

a Corporate Family Transaction—South Carolina Central Railroad, Inc., wherein GSWR seeks to sell the Lines to SCCR and SCCR will lease the lines back to GSWR to conduct common carrier freight operations over the Lines. Concurrent with the closing of that corporate family transaction, it is expected that SCCR will sell the Lines to GDOT as described in this transaction, and SCCR will retain a permanent easement to retain the residual common carrier freight obligations over the Lines in the event that GSWR or future assignees are unable to provide common carrier service.

The transaction was scheduled to be consummated on December 28, 2001, the effective date of the exemption (7 days after the exemption was filed).

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. 34057, 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 Hal Wilson, State of Georgia, Department of Transportation, Office of Intermodal Programs, 276 Memorial Drive, SW., Atlanta, GA 30303.

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

Decided: January 11, 2002.

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

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 02-1388 Filed 1-17-02; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Departmental Offices; Debt Management Advisory Committee Meeting

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. App. 2, section 10(a)(2), that a meeting will be held at the U.S. Treasury Department, 15th and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC on January 29, 2002, of the following debt management advisory committee:

The Bond Market Association

Treasury Borrowing Advisory Committee

The agenda for the meeting provides for a technical background briefing by Treasury staff, followed by a charge by the Secretary of the Treasury or his designate that the Committee discuss particular issues, and a working session. Following the working session, the Committee will present a written report of its recommendations.

The background briefing by Treasury staff will be held at 9 a.m. Eastern time and will be open to the public. The remaining sessions and the committee's reporting session will be closed to the public, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. App. 2, section 10(d) and Public Law 103-202, section 202(c)(1)(B) (31 U.S.C. section 3121 note).

This notice shall constitute my determination, pursuant to the authority placed in heads of departments by 5 U.S.C. App. 2, 10(d) and vested in me by Treasury Department Order No. 101-05, that the closed portions of the meeting are concerned with discussions of the issues presented to the Committee by the Secretary and recommendations of the Committee to the Secretary, pursuant to Public Law 103-202, 202(c)(1)(B). Thus, this information is exempt from disclosure under that provision and 5 U.S.C. 5526(c)(3)(B). In addition, the closed portions of the meeting are concerned with information that is exempt from disclosure under 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(9)(A). The public interest requires that such meetings be closed to the public because the Treasury Department requires frank and full advice from representatives of the financial community prior to making its final decision on major financing operations. Historically, this advice has been offered by debt management advisory committees established by the several major segments of the financial community. When so utilized, such a committee is recognized to be an advisory committee under 5 U.S.C. App. 2, section 3.

Although the Treasury's final announcement of financing plans may not reflect the recommendations provided in reports of the advisory committee, premature disclosure of the committee's deliberations and reports would be likely to lead to significant financial speculation in the securities market. Thus, these meetings fall within the exemption covered by 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(9)(A).

The Office of Financial Markets is responsible for maintaining records of debt management advisory committee meetings and for providing annual reports setting forth a summary of committee activities and such other

matters as may be informative to the public consistent with the policy of 5 U.S.C. 552b. The Designated Federal Officer or other responsible agency official who may be contacted for additional information is Paul Malvey, Director, Office of Market Finance at 202-622-2630.

Dated: January 14, 2002.

Brian C. Roseboro,

Assistant Secretary, Financial Markets.

[FR Doc. 02-1307 Filed 1-17-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810-25-M

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0047]

Proposed Information Collection Activity: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), is announcing an opportunity for public comment on the proposed collection of certain information by the agency. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, Federal agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of a currently approved collection, and allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments for information needed by the agency when a purchaser assumes a veteran's home in release of liability cases.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before March 19, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments on the collection of information to Nancy J. Kessinger, Veterans Benefits Administration (20S52), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420 or e-mail: irmnkess@vba.va.gov. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0047" in any correspondence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nancy J. Kessinger at (202) 273-7079 or FAX (202) 275-5947.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA of 1995 (Public Law 104-13; 44 U.S.C., 3501-3520), Federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each

collection of information they conduct or sponsor. This request for comment is being made pursuant to section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA.

With respect to the following collection of information, VBA invites comments on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of VBA's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of VBA's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or the use of other forms of information technology.

Title: Financial Statement, VA Form 26-6807.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0047.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: VA Form 26-6807 is used to determine an applicant's or obligor's creditworthiness. The major use of the form occurs in release of liability and substitution of entitlement cases. VA may release original veteran obligors from personal liability arising from the original guaranty of their home loans, or the making of a direct loan, provided purchaser/assumers meet the necessary requirements, among which is qualifying from a credit standpoint.

The form also can be used to determine a borrower's financial condition in connection with efforts to reinstate a seriously defaulted guaranteed, insured, or portfolio loan. It is also used to determine the eligibility of homeowners for aid under the Homeowners Assistance Program, which provides assistance by reducing losses incident to the disposal of homes when military installations at which the

homeowners were employed or serving are ordered closed in whole or in part.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 30,000 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per

Respondent: 45 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On Occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 40,000.

Dated: January 8, 2002.

By direction of the Secretary.

Donald L. Neilson,

Director, Information Management Service.

[FR Doc. 02-1406 Filed 1-17-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0404]

Agency Information Collection Activities Under OMB Review

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995 (44 U.S.C., 3501 *et seq.*), this notice announces that the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), Department of Veterans Affairs, has submitted the collection of information abstracted below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The PRA submission describes the nature of the information collection and its expected cost and burden; it includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before February 19, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR A COPY OF THE SUBMISSION CONTACT: Denise

McLamb, Information Management Service (045A4), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue,

NW, Washington, DC 20420, (202) 273-8030, FAX (202) 273-5981 or e-mail: denise.mclamb@mail.va.gov. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0404."

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: *Title:* Veteran's Application for Increased Compensation Based on Unemployability, VA Form 21-8940.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0404.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: VA Form 21-8940 is used by veterans to file a claim for increased VA disability compensation based on unemployability. VA uses the information to determine a veteran's entitlement to unemployability benefits.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on this collection of information was published on July 6, 2001, at page 35698.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 18,000 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 45 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 24,000.

Send comments and recommendations concerning any aspect of the information collection to VA's OMB Desk Officer, OMB Human Resources and Housing Branch, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503 (202) 395-7316. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0404" in any correspondence.

Dated: January 8, 2002.

By direction of the Secretary.

Donald L. Neilson,

Director, Information Management Service.

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