

engineer should determine whether the bridges are being inspected according to the applicable procedure and frequency, and will review any items noted by the inspector as exceptions. Often, the individual exceptions would not indicate a serious problem with a bridge, but when considered together by an engineer, they would show a more serious problem developing on the bridge.

(5) Protection of Train Operations. A bridge owner should designate qualified bridge inspectors or maintenance personnel to authorize the operation of trains on bridges following repairs, damage or indications of potential structural problems. Only a qualified person should be permitted to authorize train operation after such an occurrence.

#### Implementation of the FRA Bridge Safety Program

FRA has been conducting evaluations of railroad bridge management programs since the 1980's, before the Bridge Safety Policy was first issued. The Policy indicates that its guidelines will be the basis for FRA's evaluation of bridge management. This Safety Advisory essentially amplifies and clarifies the criteria included in the Policy guidelines. The recommendations included in this Safety Advisory will be reviewed by FRA personnel when conducting evaluations of railroad bridge management. The same criteria, together with other risk factors, will be considered by FRA when selecting small railroads for further evaluation. FRA will maintain on-going evaluations on the larger railroads and passenger carriers.

FRA has been able to adhere to its policy of not issuing specific regulations governing bridge management, bridge conditions and bridge capacities. If the continuing evaluations show that the railroad industry is essentially adhering to the principles of good engineering and the provisions of this Safety Advisory, and also provided that no significant train accidents are caused by the structural failure of a railroad bridge, FRA intends to continue with this non-regulatory policy.

Owners of track carried on one or more railroad bridges are encouraged to voluntarily take action in accordance with these recommendations. If circumstances so warrant, FRA reserves the authority to take other corrective action, including: issuing an emergency order to restrict operations over a railroad bridge if necessary to protect public safety, modifying this Safety Advisory 2007-03, issuing additional safety advisories, taking regulatory

action, or taking other appropriate action necessary to ensure the highest level of safety on the Nation's railroads.

Issued in Washington, DC, on September 4, 2007.

Jo Strang,

Associate Administrator for Safety.

[FR Doc. E7-17811 Filed 9-10-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-06-P

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

[Docket: PHMSA-1998-4957]

#### Request for Public Comments and Office of Management and Budget Approval of an Existing Information Collection (2137-0618)

**AGENCY:** Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT).

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

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), this notice requests public participation in the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval process for the renewal and extension of an information collection: "Pipeline Safety: Periodic Underwater Inspections." PHMSA invites the public to submit comments over the next 60 days on whether the existing information collection is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of DOT.

**DATES:** Submit comments on or before November 13, 2007.

**ADDRESSES:** Reference Docket PHMSA-1998-4957 and submit comments in the following ways:

- **Electronic Submissions:** Through September 27, 2007, comments may be submitted electronically on the e-Gov Web site at <http://www.regulations.gov> or on the DOT electronic docket site, <http://dms.dot.gov>. To submit comments on the DOT electronic docket, click "Comment/Submissions," click "Continue," fill in the requested information, click "Continue," enter your comment, then click "Submit." Beginning on September 27, 2007, electronic comment submissions may only be made on the E-Gov Web site at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

- **Fax:** 1-202-493-2251.

- **Mail:** Docket Management System: U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590.

- **Hand Delivery:** DOT Docket Management System; 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, Washington, DC between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

**Instructions:** Identify the docket number, PHMSA-1998-4957, at the beginning of your comments. If you mail your comments, send two copies. To receive confirmation that PHMSA received your comments, include a self-addressed stamped postcard. Through September 27, 2007, internet users may access all comments received by DOT at <http://dms.dot.gov> by performing a simple search for the docket number. Beginning September 30, 2007, internet users may access all comments received by DOT at <http://www.regulations.gov>. (Please note that comments may not be accessible on either Web site on September 28-29, 2007, during system migration). All comments are posted electronically without changes or edits, including any personal information provided.

**Privacy Act—**Anyone can search the electronic form of all comments received in response to any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the comment, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement was published in the **Federal Register** on April 11, 2000 (65 FR 19477), and is on the Web at <http://www.dot.gov/privacy.html>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Roger Little at (202) 366-4569, or by e-mail at [roger.little@dot.gov](mailto:roger.little@dot.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This notice concerns Periodic Underwater Inspections, an existing information collection in 49 CFR 192.612 and 195.413 of the pipeline safety regulations. PHMSA requires each operator of a natural gas or hazardous liquid pipeline in the Gulf of Mexico and its inlets to periodically inspect its pipelines in waters less than 15 feet (4.6 meters) deep as measured from mean low water that are at risk of being an exposed underwater pipeline or a hazard to navigation. If an operator discovers that its pipeline is an exposed underwater pipeline or poses a hazard to navigation, the operator must promptly report the location and, if available, the geographic coordinates of that pipeline to the National Response Center.

