

holds, however, authority from the FMCSA as a motor carrier of passengers (MC-299860).

Under the proposed transaction, Applicant seeks permission to acquire all of Seller's shares of Quick. Royal will then own 100 percent of Quick's shares and 100 percent of the shares of its wholly owned subsidiary, Quick USA. Applicant and Seller have entered into an agreement that is scheduled to close no later than December 1, 2013, subject to Board approval and other conditions.

Under 49 U.S.C. 14303(b), the Board must approve and authorize a transaction that it finds consistent with the public interest, taking into consideration at least: (1) The effect of the proposed transaction on the adequacy of transportation to the public; (2) the total fixed charges that result; and (3) the interest of affected carrier employees. Applicant has submitted information, as required by 49 CFR 1182.2, including the information to demonstrate that the proposed transaction is consistent with the public interest under 49 U.S.C. 14303(b), and a statement that annual aggregate gross operating revenues of the carriers involved exceeded \$2 million. *See* 49 U.S.C. 14303(g).

With respect to the effect of the transaction on the adequacy of transportation to the public, Applicant states that the proposed acquisition would have no adverse impact because the acquisition will not materially alter the service levels, result in any operational changes, or alter the competitive balance of motor passenger carriers in Washington State. Applicant anticipates operating the businesses of Quick and Quick USA in essentially the same manner in which they are currently being conducted. With respect to fixed charges, Applicant anticipates that the proposed transaction would have no adverse effect on total fixed charges. Applicant states that the transaction would not adversely affect the interests of Quick employees. All of the qualified employees would continue their employment following the acquisition.

On the basis of the application, the Board finds that the proposed acquisition is consistent with the public interest and should be tentatively approved and authorized because the proposed transaction does not impact the adequacy of transportation to the public, would have no adverse effect on total fixed charges, and would not adversely affect the interests of Quick employees. If any opposing comments are timely filed, these findings will be deemed vacated, and, unless a final decision can be made on the record as

developed, a procedural schedule will be adopted to reconsider the application. *See* 49 CFR 1182.6(c). If no opposing comments are filed by the expiration of the comment period, this notice will take effect automatically and will be the final Board action.

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

This decision will not significantly affect either the quality of the human environment or the conservation of energy resources.

It is ordered:

1. The proposed transaction is approved and authorized, subject to the filing of opposing comments.

2. If opposing comments are timely filed, the findings made in this notice will be deemed vacated.

3. This notice will be effective February 4, 2014, unless opposing comments are filed by February 3, 2014.

4. A copy of this notice will be served on: (1) U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590; (2) the U.S. Department of Justice, Antitrust Division, 10th Street & Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20530; and (3) the U.S. Department of Transportation, Office of the General Counsel, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590.

Decided: December 13, 2013.

By the Board, Chairman Elliott, Vice Chairman Begeman, and Commissioner Mulvey.

Jeffrey Herzig,
Clearance Clerk.

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Allowance for Private Purchase of an Outer Burial Receptacle in Lieu of a Government-Furnished Graveliner for a Grave in a VA National Cemetery

AGENCY: Department of Veterans Affairs.
ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Public Law 104-275 was enacted on October 9, 1996. It allows the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to provide a monetary allowance towards the private purchase of an outer burial receptacle for use in a VA national cemetery. Under VA regulation (38 CFR 38.629), the allowance is equal to the average cost of Government-furnished graveliners less any administrative costs to VA. The law provides a veteran's survivors with the

option of selecting a Government-furnished graveliner for use in a VA national cemetery where such use is authorized.

The purpose of this Notice is to notify interested parties of the average cost of Government-furnished graveliners, administrative costs that relate to processing and paying the allowance and the amount of the allowance payable for qualifying interments that occur during calendar year 2014.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Tamula Jones, Budget Operations and Field Support Division, National Cemetery Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20420; or (202) 461-6688. (This is not a toll-free number).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under 38 United States Code (U.S.C.) 2306(e)(3) and (4) and Public Law 104-275, Section 213, VA may provide a monetary allowance for the private purchase of an outer burial receptacle for use in a VA national cemetery where its use is authorized. The allowance for qualified interments that occur during calendar year 2014 is the average cost of Government-furnished graveliners in fiscal year 2013, less the administrative costs incurred by VA in processing and paying the allowance in lieu of the Government-furnished graveliner.

The average cost of Government-furnished graveliners is determined by taking VA's total cost during a fiscal year for single-depth graveliners that were procured for placement at the time of interment and dividing it by the total number of such graveliners procured by VA during that fiscal year. The calculation excludes both graveliners procured and pre-placed in gravesites as part of cemetery gravesite development projects and all double-depth graveliners. Using this method of computation, the average cost was determined to be \$311.00 for fiscal year 2013.

The administrative costs incurred by VA consist of those costs that relate to processing and paying an allowance in lieu of the Government-furnished graveliner. These costs have been determined to be \$9.00 for calendar year 2014.

The allowance payable for qualifying interments occurring during calendar year 2014, therefore, is \$302.00.

Signing Authority

The Secretary of Veterans Affairs, or designee, approved this document and authorized the undersigned to sign and submit the document to the Office of the Federal Register for publication

electronically as an official document of the Department of Veterans Affairs. Jose D. Riojas, Chief of Staff, Department of

Veterans, approved this document on December 9, 2013, for publication.

Dated: December 12, 2013.

Robert C. McFetridge,
*Director, Regulation Policy and Management,
Office the General Counsel, Department of
Veterans Affairs.*

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