Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590. You may also send comments electronically via the Internet at http://www.regulations.gov/smses.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://www.regulations.gov.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: As described by the applicant the intended service of the vessel CEST LA VIE is:

Intended Commercial Use of Vessel: Vessel Chartering Operations.

Geographic Region: Intended operations will be the west coast of the U.S. California, Oregon, and Washington.

Privacy Act

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).

By Order of the Maritime Administrator.

Dated: June 11, 2010.

Julie P. Agarwal,
Acting Secretary, Maritime Administration.

[FR Doc. 2010–14688 Filed 6–16–10; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–81–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[Docket No. FD 35371]

Nittany & Bald Eagle Railroad Company—Temporary Trackage Rights Exemption—Norfolk Southern Railway Company

Nittany Southern Railway Company (NSR), pursuant to a written trackage rights agreement dated April 13, 2010, has agreed to grant nonexclusive overhead temporary trackage rights to Nittany & Bald Eagle Railroad Company (N&BE), between Lock Haven and Driftwood, Pa., from milepost BR 194.2 to milepost BR 139.2, a distance of approximately 55 miles.1

The transaction may be consummated on or after July 1, 2010, and the temporary trackage rights are scheduled to expire on December 15, 2010. The purpose of the temporary trackage rights is to allow N&BE adequate bridge train service for temporary, seasonal traffic originating on the N&BE for delivery to an off-line destination.

As a condition to this exemption, any employees affected by the acquisition of the temporary trackage rights will be protected by the conditions imposed in Norfolk and Western Railway—Trackage Rights—Burlington Northern, Inc., 354 I.C.C. 605 (1978), as modified in Mendocino Coast Railway—Lease and Operate—California Western Railroad, 360 I.C.C. 653 (1980), and any employees affected by the discontinuance of those trackage rights will be protected by the conditions set out in Oregon Short Line Railroad and The Union Pacific Railroad Company—Abandonment—Portion Goshen Branch Between Firth and Ammon, in Bingham and Bonneville Counties, Idaho, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979).

This notice is filed under 49 CFR 1180.2(d)(8). If it 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. Petitions for stay must be filed no later than June 24, 2010 (at least 7 days before the exemption becomes effective).

An original and 10 copies of all pleadings, referring to Docket No. FD 35371, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street, SW., Washington, DC 20423–0001. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on Richard R. Wilson, 518 N. Center Street, Suite 1, Ebensburg, PA 15931.

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

Decided: June 14, 2010.

1 A redacted, executed trackage rights agreement between NSR and N&BE was filed with the notice of exemption. The unredacted version was concurrently filed under seal along with a motion for protective order, which will be addressed in a separate decision.

By the Board, Rachel D. Campbell, Director, Office of Proceedings.

Kulunie L. Cannon,
Clearance Clerk.

[FR Doc. 2010–14664 Filed 6–16–10; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Analysis by the President’s Working Group on Financial Markets on the Long-Term Availability and Affordability of Insurance for Terrorism Risk

AGENCY: Departmental Offices, Department of the Treasury.

ACTION: Notice; request for comments.


The President’s Working Group on Financial Markets (established by Executive Order 12631) is comprised of the Secretary of the Treasury, the Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, the Chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission, and the Chairman of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (or their designees). The Secretary of the Treasury, or his designee, is the Chairman of the President’s Working Group on Financial Markets. As chair of the President’s Working Group on Financial Markets, Treasury is issuing this Notice for public comment to assist the President’s Working Group with its analysis.

DATES: Comments must be in writing and received by August 2, 2010.

ADDRESSES: Please submit comments electronically through the Federal eRulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov, or by mail (if hard copy, preferably an original and two copies) to Treasury’s Office of Financial Institutions Policy, Attention: President’s Working Group on Financial Markets Public Comment Record, Room 1417 MT, Department of the Treasury, 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20220. Because postal mail may be subject to processing delay, it is recommended that comments be submitted electronically. All comments should be captioned with “President’s Working Group on Financial Markets: Terrorism Risk Insurance Analysis.”
Please include your name, affiliation, address, e-mail address and telephone number(s) in your comment. Where appropriate, comments should include a short Executive Summary (no more than five single-spaced pages).

