

Please reference the following Web sites for additional information: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants>.
<http://exchanges.state.gov/education/grantsdiv/terms.htm#articleI>.

VI.3. Reporting Requirements

You must provide ECA with a hard copy original plus one copy of the following reports:

Quarterly financial reports; Annual program reports for the first and second year of the agreement; and final program and financial report no more than 90 days after the expiration of the award.

Grantees will be required to provide reports analyzing their evaluation findings to the Bureau in their regular program reports. (Please refer to Application and Submission Instructions (IV.3.d.3) above for Program Monitoring and Evaluation information.)

All data collected, including survey responses and contact information, must be maintained for a minimum of three years and provided to the Bureau upon request.

All reports must be sent to the ECA Grants Officer and ECA Program Officer listed in the final assistance award document.

VII. Agency Contacts

For questions about this announcement, contact Catharine Cashner, Office of Global Educational Programs, ECA/A/S/X, Room 349, ECA/A/S/X-06-04, U.S. Department of State, SA-44, 301 4th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20547, telephone (202) 453-8880 and fax number (202) 453-8890, CashnerCE@state.gov.

All correspondence with the Bureau concerning this RFGP should reference the above title and number ECA/A/S/X-06-04.

Please read the complete **Federal Register** announcement before sending inquiries or submitting proposals. Once the RFGP deadline has passed, Bureau staff may not discuss this competition with applicants until the proposal review process has been completed.

VIII. Other Information

Notice

The terms and conditions published in this RFGP are binding and may not be modified by any Bureau representative. Explanatory information provided by the Bureau that contradicts published language will not be binding. Issuance of the RFGP does not constitute an award commitment on the part of the Government. The Bureau reserves the right to reduce, revise, or increase proposal budgets in accordance

with the needs of the program and the availability of funds. Awards made will be subject to periodic reporting and evaluation requirements per section VI.3 above.

Dated: February 10, 2006.

C. Miller Crouch,

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Department of State.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 34822]

Kansas City Southern, The Kansas City Southern Railway Company, and Meridian Speedway LLC—Exemption for Transactions Within a Corporate Family

Kansas City Southern (KCS), The Kansas City Southern Railway Company (KCSR), and the newly formed Meridian Speedway LLC (MSLLC) have filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1180.2(d)(3) for a transaction within a corporate family. The transaction involves the transfer to MSLLC of KCSR's rail line between Meridian, MS, and Shreveport, LA, KCS's continuance in control of MSLLC when it becomes a rail carrier, and the subsequent grant back of operating rights by MSLLC to KCSR to allow KCSR to operate as MSLLC's contract operator in fulfilling MSLLC's contractual and common carrier obligations.¹ This notice is related to two concurrently filed notices, STB Finance Docket Nos. 34821 and 34823, where Norfolk Southern Railway Company (NSR) and KCSR, respectively, have sought authority to acquire trackage rights over the line.

The parties had intended to consummate the transaction on the later of two dates, January 24, 2006, or upon

¹ KCSR currently operates via trackage rights over approximately four-tenths of a mile section of track in Jackson, MS, that is controlled by Canadian National Railway Company (CN) as successor to Illinois Central Gulf Railroad Company (IC) pursuant to a trackage rights agreement dated March 26, 1986, between MidSouth Rail Corporation and IC (Jackson Trackage Rights Agreement). KCSR also currently operates over a railroad bridge over the Mississippi River at Vicksburg, MS, pursuant to a lease agreement between the Vicksburg Bridge and Terminal Company and The Yazoo and Mississippi Valley Railroad Company dated February 11, 1928, as amended and/or replaced from time to time (Vicksburg Bridge Lease). The transaction contemplates having both the Jackson Trackage Rights Agreement and the Vicksburg Bridge Lease assigned to MSLLC.

completion of the environmental or historical documentation process as required under 49 CFR 1105.² However, by decision served on January 23, 2006, the effective date of the three exemptions was stayed, at the joint request of CN, NSR, KCS, KCSR, and MSLLC, until February 23, 2006. Accordingly, consummation of the transaction cannot occur until February 23, at the earliest.

This transaction and the transactions described in the two related notices of exemption are part of a joint-venture between KCS and NSR to share and upgrade this portion of the Meridian Speedway, a line running between Meridian, MS, and Dallas, TX.

This is a transaction within a corporate family of the type exempted from prior review and approval under 49 CFR 1180.2(d)(3). Based on the parties' description of the intracorporate transaction, it should 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 *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. 34822 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 Robert B. Terry, Kansas City Southern, 427 West 12th Street, Kansas City, MO 64105; and William A. Mullins, Baker & Miller PLLC, 2401 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Suite 300, Washington, DC 20037.

Board decisions and notices are available on our web site at <http://www.stb.dot.gov>.

Decided: February 10, 2006.

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

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

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² KCSR and NSR, believing that the transaction will help increase traffic on the line, have contacted the Board's Section of Environmental Analysis concerning any necessary environmental review.