

locations the driver is dispatched to during the work day, the amount of time required to travel from location to location, the amount of time spent at each location, etc.) to supplement the electronic time records, which typically would only prove when the driver reported for work and when the driver was released from work. Therefore, the OMCS does not believe it is likely that Van Wyk could ensure a level of safety that is equivalent to, or greater than, the level of safety provided by complying with the hours-of-service regulations.

On November 5, 1996 (61 FR 57252), the FHWA published an advance notice of proposed rulemaking (ANPRM) on all aspects of the hours-of-service regulations. The agency indicated that it was nearing the completion of several research projects and was seeking the results of other relevant research, including research, operational tests, or pilot regulatory programs conducted anywhere in the world, that could be used in developing a revised regulatory scheme for CMV drivers' hours-of-service. The OMCS has reviewed all the research reports submitted by commenters to the rulemaking docket, and scientific information obtained through other sources, and is not aware of any data that would support creating a regulatory relief program that, if abused, would enable a person to drive a CMV up to 13 hours, and perhaps even longer. Copies of all known research reports, as well as all comments submitted in response to the ANPRM, are available in FHWA Docket No. FHWA-97-2350.

Request for Comments

In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31315 and 31136(e), the OMCS is requesting public comment from all interested persons on the exemption application from Van Wyk. All comments received before the close of business on the comment closing date indicated at the beginning of this notice will be considered and will be available for examination in the docket at the location listed under the address section of this notice. Comments received after the comment closing date will be filed in the public docket and will be considered to the extent practicable, but the OMCS may deny the exemption at any time after the close of the comment period. In addition to late comments, the OMCS will also continue to file, in the public docket, relevant information that becomes available after the comment closing date. Interested persons should continue to examine the public docket for new material.

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 31136 and 31315; and 49 CFR 1.73.

Issued on: December 21, 1999.

Julie Anna Cirillo,

Acting Director, Office of Motor Carrier Safety.

[FR Doc. 99-33474 Filed 12-23-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Docket No. AB-290 (Sub-No. 192X)]

Norfolk Southern Railway Company— Abandonment Exemption—in Anderson and Woodford Counties, KY

Norfolk Southern Railway Company (NSR) has filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR part 1152 Subpart F—*Exempt Abandonments* to abandon its line of railroad between milepost 0.7-LL, at Lawrenceburg, and milepost 3.5-LL, at Tyrone, in Anderson and Woodford Counties, KY, a distance of approximately 2.8 miles (line). The line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Codes 40342 and 40383.

NSR has certified that: (1) no local traffic has moved over the line for at least 2 years; (2) no overhead traffic has moved over the line for at least 2 years and that overhead traffic, if there were any, could be rerouted over other lines; (3) no formal complaint filed by a user of rail service on the line (or by a state or local government entity acting on behalf of such user) regarding cessation of service over the line either is pending with the Surface Transportation Board (Board) or with any U.S. District Court or has been decided in favor of complainant within the 2-year period; and (4) the requirements at 49 CFR 1105.7 (environmental reports), 49 CFR 1105.8 (historic reports), 49 CFR 1105.11 (transmittal letter), 49 CFR 1105.12 (newspaper publication), and 49 CFR 1152.50(d)(1) (notice to governmental agencies) have been met.

As a condition to this exemption, any employee adversely affected by the abandonment shall be protected under *Oregon Short Line R. Co.—Abandonment—Goshen*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979). To address whether this condition adequately protects affected employees, a petition for partial revocation under 49 U.S.C. 10502(d) must be filed. Provided no formal expression of intent to file an offer of financial assistance (OFA) has been received, this exemption will be effective on January 26, 2000, unless stayed pending reconsideration. Petitions to stay that do not involve

environmental issues,¹ formal expressions of intent to file an OFA under 49 CFR 1152.27(c)(2),² and trail use/rail banking requests under 49 CFR 1152.29 must be filed by January 6, 2000. Petitions to reopen or requests for public use conditions under 49 CFR 1152.28 must be filed by January 18, 2000, with the Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20423-0001.

A copy of any petition filed with the Board should be sent to applicant's representative: James R. Paschall, Norfolk Southern Corporation, Three Commercial Place, Norfolk, VA 23510. If the verified notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void *ab initio*.

