

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Research and Special Programs Administration**

[Docket Number: RSPA-98-4957]

Pipeline Safety: Renewal of information Collection: Comment Request**AGENCY:** Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA), DOT.**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: This notice requests public participation in the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval process for the renewal of an existing RSPA information collection. This information collection concerns a pipeline safety regulation that requires hazardous liquid pipeline operators who operate more than 500 miles of pipeline to follow certain protocols in areas designated as high consequence areas (HCAs). RSPA intends to request OMB approval for renewal of this information collection under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 and 5 CFR part 1320. The purpose of this notice is to allow the public 60 days from the date of this notice to send in their comments.

Abstract: RSPA pipeline safety regulation 49 CFR 195.452 designates certain environmentally sensitive areas that are particularly vulnerable to the consequences of hazardous liquid pipeline accidents as high consequence areas (HCAs). The rule was promulgated in on December 1, 2000 (65 FR 75378) to provide for thorough assessment and repair of pipeline segments that, in the event of a leak or failure, could affect populated areas, areas unusually sensitive to environmental damage, and commercially navigable waterways. RSPA now requires hazardous liquid pipeline operators with more than 500 miles of pipeline to develop and follow an integrity management program that provides for continually assessing the integrity of all pipeline segments that could affect these high consequence areas.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by November 10, 2003, to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to send comments in duplicate to the Research and Special Programs Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, Dockets Facility, Plaza 401, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001 or e-mail to dms.dot.gov. Comments can be reviewed at the dockets facility which is

open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on Federal holidays, when the facility is closed. Comments must identify docket number of this notice. Persons should submit the original documents and one (1) copy. Persons wishing to receive confirmation of receipt of their comments must include a stamped, self-addressed postcard. Please identify the docket number shown in the heading of this notice. Documents pertaining to this notice can be viewed in this docket. The docket can also be viewed electronically at dms.dot.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Marvin Fell, (202) 366-6205, to ask questions about this notice; or write by e-mail to marvin.fell@rspa.dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Abstract: Certain areas are particularly environmentally sensitive from hazardous liquid pipeline failures. These areas are called high consequence areas (HCA's).

Respondents: Gas and hazardous liquid pipeline operators.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 66.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours on Respondents: 54,780.

OMB Control Number: 2137-0604.

Comments are invited on: (a) The need for the proposed collection of information for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways 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.

All timely written comments to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also be available to the public in the docket.

Issued in Washington, DC, on August 29, 2003.

Stacey L. Gerard,

Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety.

[FR Doc. 03-22925 Filed 9-8-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-60-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Surface Transportation Board**

[STB Docket Nos. AB-838 and AB-33 (Sub-No. 199)]

East St. Louis Junction Railroad Company—Adverse Abandonment and Union Pacific Railroad Company—Adverse Discontinuance—in St. Clair County, IL

On August 20, 2003, the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) filed with the Surface Transportation Board (Board) an application under 49 U.S.C. 10903 seeking the adverse abandonment of the East St. Louis Junction Railroad Company's (ESLJ) line of railroad between milepost 0.0 and milepost 1.16, plus 6.40 miles of switch track and .34 miles of spur track, a total of 7.90 miles of track, in the National Stock Yards in St. Clair County, IL. IDOT also requests that the Board grant an adverse discontinuance of rail service over the subject rail property provided by ESLJ's lessee, Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP). The line traverses United States Postal Service ZIP Code 62071, and includes the station of National Stock Yards.

Appreciable portions of the land underlying the railroad line proposed for abandonment and discontinuance of service are required for the construction of a relocated Illinois Route 3 and the construction of a connection from Interstate Highway I-64 in Illinois to a proposed New Mississippi River Bridge and relocated Interstate Highway I-70. This abandonment will permit the grade separation of all state highways and railroad lines in this area.

Based on information in IDOT's possession, the line does not contain Federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in IDOT's possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it. The applicant's entire case for abandonment and discontinuance was filed with the application.¹

This line of railroad has not appeared on the railroads' system diagram map in Category 1.

The interests of UP's employees will be protected by the conditions set forth in *Oregon Short Line R. Co.—Abandonment—Goshen*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979). Employees of ESLJ, however, will not receive such protection, as all

¹ In a decision served in this proceeding on June 30, 2003, IDOT was granted exemptions and waivers, respectively, from several of the applicable statutory provisions governing rail line abandonments, and from several related filing requirements of the Board's regulations at 49 CFR 1152.