

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Maritime Administration**

[Docket Number: MARAD 2003-15741]

Requested Administrative Waiver of the Coastwise Trade Laws**AGENCY:** Maritime Administration, Department of Transportation.**ACTION:** Invitation for public comments on a requested administrative waiver of the Coastwise Trade Laws for the vessel TAKE TIME.

SUMMARY: As authorized by Pub. L. 105-383 and Pub. L. 107-295, the Secretary of Transportation, as represented by the Maritime Administration (MARAD), is authorized to grant waivers of the U.S.-build requirement of the coastwise laws under certain circumstances. A request for such a waiver has been received by MARAD. The vessel, and a brief description of the proposed service, is listed below. The complete application is given in DOT docket 2003-15741 at <http://dms.dot.gov>. Interested parties may comment on the effect this action may have on U.S. vessel builders or businesses in the U.S. that use U.S.-flag vessels. If MARAD determines, in accordance with Pub. L. 105-383 and MARAD's regulations at 46 CFR part 388 (68 FR 23084; April 30, 2003), that the issuance of the waiver will have an unduly adverse effect on a U.S.-vessel builder or a business that uses U.S.-flag vessels in that business, a waiver will not be granted. Comments should refer to the docket number of this notice and the vessel name in order for MARAD to properly consider the comments. Comments should also state the commenter's interest in the waiver application, and address the waiver criteria given in § 388.4 of MARAD's regulations at 46 CFR part 388.

DATES: Submit comments on or before August 28, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Comments should refer to docket number MARAD-2003-15741. Written comments may be submitted by hand or by mail to the Docket Clerk, U.S. DOT Dockets, Room PL-401, Department of Transportation, 400 7th St., SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001. You may also send comments electronically via the Internet at <http://dmses.dot.gov/submit/>. All comments will become part of this docket and will be available for inspection and copying at the above address between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., E.T., Monday through Friday, except federal holidays. An electronic version of this document and all documents entered into this docket is available on the World Wide Web at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Michael Hokana, U.S. Department of Transportation, Maritime Administration, MAR-830 Room 7201, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590. Telephone 202-366-0760.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: As described by the applicant the intended service of the vessel TAKE TIME is:

Intended Use: "Charter is for small groups to cruise on the boat weekends or weeks at a time. We will be going up and down the East Coast, with people that would like to cruise the waters."

Geographic Region: "The East Coast of the United States, including Florida."

Dated: July 22, 2003.

By order of the Maritime Administrator.

Murray Bloom,*Acting Secretary, Maritime Administration.*

[FR Doc. 03-19269 Filed 7-28-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-81-P**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION****Surface Transportation Board**

[STB Finance Docket No. 34377]

The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company—Temporary Trackage Rights Exemption—Union Pacific Railroad Company

Union Pacific Railway Company (UP) has agreed to grant temporary overhead trackage rights to The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company (BNSF) over UP's Memphis Subdivision lines between West Memphis, AR, at UP milepost 375.9, and Memphis, TN, at UP milepost 378.1, a distance of approximately 2.2 miles.

The transaction is scheduled to become effective on July 16, 2003, and the authorization is scheduled to expire on October 2, 2003. The purpose of the temporary trackage rights is to allow BNSF to bridge its train service while its main lines are out of service due to certain programmed track, roadbed, and structural maintenance.

As a condition to this exemption, any employees affected by the trackage rights will be protected by the conditions imposed in *Norfolk and Western Ry. Co.—Trackage Rights—BN*, 354 I.C.C. 605 (1978), as modified by *Mendocino Coast Ry., Inc.—Lease and Operate*, 360 I.C.C. 653 (1980), *aff'd sub nom. Railway Labor Executives' Ass'n v. United States*, 675 F.2d 1248 (DC Cir. 1982).

This notice is filed under 49 CFR 1180.2(d)(8). If the notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void *ab initio*. Petitions 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 stay the transaction.

An original and 10 copies of all pleadings, referring to STB Finance Docket No. 34377, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on Michael E. Roper, 2500 Lou Menk Drive, P. O. Box 961039, Fort Worth, TX 76161-0039.

Board decisions and notices are available on our website at <http://www.stb.dot.gov>.

Decided: July 18, 2003.

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

Vernon A. Williams,*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 03-18973 Filed 7-29-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

[OMB Control No. 2900-0571]

Proposed Information Collection Activity: Proposed Collection; Comment Request**AGENCY:** Department of Veterans Affairs.**ACTION:** Notice.

SUMMARY: The 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 on the burden estimates relating to customer satisfaction surveys involving the National Cemetery Administration (NCA), and the Office of Inspector General (IG).

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before September 29, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments on the collection of information to Ronald Cheich, National Cemetery Administration (402A), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420 or e-mail Ronald.cheich@mail.va.gov. Please refer

to "OMB Control No. 2900-0571" in any correspondence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ronald Cheich at (202) 273-8087.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA of 1995 (Pub. L. 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, VA invites comments on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of VA's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of VA'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: Generic Clearance for the National Cemetery Administration (NCA), and the Office of Inspector General (IG) Customer Satisfaction Surveys.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0571.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: Executive Order 12862, Setting Customer Service Standards, requires Federal agencies and Departments to identify and survey its customers to determine the kind and quality of services they want and their level of satisfaction with existing service. NCA, and IG use customer satisfaction surveys to gauge customer perceptions of VA services as well as customer expectations and desires. The results of these information collections lead to improvements in the quality of VA service delivery by helping to shape the direction and focus of specific programs and services.

