

In addition, a commenting party or protestant may provide:

- (i) An offer of financial assistance pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 10904 (due 120 days after the application is filed or 10 days after the application is granted by the Board, whichever occurs sooner);
- (ii) Recommended provisions for protection of the interests of employees;
- (iii) A request for a public use condition under 49 U.S.C. 10905; and
- (iv) A statement pertaining to prospective use of the right-of-way for interim trail use and rail banking under 16 U.S.C. 1247(d) and § 1152.29.

Parties seeking information concerning the filing of protests should refer to § 1152.25.

Written comments and protests, including all requests for public use and trail use conditions, must indicate the proceeding designation STB Docket No. AB-564 and should be filed with the Secretary, Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423, no later than July 10, 2000. Interested persons may file a written comment or protest with the Board to become a party to this abandonment proceeding. A copy of each written comment or protest shall be served upon the representative of the applicant, John D. Heffner, Rea, Cross & Auchincloss, 1707 L Street, NW, Suite 570, Washington, DC 20036, telephone: 202-785-3700. The original and 10 copies of all comments or protests shall be filed with the Board with a certificate of service. Except as otherwise set forth in part 1152, each document filed with the Board must be served on all parties to the abandonment proceeding. 49 CFR 1104.12(a). The line sought to be abandoned will be available for subsidy or sale for continued rail service, if the Board decides to permit the abandonment, in accordance with applicable laws and regulations (49 U.S.C. 10904 and 49 CFR 1152.27). No subsidy arrangement approved under 49 U.S.C. 10904 shall remain in effect for more than 1 year unless otherwise mutually agreed by the parties (49 U.S.C. 10904(f)(4)(B)). Applicant will promptly provide upon request to each interested party an estimate of the subsidy and minimum purchase price required to keep the line in operation. The carrier's representative to whom inquiries may be made concerning sale or subsidy terms is John D. Heffner, 1707 L Street, NW, Suite 570, Washington, DC 20036.

Persons seeking further information concerning abandonment procedures may contact the Surface Transportation Board or refer to the full abandonment

or discontinuance regulations at 49 CFR part 1152. Questions concerning environmental issues may be directed to the Board's Section of Environmental Analysis.

An environmental assessment (EA) (or environmental impact statement (EIS), if necessary) prepared by the Section of Environmental Analysis will be served upon all parties of record and upon any agencies or other persons who commented during its preparation. Any other persons who would like to obtain a copy of the EA (or EIS) may contact the Section of Environmental Analysis. EAs in abandonment proceedings normally will be made available within 33 days of the filing of the application. The deadline for submission of comments on the EA will generally be within 30 days of its service. The comments received will be addressed in the Board's decision. A supplemental EA or EIS may be issued where appropriate.

Decided: June 9, 2000.

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

**Vernon A. Williams,**  
*Secretary.*

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[www.ustreas.gov/tic/](http://www.ustreas.gov/tic/). Requests for additional information should be directed to Dwight Wolkow, Administrator, International Portfolio Investment Data Systems, Department of the Treasury, Room 5205 MT, 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20220, phone (202) 622-1276, FAX (202) 622-7448.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

**Title:** Treasury International Capital Form S, Purchases and Sales of Long-term Securities by Foreigners.

**OMB Control Number:** 1505-0001.

**Abstract:** Form S is part of the Treasury International Capital (TIC) reporting system, which is required by law (22 U.S.C. 286f; 22 U.S.C. 3103; E.O. 10033; 31 CFR part 128), and is designed to collect timely information on international portfolio capital movements. Form S is a monthly report used to cover transactions in long-term marketable securities undertaken directly with foreigners by banks, other depository institutions, brokers, dealers underwriting groups and other individuals and institutions. This information is necessary for compiling the U.S. balance of payments accounts, for calculating the U.S. international investment position, and for formulating U.S. international financial and monetary policies.

**Current Actions:** The exemption level for reporting will be raised from \$2 million to \$50 million in either gross purchases or gross sales during a month. The geographic detail will increase slightly by adding lines for Luxembourg, the combined Channel Islands & Isle of Man, New Zealand, the Caribbean region, and the European Central Bank. The British West Indies line will be replaced with Cayman Islands line. The form will be redesigned so it will be available for downloading from the TIC web site. These changes will be effective as of January 31, 2001.

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

**Affected Public:** Business or other for-profit organizations.

**Form S (1505-0001.)**

**Estimated Number of Respondents:** 240.

**Estimated Average Time per Respondent:** 5 hours per respondent per respondent per filing.

**Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:** 14,400 hours, based on 12 reporting periods per year.

#### Request for Comments

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the requests for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. The public is

invited to submit written comments concerning: whether Form S is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Office, including whether the information collected has practical uses; the accuracy of the above burden estimates; ways to enhance the quality, usefulness, and clarity of the information to be collected; ways to minimize the reporting and/or record keeping burdens on respondents, including the use of information technologies to automate the collection of the data; and estimates of capital or startup costs of operation, maintenance, and purchases of services to provide information.