PHMSA is now requesting that OMB grant a three-year term of approval for renewal of this information collection. Pursuant to 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA, PHMSA invites comments on

whether the renewal is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of DOT. As used in this notice, the term "information collection" includes all work related to preparing and disseminating information related to this information collection requirement including completing paperwork, gathering information, and conducting telephone calls. Comments may include (1) whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of DOT's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collection; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

*Type of Information Collection*

*Request:* Renewal of existing collection.

*Title of Information Collection:*

Pipeline Safety: Periodic Underwater Inspections.

*Respondents:* 82.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden on*

*Respondents:* 1,350 hours.

*Estimated Cost:* \$6,475.

Issued in Washington, DC on September 4, 2007.

**Florence L. Hamn,**

*Director of Regulations, Office of Pipeline Safety.*

[FR Doc. E7-17896 Filed 9-10-07; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-60-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

#### International Standards on the Transport of Dangerous Goods; Public Meeting

**AGENCY:** Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), Department of Transportation.

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** This notice is to advise interested persons that PHMSA will conduct a public meeting in preparation for the twenty-first meeting of the International Civil Aviation Organization's (ICAO) Dangerous Goods Panel (DGP) to be held November 5-16, 2007 in Montreal, Canada.

**DATES:** Wednesday, October 24, 2007, 1:30 p.m.-5 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the new DOT Headquarters, West Building, Oklahoma City Conference Room, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Duane Pfund, Director, Office of International Standards, Office of Hazardous Materials Safety, Department of Transportation, Washington, DC 20590; (202) 366-0656.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The primary purpose of this public meeting will be to discuss draft U.S. positions on the proposals that will be considered during the 21st Meeting of the ICAO DGP. Agenda items include:

*Agenda Item 1:* Development of proposals, if necessary, for amendments to Annex 18—Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air.

*Agenda Item 2:* Development of recommendations for amendments to the Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air (Doc 9284) for incorporation in the 2009-2010 Edition.

*Agenda Item 3:* Development of recommendations or amendments to the Supplement to the Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air (Doc 9284) for incorporation in the 2009-2010 Edition.

*Agenda Item 4:* Amendments to the Emergency Response Guidance for Aircraft Incidents involving Dangerous Goods (Doc 9481) for incorporation in the 2009-2010 Edition.

*Agenda Item 5:* Resolution, where possible, of the non-recurrent work items identified by the Air Navigation Commission or the panel.

5.1: Principles governing the transport of dangerous goods on cargo only aircraft.

5.2: Reformatting of the packing instructions.

5.3: Review of provisions for dangerous goods carried by passengers and crew.

5.4: Review of provisions for dangerous goods relating to lithium batteries.

5.5: Review of amendment process for the Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air (Doc 9284).

In addition, we are soliciting comments on PHMSA's international agenda as it relates to PHMSA's work with the ICAO DGP. In particular, input is requested on any air-mode specific harmonization issues regarding the requirements of the ICAO Technical Instructions (ICAO TI) and the U.S. Hazardous Materials Regulations (U.S. HMR). Discussion topics include but are not limited to:

—How can PHMSA more closely align the limited quantity and consumer commodity provisions within the U.S. HMR and the ICAO TI?

—What efforts should be undertaken to address differences between the U.S.

- HMR and the ICAO TI related to packaging requirements and inner packaging quantity limits;
- What specific operational requirements differ between the U.S. HMR and the ICAO TI and how should those differences be addressed?
  - PHMSA is interested in partnering with the regulated industry to identify a comprehensive list of differences between the U.S. HMR and the ICAO TI, and determine the most appropriate manner in which to address these differences.
  - What aspects of the U.S. HMR could be better aligned with the ICAO TI, and conversely, are there any provisions within the U.S. HMR that could be considered by the ICAO DGP for inclusion in the ICAO TI?
  - PHMSA is soliciting input relative to the use of the U.S. HMR or ICAO TI (as an alternative to the U.S. HMR) for domestic air transportation and the necessity for specific U.S. HMR exceptions applicable only to domestic air transport.

For more information on the ICAO DGP and to check for updates on information related to this public meeting visit PHMSA's International Standards Web site at <http://hazmat.dot.gov/regs/intl/intstandards.htm>. To download papers which will be considered by the Panel visit the DGP Web site at <http://www.icao.int/anb/FLS/DangerousGoods/flsdg.cfm>.

**Robert A. Richard,**

*Deputy Associate Administrator for Hazardous Materials Safety.*

[FR Doc. 07-4426 Filed 9-10-07; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-60-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Surface Transportation Board

[STB Docket No. AB-1000 (Sub-No. 1X)]

#### Georgia Southwestern Railroad, Inc.—Abandonment and Discontinuance Exemption—in Harris and Meriwether Counties, GA

On August 22, 2007, Georgia Southwestern Railroad, Inc. (GSWR) filed with the Board a petition under 49 U.S.C. 10502 for exemption from the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 10903 to abandon a 43-mile line of railroad between milepost R-12.0 at Florida Rock and milepost R-55.0 at Allie, in Harris and Meriwether Counties, GA, and to discontinue overhead trackage rights over a line owned by Central of Georgia Railroad Company (CGR)