

advisory review. Proposals may also be reviewed by the Office of the Legal Adviser or by other Department elements.

Final technical authority for assistance awards resides with the Office of Acquisition Management's Grants Officer.

#### Review Criteria

Eligible applications will be competitively reviewed according to the criteria stated below. Fuller explanation of these criteria are included in the PSI. These criteria are not rank ordered and all carry equal weight in the proposal evaluation: quality of the program idea; program planning and ability to achieve program objectives; multiplier effect/impact; institution's record/ability/capacity; cost-effectiveness.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:** The Office for the Promotion of Human Rights and Democracy of the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor, DRL/PHD. Please specify Sondra Govatski (202)–647–9734 on all inquiries and correspondence.

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

#### To Download A Solicitation Package Via Internet

The Solicitation Package includes this RFP plus the Proposal Submission Instructions (PSI) which contains detailed award criteria, specific budget instructions, and standard guidelines for proposal preparation. The entire RFP and PSI may be downloaded from the Bureau's Web site at <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/>.

#### Notice

The terms and conditions published in this RFP 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 RFP 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.

#### Notification

Final awards cannot be made until funds have been appropriated by

Congress, allocated and committed through internal Bureau procedures.

Dated: April 7, 2003.

**Lorne W. Craner,**

*Assistant Secretary for Democracy, Human Rights and Labor, Department of State.*

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#### DEPARTMENT OF STATE

##### [Public Notice 4302]

#### Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy Notice of Meeting

The Department of State announces a meeting of the U.S. Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy on Tuesday, April 29, 2003, in Room 600, 301 4th St., SW., Washington, DC from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

The Commission, reauthorized pursuant to Pub. L. 106–113 (H.R. 3194, Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2000), will have a retrospective discussion about the viewpoints Commissioners developed on public diplomacy during their terms in office.

Members of the general public may attend the meeting, though attendance of public members will be limited to the seating available. Access to the building is controlled, and individual building passes are required for all attendees.

The U.S. Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy is a bipartisan Presidentially appointed panel created by Congress in 1948 to provide oversight of U.S. Government activities intended to understand, inform and influence foreign publics. The Commission reports its findings and recommendations to the President, the Congress and the Secretary of State and the American people. Current Commission members include Harold Pachios of Maine, who is the chairman; Charles Dolan of Virginia, who is the vice chairman; Lewis Manilow of Illinois; Penne Korth Peacock of Washington, DC and Maria Elena Torano of Florida.

For more information or to attend the meeting, please contact Matt Lauer at (202) 619–4457.

Dated: April 9, 2003.

**Matthew Lauer,**

*Executive Director, U.S. Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy, Department of State.*

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#### DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

##### Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 34327]

#### Richard J. Corman—Continuance in Control Exemption—R.J. Corman Railroad Company/Central Kentucky Lines

Richard J. Corman (Corman), a noncarrier individual, has filed a verified notice of exemption to continue in control of R.J. Corman Railroad Company/Central Kentucky Lines (RJCC), upon RJCC's becoming a Class III rail carrier.

Corman reported that the parties intended to consummate the transaction on or soon after March 28, 2003, the effective date of the exemption (7 days after the exemption was filed).

This transaction is related to two simultaneously filed notices of exemption: STB Finance Docket No. 34325, *R.J. Corman Equipment Company, LLC-Acquisition Exemption-Line of Lexington & Ohio Railroad Co., Inc.*, wherein R.J. Corman Equipment Company, LLC (RJCE) seeks to acquire approximately 14.9 miles of rail line from the Lexington & Ohio Railroad Co., Inc.; and STB Finance Docket No. 34326, *R.J. Corman Railroad Company/Central Kentucky Lines-Lease and Operation Exemption—Line of R. J. Corman Equipment Company, LLC*, wherein R.J. Corman Railroad Company/Central Kentucky Lines seeks to lease and operate the rail line being acquired by RJCE in STB Finance Docket No. 34325.

Corman controls through stock ownership eight Class III rail carriers: R.J. Corman Railroad Company/Pennsylvania Lines, Inc., operating in Pennsylvania; R.J. Corman Railroad Company/Memphis Line, operating in Tennessee and Kentucky; R.J. Corman Railroad Company/Western Ohio Line, operating in Ohio; R.J. Corman Railroad Company/Cleveland Line operating in Ohio; R.J. Corman Railroad Company/Bardstown Line, operating in Kentucky; R.J. Corman Railroad Company/Allentown Lines, Inc., operating in Pennsylvania and New York; Clearfield and Mahoning Railway Company, operating in Pennsylvania; and R.J. Corman Equipment Company, LLC, a nonoperating common carrier which owns and leases track in Kentucky and Ohio.

Corman states that the rail line to be leased and operated by RJCC will not connect with the rail lines of any existing rail carrier in the Corman corporate family, this control transaction is not part of a series of