

Authority: 23 U.S.C. 315; 49 CFR 1.48.

Jack Van Dop,

Technical Specialist.

[FR Doc. 04-20777 Filed 9-14-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

Petition for Waiver of Compliance

In accordance with Part 211 of Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), notice is hereby given that the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) received a request for a waiver of compliance with certain requirements of its safety standards. The individual petition is described below, including the party seeking relief, the regulatory provisions involved, the nature of the relief being requested, and the petitioner's arguments in favor of relief.

Wabtec Corporation

[Waiver Petition Docket Number FRA-2004-18895]

The Wabtec Corporation (Wabtec) seeks a waiver of compliance from certain provisions of 49 CFR Part 232, Brake System Safety Standards for Freight and Other Non-Passenger Trains and Equipment. Specifically, § 232.409(d)—Inspection and Testing of end-of-train devices, which requires the telemetry equipment to be tested for accuracy and calibrated if necessary at least every 368 days. It also requires that the date and location of the last calibration or test as well as the name of the person performing the calibration or test, be legibly displayed on a weather-resistant sticker or other marking device affixed to the outside of both the front and the rear unit.

This waiver will cover all Wabtec TrainLink II Head of Train (HTD's) and End of Train devices (EOT's) that were produced since March 4, 2002, and all existing TrainLink units that are upgraded with the new WRE digitally synthesized radio. If the waiver is approved, Wabtec and associated service centers will attach a sticker on all new and upgraded units identifying they are equipped with the new WRE digital radio and are covered by the waiver. Wabtec has concluded that with the advanced technology, there is no need to annually test and calibrate units built or upgraded with the new synthesized radio.

Previous generation radio designs used manual tuning coils and potentiometers that were subject to drift due to vibration and temperature shifts. These older designs required manual

adjustments to assure that the radio was operating on the proper frequencies. The new WRE TrainLink II synthesized digital radio provides a continuous, fully automatic self-calibrating feature, along with advanced diagnostics to assure accuracy and dependability in radio transmission. As a result, there is no manual calibration or adjustment in this new radio design. The transceiver is designed specifically for the harsh railroad environment and incorporates phase lock loop circuitry, along with temperature and voltage controlled crystal oscillators to maintain spectral (signal) purity. This automatic algorithm works by optimizing the VCO control parameters to achieve minimum phase noise. It automatically calibrates the power amplifier (PA) and power amplifier driver (RF) bias current every time the transmitter is powered. This automatic calibration feature is the heart of maintaining the radio's performance integrity. Should the radio experience a component failure, the auto-cal routine will cycle continuously, effectively shut down the radio, and provide the appropriate "No Comm" display in the cab of the locomotive. Failure in the micro/power supply areas will also result in an inoperable radio, and the same "No Comm" message will be received in the locomotive cab.

Wabtec also concludes that since the synthesized radio requires no manual adjustments, and if the waiver is approved no annual testing will be required, there is no need for the record keeping requirements (*i.e.* Sticker with date location, and name of person performing the test).

Wabtec has been producing the synthesized digital radio for over 2 years. Currently, there are over 25,000 TrainLink II systems in operation worldwide, including approximately 20,000 on U.S. railroads. Wabtec states that these units have provided reliable service since their introduction.

Interested parties are invited to participate in these proceedings by submitting written views, data, or comments. FRA does not anticipate scheduling a public hearing in connection with these proceedings since the facts do not appear to warrant a hearing. If any interested party desires an opportunity for oral comment, they should notify FRA, in writing, before the end of the comment period and specify the basis for their request.