In general, comments received will be posted on http://www.regulations.gov without change, including any business or personal information provided. Comments received, including attachments and other supporting materials, are part of the public record and subject to public disclosure. Do not enclose any information in your comment or supporting materials that you consider confidential or inappropriate for public disclosure. In addition, all comments received will be available for public inspection by appointment at the Reading Room of the Treasury Library. To make appointments, please call the number below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: C. Christopher Ledoux, Acting Director, Office of Financial Institutions Policy, 202–622–2730 (not a toll free number).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002 (Pub. L. 107–297, 116 Stat. 2322) (hereinafter referenced as “TRIA”) was enacted on November 26, 2002. TRIA’s purposes are to address market disruptions, to ensure the continued widespread availability and affordability of commercial property and casualty insurance for terrorism risk, and to allow for a transition period for the private markets to stabilize and build capacity while preserving State insurance regulation and consumer protections. Title I of TRIA established a temporary Federal program of shared public and private compensation for insured commercial property and casualty losses resulting from an act of terrorism, as defined in the Act. TRIA authorized Treasury to administer and implement the Terrorism Risk Insurance Program (hereinafter referenced as the “Program”), including the issuance of regulations and procedures.

As originally enacted, the Program was to end on December 31, 2005; however, on December 22, 2005, the Terrorism Risk Insurance Extension Act of 2005 (Pub. L. 109–144, 119 Stat. 2660) was enacted, which extended the Program through December 31, 2007. On December 26, 2007, the Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2007 (Pub. L. 110–160, 121 Stat. 1839) was enacted, which extended the Program through December 31, 2014. Section 108(b) of TRIA, as amended by the Terrorism Risk Insurance Extension Act of 2005, required the President’s Working Group on Financial Markets to perform an analysis and report to Congress regarding the long-term availability and affordability of insurance for terrorism risk, including group life coverage and coverage for chemical, nuclear, biological, and radiological events.

In September 2006, the President’s Working Group on Financial Markets submitted a report to Congress on Terrorism Risk Insurance. That report can be accessed at http://www.treas.gov/offices/domestic-finance/financial-institution/terrorism-insurance/pdf/report.pdf. The report found that the availability and affordability of terrorism risk insurance had improved since the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, including that pricing for terrorism risk insurance had fallen and take-up (purchase) rates had risen. The improvement was due to several factors including better risk measurement and management, improved modeling of terrorism risk, increased reinsurance capacity, and the financial condition of property and casualty insurers. Still, the report also found that a significant number of policyholders were not purchasing coverage at that time. The report found that group life insurance (which is not included in the Program) remained generally available, that prices had declined, and that there had been improvements in the availability of catastrophe life reinsurance. The report concluded that there appeared to be little potential for future market development of terrorism risk insurance for losses associated with chemical, nuclear, biological, and radiological attacks.

In addition to extending the Program through 2014, the Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2007 amended Section 108 of TRIA to require an on-going analysis by the President’s Working Group on Financial Markets regarding the long-term availability and affordability of insurance for terrorism risk generally. The President’s Working Group on Financial Markets is required to submit a report to Congress in 2010 (and another report again, in 2013). The President’s Working Group on Financial Markets is to conduct its analysis in consultation with the National Association of Insurance Commissioners, representatives of the insurance industry, representatives of the securities industry, and representatives of policyholders. This Notice seeks comment from these and any other interested parties as a means of satisfying the consultation requirement in the most open and efficient manner.

I. General Solicitation for Comments

About the Long-Term Availability and Affordability of Terrorism Risk Insurance

Please comment generally; and please include data and other information in support of such comments, where appropriate and available, regarding the long-term availability and affordability of insurance for terrorism risk. All relevant views and comments are invited.

In addition, please consider providing comments in response to the following specific questions:

II. Specific Questions

Key Factors

1. What are the key factors that determine the availability and affordability of terrorism risk insurance coverage? How have these factors changed since 2006, when the President’s Working Group on Financial Markets issued its last report? How will such factors evolve in the long-term and upon what factors will available capacity most depend?

Economic Factors

2. What are the key factors that determine the amount of private-market insurer and reinsurer capacity made available for terrorism risk insurance coverage? How have these factors changed since 2006, when the President’s Working Group on Financial Markets issued its last report? How will such factors evolve in the long-term and upon what factors will available capacity most depend?

3. How, in general, has the state of the financial markets and economy, and the financial condition of commercial property and casualty insurers, affected the availability and affordability of terrorism risk insurance; and how does that compare with effects on the availability and affordability of other lines or types of commercial property and casualty insurance? Please comment on potential entry of new capital into, as well as any exits from, the terrorism insurance and reinsurance markets.

Underwriting

4. What changes and improvements have taken place in the ability of insurers to measure and manage their accumulation of terrorism risk exposures, and how (as well as to what extent) are primary insurers using
available methods? Has improved risk accumulation management led to more availability? Has there been any improvement in modeling of frequency and terrorist behavior? What has been learned from the near-9 years of experience in managing and assessing terrorism risk since September 11, 2001? Overall, how has modeling improved and/or continued to develop since 2006, when the President’s Working Group on Financial Markets issued its last report? How is modeling expected to evolve further in the long-term?

