

protective order under 49 CFR 1104.14 and a protective order was granted.<sup>1</sup>

The transaction was scheduled to be consummated on or shortly after October 20, 1999.

Ameren, a noncarrier holding company, currently controls one railroad, the JERR, through Ameren's controlling interest in Electric Energy, Inc. (EEI).<sup>2</sup> ERC is not a rail carrier and does not control any rail carriers. ERC purchased 95% of the stock of MCRR.<sup>3</sup> Because ERC's parent is already in control of one railroad (JERR), the MCRR stock purchased by ERC was placed in a voting trust on October 7, 1999. On or shortly after the October 20, 1999 effective date of this control exemption, ERC was expected to assume control of MCRR. The stock of MCRR had been owned 100% by General Railway Corporation, with the principal shareholder being John F. Larkin.

Ameren states that: (i) These railroads do not connect with each other; (ii) the acquisition of control is not part of a series of anticipated transactions that would connect the railroads with each other or any railroad in their corporate family; and (iii) the transaction does not involve a Class I carrier. Therefore, the transaction is exempt from the prior approval requirements of 49 U.S.C. 11323. See 49 CFR 1180.2(d)(2).

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 verified 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. 33805, 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, one copy of each pleading must be served on John R. Molm, Esq., Troutman Sanders LLP, 1300 I Street, NW, Suite 500 East, Washington, DC 20005-3314.

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

Decided: October 29, 1999.

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

**Vernon A. Williams,**  
Secretary.

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Departmental Offices; International Monetary Fund Advisory Committee

**AGENCY:** Department of the Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** Under section 610 of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1999, the Secretary of the Treasury is required to establish an International Monetary Fund Advisory Committee (the "Committee") to advise the Secretary on IMF policy.

**DATES:** The second meeting of the Committee will be held on November 22, 1999, beginning at 1:30 p.m. in the Diplomatic Room located on the third floor of the main Department of the Treasury building, 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Designated Federal Official: William McFadden, Senior Policy Advisor, Office of International Monetary and Financial Policy, Room 4444, Department of the Treasury, 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W., Washington, D.C., 20220. Telephone

number 202-622-0343, fax number (202) 622-7664.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notice of this meeting is given under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. 2.

### Agenda of Meeting

The IMF Advisory Committee will discuss the legislated mandates that affect the financial services sector, with a focus on questions related to strengthening the domestic market and questions that relate to burden sharing and crisis resolution.

### Procedural

This meeting is open to the public. Please note that the meeting may close early if all business is finished. If you wish to attend please FAX your full name, birthday, and social security number to the Designated Federal Official no later than 4 p.m., November 17, for clearance into the Treasury Building.

Members of the public may submit written comments. If you wish to furnish such comments, please provide 16 copies of your written material to the Designated Federal Official. If you wish to have your comments distributed to members of the Committee in advance of the second meeting, 16 copies of any written material should be provided to the Designated Federal Official no later than November 15, 1999.

Dated: October 28, 1999.

**Lauren M. Vaughan,**

Designated Federal Official.

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms

#### Proposed Collection; Comment Request

**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 Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms within the Department of the Treasury is soliciting comments concerning the

<sup>1</sup> See *Ameren Corporation—Control Exemption—Missouri Central Railroad Company*, STB Finance Docket No. 33805 (STB served Oct. 22, 1999).

<sup>2</sup> The JERR owns and operates approximately 5 miles of track within Illinois. EEI was authorized by the Board's predecessor, the Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC), to construct the approximately 5-mile line in *Joppa and Eastern Railroad Co.—Construction Exemption—Joppa, IL*, Finance Docket No. 31656 (ICC served July 5 and Dec. 24, 1990). The ICC also authorized the JERR to lease approximately 2.5 miles of existing trackage in the same vicinity in *Joppa and Eastern Railroad Co.—Petition for Exemption—Lease—Missouri Pacific Railroad Co.*, Finance Docket No. 31656 (Sub-No. 1) (ICC served May 16, 1991).

<sup>3</sup> All of MCRR's rail line will be within Missouri. The verified notice states that MCRR will own and operate approximately 278 miles of railroad. The notice also states that MCRR was to acquire ownership of approximately 244.5 miles of line and trackage rights over 33.5 miles of line on the date of filing of this verified notice (October 13, 1999), upon consummation of noncarrier GRC Holdings Corporation's acquisition and immediate conveyance to MCRR of rail assets from Union Pacific Railroad Company. See *GRC Holdings—Acquisition Exemption—Union Pacific Railroad Co.*, STB Finance Docket No. 33537 (STB served Jan. 27, 1998) and *Missouri Central Railroad Co.—Acquisition and Operation Exemption—Lines of Union Pacific Railroad Co.*, STB Finance Docket No. 33508 (STB served Jan. 27, 1998).