NSR has filed an environmental report which addresses the abandonment's effects, if any, on the environment and historic resources. The Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) will issue an environmental assessment (EA) by January 3, 2000. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the EA by writing to SEA (Room 500, Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423-0001) or by calling SEA, at (202) 565-1545. Comments on environmental and historic preservation matters must be filed within 15 days after the EA becomes available to the public.

Environmental, historic preservation, public use, or trail use/rail banking conditions will be imposed, where appropriate, in a subsequent decision.

Pursuant to the provisions of 49 CFR 1152.29(e)(2), NSR shall file a notice of consummation with the Board to signify that it has exercised the authority granted and fully abandoned the line. If consummation has not been effected by NSR's filing of a notice of consummation by December 27, 2000, and there are no legal or regulatory barriers to consummation, the authority to abandon will automatically expire.

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

Decided: December 16, 1999.

¹ The Board will grant a stay if an informed decision on environmental issues (whether raised by a party or by the Board's Section of Environmental Analysis in its independent investigation) cannot be made before the exemption's effective date. See *Exemption of Out-of-Service Rail Lines*, 5 I.C.C.2d 377 (1989). Any request for a stay should be filed as soon as possible so that the Board may take appropriate action before the exemption's effective date.

² Each offer of financial assistance must be accompanied by the filing fee, which currently is set at \$1000. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).

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

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99-33183 Filed 12-23-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Departmental Offices; International Financial Institution Advisory Commission; Meeting

AGENCY: Department of the Treasury.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: Under section 603 of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1999, the International Financial Institution Advisory Commission (the "Commission") shall advise and report to the Congress on the future role and responsibilities of the international financial institutions (defined as the International Monetary Fund, International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, International Development Association, International Finance Corporation, Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency, African Development Bank, African Development Fund, Asian Development Bank, Inter-American Development Bank, and Inter-American Investment Corporation, the World Trade Organization, and the Bank for International Settlements.

DATES: The seventh meeting of the Advisory Commission will be held on January 3, 2000, beginning at 2:00 p.m. and ending tentatively at 6:30 p.m. in the U.S. Capitol, House of Representatives side, room HC5. The eighth meeting of the Advisory Commission will be held on January 4, 2000, beginning at 9:30 a.m. and ending tentatively at 3:00 p.m. The meeting will be held in the U.S. Capitol, House of Representatives side, room HC6.

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 NW, Washington, DC 20220. Telephone number 202-622-0343, fax number (202) 622-7664.

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

Agenda of Meetings

The Commission members will focus on exchange rate policy, income inequality and debt forgiveness.

Procedural

These meetings are open to the public. Please note that the meetings may close early if all business is finished. 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 Commission in advance of the seventh and eighth meetings, 16 copies of any written material should be provided to the Designated Federal Official no later than December 28, 1999.

Dated: December 17, 1999.

William McFadden,

Designated Federal Official.

[FR Doc. 99-33425 Filed 12-23-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810-25-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Departmental Offices; International Financial Institution Advisory Commission; Meeting

AGENCY: Department of the Treasury.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: Under section 603 of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1999, the International Financial Institution Advisory Commission (the "Commission") shall advise and report to the Congress on the future role and responsibilities of the international financial institutions (defined as the International Monetary Fund, International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, International Development Association, International Finance Corporation, Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency, African Development Bank, African Development Fund, Asian Development Bank, Inter-American Development Bank, and Inter-American Investment Corporation), the World Trade Organization, and the Bank for International Settlements.

DATES: The ninth meeting of the Advisory Commission will be held on January 28, 2000, beginning at 9:00 a.m. and ending tentatively at 3:00 p.m. in the U.S. Capitol, House of Representatives side, room HC6.

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 these meetings is given under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. 2.

Agenda of Meetings

The Commission members will focus on discussions about Russia and on corruption in a global context.

Procedural

These meetings are open to the public. Please note that the meetings may close early if all business is finished. 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 Commission in advance of the ninth meeting, 16 copies of any written material should be provided to the Designated Federal Official no later than January 11, 2000.

Dated: December 27, 1999.

William McFadden,

Designated Federal Official.

[FR Doc. 99-33426 Filed 12-23-99 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810-25-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

Proposed Collection; Comment Request for the Wage and Investment Taxpayer Prefiling and Filing Burden Study

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 the Wage and Investment Taxpayer Prefiling and Filing Burden Study.