All communications concerning these proceedings should identify the appropriate docket number (*e.g.*, Waiver Petition Docket Number FRA-2004-18895) and must be submitted to the Docket Clerk, DOT Docket Management Facility, Room PL-401 (Plaza Level),

400 7th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590. Communications received within 30 days of the date of this notice will be considered by FRA before final action is taken. Comments received after that date will be considered as far as practicable. All written communications concerning these proceedings are available for examination during regular business hours (9 a.m.–5 p.m.) at the above facility. All documents in the public docket are also available for inspection and copying on the Internet at the docket facility's Web site at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

Anyone is able to search the electronic form of all comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the comment, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** published on April 11, 2000 (Volume 65, Number 70; Pages 19477–78). The Statement may also be found at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

Issued in Washington, DC on September 7, 2004.

Grady C. Cothen, Jr.,

Acting Associate Administrator for Safety.

[FR Doc. 04-20718 Filed 9-14-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-06-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 34539]

Golden Isles Terminal Railroad, Inc.— Acquisition and Operation Exemption—CSX Transportation, Inc.

Golden Isles Terminal Railroad, Inc. (GITM), a Class III rail carrier, has filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1150.41 to acquire from CSX Transportation, Inc. (CSXT) and operate approximately 6.45 miles of rail line from approximately milepost ASO 493.3 at or near Staley Avenue, to the end of the track at approximately milepost ASO 499.75, in Savannah, GA,¹ and lease from CSXT the real property comprising the right-of-way underlying the subject line.

GITM certifies that its projected annual revenues as a result of this transaction will not result in the creation of a Class II or Class I rail carrier.

¹ GITM is purchasing from CSXT the track, rails, ties, ballast, culverts and all other non-real property assets that comprise the subject line.

The transaction was scheduled to be consummated on or after August 26, 2004.

If the verified 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 automatically stay the transaction.

An original and 10 copies of all pleadings, referring to STB Finance Docket No. 34539, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, one copy of each pleading must be served on Rose-Michelle Weinryb, 1300 19th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20036.

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

Decided: September 8, 2004.

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

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 04-20672 Filed 9-14-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0041]

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. 3501-21), 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 and includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before October 14, 2004.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Denise McLamb, Records Management Service (005E3), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., or e-mail denise.mclamb@mail.va.gov. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0041." 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. 2900-0041" in any correspondence.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Compliance Inspection Report, VA Form 26-1839.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0041.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: The form is used by fee compliance inspectors to report acceptability of residential construction and conformity with standards prescribed for new housing proposed as security for loans guaranty. VA uses the information to determine whether completion of all onsite and offsite improvements are completed in accordance with plans and specifications used in the appraisal of the property.

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 June 15, 2004, at page 33468.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 7,875 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 15 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 31,500.

Dated: September 2, 2004.

By direction of the Secretary.

Loise Russell, Director, Records Management Service.

[FR Doc. 04-20742 Filed 9-14-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0188]

Agency Information Collection Activities Under OMB Review

AGENCY: Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-21), this notice announces that the Veterans Health Administration (VHA), 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 and includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before October 15, 2004.

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 to: denise.mclamb@mail.va.gov. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0188."

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. 2900-0188" in any correspondence.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title:

a. Request to Submit Estimate, Form Letter 10-90.

b. Loan Follow-up Letter, Form Letter 10-426.

c. Veterans Application for Assistance in Acquiring Home Improvement and Structural Alterations, VA Form 10-0103.

d. Application for Adaptive Equipment Motor Vehicle, VA Form 10-1394.

e. Prosthetic Authorization for Items or Services, VA Form 10-2421.

f. Prosthetic Service Card Invoice, VA Form 10-2520.

g. Prescription and Authorization for Eyeglasses, VA Form 10-2914.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0188.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: The following forms will be used to determine eligibility, prescribe, authorize prosthetic devices, and obtain follow-up information on loaned prosthetic items, glasses, and adaptation to house and automobile:

a. VA Form Letter 10-90 is used to obtain estimated price for prosthetic devices.

b. Form Letter 10-426 is used to inventory prosthetic devices loaned to eligible veterans. The form letter inventories the loaned items and solicits information from the beneficiary to determine the current status, the need to replace, extend the loan period or terminate the loaned items.