

as well as to report local traffic circulation, access and aesthetic concerns. In addition, an Alternates Public Workshop was held to acquaint the public with the MD 3 Project Planning Study, to present a summary of conceptual engineering and environmental studies to date, and to provide an opportunity for public involvement in the Project Planning Process.

A public hearing is anticipated to be held spring 2004. Public notice will be given of the time and place of this hearing. The draft EIS will be available for public and agency review and comment prior to the public hearing, to ensure that the full range of issues relating to this proposed action are addressed and all significant issues identified, comments, and suggestions are invited from all interested parties.

Comments or questions concerning this proposed action and the EIS should be directed to the FHWA at the address provided above.

Issued on: June 12, 2003.

**Nelson J. Castellanos,**

*Division Administrator, Federal Highway Administration—Maryland Division.*

[FR Doc. 03-15421 Filed 6-18-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-22-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Surface Transportation Board

[STB Ex Parte No. 558 (Sub-No. 6)]

#### Railroad Cost of Capital—2002

**AGENCY:** Surface Transportation Board, DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of decision.

**SUMMARY:** On June 11, 2003 the Board served a decision to update its computation of the railroad industry's cost of capital for 2002. The composite after-tax cost of capital rate for 2002 is found to be 9.8%, based on a current cost of debt of 6.0%; a cost of common equity capital of 12.6%; a cost of preferred equity capital of 6.3%; and a capital structure mix comprised of 41.2% debt, 56.7% common equity, and 2.1% preferred equity capital. The cost of capital finding made in this proceeding will be used in a variety of Board proceedings.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This action is effective June 11, 2003.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Leonard J. Blistein, (202) 565-1529. (Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) for the hearing impaired: 1 (800) 877-8339.)

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The cost of capital finding in this decision may be used for a variety of regulatory purposes. The Board's decision is posted on the Board's Web site, <http://www.stb.dot.gov>. In addition, copies of the decision may be purchased from Da-2-Da Legal Copy Service by calling 202-293-7776 (assistance for the hearing impaired is available through FIRS at 1-800-877-8339) or visiting Suite 405, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20006.

#### Environmental and Energy Considerations

This action will not significantly affect either the quality of the human environment or the conservation of energy resources.

#### Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 605(b), we conclude that our action in this proceeding will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. The purpose and effect of this action are to update the annual railroad industry cost of capital finding by the Board. No new reporting or other regulatory requirements are imposed, directly or indirectly, on small entities.

**Authority:** 49 U.S.C. 10704(a).

Decided: June 11, 2003.

By the Board, Chairman Nober.

**Vernon A. Williams,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 03-15505 Filed 6-18-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4915-00-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Internal Revenue Service

#### Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Form W-7A

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

**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, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning Form W-7A, Application for Taxpayer Identification Number for Pending U.S. Adoptions.

**DATES:** Written comments should be received on or before August 18, 2003 to be assured of consideration.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Glenn Kirkland, Internal Revenue Service, room 6411, 1111 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20224.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the form and instructions should be directed to Larnice Mack at Internal Revenue Service, room 6407, 1111 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20224, or at (202) 622-3179, or through the Internet at [Larnice.Mack@irs.gov](mailto:Larnice.Mack@irs.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

**Title:** Application for Taxpayer Identification Number for Pending U.S. Adoptions.

**OMB Number:** 1545-1547.

**Form Number:** W-7A.

**Abstract:** Form W-7A is used to apply for an Internal Revenue Service taxpayer identification number (an ATIN) for use in pending adoptions. An ATIN is a temporary nine-digit number issued by the Internal Revenue Service for individuals who are in the process of adopting a United States resident child but who cannot get a social security number for that child until the adoption is final.

**Current Actions:** There are no changes being made to the form at this time.

**Affected Public:** Individuals or households.

**Estimated Number of Respondents:** 50,000.

**Estimated Time Per Respondent:** 4 minutes.

**Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:** 35,000.

The following paragraph applies to all of the collections of information covered by this notice:

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

#### 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

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.

Approved: June 12, 2003.

**Glenn Kirkland,**

*IRS Reports Clearance Officer.*

[FR Doc. 03-15542 Filed 6-18-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4830-01-M**

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## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

### Research and Development Office; Government Owned Invention Available for Licensing

**AGENCY:** Research and Development Office, Department of Veterans Affairs.

**ACTION:** Notice of government owned invention available for licensing.

**SUMMARY:** The invention listed below is owned by the U.S. Government as represented by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and is available for licensing in accordance with 35 U.S.C. 207 and 37 CFR part 404 to achieve expeditious commercialization of results of federally funded research and development. Foreign patents are filed

on selected inventions to extend market coverage for U.S. companies and may also be available for licensing.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Technical and licensing information on the invention may be obtained by writing to: Mindy Aisen, MD, Department of Veterans Affairs, Director Technology Transfer Program, Research and Development Office, 810 Vermont Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20420; fax: 202-254-0473; e-mail at *mindy.aisen@mail.va.gov*. Any request for information should include the Number and Title for the relevant invention as indicated below. Issued patents may be obtained from the Commissioner of Patents, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The invention available for licensing is:

10/306,737 "Transgenic Screen and Method for Screening Modulators of Brain-Derived Neurotrophic Factor (BDNF) Production".

Dated: June 11, 2003.

**Anthony J. Principi,**

*Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs.*

[FR Doc. 03-15409 Filed 6-18-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8320-01-P**

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## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

### Research and Development Office; Government Owned Invention Available for Licensing

**AGENCY:** Research and Development Office.

**ACTION:** Notice of government owned invention available for licensing.

**SUMMARY:** The invention listed below is owned by the U.S. Government as represented by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and is available for licensing in accordance with Title 35 U.S.C. 207 and Title 37 CFR part 404 to achieve expeditious commercialization of results of federally funded research and development. Foreign patents are filed on selected inventions to extend market coverage for U.S. companies and may also be available for licensing.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Technical and licensing information on the invention may be obtained by writing to: Mindy Aisen, MD, Department of Veterans Affairs, Director Technology Transfer Program, Research and Development Office, 810 Vermont Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20420; fax: (202) 254-0473; e-mail at *mindy.aisen@mail.va.gov*. Any request for information should include the Number and Title for the relevant invention as indicated below. Issued patents may be obtained from the Commissioner of Patents, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The invention available for licensing is:

10/316,087 "Oblique Angled Suspension Caster Fork for Wheelchairs".

Dated: June 9, 2003.

**Anthony J. Principi,**

*Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs.*

[FR Doc. 03-15410 Filed 6-18-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8320-01-P**