

and efficient management (49 U.S.C. 10101(9)). Further, an exemption from the application process would expedite regulatory action (49 U.S.C. 10101(2)). Other aspects of the rail transportation policy would not be adversely affected.

Regulation of the proposed transaction is also not necessary to protect shippers from the abuse of market power.³ Nothing in the record indicates that any shipper would lose an existing rail service option as a result of the proposed lease transaction. According to BNSF, the lease will not affect the routings available to customers on the Line or customers whose traffic is routed over the Line. The record indicates that the transaction would not result in any material change in UP's or BNSF's operations or commercial access to customers and that no customers would experience any degradation of, or competitive change in, rail service. Indeed, the lease transaction should benefit shippers by allowing BNSF and UP to move traffic more efficiently following improved maintenance. Moreover, no shippers or other parties have filed any objections to the proposed transaction.

Under 49 U.S.C. 10502(g), the Board may not use its exemption authority to relieve a carrier of its statutory obligation to protect the interests of employees. Accordingly, as a condition to granting this exemption, the Board will impose the standard employee protective conditions in *Norfolk & Western Railway—Trackage Rights—Burlington Northern, Inc.*, 354 I.C.C. 605 (1978), as modified in *Mendocino Coast Railway—Lease & Operate—California Western Railroad*, 360 I.C.C. 653 (1980).

The proposed lease is exempt from both the environmental reporting requirements under 49 CFR 1105.6(c) and the historic reporting requirements under 49 CFR 1105.8(b).

As noted above, BNSF seeks an expedited effective date so that it can commence maintenance improvements as soon as possible to avoid complications from winter weather conditions. For that reason, the exemption will be effective October 31, 2018, and petitions to stay, petitions for reconsideration, and petitions to reopen will be due by October 24, 2018.

It is ordered:

1. Under 49 U.S.C. 10502, the Board exempts from the prior approval requirements of 49 U.S.C. 11323–25 BNSF's lease of the Line, subject to the employee protective conditions in

Norfolk & Western Railway—Trackage Rights—Burlington Northern, Inc., 354 I.C.C. 605 (1978), as modified in *Mendocino Coast Railway—Lease & Operate—California Western Railroad*, 360 I.C.C. 653 (1980).

2. Notice of the exemption will be published in the **Federal Register** on October 16, 2018.

3. The exemption will become effective on October 31, 2018.

4. Petitions to stay, petitions for reconsideration, and petitions to reopen must be filed by October 24, 2018.

Decided: October 10, 2018.

By the Board, Board Members Begeman and Miller.

Aretha Laws-Byrum,

Clearance Clerk.

[FR Doc. 2018–22463 Filed 10–15–18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

[Docket No. PHMSA–2018–0100; Notice No. 2018–17]

Hazardous Materials: Emergency Waiver No. 7

AGENCY: Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of emergency waiver order.

SUMMARY: PHMSA is issuing an emergency waiver order to persons conducting operations under the direction of Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 4 or United States Coast Guard (USCG) Seventh or Eighth Districts within the Hurricane Michael emergency area of Florida. The Waiver is granted to support the EPA and USCG in taking appropriate actions to prepare for, respond to, and recover from a threat to public health, welfare, or the environment caused by actual or potential oil and hazardous materials incidents resulting from Hurricane Michael. This Waiver Order is effective immediately and shall remain in effect for 30 days from the date of issuance.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Adam Horsley, Deputy Assistant Chief Counsel for Hazardous Materials Safety, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, telephone: (202) 366–4400.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 5103(c), the Administrator for PHMSA, hereby declares that an emergency exists that warrants issuance

of a Waiver of the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR, 49 CFR parts 171–180) to persons conducting operations under the direction of EPA Region 4 or USCG Seventh or Eighth Districts within the Hurricane Michael emergency area of Florida. The Waiver is granted to support the EPA and USCG in taking appropriate actions to prepare for, respond to, and recover from a threat to public health, welfare, or the environment caused by actual or potential oil and hazardous materials incidents resulting from Hurricane Michael.

On October 9, 2018, the President issued an Emergency Declaration for Hurricane Michael for 35 Florida counties (EM 3405). This Waiver Order covers all areas identified in the declaration, as amended. Pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 5103(c), PHMSA has authority delegated by the Secretary (49 CFR 1.97(b)(3)) to waive compliance with any part of the HMR provided that the grant of the waiver is: (1) In the public interest; (2) not inconsistent with the safety of transporting hazardous materials; and (3) necessary to facilitate the safe movement of hazardous materials into, from, and within an area of a major disaster or emergency that has been declared under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 *et seq.*).

Given the continuing impacts caused by Hurricane Michael, PHMSA's Administrator has determined that regulatory relief is in the public interest and necessary to ensure the safe transportation in commerce of hazardous materials while the EPA and USCG execute their recovery and cleanup efforts in Florida. Specifically, PHMSA's Administrator finds that issuing this Waiver Order will allow the EPA and USCG to conduct their Emergency Support Function #10 response activities under the National Response Framework to safely remove, transport, and dispose of hazardous materials. By execution of this Waiver Order, persons conducting operations under the direction of EPA Region 4 or USCG Seventh or Eighth Districts within the Hurricane Michael emergency areas of Florida are authorized to offer and transport non-radioactive hazardous materials under alternative safety requirements imposed by EPA Region 4 or USCG Seventh or Eighth Districts when compliance with the HMR is not practicable. Under this Waiver Order, non-radioactive hazardous materials may be transported to staging areas within 50 miles of the point of origin. Further transportation of the hazardous materials from staging

³ Because the Board concludes that regulation is not needed to protect shippers from the abuse of market power, it is unnecessary to determine whether the transaction is limited in scope. See 49 U.S.C. 10502(a).

areas must be in full compliance with the HMR.

