

thereby simplifying RailTex's corporate governance.

This is a transaction within a corporate family of the type specifically exempted from prior review and approval under 49 CFR 1180.2(d)(3). The parties state that the transaction will not result in adverse changes in service levels, significant operational changes, or a change in the competitive balance with carriers outside the corporate family.

Under 49 U.S.C. 10502(g), the Board may not use its exemption authority to relieve a rail carrier of its statutory obligation to protect the interests of its employees. Section 11326(c), however, does not provide for labor protection for transactions under sections 11324 and 11325 that involve only Class III rail carriers. Because this transaction involves Class III rail carriers only, the Board, under the statute, may not impose labor protective conditions for this transaction.

If the notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void *ab initio*. Petitions to reopen the proceeding 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. 33809, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, NW, Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on Karl Morell, P.C., Ball Janik LLP, Suite 225, 1455 F Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005.

Board decisions and notices are available on our website at "WWW.STB.DOT.GOV."

Decided: October 25, 1999.

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

**Vernon A. Williams,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 99-28412 Filed 10-28-99; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Fiscal Service

#### Treasury Current Value of Funds Rate

**AGENCY:** Financial Management Service, Fiscal Service, Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice of rate for use in Federal debt collection and discount evaluation.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to section 11 of the Debt Collection Act of 1982 (31 U.S.C. 3717), the Secretary of the Treasury is

responsible for computing and publishing the percentage rate to be used in assessing interest charges for outstanding debts on claims owed the Government. Treasury's Cash Management Regulations (I TFM 6-8000) also prescribe use of this rate by agencies as a comparison point in evaluating the cost-effectiveness of a cash discount. Notice is hereby given that the applicable rate is 5 percent for calendar year 2000.

**DATES:** The rate will be in effect for the period beginning on January 1, 2000 and ending on December 31, 2000.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Inquiries should be directed to the Program Compliance Division, Financial Management Service, Department of the Treasury, 401 14th Street, SW., Washington, DC. 20227 (Telephone: (202) 874-6630).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The rate reflects the current value of funds to the Treasury for use in connection with Federal Cash Management systems and is based on investment rates set for purposes of Pub. L. 95-147, 91 Stat. 1227. Computed each year by averaging investment rates for the 12-month period ending every September 30 for applicability effective January 1, the rate is subject to quarterly revisions if the annual average, on the moving basis, changes by 2 per centum. The rate in effect for calendar year 2000 reflects the average investment rates for the 12-month period that ended September 30, 1999.

Dated: October 25, 1999.

**Betty H. Lane,**

*Assistant Commissioner, Federal Finance.*

[FR Doc. 99-28317 Filed 10-28-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810-35-M

## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Internal Revenue Service

[FI-189-84]

#### Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Regulation Project

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

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of the Treasury, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995,

Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning an existing final regulation, FI-189-84 (TD 8517), Debt Instruments With Original Issue Discount; Imputed Interest on Deferred Payment Sales or Exchanges of Property (§§ 1.1272-3, 1.1273-2(h), 1.1274-3(d), 1.1274-5(b), 1.1274A-1(c), and 1.1275-3(b)).

**DATES:** Written comments should be received on or before December 28, 1999 to be assured of consideration.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Garrick R. Shear, Internal Revenue Service, room 5244, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the regulation should be directed to Carol Savage, (202) 622-3945, Internal Revenue Service, room 5242, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title:* Debt Instruments With Original Issue Discount; Imputed Interest on Deferred Payment Sales or Exchanges of Property.

*OMB Number:* 1545-1353.

*Regulation Project Number:* FI-189-84.

*Abstract:* This regulation provides definitions, reporting requirements, elections, and general rules relating to the tax treatment of debt instruments with original issue discount and the imputation of, and accounting for, interest on certain sales or exchanges of property.

*Current Actions:* There is no change to this existing regulation.

*Type of Review:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households, business or other for-profit organizations, farms and state, local or tribal governments.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 525,000.

*Estimated Time Per Respondent:* 21 minutes.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 185,500.

The following paragraph applies to all of the collections of information covered by this notice:

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number.

Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information