

Passenger Travel Program Manager, BTS, RITA, Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590. Office hours are from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: National Ferry Database.

Background: The Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) (Pub. L. 105-178), section 1207(c), directed the Secretary of Transportation to conduct a study of ferry transportation in the United States and its possessions. In 2000, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Office of Intermodal and Statewide Planning conducted a survey of approximately 250 ferry operators to identify: (1) Existing ferry operations including the location and routes served; (2) source and amount, if any, of funds derived from Federal, State, or local governments supporting ferry construction or operations; (3) potential domestic ferry routes in the United States and its possessions and to develop information on those routes; and (4) potential for use of high speed ferry services and alternative-fueled ferry services. The Safe, Accountable, Flexible Efficient Transportation Equity Act—A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU; H.R. 3, Section 1801(e)) requires that the Secretary, acting through the BTS, shall establish and maintain a national ferry database containing current information regarding routes, vessels, passengers and vehicles carried, funding sources and such other information as the Secretary considers useful.

The new data collection will rely on a written survey and telephone follow-up. An electronic version of the questionnaire will also be available to respondents on request. Data will be collected from the entire population of ferry operators (estimate 300 or less). Before the survey begins, the Passenger Vessel Association will mail letters to its respective members advising them of the purpose of the survey and encouraging their participation. The survey will request the respondents to provide information such as: (1) The points served; (2) the amount and source of Federal, State, and/or local funds used in the past 24 months; (3) the type of ownership; (4) the number of passengers and vehicles carried in the past 12 months; (5) any new routes expected to be added within the next five years; and (6) the highways that are connected by the ferries.

Respondents: The target population for the survey will be all of the

approximately 300 operators of existing ferry services in the United States.

Estimated Average Burden per Response: The burden per respondent is estimated to be an average of 20 minutes. This average is based on an estimate of 10 minutes to answer new questions and an additional 5-15 minutes to review (and revise as needed) previously submitted data.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: The total annual burden is estimated to be 100 hours (that is 20 minutes per respondent for 300 respondents equals 6,000 minutes or 100 hours).

Frequency: This survey will be updated every other year.

Public Comments Invited: Interested parties are invited to send comments regarding any aspect of this information collection, including, but not limited to: (1) The necessity and utility of the information collection for the proper performance of the functions of the DOT; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the collected information; and (4) ways to minimize the collection burden without reducing the quality of the collected information. Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB's clearance of this information collection.

Authority: The Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century, (Pub. L. 105-178), section 1207(c) and H.R. 3, The Safe, Accountable, Flexible Efficient Transportation Equity Act—A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) 2005 and 49 CFR 1.46.

Issued in Washington, DC on the 24th day of August, 2005.

Mary Hutzler,

Associate Director, Office of Statistical Programs, Bureau of Transportation Statistics, Research and Innovative Technology Administration.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

Release of Waybill Data

The Surface Transportation Board has received a request from Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP on behalf Canadian Pacific Railway Company (WB471-9—August 8, 2005) for permission to use certain data from the Board's Carload Waybill Samples. A copy of the request may be obtained from the Office of Economics, Environmental Analysis, and Administration.

The waybill sample contains confidential railroad and shipper data; therefore, if any parties object to these

requests, they should file their objections with the Director of the Board's Office of Economics, Environmental Analysis, and Administration within 14 calendar days of the date of this notice. The rules for release of waybill data are codified at 49 CFR 1244.9.

Contact: Mac Frampton, (202) 565-1541.

Vernon A. Williams,

Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

Release of Waybill Data

The Surface Transportation Board has received a request from Michael Behe representing USRail.desktop (WB604-3-7/8/05) for permission to use certain data from the Board's 1984-1998 and 2004 Carload Waybill Samples. A copy of this request may be obtained from the Office of Economics, Environmental Analysis, and Administration.

The waybill sample contains confidential railroad and shipper data; therefore, if any parties object to these requests, they should file their objections with the Director of the Board's Office of Economics, Environmental Analysis, and Administration within 14 calendar days of the date of this notice. The rules for release of waybill data are codified at 49 CFR 1244.9.

Contact: Mac Frampton, (202) 565-1541.

Vernon A. Williams,

Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 34714]

Arkansas Midland Railroad Company, Inc.—Lease and Operation Exemption—Union Pacific Railroad Company

Arkansas Midland Railroad Company, Inc. (AKMD),¹ a Class III rail carrier, has

¹ AKMD is a wholly owned subsidiary of Pinsky Railroad Company, a noncarrier holding company which also controls four other Class III rail carriers in Florida and Massachusetts. See *Pinsky Railroad Company—Continuance in Control Exemption—Arkansas Midland Railroad Company Inc.*, Finance Docket No. 32001 (ICC served Mar. 6, 1992).