

Issued in Washington, DC, on October 23, 2003.

**Kathy A. Weiner,**

*Director, Office of Information Technology and Support Systems, Federal Railroad Administration.*

[FR Doc. 03-27273 Filed 10-28-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-06-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 34396]

#### Norfolk Southern Railway Company—Corporate Family Transaction Exemption—Atlantic and East Carolina Railway Company

Norfolk Southern Railway Company (NSR)<sup>1</sup> and Atlantic and East Carolina Railway Company (AEC),<sup>2</sup> have filed a verified notice of exemption under the Board's corporate family class exemption at 49 CFR 1180.2(d)(3) to merge AEC into NSR, with NSR as the surviving entity. Under the agreement and plan of merger, all of AEC's assets, rights, obligations and responsibilities will be in the name of NSR.

Although the parties state that the transaction was scheduled to be consummated on or as soon as practicable after August 31, 2003, the earliest the transaction could be consummated was October 6, 2003 (7 days after filing under 49 CFR 1180.4(g)).

The purpose of the transaction is to eliminate AEC as a separate corporate entity, thereby furthering the goal of corporate simplification. It is anticipated that this action will eliminate costs associated with separate accounting, tax, bookkeeping and reporting functions.

This is a transaction within a corporate family of the type specifically exempted from prior review and approval under 49 CFR 1180.2(d)(3). The parties state that the transaction will not result in adverse changes in service levels, significant operational changes, or a change in the competitive balance with carriers outside the corporate family.

As a condition to the use of this exemption, any employees adversely affected by this transaction will be protected by the conditions set forth in

<sup>1</sup> NSR is a Class I carrier; together with its railroad subsidiaries, it owns or operates approximately 21,500 miles of railroad located in 22 states, the District of Columbia, and the Province of Ontario, Canada. NSR is controlled through stock ownership by Norfolk Southern Corporation, a noncarrier holding company.

<sup>2</sup> AEC has been controlled by NSR or its predecessors through stock ownership since 1989.

*New York Dock Ry.—Control—Brooklyn Eastern Dist.*, 360 I.C.C. 60 (1979).

If the verified 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. 34396 must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on Maquiling B. Parkerson, Norfolk Southern Corporation, Three Commercial Place, Norfolk, VA 23510-9241.

Board decisions and notices are available on our Web site at [www.stb.dot.gov](http://www.stb.dot.gov).

Decided: October 22, 2003.

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

**Vernon A. Williams,**  
*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 03-27139 Filed 10-27-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4915-00-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Community Development Financial Institutions Fund

#### Proposed Collection; Comment Request

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of the Treasury, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general 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, Pub. L. 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund (the "Fund"), within the Department of the Treasury, is soliciting comments concerning the Native American CDFI Assistance (NACA) Program Application.

**DATES:** Written comments should be received on or before December 29, 2003 to be assured of consideration.

**ADDRESS:** Direct all written comments to Linda G. Davenport, Deputy Director for Policy and Programs, Community Development Financial Institutions Fund, U.S. Department of the Treasury, 601 13th Street NW., Suite 200 South,

Washington, DC 20005, Facsimile Number (202) 622-7754.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** A copy of the draft NACA Program Application or requests for additional information may be obtained by contacting: Margaret Nilson, Manager (Native American Initiative), Community Development Financial Institutions Fund, U.S. Department of the Treasury, 601 13th Street NW., Suite 200 South, Washington, DC 20005; or by phone to (202) 622-8662.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Title:* Native American CDFI Assistance (NACA) Program Application

*Abstract:* The Community Development Banking and Financial Institutions Act of 1994 (12 U.S.C. 4701 *et seq.*) (the "Act") authorizes the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund (the "Fund") of the U.S. Department of the Treasury to promote economic revitalization and community development through investment in and assistance to Fund-certified community development financial institutions ("CDFIs") through the CDFI Program. In addition, the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 2002 (Pub. L. 107-73) authorizes the Fund to provide technical assistance grants to benefit Native American, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian communities (hereafter referred to as "Native American Communities") by building the capacity of CDFIs that serve those communities (hereafter referred to as "Native American CDFIs"). Further, the Consolidated Appropriations Resolution, 2003 (Pub. L. 108-7) authorizes the Fund to provide financial assistance and technical assistance to benefit Native American Communities, with such benefit being provided primarily through qualified community development lender organizations with experience and expertise in community development banking and lending in Indian country, Native American organizations, Tribes and tribal organizations and other suitable providers.