5. What role do mitigation and loss prevention play in underwriting and pricing terrorism risk insurance? How has mitigation developed since 2002, what improvements have been made since 2006, to what effect has the availability of terrorism risk insurance had on mitigation and vice versa; and, how will mitigation evolve in the long-term?

6. What is the state of information sharing between and among the private and official sectors related to terrorism risk? How much reliance is placed on open and private source intelligence; (b) how has it affected the availability and affordability of terrorism risk insurance; and, (c) how will such information processes further develop and affect the availability and affordability of terrorism risk insurance in the long-term?

Coverage

7. What changes and improvements have taken place with regard to the types of terrorism risk insurance coverage available in the market? What changes and improvements have taken place since 2006? Have there been improvements and changes in forms, are there special terms or conditions? What is the state of standalone, “TRIA-only” coverage? Is available coverage limited to, or broader than that required to be made available under TRIA?

8. What are the differences in availability and affordability of terrorism risk insurance coverage for foreign and domestic terrorist acts?

9. Did the Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2007’s amendment to the definition of “act of terrorism” lead to more availability due to the requirement that such coverage be made available, or was such coverage available prior to 2007; conversely, did the amendment lead to less coverage due to the broadened scope of “act of terrorism” exclusions, or were exclusions revised to distinguish between coverage of foreign and domestic terrorist acts?

10. Did the differences in availability and affordability of terrorism risk insurance coverage for losses at U.S. locations, as compared to such coverage for losses at non-U.S. locations? What are the differences as compared between TRIA-covered locations and non-TRIA locations?

Policyholder Demand

11. How has the demand for terrorism risk insurance changed since 2006, when the President’s Working Group on Financial Markets issued its last report? Please comment on take-up by policyholder sector, location, line, and other relevant characteristics. How have any changes in demand influenced the willingness of insurers to allocate capital to terrorism risk insurance? Has there been any impact on the amount of capital allocated to non-terrorism coverage or among lines of insurance?

12. To what extent have businesses used captive insurance companies to provide terrorism risk insurance, and what is the potential for the use of captive insurers to insure against such risk long-term? How have stand-alone terrorism captives developed, and how will these evolve long-term, including after the expiration of the Program in 2014?

13. Have State approaches (such as those applicable to mandatory coverage, permitted exclusions, and rate regulation) made coverage more or less available and affordable? Have there been any changes in State insurance regulation of terrorism risk insurance since the Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2007 was enacted? To what extent has the availability and affordability of terrorism risk insurance been influenced by State insurance regulation, and what role is State regulation expected to have long-term? Please comment on State-approved terrorism related rate loads.

14. What are the differences in availability and affordability of terrorism risk insurance between the licensed/admitted market and the non-admitted/surplus lines market, and to what degree are those differences attributable to the degree and manner in which each market is regulated?

Price of Insurance

15. What improvements have taken place in the ability of insurers to price terrorism risk insurance? How are rating organizations assisting insurers in pricing, and how have rating factors developed?

16. What have been the trends in pricing of terrorism risk insurance? Please comment on the extent to which such coverage is not priced and charged-for. How has pricing changed since 2006, when the President’s Working Group on Financial Markets issued its last report? To what do you attribute any changes?

17. How has the recent “soft market” impacted the availability of and affordability of terrorism risk insurance? What would be the impact on the availability and affordability of terrorism risk insurance should the market “harden” in the near future?

18. How were primary insurers’ pricing decisions affected by the Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2007 particularly as to the requirement to make available coverage for acts of terrorism being no longer defined as limited to those committed on behalf of any foreign person or foreign interest?

Reinsurance

19. What is the current availability and cost of reinsurance to cover terrorism risk? Please distinguish by line or type of insurance being reinsured and on what basis (treaty or facultative). How has the terrorism reinsurance market changed since 2006, when the President’s Working Group on Financial Markets issued its last report? To what do you attribute any changes?

20. At what policyholder retention levels are insurance programs being structured by policyholders to cover terrorism risk (e.g., deductibles, self-insurance, captives); and, with regard to insurers, how are reinsurance programs being structured and at what attachment points? Please comment on the availability and affordability of reinsurance for terrorism risk.

21. Are reinsurers allocating more capital to terrorism risk insurance, and has capacity changed since 2006, when the President’s Working Group on Financial Markets issued its last report? Are insurers willing to pay the cost of terrorism risk reinsurance, and is that a factor affecting the allocation of capital to the risk; how much additional capital could be attracted long-term?

22. How have provisions of the Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2007 affected the terrorism risk reinsurance market? More specifically, how has maintaining and not increasing the insurer deductible percentage applied against direct earned premiums (from Program lines), as well as not decreasing the Federal share of losses above the insurer deductible, affected the provision and development of private reinsurance?