Affected Public: Individuals or households, Business or Other For-Profit and State, Local or Tribal Government.

Listing of Survey Activities: The following list of activities is a compendium of customer satisfaction survey plans by the NCA, and IG. The actual conduct of any particular activity listed could be affected by circumstances. A change in, or refinement of, our focus in a specific area, as well as resource constraints could require deletion or substitution of any listed item. If these organizations substitute or propose to add a new activity that falls under the umbrella of this generic approval, including those activities that are currently in a planning stage, OMB will be notified and will be furnished a copy of pertinent materials, a description of the activity and number of burden hours involved. NCA, and IG will conduct periodic reviews of ongoing survey activities to ensure that they comply with the PRA.

Year	Number of respondents	Estimated annual burden (hours)	Frequency
I. National Cemetery Administration			
Focus Groups With Next of Kin (10 participants per group/3 hours each session)			
2004	50	150	5 Groups Annually.
2005	50	150	5 Groups Annually.
2006	50	150	5 Groups Annually.
Focus Groups With Funeral Directors (10 participants per group/3 hours each session)			
2004	50	150	5 Groups Annually.
2005	50	150	5 Groups Annually.
2006	50	150	5 Groups Annually.
Focus Groups With Veterans Service Organizations (10 participants per group/3 hours each session)			
2004	50	150	5 Groups Annually.
2005	50	150	5 Groups Annually.
2006	50	150	5 Groups Annually.
Visitor Comments Cards (Local Use) (2,500 respondents/5 minutes per response)			
2004	2,500	208	Annually.
2005	2,500	208	Annually.
2006	2,500	208	Annually.
Next of Kin National Customer Satisfaction Survey (Mail to 10,000 respondents/30 minutes per response)			
2004	15,000	7,500	Annually.
2005	15,000	7,500	Annually.
2006	15,000	7,500	Annually.
Funeral Directors National Customer Satisfaction Survey (Mail to 1,000 respondents/30 minutes per response)			
2004	4,000	2,000	Annually.
2005	4,000	2,000	Annually.
2006	4,000	2,000	Annually.
Veterans-At-Large National Customer Satisfaction Survey (Mail to 5,000 respondents/30 minutes per response)			
2004	5,000	2,500	Annually.
2005	5,000	2,500	Annually.

Year	Number of respondents	Estimated annual burden (hours)	Frequency
2006	5,000	2,500	Annually.
Program/Specialized Service Survey (Mail to 1,000 respondents/15 minutes per response)			
2004	2,000	500	Annually.
2005	2,000	500	Annually.
2006	2,000	500	Annually.
II. Office of Inspector General Patient Questionnaire (1,440 respondents/10 minutes per response)			
2004	1,440	240	Annually.
2005	1,440	240	Annually.
2006	1,440	240	Annually.

Most customer satisfaction surveys will be recurring so that NCA, and IG can create and maintain ongoing measures of performance and to determine how well VA meets customer service standards. Each collection of information will consist of the minimum amount of information necessary to determine customer needs and to evaluate each organization's performance. NCA expects to conduct 15 focus groups annually involving a total of 450 hours during the approval period. In addition, NCA expects to conduct mail surveys with a total annual burden of 12,000 hours and will distribute comment cards with a total annual burden of 208 hours. NCA also plans to conduct mail surveys with customers of specific programs (e.g. Headstones and Markers, Presidential Memorial Certificates, State Veterans Cemeteries) to determine levels of service satisfaction. Program specific surveys are estimated at 500 burden hours annually during the approval period. The IG expects to distribute 1,440 surveys to patients with a total annual burden of 240 hours.

Dated: July 8, 2003.

By direction of the Secretary.

Loise Russell,

Acting Director, Records Management Service.

[FR Doc. 03-19175 Filed 7-28-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0319]

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 August 28, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR A COPY OF THE SUBMISSION CONTACT: Denise McLamb, Records Management Service (005E3), 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. 2900-0319."

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. 2900-0319" in any correspondence.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Fiduciary Agreement, VA Form 21-4703.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0319.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: VA Form 21-4703 is used as a legal binding contract between VA and Federally appointed fiduciaries. It outlines a fiduciary's responsibilities with respect to the use of funds received on behalf a beneficiary who is determined to be incompetent by VA rating, minority, or finding of legal disability by a court of proper jurisdiction.

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 April 16, 2003 at page 18727.

Affected Public: Individuals or households, business or other for-profit, not-for-profit institutions, State, local or Tribal Government.

Estimated Annual Burden: 1,467 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 5 minutes.

Frequency of Response: One time.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 17,600.

Dated: July 7, 2003.

By direction of the Secretary.

Loise Russell,

Acting Director, Records Management Service.

[FR Doc. 03-19176 Filed 7-28-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0564]

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.