

Railway Company (KCSR), and KCS Transportation Company (KCST) have jointly filed a verified notice of exemption for KCSL's common control of KCSR and KCST's rail subsidiaries, Gateway Western Railway Company (GWWR), and Gateway Eastern Railway Company (GWER).<sup>1</sup>

The transaction was expected to be consummated on or about November 21, 1997, at which time KCST was to merge into KCSL with KCSL as the surviving corporation. As a result, KCSR and GWWR will be direct subsidiaries of KCSL and GWER will be its indirect subsidiary. After the transaction, KCSL will commonly control KCSR, GWWR, and GWER. KCSL will also own 49% of the outstanding stock of Mex Rail Corporation, the parent company of the Texas Mexican Railroad Company and 37% of the outstanding stock of Grupo TFM, which in turn owns 80% of the outstanding stock of Transportacion Ferroviaria Mexicana, a Mexican railroad company.

The parties state that the transaction will take place within the KCSI corporate family and will not result in adverse changes in service levels, significant operational changes, or a change in the competitive balance with carriers outside of the corporate family. Thus, it is the type of transaction specifically exempted from prior review and approval under 49 CFR 1180.2(d)(3).

Under 49 U.S.C. 10502(g), the Board may not use its exemption authority to relieve a rail carrier of its statutory obligation to protect the interests of its employees. Accordingly, the exemption is subject to the labor protective 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 reopen the

<sup>1</sup> In addition to invoking the class exemption for this transaction, KCSI is asking the Board to grant retroactive authority for a previous transaction—the transfer of the stock of KCSR and KCST to KCSL—which the parties undertook but for which they sought no approval from the Board. If KCSI wants to seek Board approval of that transaction, it should file a separate petition for exemption (no class exemption provides for retroactive application). Such a request may not be “piggybacked” on this notice.

proceeding to revoke the exemption under 49 U.S.C. 10502(d) may be filed at any time. The filing of a petition to reopen will not automatically stay the transaction.

An original and 10 copies of all pleadings, referring to STB Finance Docket No. 33510, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20423-001. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on Robert K. Dreiling, Kansas City Southern Industries, 114 West 11th Street, Kansas City, MO 64105 and William A. Mullins, Troutman Sanders LLP, 1300 I Street, N.W., Suite 500 East, Washington, DC 20005-3314.

Decided: December 3, 1997.

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

**Vernon A. Williams,**

Secretary.

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Bureau of the Public Debt

#### Proposed Collection: Comment Request

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

**SUMMARY:** The Department of the Treasury, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Pub. L. 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently the Bureau of the Public Debt within the Department of the Treasury is soliciting comments concerning the Reinvestment Application.

**DATES:** Written comments should be received on or before February 9, 1998, to be assured of consideration.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Bureau of the Public Debt, Vicki S. Thorpe, 200 Third Street, Parkersburg, WV 26106-1328.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the form and instructions should be directed to Vicki S. Thorpe, Bureau of the Public Debt, 200 Third Street, Parkersburg, WV 26106-1328, (304) 480-6553.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Title:* Reinvestment Application.

*OMB Number:* 1535-0096.

*Form Number:* PD F 1993.

*Abstract:* The information is requested to support a request that proceeds of matured Series H savings bonds be reinvested in Series HH bonds.

*Current Actions:* None.

*Type of Review:* Extension.

*Affected Public:* Individuals.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 270,000.

*Estimated Time Per Respondent:* 15 minutes.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 67,500.

#### Request for Comments

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Dated: December 4, 1997.

**Vicki S. Thorpe,**

Manager, Graphics, Printing and Records Branch.

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