23. To what extent have alternate risk transfer methods (e.g., catastrophe bonds or other capital market instruments) been utilized or unsuccessfully used for terrorism risk insurance, and what is the potential for...
the long-term development of these approaches?

**Losses Associated With Chemical, Nuclear, Biological, and Radiological (CNBR) Acts**

24. What is the current availability and affordability of coverage for CNBR events? For what perils is coverage available, subject to what limits, and under what policy terms and conditions? Is there a difference in the availability and affordability of coverage for CNBR events caused by acts of terrorism? To what extent have various States allowed insurers to exclude coverage for CNBR events? (Please comment on requirements for workers’ compensation and fire-following coverage.) How have exclusions developed?

25. Is it the case that some insurers appear unwilling to provide coverage for CNBR events caused by acts of terrorism, despite TRIA limits on an insurer’s maximum loss exposure? If so, why?

26. In the long-term, what are the key factors that will determine the availability and affordability of terrorism risk insurance coverage for CNBR events? The President’s Working Group on Financial Markets previously reported that there appeared to be little potential for market development. Has anything changed since 2006?

**Deductible and Co-Share Levels**

27. Under the Program, an insurer’s annual deductible is a percentage of certain direct earned premiums (as defined by TRIA and regulation). TRIA, as originally enacted, graduated the percentage applied for each year. The Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2007 established a set percentage of 20 percent for each Program year beginning in 2007. Please comment for each year since 2006 as to whether direct earned premiums in TRIA lines and insurer deductibles have increased or decreased? If so, in what amounts? Please provide data as available.

28. How might any increases to the insurer deductible level or decreases to the Federal share above such deductible levels, prior to the Program’s expiration in 2014, affect the availability and affordability of terrorism risk insurance? Please comment on the degree, amount or increment of any recommended increase.

**Expiration of the Program**

29. Describe efforts undertaken by the insurance industry and/or policyholders since 2006, when the President’s Working Group on Financial Markets issued its last report, to ensure the availability and affordability of terrorism risk insurance after 2014 when the Program expires, and long-term?

30. Please comment on any anticipated State approaches to ensure the continued availability and affordability of terrorism risk insurance after the Program expires in 2014 (such as those approaches taken by the States after September 11, 2001 and before TRIA was enacted on November 26, 2002).

31. Please comment on any other developments in markets that might affect the continued availability and affordability of terrorism risk insurance. In the absence of the Program, in what forms, at what levels, under what terms and conditions, and at what price might terrorism risk insurance be available; and, at what duration (i.e., long-term)? Please distinguish from State-mandated coverage, such as workers’ compensation and fire insurance.

Michael S. Barr, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

[FR Doc. 2010–14639 Filed 6–16–10; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4810–25–P**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY**

**Office of Thrift Supervision**

**Deposits**

**AGENCY:** Office of Thrift Supervision (OTS), Treasury.

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

**SUMMARY:** The proposed information collection request (ICR) described below has been submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. OTS is soliciting public comments on the proposal.

**DATES:** Submit written comments on or before July 19, 2010. A copy of this ICR, with applicable supporting documentation, can be obtained from RegInfo.gov at http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments, referring to the collection by title of the proposal or by OMB approval number, to OMB and OTS at these addresses: Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Desk Officer for OTS, U.S. Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street NW., Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503, or by fax to (202) 395–6974; and Information Collection Comments, Chief Counsel’s Office, Office of Thrift Supervision, 1700 G Street, NW., Washington, DC 20552.

**FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For further information or to obtain a copy of the submission to OMB, please contact Ira L. Mills at ira.mills@ots.treas.gov, (202) 906–6531, or facsimile number (202) 906–6518. Regulations and Legislation Division, Chief Counsel’s Office, Office of Thrift Supervision, 1700 G Street, NW., Washington, DC 20552.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** OTS may not conduct or sponsor an information collection, and respondents are not required to respond to an information collection, unless the information collection displays a currently valid OMB control number. As part of the approval process, we invite comments on the following information collection.

**Title of Proposal:** Deposits.

**OMB Number:** 1550–0093.

**Form Number:** N/A.


**Description:** Section 557.20 requires savings associations to establish and maintain deposit documentation practices and records. These records should include adequate evidence of ownership, balances, and all transactions involving the account. In addition, part 557 relies on the disclosure regulations applicable to savings associations under Regulation DD. Regulation DD implements the Truth in Savings Act, part of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Improvement Act of 1991.

The regulations assist consumers in comparing deposit accounts offered by depository institutions. Consumers receive disclosures about fees, annual percentage yield, interest rate, and other account terms whenever a consumer requests the information and before the consumer opens an account. The regulation also requires that savings associations provide fees and other information on any periodic statement the institution sends to the consumer. Regulation DD contains rules for advertisements of deposit accounts and...