

inspection until the test or inspection has been successfully completed.

Cargo tank conversions. It is possible, though difficult, to modify a cargo tank, such as by using the tank from an MC 330 cargo tank motor vehicle, to meet the DOT 51 portable tank specification. The modification must be performed by an ASME Code facility. The manufacturer performing the modification must assure that the modified tank conforms to all the requirements of the DOT 51 specification in § 178.245 of the HMR. Such a tank no longer meets the cargo tank specification; thus, the manufacturer must remove or cover the cargo tank specification plate on the modified tank and affix a new certification plate in accordance with § 178.245-6. Other than through recertification as a portable tank, there is no provision for use of the tank from a cargo tank motor vehicle as a portable tank.

Filling densities. The HMR prescribe maximum permitted filling densities for portable tanks in propane service in § 173.315(b). Generally, maximum permitted filling densities depend on the specific gravity of the material to be transported, measured at 60°F, and the size of the tank. Propane in a portable tank may not exceed 60 percent of the water-weight capacity of the tank.

III. Safety Implications

The purpose of this safety advisory notice is to alert persons who offer or transport propane that transporting propane in portable tanks that do not conform to the HMR could have serious safety implications for persons who handle or transport such tanks and for the general public. When liquid propane is released into the atmosphere, it quickly vaporizes into the gaseous form that is its normal state at atmospheric pressure. Vaporization occurs very rapidly and, in the process, the propane combines readily with air to form fuel-air mixtures that are ignitable over a range of 2.2 to 9.5 percent by volume. If an ignition source is present in the vicinity of the highly flammable mixture, the vapor cloud ignites and burns explosively.

No person may offer for transportation or transport hazardous materials except in conformance with the HMR. Persons offering or transporting propane in portable tanks that do not conform to the HMR requirements may be subject to civil or criminal penalties.

Issued in Washington, DC, on May 2, 2000.

Robert A. McGuire,

Acting Associate Administrator for Hazardous Materials Safety.

[FR Doc. 00-11375 Filed 5-5-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 33868]

OmniTRAX, Inc., Central Kansas Railway, L.L.C., and Kansas Southwestern Railway, L.L.C.—Corporate Family Transaction Exemption

OmniTRAX, Inc. (OmniTRAX),¹ Central Kansas Railway L.L.C. (CKR), and Kansas Southwestern Railway, L.L.C. (KSW), have jointly filed a verified notice of exemption. CKR operates over approximately 900 miles of rail line in the States of Kansas and Colorado. KSW operates over approximately 106 miles of rail line in the State of Kansas and connects at several locations with CKR. KSW will be merged into CKR, with CKR as the surviving corporation. After the transaction is consummated, OmniTRAX will control 9 Class III railroads in the United States.

The transaction was scheduled to be consummated on or shortly after April 26, 2000.

The purpose of the transaction is to simplify OmniTRAX's corporate structure and eliminate costs associated with separate accounting, tax, bookkeeping and reporting functions. The proposed transaction will also enhance the operating economies of, and improve service on, the surviving corporation.

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

¹ OmniTRAX is a noncarrier holding company, which at the time of filing, directly controlled 10 Class III railroads, including CKR and KSW, operating in 7 states. See *OmniTRAX, Inc.—Control Exemption—Northern Ohio & Western Railway, LLC*, STB Finance Docket No. 33598 (STB served June 5, 1998). OmniTRAX also states that it controls 3 rail carriers that operate in Canada.

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. 33868, 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: April 28, 2000.

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

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-11183 Filed 5-5-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Office of the Comptroller of the Currency

Office of Thrift Supervision

FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed Renewal of Information Collection; Comment Request

AGENCIES: Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC) and Office of Thrift Supervision (OTS), Treasury, and Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC).

ACTION: Joint notice and request for comment.

SUMMARY: The OCC, OTS, and FDIC (collectively, the "agencies"), as part of their continuing efforts to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invite financial institutions, the general public, and other Federal agencies to comment on a continuing information