This Waiver Order is effective immediately and shall remain in effect for 30 days from the date of issuance.

Issued in Washington, DC, on October 10, 2018.

Howard R. Elliott,

Administrator, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration.

[FR Doc. 2018–22423 Filed 10–15–18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–60–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

[Docket No. PHMSA–2018–0100; Notice No. 2018–18]

Hazardous Materials: Emergency Waiver No. 8

AGENCY: Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of emergency waiver order.

SUMMARY: PHMSA is issuing an emergency waiver order to persons conducting operations under the direction of Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 4 or United States Coast Guard (USCG) Seventh or Eighth Districts within the Hurricane Michael emergency area of Georgia. The Waiver is granted to support the EPA and USCG in taking appropriate actions to prepare for, respond to, and recover from a threat to public health, welfare, or the environment caused by actual or potential oil and hazardous materials incidents resulting from Hurricane Michael. This Waiver Order is effective immediately and shall remain in effect for 30 days from the date of issuance.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Adam Horsley, Deputy Assistant Chief Counsel for Hazardous Materials Safety, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, telephone: (202) 366–4400.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 5103(c), the Administrator for PHMSA, hereby declares that an emergency exists that warrants issuance of a Waiver of the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR, 49 CFR parts 171–180) to persons conducting operations under the direction of EPA Region 4 or USCG Seventh or Eighth Districts within the Hurricane Michael emergency area of Georgia. The Waiver is granted to support the EPA and USCG in taking appropriate actions to prepare

for, respond to, and recover from a threat to public health, welfare, or the environment caused by actual or potential oil and hazardous materials incidents resulting from Hurricane Michael.

On October 10, 2018, the President issued an Emergency Declaration for Hurricane Michael for Georgia for the counties of Appling, Atkinson, Bacon, Baker, Baldwin, Ben Hill, Berrien, Bibb, Bleckley, Brantley, Brooks, Bryan, Bulloch, Burke, Butts, Calhoun, Camden, Candler, Charlton, Chatham, Chattahoochee, Clarke, Clay, Clinch, Coffee, Colquitt, Columbia, Cook, Crawford, Crisp, Decatur, Dodge, Dooly, Dougherty, Early, Echols, Effingham, Elbert, Emanuel, Evans, Glascock, Glynn, Grady, Greene, Hancock, Houston, Irwin, Jasper, Jeff Davis, Jefferson, Jenkins, Johnson, Jones, Lamar, Lanier, Laurens, Lee, Liberty, Lincoln, Long, Lowndes, Macon, Marion, McDuffie, McIntosh, Miller, Mitchell, Monroe, Montgomery, Morgan, Muscogee, Oconee, Oglethorpe, Peach, Pierce, Pulaski, Putnam, Quitman, Randolph, Richmond, Schley, Screven, Seminole, Stewart, Sumter, Talbot, Taliaferro, Tattnall, Taylor, Telfair, Terrell, Thomas, Tift, Toombs, Treutlen, Turner, Twiggs, Upson, Ware, Warren, Washington, Wayne, Webster, Wheeler, Wilcox, Wilkes, Wilkinson, and Worth (EM–3406).

This Waiver Order covers all areas identified in the declaration, as amended. Pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 5103(c), PHMSA has authority delegated by the Secretary (49 CFR 1.97(b)(3)) to waive compliance with any part of the HMR provided that the grant of the waiver is: (1) in the public interest; (2) not inconsistent with the safety of transporting hazardous materials; and (3) necessary to facilitate the safe movement of hazardous materials into, from, and within an area of a major disaster or emergency that has been declared under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 *et seq.*).

Given the continuing impacts caused by Hurricane Michael, PHMSA's Administrator has determined that regulatory relief is in the public interest and necessary to ensure the safe transportation in commerce of hazardous materials while the EPA and USCG execute their recovery and cleanup efforts in Georgia. Specifically, PHMSA's Administrator finds that issuing this Waiver Order will allow the EPA and USCG to conduct their Emergency Support Function #10 response activities under the National Response Framework to safely remove, transport, and dispose of hazardous

materials. By execution of this Waiver Order, persons conducting operations under the direction of EPA Region 4 or USCG Seventh or Eighth Districts within the Hurricane Michael emergency area of Georgia are authorized to offer and transport non-radioactive hazardous materials under alternative safety requirements imposed by EPA Region 4 or USCG Seventh or Eighth Districts when compliance with the HMR is not practicable. Under this Waiver Order, non-radioactive hazardous materials may be transported to staging areas within 50 miles of the point of origin. Further transportation of the hazardous materials from staging areas must be in full compliance with the HMR.

This Waiver Order is effective immediately and shall remain in effect for 30 days from the date of issuance.

Issued in Washington, DC, on October 11, 2018.

Howard R. Elliott,

Administrator, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration.

[FR Doc. 2018–22496 Filed 10–15–18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–60–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

Proposed Extension of Information Collection Request Submitted for Public Comment; Section 6708 Failure To Maintain List of Advisees With Respect to Reportable Transactions

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Internal Revenue Service, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning guidance under section 6708, failure to maintain list of advisees with respect to reportable transactions.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before December 17, 2018 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Carolyn Brown, Internal Revenue Service, Room 6236, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20224. Requests for additional information or copies of the regulations should be