

document provides the public notice that by a document dated December 17, 2015, Union Pacific Railroad (UP) petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) seeking approval for the discontinuance or modification of a signal system. FRA assigned the petition Docket Number FRA–2016–0005.

Applicant: Union Pacific Railroad, Mr. John J. Hovanec, AVP Engineering—Design, 1400 Douglas Street, Mail Stop 0910, Omaha, NE 68179.

UP seeks approval of the discontinuance of Hold Signal Y077 at Milepost (MP) 77.50 and the removal of the coded track in Yard Lead 202 on the Geneva Subdivision in the State of Illinois.

The reason given for the proposed discontinuance is to allow and facilitate yard switching operations on the affected trackage, which are necessary to maintain fluid operation.

A copy of the petition, as well as any written communications concerning the petition, is available for review online at www.regulations.gov and in person at the U.S. Department of Transportation's Docket Operations Facility, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., W12–140, Washington, DC 20590. The Docket Operations Facility is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

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 and may be submitted by any of the following methods:

- *Web site:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
- *Fax:* 202–493–2251.
- *Mail:* Docket Operations Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., W12–140, Washington, DC 20590.
- *Hand Delivery:* 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

Communications received by March 21, 2016 will be considered by FRA before final action is taken. Comments

received after that date will be considered as far as practicable.

Anyone is able to search the electronic form of any written communications and comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the document, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its processes. DOT posts these comments, without edit, including any personal information the commenter provides, to www.regulations.gov, as described in the system of records notice (DOT/ALL–14 FDMS), which can be reviewed at www.dot.gov/privacy. See also <http://www.regulations.gov/#/privacyNotice> for the privacy notice of regulations.gov.

Robert C. Lauby,

Associate Administrator for Railroad Safety, Chief Safety Officer.

[FR Doc. 2016–01969 Filed 2–2–16; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket Number FRA–2016–0004]

Notice of Application for Approval of Discontinuance or Modification of a Railroad Signal System

In accordance with part 235 of title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) and 49 U.S.C. 20502(a), this document provides the public notice that by a document dated October 22, 2015, Union Pacific Railroad (UP) petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) seeking approval for the discontinuance or modification of a signal system. FRA assigned the petition Docket Number FRA–2016–0004.

Applicant: Union Pacific Railroad, Mr. John J. Hovanec, AVP Engineering—Design, 1400 Douglas Street, Mail Stop 0910, Omaha, NE 68179.

UP seeks approval to modify Control Point (CP) B002 on the Omaha Subdivision in the State of Iowa by dividing it into two CP's, CP B902 and CP B002. The reason given for the proposed modification is to accommodate a U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) project to widen Interstate 29, as well as to facilitate yard operations and expedite train movements in the area. The modification will involve the relocation of most signals and some changes in signal aspects currently in service.

A copy of the petition, as well as any written communications concerning the

petition, is available for review online at www.regulations.gov and in person at the U.S. Department of Transportation's Docket Operations Facility, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., W12–140, Washington, DC 20590. The Docket Operations Facility is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

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 and may be submitted by any of the following methods:

- *Web site:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
- *Fax:* 202–493–2251.
- *Mail:* Docket Operations Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., W12–140, Washington, DC 20590.
- *Hand Delivery:* 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

Communications received by March 21, 2016 will be considered by FRA before final action is taken. Comments received after that date will be considered as far as practicable.

Anyone is able to search the electronic form of any written communications and comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the document, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its processes. DOT posts these comments, without edit, including any personal information the commenter provides, to www.regulations.gov, as described in the system of records notice (DOT/ALL–14 FDMS), which can be reviewed at www.dot.gov/privacy. See also <http://www.dot.gov/privacy>.

www.regulations.gov/#!privacyNotice for the privacy notice of regulations.gov.

Robert C. Lauby,

Associate Administrator for Railroad Safety,
Chief Safety Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Transit Administration

[Docket No. FTA-2016-0009]

Notice of Request for Comments on Update to the Uniform System of Accounts (USOA) and Changes to the National Transit Database (NTD) Reporting Requirements

AGENCY: Federal Transit Administration (FTA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice; request for comments on updates to the USOA and changes to the NTD reporting requirements.

SUMMARY: The Federal Transit Administration is updating the Uniform System of Accounts (USOA). The proposed updates are prompted by the outdated nature of the 1995 USOA. FTA is seeking public comment on these proposed changes before releasing the updated USOA and implementing the associated changes to 49 U.S.C. 5335, National Transit Database.

