

WVN has certified that: (1) No local traffic has moved over the line for at least 2 years; (2) any overhead traffic can be rerouted over other lines; (3) no formal complaint filed by a user of rail service on the line (or by a state or local government entity acting on behalf of such user) regarding cessation of service over the line either is pending with the Surface Transportation Board (Board) or with any U.S. District Court or has been decided in favor of complainant within the 2-year period; and (4) the requirements at 49 CFR 1105.7 (environmental reports), 49 CFR 1105.8 (historic reports), 49 CFR 1105.11 (transmittal letter), 49 CFR 1105.12 (newspaper publication), and 49 CFR 1152.50(d)(1) (notice to governmental agencies) have been met.

Where, as here, the carrier is abandoning its entire line, the Board does not normally impose labor protection under 49 U.S.C. 10505(g) unless the evidence indicates the existence of a corporate affiliate that will: (1) Continue rail operations; or (2) realize significant benefits in addition to being relieved of the burden of deficit operations by its affiliated railroad. *See T and P Railway—Abandonment—in Shawnee, Jefferson and Atchison Counties, KS*, Docket No. AB-381, *et al.* (ICC served Apr. 27, 1993). Because these conditions do not appear to exist here, employee protection conditions will not be imposed.

Provided no formal expression of intent to file an offer of financial assistance (OFA) has been received, this exemption will be effective on January 20, 2001, unless stayed pending reconsideration. Petitions to stay that do not involve environmental issues,<sup>1</sup> formal expressions of intent to file an OFA under 49 CFR 1152.27(c)(2),<sup>2</sup> and trail use/rail banking requests under 49 CFR 1152.29 must be filed by January 2, 2001. Petitions to reopen or requests for public use conditions under 49 CFR 1152.28 must be filed by January 10, 2001, with: Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423.

A copy of any petition filed with the Board should be sent to applicant's

representative: Fritz R. Kahn, 1920 N Street, NW. (8th Floor), Washington, DC 20036-1601.

If the verified notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void *ab initio*.

WVN has filed an environmental report which addresses the effects, if any, of the abandonment on the environment and historic resources. The Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) will issue an environmental assessment (EA) by December 26, 2000. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the EA by writing to SEA (Room 500, Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423) or by calling SEA, at (202) 565-1545. Comments on environmental and historic preservation matters must be filed within 15 days after the EA becomes available to the public.

Environmental, historic preservation, public use, or trail use/rail banking conditions will be imposed, where appropriate, in a subsequent decision.

Pursuant to the provisions of 49 CFR 1152.29(e)(2), WVN shall file a notice of consummation with the Board to signify that it has exercised the authority granted and fully abandoned its line. If consummation has not been effected by WVN's filing of a notice of consummation by December 21, 2001, and there are no legal or regulatory barriers to consummation, the authority to abandon will automatically expire.

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

Decided: December 8, 2000.

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

**Vernon A. Williams,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 00-31908 Filed 12-20-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4915-00-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Bureau of Transportation Statistics

#### Reports, Forms and Recordkeeping Requirements Activity Under OMB Review; Airline Service Quality Performance

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this notice announces that the Information Collection Request (ICR) abstracted below has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for

extension of currently approved collections. The ICR describes the nature of the information collection and its expected burden. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on the following collection of information was published on September 22, 2000 (65 FR vol. 185, page 57426).

**DATES:** Written comments should be submitted by January 22, 2001.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Bernie Stankus, Office of Airline Information, K-25, Room 4125, Bureau of Transportation Statistics, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001, Telephone Number (202) 366-4387, Fax Number (202) 366-3383 or EMAIL [bernard.stankus@bts.gov](mailto:bernard.stankus@bts.gov).

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

#### **Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS)**

*Title:* Report of Passengers Denied Confirmed Space.

*Type of Request:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*OMB Control Number:* 2138-0018.

*Forms:* BTS Form 251.

*Affected Public:* U.S. and foreign air carriers that provide scheduled passenger service.

*Abstract:* BTS Form 251 is a one-page report on the number of passengers denied boarding voluntarily and involuntarily, whether the bumped passengers were provided alternate transportation and/or compensation, and the amount of the payment. U.S. and foreign air carriers that operate scheduled passenger service with large aircraft (over 60 seats) must submit Form 251. However, carriers do not report data from inbound international flights because the protections of Part 250 *Oversales* do not apply to these flights. The report allows the Department to monitor the effectiveness of its oversales rule and take enforcement action when necessary. The involuntary denied-boarding rate has decreased over the years from 4.38 per 10,000 passengers in 1980 to 1.15 for the nine months ended September 2000. The improvement has been made in a period when load factors and passenger enplanements have risen. These statistics demonstrate the effectiveness of the 'volunteer provision'. The publishing of the air carriers' individual denied boarding rates has negated the need for more intrusive regulation. The rate of denied boarding can be examined as a continuing fitness factor. This rate provides an insight into a carrier's policy of treating passengers and its compliance disposition. A rapid

<sup>1</sup> The Board will grant a stay if an informed decision on environmental issues (whether raised by a party or by the Board's Section of Environmental Analysis in its independent investigation) cannot be made before the exemption's effective date. *See Exemption of Out-of-Service Rail Lines*, 5 I.C.C.2d 377 (1989). Any request for a stay should be filed as soon as possible so that the Board may take appropriate action before the exemption's effective date.

