

By the Board, Leland L. Gardner, Director, Office of Economics, Environmental Analysis, and Administration.

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03-22908 Filed 9-10-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Docket No. AB-602X]

Tecumseh Branch Connecting Railroad Company—Abandonment Exemption—in Lenawee County, MI

Tecumseh Branch Connecting Railroad Company (TBCR) has filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 subpart F—*Exempt Abandonments* to abandon approximately 0.8 miles of railroad of the Tecumseh Branch of the former Detroit, Toledo & Ironton Railroad extending from TBCR's point of interchange with Adrian & Blissfield Rail Road Company's mainline at milepost 45.5 to the end of track at milepost 46.3 in the City of Adrian, Lenawee County, MI. The line traverses United States Postal Service ZIP Code 49221.

TBCR has certified that: (1) No local traffic has moved over the line for at least 2 years; (2) there is no overhead traffic to be rerouted; (3) no formal complaint filed by a user of rail service on the line (or by a state or local government entity acting on behalf of such user) regarding cessation of service over the line either is pending with the Surface Transportation Board (Board) or with any U.S. District Court or has been decided in favor of complainant within the 2-year period; and (4) the requirements at 49 CFR 1105.7 (environmental reports), 49 CFR 1105.8 (historic reports), 49 CFR 1105.11 (transmittal letter), 49 CFR 1105.12 (newspaper publication), and 49 CFR 1152.50(d)(1) (notice to governmental agencies) have been met.

As a condition to this exemption, any employee adversely affected by the abandonment shall be protected under *Oregon Short Line R. Co.—Abandonment—Goshen*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979). To address whether this condition adequately protects affected employees, a petition for partial revocation under 49 U.S.C. 10502(d) must be filed. Provided no formal expression of intent to file an OFA has been received, this exemption will be effective on October 11, 2003, unless stayed pending reconsideration. Petitions to stay that do not involve

environmental issues,¹ formal expressions of intent to file an OFA under 49 CFR 1152.27(c)(2),² and trail use/rail banking requests under 49 CFR 1152.29 must be filed by September 22, 2003. Petitions to reopen or requests for public use conditions under 49 CFR 1152.28 must be filed by October 1, 2003, with: Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423.

A copy of any petition filed with the Board should be sent to TBCR's representative: Mr. Myles Paisley, 850 Mandoline, Madison Heights, MI 48071.

If the verified notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void *ab initio*.

TBCR has filed an environmental report which addresses the abandonment's effects, if any, on the environment and historic resources. SEA will issue an environmental assessment (EA) by September 16, 2003. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the EA by writing to SEA (Room 500, Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423) or by calling SEA, at (202) 565-1539. [Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.] Comments on environmental and historic preservation matters must be filed within 15 days after the EA becomes available to the public.

Environmental, historic preservation, public use, or trail use/rail banking conditions will be imposed, where appropriate, in a subsequent decision.

Pursuant to the provisions of 49 CFR 1152.29(e)(2), TBCR shall file a notice of consummation with the Board to signify that it has exercised the authority granted and fully abandoned its line. If consummation has not been effected by TBCR's filing of a notice of consummation by September 11, 2004, and there are no legal or regulatory barriers to consummation, the authority to abandon will automatically expire.

Board decisions and notices are available on our Web site at www.stb.dot.gov.

Decided: September 4, 2003.

¹ The Board will grant a stay if an informed decision on environmental issues (whether raised by a party or by the Board's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) in its independent investigation) cannot be made before the exemption's effective date. See *Exemption of Out-of-Service Rail Lines*, 5 I.C.C.2d 377 (1989). Any request for a stay should be filed as soon as possible so that the Board may take appropriate action before the exemption's effective date.

² Each OFA must be accompanied by the filing fee, which currently is set at \$1,100. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).

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

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03-23014 Filed 9-10-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

September 4, 2003.

The Department of Treasury has submitted the following public information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling the Treasury Bureau Clearance Officer listed. Comments regarding this information collection should be addressed to the OMB reviewer listed and to the Treasury Department Clearance Officer, Department of the Treasury, Room 11000, 1750 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20220.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before October 14, 2003 to be assured of consideration.

Internal Revenue Service (IRS)

OMB Number: 1545-0098.

Form Number: IRS Form 1045.

Type of Review: Extension.

Title: Application for Tentative Refund.

Description: Form 1045 is used by individuals, estates, and trusts for a quick refund of taxes due to carryback of a net operating loss, unused general business credit, or claim of right adjustment under section 1341(b). The information obtained is used to determine the validity of the application.

Respondents: Individuals or households, Business or other for-profit, Farms.

Estimated Number of Respondents/Recordkeepers: 65,220.

Estimated Burden Hours Respondent/Recordkeepers:

Recordkeeping	4 hr., 9 min.
Learning about the law or the form.	47 min.
Preparing the form	6 hr., 44 min.
Copying, assembling, and sending the form to the IRS.	1 hr., 3 min.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.
Estimated Total Reporting/Recordkeeping Burden: 830,251 hours.
OMB Number: 1545-0219.