**Dwight Wolkow,**  
Administrator, International Portfolio  
Investment System

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Departmental Offices: Proposed Collections; Comment Requests

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

**SUMMARY:** The Department of the Treasury, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork burdens, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on two information collections that are due for revision approval by the Office of Management and Budget. The Office of Program Services within the Department of the Treasury is soliciting comments concerning Treasury International Capital Form BC/BC(SA), Reporting Bank's Own Claims, and Selected Claims of Broker or Dealer, on Foreigners, Denominated in Dollars; and Treasury International Capital Form BL-1/BL-1(SA), Reporting Bank's Own Liabilities, and Selected Liabilities of Broker or Dealer, to Foreigners, Denominated in Dollars.

**DATES:** Written comments should be received on or before August 14, 2000 to be assured of consideration.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Dwight Wolkow, Administrator, International Portfolio Investment Data Systems, Department of the Treasury, Room 5205 MT, 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20220.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Copies of the proposed revised forms and instructions are available at the Related Links section of Treasury's TIC Capital Movements website: <http://www.ustreas.gov/tic/>. Requests for

additional information should be directed to Dwight Wolkow, Administrator, International Portfolio Investment Data Systems, Department of the Treasury, Room 5205 MT, 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20220, phone (202) 622-1276, FAX (202) 622-7448.

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

**Titles:** Treasury International Capital Form BC/BC(SA), Reporting Bank's Own Claims, and Selected Claims of Broker or Dealer, on Foreigners, Denominated in Dollars; and Treasury Capital Form BL-1/BL-1(SA), Reporting Bank's Own Liabilities, and Selected Liabilities of Broker or Dealer, to Foreigners, Denominated in Dollars.

**OMB Control Numbers:** 1505-0017 and 1505-0019.

**Abstracts:** Forms BC/BC(SA) and BL-1/BL-1(SA) are part of the Treasury International Capital (TIC) reporting system, which is required by law (22 U.S.C. 286f; 22 U.S.C. 3103; E.O. 10033; 31 CFR part 128), and is designed to collect timely information on international portfolio capital movements. Form BC is a monthly report (with a semiannual supplement) that covers own U.S. dollar claims of banks, other depository institutions, brokers and dealers vis-a-vis foreign residents. Form BL-1 is a monthly report (with a semiannual supplement) that covers own U.S. dollar liabilities of banks, other depository institutions, brokers and dealers vis-a-vis foreign residents. This information is necessary for compiling the U.S. balance of payments accounts, for calculating the U.S. international investment position, and for formulating U.S. international financial and monetary policies.

**Current Actions:** (a) The exemption level for reporting positions will be raised from \$15 million at end-month; institutions will be exempt from reporting if they had both; (1) less than \$50 million at end-month to report; and (2) they had less than \$25 million at end-month to report vis-a-vis all counterparties in any one country; (b) There will be a reduction in the reporting of International Banking Facilities (IBFs) so that banking organizations will report on a consolidated basis. An addendum row will be added to the bottom of the forms to report total IBF assets and total IBF liabilities by sector/instrument; (c) The geographic detail will increase slightly by adding lines for Luxembourg, the combined Channel Islands & Isle of Man, New Zealand, the Caribbean region, and the European Central Bank. The British West Indies line will be

replaced with a Cayman Islands line; (d) One memorandum column and one memorandum row will be added to the BC/BC(SA) and BL-1/BL-1(SA) forms to collect the dollar amount of positions collateralized through repurchase or reverse repurchase agreements ("repos"). The forms will be redesigned so they will be available for downloading from the TIC web site. These changes will be effective as of January 31, 2001.

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

**Affected Public:** Business or other for-profit organizations.

Form BC/BC(SA) (1505-0017).

**Estimated Number of Respondents:** 355 (semiannual 110).

**Estimated Average Time per Respondent:** Eight (8) hours per respondent per filing.

**Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:** 35,840 hours, based on 12 reporting periods per year.

Form BL-1/BL-1(SA) (1505-0019).

**Estimated Number of Respondents:** 415 (semiannual 175).

**Estimated Average Time per Respondent:** Eight (8) hours per respondent per filing.

**Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:** 42,640 hours, based on 12 reporting periods per year.

### Request for Comments

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the requests for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. The public is invited to submit written comments concerning: whether Forms BC/BC(SA) and BL-1/BL-1(SA) all necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Office, including whether the information collected has practical uses; the accuracy of the above burden estimates; ways to enhanced the quality, usefulness, and clarity of the information to be collected; ways to minimize the reporting and/or record keeping burdens on respondents, including the use of information technologies to automate the collection of the data; and estimates of capital or start-up costs of operation, maintenance, and purchases of services to provide information.

**Dwight Wolkow,**

Administrator, International Portfolio  
Investment Data Systems.

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