Through the NACA Program, the Fund provides (i) FA and/or TA awards to Native American CDFIs and entities that can be certified as Native American CDFIs at time of award; and (ii) TA awards to entities that propose to become Native American CDFIs within two years and "Sponsoring Entities" (e.g., Native American organizations, Tribes, Tribal organizations) that propose to create separate legal entities

that will become Native American CDFIs within two years.

*Type of Review:* New collection.

*Affected Public:* Not-for-profit institutions; state, local or tribal government and tribal entities; and businesses or other for-profit institutions.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 40.

*Estimated Annual Time Per Respondent:* 65 hours.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden*

*Hours:* 2,600 hours.

*Request for Comments:* Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Fund, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Fund's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

*Authority:* Pub. L. 107-73; Pub. L. 108-7.

Dated: October 21, 2003.

**Tony T. Brown,**

*Director, Community Development Financial Institutions Fund.*

[FR Doc. 03-27204 Filed 10-28-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4810-70-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Fiscal Service

#### Financial Management Service; Proposed Collection of Information: Management of Federal Agency Disbursements

**AGENCY:** Financial Management Service, Fiscal Service, Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Financial Management Service, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on a continuing information collection. By this notice, the Financial Management

Service solicits comments concerning the "Management of Federal Agency Disbursements."

**DATES:** Written comments should be received on or before December 29, 2003.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Financial Management Service, 3700 East West Highway, Records and Information Management Program Staff, Room 135, Hyattsville, Maryland 20782.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Requests for additional information should be directed to Steve Vajs, Director, Risk Management Division, Room 423, 401 14th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20227, (202) 874-1229.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)), the Financial Management Service solicits comments on the collection of information described below.

*Title:* Management of Federal Agency Disbursements.

*OMB:* 1510-0066.

*Form Number:* None.

*Abstract:* Recipients of Federal disbursements must furnish to FMS their bank account number and the name and routing number of their financial institution to receive payment electronically.

*Current Actions:* Extension of currently approved collection.

*Type of Review:* Regular.

*Affected Public:* Businesses or other for-profit institutions, Individuals or households, Not-for-profit institutions.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 1,300.

*Estimated Time Per Respondent:* 15 minutes.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden*

*Hours:* 325.

*Comments:* Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up

costs and costs of operation, maintenance and purchase of services to provide information.

**Betsy H. Lane,**

*Assistant Commissioner, Federal Finance.*

[FR Doc. 03-27218 Filed 10-28-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4810-35-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Internal Revenue Service

#### Open Meeting of the Wage & Investment Reducing Taxpayer Burden (Notices) Issue Committee of the Taxpayer Advocacy Panel

**AGENCY:** Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** An open meeting of the Wage & Investment Reducing Taxpayer Burden (Notices) Issue Committee of the Taxpayer Advocacy Panel will be conducted (via teleconference). The Taxpayer Advocacy Panel is soliciting public comments, ideas and suggestions on improving customer service at the Internal Revenue Service.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held Wednesday, November 19, 2003 from 12 noon EST to 1 p.m. EST.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Sallie Chavez at 1-888-912-1227, or 954-423-7979.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. (1988) that an open meeting of the Wage & Investment Reducing Taxpayer Burden (Notices) Issue Committee of the Taxpayer Advocacy Panel will be held Wednesday, November 19, 2003, from 12 noon EST to 1 p.m. EST via a telephone conference call. Individual comments will be limited to 5 minutes. If you would like to have the TAP consider a written statement, please call 1-888-912-1227 or 954-423-7979, or write Sallie Chavez, TAP Office, 1000 South Pine Island Road, Suite 340, Plantation, FL 33324. Due to limited conference lines, notification of intent to participate in the telephone conference call meeting must be made with Sallie Chavez. Ms. Chavez can be reached at 1-888-912-1227 or 954-423-7979.

The agenda will include various IRS issues.

Dated: October 21, 2003.

**Tersheia Carter,**

*Acting Director, Taxpayer Advocacy Panel.*

[FR Doc. 03-27276 Filed 10-28-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4830-01-P**