Form Number: IRS Form 5884.
Type of Review: Extension.
Title: Work Opportunity Credit.
Description: Internal Revenue Code (IRC) section 38(b)(2) allows a credit against income tax to employers hiring individuals from certain targeted groups such as welfare recipients, etc. The employer uses Form 5884 to figure the credit. IRS uses the information on the form to verify that the correct amount of credit was claimed.

Respondents: Individuals or households, Business or other for-profit.
Estimated Number of Respondents/Recordkeepers: 10,630.
Estimated Burden Hours Respondent/Recordkeeper:

Recordkeeping	7 hr., 39 min.
Learning about the law or the form.	1 hr., 0 min.
Preparing and sending the form to the IRS.	1 hr., 9 min.

Frequency of Response: Annually.
Estimated Total Reporting/Recordkeeping Burden: 104,281 hours.
OMB Number: 1545-1016.
Form Number: IRS Form 8613.
Type of Review: Extension.
Title: Return of Excise Tax on Undistributed Income of Regulated Investment Companies.

Description: Form 8613 is used by regulated investment companies to compute and pay the excise tax on undistributed income imposed under sect IRS uses the information to verify that the correct amount of tax has been reported.

Respondents: Business or other for-profit.
Estimated Number of Respondents/Recordkeepers: 1,500.
Estimated Burden Hours Respondent/Recordkeeper:

Recordkeeping	6 hr., 42 min.
Learning about the law or the form.	2 hr., 28 min.
Preparing and sending the form to the IRS.	2 hr., 42 min.

Frequency of Response: Annually.

	Form 8871	Form 8453-X
Recordkeeping	5 hr., 15 min.	28 min.
Learning about the law or the form	47 min.	6 min.
Preparing and sending the form to the IRS	55 min.	6 min.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.
Estimated Total Reporting/Recordkeeping Burden: 35,195 hours.
OMB Number: 1545-1842.
Form Number: IRS Form 13441.
Type of Review: Extension.

Estimated Total Reporting/Recordkeeping Burden: 17,820 hours.
OMB Number: 1545-1359.
Regulation Project Number: INTL-978-86 NPRM.

Type of Review: Extension.
Title: Information Reporting by Passport and Permanent Resident Applicants.
Description: The regulations require applicants for passports and permanent residence status to report certain tax information on the applications. The regulations are intended to give the Service notice of non-filers and of persons with foreign source income not subject to normal withholding, and to notify such persons of their duty to file U.S. tax returns.

Respondents: Individuals or households.
Estimated Number of Respondents: 5,500,000.
Estimated Burden Hours Respondent: 30 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.
Estimated Total Reporting Burden: 750,000 hours.
OMB Number: 1545-1560.
Regulation Project Number: REG-246250-96 Final.

Type of Review: Extension.
Title: Public Disclosure of Material Relating to Tax-Exempt Organizations.
Description: The collections of information in section 301.6104(d)-3, 301.6104(d)-4 and 301.6104(d)-5 are necessary so that tax-exempt organizations can make copies of their applications for tax exemption and annual information returns to the public.

Respondents: Not-for-profit institutions.
Estimated Number of Respondents/Recordkeeping: 1,100,000.
Estimated Burden Hours Respondent/Recordkeeper: 30 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.
Estimated Total Reporting/Recordkeeping Burden: 551,500 hours.
OMB Number: 1545-1593.
Form Number: IRS Form 1041-QFT.
Type of Review: Extension.

	Form 8871	Form 8453-X
Recordkeeping	5 hr., 15 min.	28 min.
Learning about the law or the form	47 min.	6 min.
Preparing and sending the form to the IRS	55 min.	6 min.

Title: Health Coverage Tax Credit Registration Form.
Description: Form 13441, Health Coverage Tax Credit Registration Form, will be directly mailed to all individuals who are potentially eligible for the HCTC. Potentially eligible individuals

Title: U.S. Income Tax Return for Qualified Funeral Trusts.
Description: Internal Revenue Code (IRC) section 685 allows the trustee of a qualified funeral trust to report and pay the tax for the trust. Data is used to determine that the trustee filed the proper return and paid the correct tax.
Respondents: Business or other for-profit.
Estimated Number of Respondents/Recordkeepers: 15,000.
Estimated Burden Hours Respondent/Recordkeeper:

Recordkeeping	9 hr., 34 min.
Learning about the law or the form.	2 hr., 18 min.
Preparing the form	5 hr., 20 min.
Copying, assembling, and sending the form to the IRS.	48 min.

Frequency of Response: Annually.
Estimated Total Reporting/Recordkeeping Burden: 270,150 hours.
OMB Number: 1545-1693.
Form Number: IRS Forms 8871 and 8453-X.

Type of Review: Extension.
Title: Form 8871, Political Organization Notice of Section 527 Status; and Form 8453-X, Political Organization Declaration for Electronic Filing of Notice of Section 527 Status.

Description: Internal Revenue Code section 527, as amended by P.L. 106-230 and P.L. 107-276, requires certain political organizations to provide information to the IRS regarding their name and address, their purpose, and the names and addresses of their officers, highly compensated employees, board of directors, and any related entities (within the meaning of section 168(h)(4)). Forms 8871 and 8453-X are used for this purpose.

