

(iii) How to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(iv) How to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, *e.g.*, permitting electronic submission of responses.

In response to these requirements, NHTSA asks for public comment on the following proposed collection of information:

National Survey of Drinking and Driving Attitudes and Behavior

Type of Request: New information collection requirement.

OMB Clearance Number: None.

Form Number: This collection of information uses no standard forms.

Requested Expiration Date of

Approval: February 28, 2002.

Summary of the Collection of Information

An agency goal is to reduce the number of alcohol related fatalities from 15,786, in 1999, to 11,000 by the year 2005. In support of this goal, NHTSA has conducted over the past decade a series of bi-annual surveys of the driving-aged public (aged 16 or older) to identify patterns and trends in public attitudes and behaviors towards drinking and driving and public reaction to alcohol countermeasures aimed at reducing the occurrence of drinking and driving and alcohol related crashes. The proposed study, to be administered in the 3rd quarter of 2001, and the sixth in this series of biennial surveys, will collect data on topics included in the first five studies (and several additional topics), including: frequency of drinking and driving and of riding with an impaired driver, ways to prevent drinking and driving, enforcement of drinking and driving laws including the use of sobriety checkpoints, understanding of BAC levels and legal limits, and crash and injury experience.

The survey will be administered by telephone to a national probability sample of the driving age public (aged 16 years or older as of their last birthday). Participation by respondents is voluntary. The interview is anticipated to average approximately 20–25 minutes; for non-drinkers and non-drivers the interview will average below 20 minutes, while for drinker-drivers it will average slightly over 20 minutes. Interviewers will use computer assisted telephone interviewing to reduce survey administration time and to minimize data collection errors. A

Spanish-language questionnaire and bilingual interviewers will be used to reduce language barriers to participation. All respondents' results will remain anonymous and completely confidential. Participant names are not collected during the interview and the telephone number used to reach the respondent is separated from the data record prior to its entry into the analytical database.

Description of the Need for and Proposed Use of the Information

More than 308,000 persons were reported injured and nearly 16,000 persons died in alcohol-related motor vehicle crashes in 1999 (NHTSA-National Center for Statistics and Analysis). NHTSA is committed to the development of effective programs to reduce the incidence of these crashes. In order to properly plan and evaluate programs directed at reducing alcohol-impaired driving, the agency needs to periodically update its knowledge and understanding of the public's attitudes and behaviors with respect to drinking and driving.

The findings from this proposed collection will assist NHTSA in addressing the problem of alcohol-impaired driving and in formulating programs and recommendations to Congress. NHTSA will use the findings to help focus current programs and activities to achieve the greatest benefit, to develop new programs to decrease the likelihood of drinking and driving behaviors, and to provide informational support to states, localities, and law enforcement agencies that will aid them in their efforts to reduce drinking and driving crashes and injuries.

Description of the Likely Respondents (Including Estimated Number, and Proposed Frequency of Response to the Collection of Information)

Under this proposed collection, a telephone interview averaging approximately 20 minutes in length would be administered to each of 6,000 randomly selected members of the general public age 16 and older. The respondent sample would be selected from all 50 states plus the District of Columbia. Interviews would be conducted with persons at residential phone numbers selected using random digit dialing. No more than one respondent per household would be selected, and each sample member would complete just one interview. Businesses are ineligible for the sample and would be not be interviewed.

Estimate of the Total Annual Reporting and Record Keeping Burden Resulting From the Collection of Information

NHTSA estimates that respondents in the sample would require an average of 20 minutes to complete the telephone interview. Thus, estimated reporting burden on the general public would be a total of 2000 hours for the proposed survey. The respondents would not incur any reporting or record keeping cost from the information collection.

Rose A. McMurray,

Associate Administrator for Traffic Safety Programs, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 33945]

Boot Hill & Western Railway Co., L.C.— Acquisition Exemption—Dodge City Ford & Bucklin Railroad Co.

Boot Hill & Western Railway Co., L.C. (BHWR), a noncarrier, has filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1150.31 to acquire and operate approximately 25.73 miles of rail line from the Dodge City Ford & Bucklin Railroad Company. The line is located between milepost 347.9, at Bucklin, KS, and milepost 373.63, at Dodge City, KS. In conjunction with the acquisition of the rail line, BHWR will also acquire approximately 1.5 miles of incidental overhead trackage rights over a rail line owned by Union Pacific Railroad Company between Engineer Station 11+88 and Engineer Station 52+84.9, at Dodge City. The purpose of the trackage rights is to enable BHWR to interchange traffic with The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company at Dodge City. BHWR certifies that its projected revenues as a result of this transaction will not result in its becoming a Class II or Class I rail carrier, and further certifies that its annual revenues will not exceed \$5 million.

The transaction is expected to be consummated on or shortly after December 6, 2000.

If the 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. 33945, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on Karl Morell,

BALL, JANIK LLP, Suite 225, 1455 F Street, NW., Washington, DC 20005.

Board decisions and notices are available on our website at "www.stb.dot.gov."

Decided: December 5, 2000.

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

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-31472 Filed 12-12-00; 8:45 am]

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