

thus, standard, nationally based, telephone survey techniques would not be cost effective. Further, contacts with specific States indicated that it is not feasible to obtain a representative sample of motorcycle owners and operators given the limitations of data available from motor-vehicle departments. Therefore, an in-person survey using a convenience sample selected from various venues across broad geographic areas was chosen as the most practical approach. The survey will be administered using face-to-face interview. Motorcycle operators, both licensed and non-licensed will be included, with a special emphasis on riders over 40 years of age. Participation by respondents will be strictly voluntary. The basic interview will vary from 8–10 minutes; whereas for crash involved operators, an additional 5 minutes of questions will be administered. The average interview should last approximately 12 minutes. The requested expiration date of approval is June 30, 2005.

Trained interviewers will use specially developed survey forms with multiple-choice responses where possible to reduce survey administration time and to minimize data collection errors. To further reduce survey administration time and to minimize data collection errors, the trained interviewers will be current motorcyclists where possible. A Spanish-language questionnaire and bilingual interviewer will be used to reduce language barriers to participation. Confidentiality will be assured by conformance to procedures described in CIPSEA 2002.

The findings from this proposed survey will assist NHTSA in addressing the problem of motorcycle operator safety. NHTSA will use the findings to help focus current programs and activities to achieve the greatest benefit, to develop new programs, to decrease the likelihood of such crashes, and to provide informational support to states, localities, law enforcement agencies, and motorcyclists that will aid them in their efforts to reduce motorcyclist crashes, injuries and fatalities.

Estimate of the Total Annual Burden Resulting From the Collection of Information

NHTSA estimates that respondents in the sample would require an average of 12 minutes to complete the personal interview. Thus, estimated reporting burden on the general public would be a total of 400 hours per year for 2 years. The respondents would not incur any reporting or record keeping cost from the information collection.

Number of Respondents: It is anticipated that the number of respondents will be 4,000 motorcycle operators during the course of this study.

Comments are invited on: whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of NHTSA, including whether the information will have practical utility; the accuracy of NHTSA's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Marilena Amoni,

Associate Administrator for Program Development and Delivery, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

[FR Doc. 03–10447 Filed 4–28–03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–59–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 34331]

Wisconsin Central Ltd.—Trackage Rights Exemption—Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railway Company

Pursuant to a trackage rights agreement dated April 8, 2003, between Wisconsin Central Ltd. (WCL), and the Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railway Company (EJE), WCL shall have non-exclusive overhead trackage rights between the EJE's connection with WCL at Leighton, IL, at or near EJE milepost 59.3 and EJE's connection with the Chicago Central & Pacific Railroad Company (CCP)¹ at Munger, IL, at or near EJE milepost 35.3, on EJE's Western Subdivision, a total distance of approximately 24 miles.²

The transaction was scheduled to be consummated on or after April 16, 2003.

The purpose of the trackage rights is to allow WCL access to the Hawthorne Yard in Chicago, which is operated by CCP.

As a condition to this exemption, any employees affected by the trackage rights will be protected by the

¹ WCL and CCP are affiliates of Canadian National Railway Company.

² A redacted version of the trackage rights agreement between WCL and EJE was filed with the notice of exemption. On April 15, 2003, the full version of the agreement, as required by 49 CFR 1180.6(a)(7)(ii), was filed under seal along with a motion for protective order. A protective order was served in this proceeding on April 23, 2003.

conditions imposed in *Norfolk and Western Ry. Co.—Trackage Rights—BN*, 354 I.C.C. 605 (1978), as modified in *Mendocino Coast Ry., Inc.—Lease and Operate*, 360 I.C.C. 653 (1980).

This notice is filed under 49 CFR 1180.2(d)(7). If it 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. 34331, 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 Michael J. Barron, Jr., 455 North Cityfront Plaza Drive, Chicago, IL 60611–5317.

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

Decided: April 23, 2003.

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

Vernon A. Williams,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03–10528 Filed 4–28–03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915–00–P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Veteran's Advisory Committee on Environmental Hazards, Notice of Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) gives notice under Pub. L. 92–463 (Federal Advisory Committee Act) that a meeting of the Veterans' Advisory Committee on Environmental Hazards will be held on Tuesday and Wednesday, June 3–4 2003, at the Export Import Bank, Lafayette Building, 811 Vermont Avenue, NW., Room 145, Washington, DC 20420. The meeting will convene at 9 a.m. and adjourn at 5 p.m. on both days and is open to the public.

The purpose of the Committee is to provide advice to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on adverse health effects that may be associated with exposure to ionizing radiation and to make recommendations on proposed standards and guidelines regarding VA benefit claims based upon exposure to ionizing radiation.

The major items on the agenda for both days will be discussions and analyses of medical and scientific papers concerning the health effects of exposures to ionizing radiation. On the

basis of their analyses and discussions, the Committee may make recommendations to the Secretary concerning diseases that are the result of exposure to ionizing radiation. The agenda for the second day will include planning future Committee activities and assignment of tasks among the members.

Those who wish to attend should contact Ersie Farber-Collins of the Department of Veterans Affairs, Compensation and Pension Service, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420, prior to June 3, 2003. Ms. Farber-Collins may also be reached at 202-273-7268.

Members of the public may submit written questions or prepared statements for review by the Committee in advance of the meeting. Submitted material must be received at least five (5) days prior to the meeting and should be sent to Ms. Farber-Collins' attention at the address given above. Those who submit material may be asked to clarify it prior to its consideration by the Committee.

Dated: April 21, 2003.

By Director of the Secretary.

E. Philip Riggan,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 03-10492 Filed 4-28-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Scientific Review and Evaluation Board for Health Services Research and Development Service, Notice of Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) gives notice under Public Law 92-463 (Federal Advisory Committee Act) that a meeting of the Scientific Review and Evaluation Board for Health Services Research and Development Service will be held at the Sheraton Nashville Downtown Hotel, 623 Union Street, Nashville, TN 37217, from June 24-26, 2003. On June 24, the Nursing Research Initiative (NRI) and the Service Directed Projects (SDP) reviews will convene concurrently from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. The Investigator Initiated Research (IIR) review will convene from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. on June 24; 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. on June 25; and from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. on June 26.

The purpose of the Board is to review research and development applications concerned with the measurement and evaluation of health care services and with testing new methods of health care delivery and management, and nursing research. Applications are reviewed for scientific and technical merit. Recommendations regarding funding are prepared for the Chief Research and Development Officer.

On June 24, the meeting will be open to the public for approximately one half-hour from 7 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. to

cover administrative matters and to discuss the general status of the program. The closed portion of the meeting involves discussion, examination, reference to, and oral review of staff and consultant critiques of research protocols and similar documents. During this portion of the meeting, discussion and recommendations will include qualifications of the personnel conducting the studies (the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy), as well as research information (the premature disclosure of which would be likely to frustrate significantly the implementation of proposed agency action regarding such research projects).

As provided by subsection 10(d) of Public Law 92-463, as amended by Public Law 94-409, closing portions of these meetings is in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(6) and (9)(B).

Those who plan to attend the open session should contact the Assistant Director, Scientific Review (124F), Health Services Research and Development Service, Department of Veterans Affairs, 1722 Eye Street, NW., Washington, DC, at least five days before the meeting. For further information, call (202) 254-0207.

Dated: April 18, 2003.

By Direction of the Secretary.

E. Philip Riggan,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 03-10493 Filed 4-28-03; 8:45 am]

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