

consummation by December 21, 2002, and there are no legal or regulatory barriers to consummation, the authority to abandon will automatically expire.

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Decided: December 14, 2001.

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

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 01-31505 Filed 12-20-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Docket No. AB-290 (Sub-No. 220X)]

Norfolk Southern Railway Company— Abandonment Exemption—in Wise County, VA

Norfolk Southern Railway Company (NSR) has filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F—*Exempt Abandonments* to abandon a 3.03-mile line of railroad between milepost A-0.0, at Arno Jct., and milepost A-3.03, at Derby, in Wise County, VA (line). The line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Code 24293.

Applicant has certified that: (1) No local or overhead traffic has moved over the line for at least 2 years; (2) any overhead traffic, if there is any, can 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 agency acting on behalf of such user) regarding cessation of service over the line either is pending with the Surface Transportation Board (Board) or 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 22, 2002, 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 December 31, 2001. Petitions to reopen or requests for public use conditions under 49 CFR 1152.28 must be filed by January 10, 2002, with the Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423-0001.

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

Applicant has filed a separate environmental report which addresses the abandonment's effects, if any, on the environment and historic resources. SEA will issue an environmental assessment (EA) by December 28, 2001. 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) 565-1552. 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 21, 2002, and there are no legal or regulatory barriers to consummation, the authority to abandon will automatically expire.

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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 (SEA) 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 \$1,000. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).

Decided: December 14, 2001.

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

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 01-31506 Filed 12-20-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Office of D.C. Pensions; Proposed Collection: Comment Request

ACTION: Notice and Request for Comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury, as part of its continuing efforts 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 Office of D. C. Pensions within the Department of the Treasury is soliciting comments concerning the D. C. Pension Plans Customer Satisfaction Survey.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before February 19, 2002 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESS: Direct all written comments to the Department of the Treasury, Office of D. C. Pensions, Kristi H. Greenslade, 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Room 6131 Metropolitan Square, Washington, DC 20220, (202) 622-0800.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the form and instructions should be directed to Office of D. C. Pensions, Kristi H. Greenslade, 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 6131 Metropolitan Square, Washington, DC 20220, (202) 622-0800.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: D. C. Pension Plans Customer Satisfaction Survey.

Abstract: Under the *National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997, Title XI of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 [Pub. L. 105-33]*, as amended, (the Act), the U.S. Department of the Treasury assumed certain responsibilities for some of the District of Columbia's pension plans, including administration of fund assets and distribution of pension benefits. Treasury is responsible for paying the benefits earned through June 30, 1997, under the Police Officers and Firefighters' Retirement Plan and the Teachers' Retirement Plan. The District of Columbia is responsible for paying

benefits earned after June 30, 1997, through its replacement plans. Treasury is also responsible for paying all benefits earned under the Judges' Retirement Plan.

The Office of D. C. Pensions seeks to collect information from pension benefits recipients in order to establish a customer service baseline and for use in developing a customer service plan. The survey also will be used to gauge improvements in customer service. This is a new program for Treasury. The Office of D. C. Pensions plans to develop a comprehensive customer service strategy and this survey is part of that effort.

Current Actions: This is a new collection. The information being collected will be used to determine the level of satisfaction with current service delivery, identify areas for improvement and provide overall information for developing a comprehensive customer service plan for the Office of D. C. Pensions programs.

Type of Review: New.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 2,157.

Estimated Time per Respondent: 15 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 539 hours.

Request for Comments

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on (a) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information of respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (e) estimates of capital or start up costs and cost of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Dated: December 17, 2001.

Mary Beth Shaw,

Director, Office of D. C. Pensions, Department of the Treasury.

[FR Doc. 01-31419 Filed 12-20-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Customs Service

Expansion of General Program Test: Quota Preprocessing

AGENCY: Customs Service, Department of the Treasury.

