI Explosives Canada, Quebec, Canada .....	11829

This notice of receipt of applications for modification of exemptions and for party to an exemption is published in accordance with Part 107 of the Hazardous Materials Transportations Act (49 U.S.C. 1806; 49 CFR 1.53(e)).

Issued in Washington, DC, on February 20, 1997.

J. Suzanne Hedgepeth,  
 Director, Office of Hazardous Materials Exemptions and Approvals.  
 [FR Doc. 97-4582 Filed 2-24-97; 8:45 am]  
 BILLING CODE 4910-60-M

**Surface Transportation Board**

[STB Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 103X)]

**Union Pacific Railroad Company—  
 Abandonment Exemption—in Sarpy  
 County, NE (Gilmore Industrial Lead)**

**AGENCY:** Surface Transportation Board.

**ACTION:** Notice of exemption.

**SUMMARY:** The Board, pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 10502, exempts Union Pacific Railroad Company from the prior approval requirements of 49 U.S.C. 10903 to abandon service over a portion of rail line known as the Gilmore Industrial Lead in Sarpy County, NE, subject to standard labor protective conditions. The line extends between milepost 11.76 and milepost 12.23, near Gilmore, NE, a distance of 0.47-mile.

**DATES:** Provided no formal expression of intent to file a financial assistance offer has been received, this exemption will be effective on March 27, 1997. Formal expressions of intent to file financial assistance offers under 49 CFR

1152.27(c)(2) must be filed by March 7, 1997. Petitions to stay must be filed by March 12, 1997. Petitions to reopen must be filed by March 24, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** Send pleadings referring to STB Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 103X) to: (1) Office of the Secretary, Case Control Branch, Surface Transportation Board, 1201 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20423; and (2) Petitioner's representative: Joseph D. Anthofer, 1416 Dodge Street, Room 830, Omaha, NE 68179-0830.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Joseph H. Dettmar, (202) 927-5660. [TDD for the hearing impaired: (202) 927-5721.]

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Additional information is contained in the Board's decision. To purchase a copy of the full decision, write to, call, or pick up in person from: DC News & Data, Inc., Room 2229, 1201 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20423. Telephone: (202) 289-4357/4359. [Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through TDD services (202) 927-5721.]

Decided: February 13, 1997.

By the Board, Chairman Morgan and Vice Chairman Owen.  
 Vernon A. Williams,  
 Secretary.  
 [FR Doc. 97-4642 Filed 2-24-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

**DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY**

**Internal Revenue Service**

[Project No. TIRNO-97-R-00018 ]

**Proposed Establishment of a Federally  
 Funded Research and Development  
 Center**

**AGENCY:** Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent.

**SUMMARY:** The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) intends to sponsor a Federally Funded Research and Development Center (FFRDC) to provide system engineering and technical assistance along with strategic advice and guidance. Also required will be technical management capabilities to facilitate the operation and modernization of Tax Systems. The FFRDC will be established under the authority of 48 CFR Subpart 35.017 and Office of Federal Procurement Policy Letter 84-1. The FFRDC shall provide technical advice and assistance to the IRS and/or its contractors in the areas of program and project management. This will consist of expert advice/guidance focused on increasing the effectiveness and efficiency of strategic information management and technical activities. The FFRDC will be available for IRS's Chief Information Officer (CIO) or the CIO's designees or Department of the Treasury executive support. Examples of this support may include, but are not limited to the following:—Information Systems (IS) input to business case development—Business Process Analysis—IS management and oversight

of IRS contractors—Evaluation of IRS contractors' performance and development of performance measures—Development of recommendations regarding a prime integration contractor—Evaluation of IRS effectiveness—Ad hoc technical advice—Acquisition Support as necessary. This procurement will not involve a request for proposals. However, expressions of interest and qualification or capability statements should be submitted by interested entities who are capable of fulfilling this requirement. The qualification or capability statements received will be used to select potentially qualified entities, which may at a later date be requested to submit additional information and/or provide an oral presentation as part of a final selection. This is the third and final announcement issued under the authority of 48 CFR 5.205(b)