DATES: Comments must be received by April 4, 2016. Any comments filed after this deadline will be considered to the extent practicable.

ADDRESSES: Please submit your comments by only one of the following methods, identifying your submission by Docket Number FTA-2016-0009

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Submit electronic comments and other data to <http://www.regulations.gov>.
- *U.S. Mail:* Send comments to Docket Operations; U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., West Building Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590-0001.
- *Hand Delivery or Courier:* Take comments to Docket Operations in Room W12-140 of the West Building, Ground Floor, at 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC, between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.
- *Fax:* Fax comments to Docket Operations, U.S. Department of Transportation, at (202) 493-2251.

Instructions: You must include the agency name (Federal Transit Administration) and Docket Number (FTA-2016-0009) for this notice, at the beginning of your comments. If sent by mail, submit two copies of your

comments. Due to security procedures in effect since October 2001, mail received through the U.S. Postal Service may be subject to delays. Parties submitting comments should consider using an express mail firm to ensure their prompt filing of any submissions not filed electronically or by hand. If you wish to get confirmation that FTA received your comments, you must include a self-addressed stamped postcard. All comments received will be posted without change to <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided. You may review U.S. DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement published in the **Federal Register** on April 11, 2000, at 65 FR 19476 or <http://DocketsInfo.dot.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Margaret Schilling, National Transit Database Program Manager, Office of Budget and Policy, (202) 366-2054, or email: margaret.schilling@dot.gov. Office hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Introduction

The National Transit Database (NTD) is the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) primary database for statistics on the transit industry. Congress established the NTD to "help meet the needs of . . . the public for information on which to base public transportation service planning . . ." (49 U.S.C 5335). Currently, 821 transit providers in urbanized areas report to the NTD through its online reporting system. Each year, performance data from these submissions are used to apportion over \$7 billion of FTA funds for Urbanized Area Formula (section 5307) grants, Rural Area Formula (section 5311) grants, Tribal Transit Formula grants, Bus and Bus Facilities Formula (section 5339) grants, and State of Good Repair (section 5337) grants. The data is made available on the NTD Web site at www.ntdprogram.gov for the benefit of the public, transit systems, and all levels of government. The data is also used in the annual National Transit Summaries and Trends report, the biennial Conditions and Performance Report to Congress, and in meeting FTA's obligations under the Government Performance and Results Act. Reporting requirements are governed by a Uniform System of Accounts (USOA) and Reporting Manuals that are issued each year. The USOA is the chart of accounts and accounting manual that describes how transit agencies are to report to the NTD.

The USOA was originally published in 1977 when NTD reporting began. While the NTD has undergone numerous and substantial changes in the past 38 years, the USOA was last updated for minor changes in 1995. This notice proposes updates to the USOA to better align with today's NTD and accounting practices and to address FTA data needs and common questions among NTD reporters.

II. Background

This notice proposes changes to the USOA that impact NTD reporting requirements. FTA proposes that changes A-J below take effect starting with the FY17 data reporting cycle. Change K below, the revised APC certification policy, would take effect when changes are proposed in the **Federal Register**. Following is a summary of proposed changes:

- A. Separation of "Passenger-Paid Fares" and "Organization-Paid Fares"
- B. Separation of "Paid Absences" From "Fringe Benefits"
- C. Consolidation of "Casualty and Liability Costs" Under General Administration Function
- D. Expansion of Assets and Liabilities Object Classes (F-60)
- E. Addition of "Voluntary Non-Exchange Transactions"
- F. Addition of "Sales and Disposals of Assets"
- G. Simplification of State Fund Reporting
- H. Reorganization of B-30 Contractual Relationship

Additionally, this notice proposes the following changes to the NTD reporting requirements that are not directly addressed in the updated USOA:

- I. Separation of Operators' and Non-Operators' Work Hours and Counts
- J. Enhanced Auditor's Review
- K. Revised APC Certification Policy

Finally, FTA seeks comments on the decision to not require a separate non-add item for police force expenses.

III. Proposed Changes to the National Transit Database Reporting Requirements

A. Separation of "Passenger-Paid Fares" and "Organization-Paid Fares"

Currently, the NTD category "Passenger Fares" includes both directly paid fares collected via standard methods such as a farebox or purchase of monthly passes and less direct fares—for example, where a university pays the transit agency to provide fare-free service to students. This combination of revenue sources has been confusing to some reporters.