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List of Subjects

43 CFR Part 3740

Administrative practice and procedure, Mines, Public lands-mineral resources.

43 CFR 3810

Mines, Public lands-mineral resources, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

43 CFR 3820

Mines, Monuments and memorials, National forests, National parks, Public lands-mineral resources, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Surety bonds, Wilderness areas.

Dated: December 1, 1997.

For the reasons stated in the preamble, and under the authority of 43 U.S.C. 1740, parts 3740 of Group 3700 and parts 3810 and 3820 of Group 3800, Subchapter C, Chapter II of Title 43 of the Code of Federal Regulations are amended as set forth below:

Sylvia V. Baca,

Assistant Secretary, Land and Minerals Management.

PART 3740—[AMENDED]

1. Part 3740 is amended by removing subpart 3744 in its entirety.

2. Part 3740 is amended by removing subpart 3745 in its entirety.

PART 3810—[AMENDED]

3. The authority citation for part 3810 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 30 U.S.C. 22 *et seq.*; 43 U.S.C. 1201 and 1740.

4. Part 3810 is amended by removing Section 3811.2-7 in its entirety.

PART 3820—[AMENDED]

5. The authority citation for part 3820 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 30 U.S.C. 22 *et seq.*; 43 U.S.C. 1201 and 1740.

6. Part 3820 is amended by removing subpart 3824 in its entirety.

7. Part 3820 is amended by revising the heading for subpart 3825 to read as follows:

Subpart 3825—Tohono O'Odham (Formerly Papago) Indian Reservation, Arizona

8. Part 3820 is amended by revising all references to the name "Papago" in subpart 3825 to read "Tohono O'Odham".

[FR Doc. 97-32508 Filed 12-11-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

49 CFR Part 1241

[Ex Parte No. 431 (Sub-No. 2)]

Review of the General Purpose Costing System

AGENCY: Surface Transportation Board.

ACTION: Policy Statement; Request for Comments.

SUMMARY: The Surface Transportation Board (Board) is modifying the procedures used for determining the variable cost of using privately-owned rail cars, and requesting comments on certain modifications to the recently adopted procedures used to determine the variable costs associated with rail movements of intermodal traffic.

DATES: The policy statement modifying the costing of privately-owned cars is effective December 12, 1997. The policy statement revising the procedures for costing intermodal traffic is scheduled to be effective February 10, 1998; if this effective date is delayed, timely notice will be published in the **Federal Register**.

Comments are due January 12, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Send an original and 10 copies of comments referring to Ex Parte No. 431 (Sub-No. 2) to: Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20423-001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Thomas J. Stilling, (202) 565-1567. [TDD for the hearing impaired: (202) 565-1695.]

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: To provide consistent and comparable information on railroad costs, the Board maintains a general purpose costing system known as the Uniform Railroad Costing System (URCS). This rulemaking was instituted to review the procedures used by the URCS to develop the variable costs of providing rail service. As a result of the comments received, the Board is adopting

modifications to the procedures for determining the variable cost of using privately-owned rail cars. In addition, as discussed below, the Board is modifying certain procedures used to develop the costs associated with movements of intermodal traffic, absent objections within 30 days. The Board's decision may be reviewed at the agency's offices in Washington, D.C. during normal business hours. The decision is also available from our Internet site at www.stb.dot.gov or for a charge by calling DC NEWS & DATA INC. at (202) 289-4357.

Intermodal Costing

In response to the reconsideration request of the Association of American Railroads, the Board is proposing to modify several intermodal costing procedures adopted previously in this proceeding. These modifications recognize changes that have taken place in the railroad industry since evidence was last submitted in this proceeding. Unless adverse comments are received, the Board will adopt for the purposes of waybill and URCS movement costing (1) an intertrain and intratrain switching factor for intermodal cars of 4,163 miles, (2) an intermodal car spotted-to-pulled ratio equal to the intermodal car empty-to-loaded ratio, (3) a RoadRailer tare weight of 13.9 tons, and (4) use of our standard default costing procedure to assign locomotive cost to RoadRailer shipments. Absent receipt of comments voicing opposition to this modification within 30 days of this decision, it will become a permanent change effective February 10, 1998. If the effective date of this modification is delayed, timely notice will be published in the **Federal Register**.

The Board certifies that the new procedures will not have a significant economic effect on a substantial number of small entities. The impact on small entities, if any, will be to provide them with better cost estimates.

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

Decided: December 5, 1997.

By the Board, Chairman Morgan and Vice Chairman Owen.

Vernon A. Williams,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-32565 Filed 12-11-97; 8:45 am]

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