
Kenneth R. Wykle,
Administrator, Federal Highway Administration.

[FR Doc. 98–3303 Filed 2–10–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–22–M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[Finance Docket No. 32760]

Union Pacific Railroad Company, Control and Merger; Southern Pacific Transportation Company: Reno Mitigation Study, Preliminary Mitigation Plan

AGENCY: Surface Transportation Board.

ACTION: Issuance of Final Mitigation Plan (FMP), request for public comment.

SUMMARY: The Surface Transportation Board’s (Board) Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) issued the Final Mitigation Plan (FMP) for the Reno, NV Mitigation Study on February 11, 1998 for public review and comment. On August 12, 1996, in Decision No. 44, the Board approved the Union Pacific/Southern Pacific merger. As part of its approval, the Board directed SEA to conduct a mitigation study to develop further tailored environmental mitigation measures, in addition to those already imposed in Decision No. 44, to address unique local conditions in Reno and Washoe County. The FMP is part of this ongoing Reno mitigation study process. The FMP contains SEA’s proposed environmental conditions at this time for mitigating the potential effects of increased train traffic through Reno as a result of the UP/SP merger. The FMP also contains comments from over 530 commenters on the Preliminary Mitigation Plan (released on September 15, 1997), SEA’s responses to those comments, and additional technical analysis conducted by SEA.

The Board encourages public comment on the FMP during the 30-day review period, which will end on March 12, 1998. SEA will distribute copies of the FMP to interested parties, and copies will also be available at the Reno and Sparks branches of the Washoe County Public Library.

SEA will consider all timely public comments before making its final recommendations to the Board. The Board will consider SEA’s final recommendations, the Preliminary Mitigation Plan, the Final Mitigation Plan, and all public comments when making its final decision imposing additional specific mitigation measures for Reno and Washoe County that it deems appropriate.

Individuals who wish to file a comment may submit one original; government agencies and businesses are asked to submit an original plus 10 copies. Public comments should be submitted in writing no later than March 12, 1998 to: Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, Finance Docket No. 32760, Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, NW, Room 715, Washington, DC 20423–0001. Mark the lower left-hand corner of the envelope: Attention: Elaine K. Kaiser, Chief, Section of Environmental Analysis, Environmental Filing—Reno.


By the Board, Elaine K. Kaiser, Chief, Section of Environmental Analysis.

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98–3461 Filed 2–10–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915–00–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Bureau of Transportation Statistics

Advisory Council on Transportation Statistics

AGENCY: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Section 10(A)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 72–363; 5 U.S.C. App. 2), notice is hereby given of a meeting of the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) Advisory Council on Transportation Statistics (ACTS) to be held Wednesday, November 12, 1997, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The meeting will take place at the U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 7th Street, SW., Washington, DC, in conference room 10234–38 of the Nassif Building.

The Advisory Council, called for under Section 6007 of Public Law 102–240, Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991, December 18, 1991, and chartered on June 19, 1995, was created to advise the Director of BTS on transportation statistics and analyses, including whether or not the statistics and analyses disseminated by the Bureau are of high quality and are based upon the best available objective information.

The agenda for this meeting will include a review of the last meeting, identification of substantive issues, review of plans and schedule, other items of interest, discussion and agreement of date(s) for subsequent meetings, and comments from the floor.

Since access to the DOT building is controlled, all persons who plan to attend the meeting must notify Ms. Carolee Bush, Council Liaison, on (202) 366–6946 prior to November 10. Attendance is open to the interested public but limited to space available. With the approval of the Chair, members of the public may present oral statements at the meeting. Noncommittee members wishing to present oral statements, obtain information, or who plan to access the building to attend the meeting should also contact Ms. Bush.

Members of the public may present a written statement to the Council at any time.

Persons with a disability requiring special services, such as an interpreter for the hearing impaired, should contact Ms. Bush (202) 366–6946 at least seven days prior to the meeting.

Issued in Washington, DC, on February 5, 1998.

Robert A. Knisely,
Executive Director, Advisory Council on Transportation Statistics.

[FR Doc. 98–3427 Filed 2–10–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–FE–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Fiscal Service

Surety Companies Acceptable on Federal Bonds; United States Surety Company


ACTION: Surety companies acceptable on Federal bonds; United States Surety Company.


FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Surety Bond Branch (20) 874–6905.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: A Certificate of Authority as an acceptable surety on Federal Bonds is hereby issued to the following company under Sections 9304 to 9308, Title 31, of the United States Code. Federal bond-approving officers should annotate their reference copies of the Treasury Circular 570, 1997 Revision, on page 35578 to reflect this addition:
United States Surety Company, Business Address: P. O. Box 5605, Timonium, MD 21094. Phone: (410) 453-9522. Underwriting Limitation b/: $185,000. Surety Licenses c/ MD. Incorporated IN: Maryland.

Certificates of Authority expire on June 30 each year, unless revoked prior to that date. The Certificates are subject to subsequent annual renewal as long as the companies remain qualified (31 CFR, Part 223). A list of qualified companies is published annually as of July 1 in Treasury Department Circular 570, with details as to underwriting limitations, areas in which licensed to transact surety business and other information.

The Circular may be viewed and downloaded through the Internet (http://WWW.fms.treas.gov/c570.html) or through our computerized public bulletin board system (FMS Inside Line) at (202) 874-6887. A hard copy may be purchased from the Government Printing Office (GPO), Subscription Service Washington, DC, telephone (202) 512-1800. When ordering the Circular from GPO, use the following stock number: 048-000-00499-7.

Questions concerning this Notice may be directed to the U.S. Department of the Treasury, Financial Management Service, Funds Management Division, Surety Bond Branch, 3700 East-West Highway, Room 6A11, Hyattsville, MD 20782.


Charles F. Schwan III,
Director Funds Management Division, Financial Management Service.

[FR Doc. 98-3398 Filed 2-10-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810±AR±M

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

OMB Control No. 2900±0252

Proposed Information Collection Activity: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), Department of Veterans Affairs, is announcing an opportunity for public comment on the proposed collection of certain information by the agency. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, Federal agencies are required to publish notice in the Federal Register concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of a currently approved collection, and allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments on the application for authority to close loans on an automatic basis for nonsupervised lenders.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before April 13, 1998.

ADDRESS: Submit written comments on the collection of information to Nancy J. Kessinger, Veterans Benefits Administration (20522), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420. Please refer to “OMB Control No. 2900-0252” in any correspondence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nancy J. Kessinger at (202) 273-5079 or FAX (202) 275-5146.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13; 44 U.S.C. 3501-3520), Federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. This request for comment is being made pursuant to Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA.

With respect to the following collection of information, VBA invites comments on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of VBA’s functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of VBA’s estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or the use of other forms of information technology.

Title: Application for Authority to Close Loans on an Automatic Basis—Nonsupervised Lenders, VA Form 26-8736.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0252. Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: Title 38 U.S.C. 3702(d)(3) provides for nonsupervised lenders to make automatically guaranteed loans if the Secretary of Veterans Affairs approves them for such purposes. Automatic lending privileges eliminate the requirement for submission of loans to VA for prior approval. Lending institutions with automatic loan privileges may process and disburse such loans and subsequently report the loan to VA for issuance of guaranty. VA Form 26-8736 is used by nonsupervised lenders to request approval to close loans on an automatic basis. The form requests information considered crucial for VA to make acceptability determinations as to lenders who shall be approved for this privilege.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit.

Estimated Annual Burden: 50 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 25 minutes.

Frequency of Response: Generally one time.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 120.


By direction of the Secretary.

Donald L. Neilson,
Director Information Management Service.

[FR Doc. 98-3401 Filed 2-10-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320±01±P

UNITED STATES INSTITUTE OF PEACE

Announcement of the 1998 Unsolicited Spring Grant Program

AGENCY: United States Institute of Peace.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Agency Announces its Upcoming Deadline for the 1998 Unsolicited Grant Spring Competition, which offers support for research, education and training, and the dissemination of information on international peace and conflict resolution.

Deadline: March 1, 1998.

DATES: Application Material Available Upon Request

Receipt Date for Return of Application: March 1, 1998 (applications will be accepted on March 2).


FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Bernice J. Carney,
Director, Office of Administration.

[FR Doc. 98-3431 Filed 2-10-98; 8:45 am]

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