**DATES:** Please submit your qualification or capability statements not later than March 27, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** Responses to this notice must be mailed to the Internal Revenue Service, A/C Procurement, Office of End Users Systems Branch, 6009 Oxon Hill Road, Oxon Hill, MD 20745 7th floor/ Constellation Building M:P:I:E.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Upon request, a copy of a scope of work for the intended FFRDC will be mailed to any interested party or interested parties can download the information from the IRS Procurement Bulletin Board System. Please follow these instructions to access the PBBS, dial the following number (202) 799-0943. Your system must be set at the following defaults: Baud Rate of 9600, No Parity, 8 Data Bits, 1 Stop Bit. The system will prompt you for your name, business name and address, the kind of system you are using, user ID and a password of your choice. At the Main System Menu the following will appear "Make your selection (T,F,E, etc.\* \* \*):" Type "L" and press the <ENTER> Key. Type "S" to select a library and press the <ENTER> Key. Type "RFP" and press the <ENTER> Key. Type "F" and press the <Enter> Key to list files. Press the <ENTER> Key to view the list of files. Type "C" to view the file list. Download the file "FFRDC.DOC". The system operates 24 hours a day 7 days a week. Send a written request, for a copy of the statement of work, to the contracting officer at the address specified above. No oral communication will be accepted. Qualification or Capability Statement, should be submitted in written form to the Contracting Officer at the address specified above.

Responses to this notice should make reference to Project No. TIRNO-97-R-00018.

James A. Williams,  
Deputy Assistant Commissioner  
(Procurement).

[FR Doc. 97-4644 Filed 2-25-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-U

### Office of Thrift Supervision

[AC-3; OTS No. 03369]

#### Hemlock Federal Bank for Savings, Oak Forest, Illinois; Approval of Conversion Application

Notice is hereby given that on February 12, 1997, the Director, Corporate Activities, Office of Thrift Supervision, or her designee, acting pursuant to delegated authority, approved the application of Hemlock Federal Bank for Savings, Oak Forest, Illinois, to convert to the stock form of organization. Copies of the application are available for inspection at the Dissemination Branch, Office of Thrift Supervision, 1700 G Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20552, and the Central Regional Office, Office of Thrift Supervision, 200 West Madison Street, Suite 1300, Chicago, Illinois 60606.

Dated: February 20, 1997.

By the Office of Thrift Supervision.

Nadine Y. Washington,  
Corporate Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-4643 Filed 2-24-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6720-01-M

### DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

#### Agency Information Collection: Emergency Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Veterans Health Administration (VHA), Department of Veterans Affairs, has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) the following emergency proposal for the collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3507(j)(1)). The reason for emergency clearance request is that these information collections are essential to the VA's mission. The use of normal clearance procedures is reasonably likely to prevent the VHA from timely conducting the collections of

information. OMB has been requested to act this emergency clearance request by March 11, 1997.

**OMB Control Number:** None assigned.  
**Title and Form Number:** Generic Clearance for the Veterans Health Administration Customer Satisfaction Surveys.

**Type of Review:** New collection.

**Need and Uses:** VHA will conduct the customer satisfaction surveys under this generic clearance to implement Executive Order 12862, Setting Customer Service Standards. If the surveys were not conducted, VHA would be unable to comply with the Executive Order, and would not have the information needed to establish standards for the best possible customer-focused service. VHA will use the information gathered to determine where and to what extent services are satisfactory, and where and to what extent they are in need of improvement. The information may lead to policy changes to improve VHA's overall operations. Voluntary customer surveys will not be used as substitutes for traditional program evaluation surveys that measure objectives outcomes. In order to maximize the voluntary response rates, the information collections will be designed to make participation convenient, simple, and free of unnecessary barriers.

**Affected Public:** Individuals or households.

**Estimated Annual Burden:** 22,350 hours.

- a. Nationwide Inpatient Survey—10,500 hours.
- b. Nationwide Outpatient Survey—7,625 hours.
- c. Outpatient Home Based Survey—1,225 hours.
- d. Local Surveys (VA Medical Facilities)—1,225 hours.

**Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent:**

- a. Nationwide Inpatient Survey—15 minutes.
- b. Nationwide Outpatient Survey—15 minutes.
- c. Outpatient Home Based Survey—15 minutes.
- d. Local Surveys (VA Medical Facilities)—10 minutes.

**Frequency of Response:** Annually.

**Estimated Total Number of Respondents:** 94,900.

- a. Nationwide Inpatient Survey—42,000.
- b. Nationwide Outpatient Survey—30,000.
- c. Outpatient Home Based Survey—4,900.
- d. Local Surveys (VA Medical Facilities)—18,000.

**ADDRESSES:** A copy of this submission may be obtained from Ron Taylor,