<sup>2</sup> Each offer of financial assistance must be accompanied by the filing fee, which currently is set at \$1000. *See* 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).

sustained increase in the rate of denied boarding often is an indicator of operational difficulty. Because the rate of denied boarding is released quarterly, travelers and travel agents can select carriers with low bumping incidents when booking a trip. This information is made available to the public in the *Air Travel Consumer Report* and on the web at <http://www.dot.gov/airconsumer>. The *Air Travel Consumer Report* is also sent to newspapers, magazines, and trade journals. Without Form 251, determining the effectiveness of the Department's oversales rules, would be an uncertainty.

*Estimated Annual Burden Hours:* 2,200 hours.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, 725—17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20503, Attention BTS Desk Officer.

Comments are invited on: whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Department concerning consumer protection. Comments should address whether the information will have practical utility; the accuracy of the Department's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

**Donald W. Bright,**

*Assistant Director, Office of Airline Information.*

[FR Doc. 00-32529 Filed 12-20-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-FE-P**

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

December 14, 2000.

The Department of Treasury has submitted the following public information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling the Treasury Bureau Clearance Officer listed. Comments regarding this information collection should be addressed to the OMB reviewer listed and to the Treasury Department Clearance Officer, Department of the

Treasury, Room 2110, 1425 New York Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20220.

**DATES:** Written comments should be received on or before January 22, 2001 to be assured of consideration.

### Financial Management Service (FMS)

*OMB Number:* 1510-0066.

*Form Number:* None.

*Type of Review:* Extension.

*Title:* 31 CFR Part 208—Management of Federal Agency Disbursements; Final Rule.

*Description:* This regulation requires that most Federal payments be made by Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT); sets forth waiver requirements; and provides for a low-cost Treasury designated account to individuals at a financial institution who offers such accounts.

*Respondents:* Business or other for-profit, Individuals or households, Not-for-profit institutions.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 1,300.

*Estimated Burden Hours Per*

*Respondent:* 15 minutes.

*Estimated Total Reporting Burden:* 325 hours.

*Clearance Officer:* Juanita Holder, Financial Management Service, 3700 East West Highway, Room 144, PGP II, Hyattsville, MD 20782.

*OMB Reviewer:* Alexander T. Hunt, (202) 395-7860, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10202, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

**Lois K. Holland,**

*Departmental Reports Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 00-32490 Filed 12-20-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4810-35-P**

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

December 12, 2000.

The Department of Treasury has submitted the following public information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling the Treasury Bureau Clearance Officer listed. Comments regarding this information collection should be addressed to the OMB reviewer listed and to the Treasury Department Clearance Officer, Department of the Treasury, Room 2110, 1425 New York Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20220.

**DATES:** Written comments should be received on or before January 22, 2001 to be assured of consideration.

### Internal Revenue Service (IRS)

*OMB Number:* 1545-1450.

*Regulation Project Number:* FI-59-91 Final.

*Type of Review:* Extension.

*Title:* Debt Instructions With Original Issue Discount; Anti-Abuse Rule.

*Description:* The regulations provide definitions, general rules, and reporting requirements for debt instruments that provide for contingent payments. The regulations also provide definitions, general rules, and recordkeeping requirements for integrated debt instruments.

*Respondents:* Individuals or households, Business or other for-profit, State, Local or Tribal Government.

*Estimated Number of Respondents/Recordkeepers:* 180,000.

*Estimated Burden Hours Per*

*Respondent/Recordkeeper:* 30 minutes.

*Frequency of Response:* Annually.

*Estimated Total Reporting/Recordkeeping Burden:* 89,000 hours.

*OMB Number:* 1545-1573.

*Regulation Project Number:* REG-209463-82 NPRM.

*Type of Review:* Extension.

*Title:* Required Distributions from Qualified Plans and Individual Retirement Plans.

*Description:* The regulation permits a taxpayer to name a trust as the beneficiary of the employee's benefits under a retirement plan and use the life expectancies of the beneficiaries of the trust to determine the required minimum distribution, if certain conditions are satisfied.

*Respondents:* Individuals or households.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 1,000.

*Estimated Burden Hours Per*

*Respondent:* 20 minutes.

*Frequency of Response:* On occasion.

*Estimated Total Reporting Burden:* 333 hours.

*OMB Number:* 1545-1583.

*Regulation Project Number:* REG-209322-82 Final.

*Type of Review:* Extension.

*Title:* Return of Partnership Income.

*Description:* Information is required to enable the IRS to verify that a taxpayer is reporting the correct amount of income or gain or claiming the correct amount of losses, deductions, or credits from that taxpayer's interest in the partnership.

*Respondents:* Business or other for-profit, Farms.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 1.

*Estimated Burden Hours Per*

*Respondent:* 1 hour.

*Frequency of Response:* Annually.

*Estimated Total Reporting Burden:* 1 hour.