Respondents: Not-for-profit institutions.
Estimated Number of Respondents/Recordkeeping: 5,500.
Estimated Burden Hours Respondent/Recordkeeping:

	Form 8871	Form 8453-X
Recordkeeping	5 hr., 15 min.	28 min.
Learning about the law or the form	47 min.	6 min.
Preparing and sending the form to the IRS	55 min.	6 min.

will use this form to determine if they are eligible for the Health Coverage Tax Credit and to register for the HCTC program. Participation in this program is voluntary. This form will be submitted by the individual to the HCTC program office in a postage-paid,

return envelope. We will accept faxed forms, if necessary. Additionally, recipients may call the HCTC call center for help in completing this form.

Respondents: Individuals or households, Federal Government, State, Local or Tribal Government.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 156,000.

Estimated Burden Hours Respondent: 30 minutes.

Frequency of Response: Other (once).

Estimated Total Reporting Burden: 78,000 hours.

OMB Number: 1545-1846.

Revenue Procedure Number: Revenue Procedure 2003-48.

Type of Review: Extension.

Title: Update of Checklist Questionnaire Regarding Requests for Spin-Off Rulings.

Description: This revenue procedure updates Revenue Procedure 96-30, which sets forth in a check list questionnaire the information that must be included in a request for ruling under section 355. This revenue procedure updates information that taxpayers must provide in order to receive letter rulings under section 355. This information is required to determine whether a taxpayer would qualify for nonrecognition treatment.

Respondents: Business or other for-profit.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 180.

Estimated Burden Hours Respondent: 200 hours.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Total Reporting Burden: 36,000 hours.

Clearance Officer: Glenn Kirkland, (202) 622-3428, Internal Revenue Service, Room 6411-03, 1111 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20224.

OMB Reviewer: Joseph F. Lackey, Jr., (202) 395-7316, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

Lois K. Holland,

Treasury PRA Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 03-23151 Filed 9-10-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0422]

Proposed Information Collection Activity: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Office of Acquisition and Materiel Management, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Office of Acquisition and Materiel Management (OA&MM), Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), is announcing an opportunity for public comment on the proposed collection of certain information by the agency. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, Federal agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each revision of a currently approved collection, and allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments on information needed to administer contracts.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before November 10, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments on the collection of information to Cathy I. Dailey, Office of Acquisition and Materiel Management (95A), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20420 or e-mail cathy.dailey@mail.va.gov. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0422" in any correspondence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Cathy I. Dailey at (202) 273-8774.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA of 1995 (Public Law 104-13; 44 U.S.C., 3501-3521), Federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. This request for comment is being made pursuant to Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA.

With respect to the following collection of information, OA&MM invites comments on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of OA&MM's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of OA&MM's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or the use of other forms of information technology.

Titles:

a. Veterans Affairs Acquisition Regulation (VAAR) Clause 852.236-72, Performance of Work by the Contractor.

b. Veterans Affairs Acquisition Regulation (VAAR) Clause 852.236-81, Work Coordination. (This Clause will be renumbered as "Alternate 1" to VAAR Clause 852.236-80.)

c. Veterans Affairs Acquisition Regulation (VAAR) Clause 852.236-82, Payments Under Fixed-Price Construction Contracts (without NAS), including Supplement 1 (which will be renamed as "Alternate 1").

d. Veterans Affairs Acquisition Regulation (VAAR) Clause 852.236-83, Payments Under Fixed-Price Construction Contracts (with NAS), including Supplement 1 (which will be renamed as "Alternate 1").

e. Veterans Affairs Acquisition Regulation (VAAR) Clause 852.236-84, Schedule of Work Progress.

f. Veterans Affairs Acquisition Regulation (VAAR) Clause 852.236-88, Contract Changes, Supplements FAR Clause 52.243-4, Changes.

g. Veterans Affairs Acquisition Regulation (VAAR) Clause 852.224-70, Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0422.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: The information contained VAAR clauses 852.236-72, 852.236-81, 852.236-82, 852.236-83, 852.236-84, 852.236-88 and 852.22-70 is necessary for the VA to administer construction contracts, and to carry out its responsibility to construct, maintain and repair real property for the Department. The information is also necessary for VA to award and administer contracts involving healthcare that may involve equipment, supplies, or services for the Department.

a. VAAR Clause 852.236-72, Performance of Work by the Contractor, requires contractors awarded a construction contract containing Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) clause 52.236-1, to submit a statement designating the branch or branches of contract work to be performed by the contractor's own forces. The VAAR clause implements the FAR clause by requiring the contractor to provide information to the contracting officer on how the contractor intends to fulfill this contractual obligation. The contracting officer uses this information to ensure that the contractor complies with the contract requirements.

b. VAAR Clause 852.236-81, Work Coordination. (This Clause will be renumbered as "Alternate 1" to VAAR Clause 852.236-80), requires construction contractors, on contracts involving complex mechanical-electrical work, to furnish coordination drawings showing the manner in which