ACTION: General notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces that the quota preprocessing program test, which provides for the electronic processing of certain quota-class apparel merchandise prior to arrival of the carrier, will be expanded to the following additional ports: Atlanta; Boston seaport; Logan Airport, Boston; Buffalo-Niagara Falls; Champlain-Rouses Point; Chicago; Columbus; Memphis; Miami; Miami International Airport; Newport/Portland, Oregon (area port of Portland); Puget Sound (the ports of Seattle; and Seattle/Tacoma International Airport); San Francisco seaport; and San Francisco International Airport.

The program test is currently being conducted at ports located in New York/Newark and Los Angeles. The test is being expanded to the additional ports so that Customs can evaluate the program's effectiveness on a much larger scale and determine whether the program should be established nationwide on a permanent basis through appropriate amendments to the Customs Regulations. Public comments concerning any aspect of the program test as well as applications to participate in the test are requested.

DATES: The expansion of the test to include the additional ports is effective on January 1, 2002. The program test is currently scheduled to run until December 31, 2002. Applications to participate in the test and comments concerning the test will continue to be accepted throughout the testing period.

ADDRESSES: Written comments regarding this notice or any aspect of the program test should be addressed to Stephen Silvestri, Quota Branch, U.S. Customs Service, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Room 5.3-D, Washington, DC 20229, or may be sent via e-mail to Stephen.Silvestri@customs.treas.gov. An application to participate in the program test must be sent to the program coordinator for each port where the applicant intends to submit quota entries for preprocessing. The list of ports and corresponding program coordinators are as follows:

(1) Port of Atlanta: Spaulding Wyche, 4641 International Parkway, Suite 600, Atlanta, GA 30354;

(2) Boston seaport and/or Logan Airport: Harry Spirytus, 10 Causeway St., Boston, MA 02222;

(3) Port of Buffalo-Niagara Falls: Jim Neubert, 111 West Huron St., Buffalo, NY 14202;

(4) Port of Champlain-Rouses Point: Brenda Harrigan, 198 West Service Rd., Champlain, NY 12919;

(5) Port of Chicago: Bonita Hooks, 2571 Busse Rd., Elk Grove, IL 60007;

(6) Port of Columbus: Thomas Barnhart, 7400 Alum Creek Drive, Columbus, OH 43217;

(7) Port of Los Angeles: Nancy Petagna, 300 S. Ferry St., Terminal Island, CA 90731;

(8) Los Angeles International Airport: Tony Piscitelli, 11099 S. La Cienega Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90045;

(9) Port of Memphis: Terry Wright, 3150 Tchulahoma, Suite 1, Memphis, TN 38118;

(10) Port of Miami; and/or Miami International Airport: Constance Price, P.O. Box 025280, Miami, FL 33102;

(11) Ports of New York/Newark: John Lava, 1210 Corbin Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07201;

(12) JFK Airport: Barry Goldberg, JFK Building 77, Jamaica, NY 11430;

(13) Port of Newport/Portland, Oregon (area port of Portland): Megan Fishel, P.O. Box 55580, Portland, OR 97238;

(14) Port of Puget Sound (ports of Seattle; and Seattle-Tacoma International Airport): Sharon Delawyer, 1000 Second Ave., Suite 2000, Seattle, WA 98104;

(15) San Francisco seaport; and/or San Francisco International Airport: Diana Santiago, 555 Battery St., San Francisco, CA 94111; and/or

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stephen Silvestri, Quota Branch, (202-927-5397).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

On July 24, 1998, Customs published a general notice in the **Federal Register** (63 FR 39929) announcing the limited testing, pursuant to the provisions of § 101.9(a), Customs Regulations (19 CFR 101.9(a)), of a new operational procedure regarding the electronic processing of quota-class apparel merchandise. The test was to be conducted at the ports located in New York/Newark and Los Angeles.

Quota preprocessing permits certain quota entries (merchandise classifiable in chapter 61 or 62 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS)) to be filed, reviewed for admissibility, and to have their quota priority and status determined by Customs prior to arrival of the carrier, similar to the method of preliminary review by which non-quota entries are