

[Docket No. 96-082; Notice 01]

General Motors Corporation; Receipt of Application for Decision of Inconsequential Noncompliance

The Buick Division of the General Motors Corporation (GM), of Warren, Michigan, has determined that certain 1996 Buick Skylark cars fail to conform to the requirements of 49 CFR 571.108, Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) 108, "Lamps, Reflective Devices and Associated Equipment," and has filed an appropriate report pursuant to 49 CFR Part 573, "Defect and Noncompliance Reports." GM has also applied to be exempted from the notification and remedy requirements of 49 U.S.C. Chapter 301—"Motor Vehicle Safety" on the basis that the noncompliance is inconsequential to motor vehicle safety.

This notice of receipt of an application is published under 49 U.S.C. 30118(d) and does not represent any agency decision or other exercise of judgment concerning the merits of the application.

In FMVSS No. 108, Paragraph S5.1.1.5 states that "the turn signal operating unit on each passenger car, . . . shall be self-canceling by steering wheel rotation and capable of cancellation by a manually operated control."

Certain 1996 model year Buick Skylark cars were assembled with a defective multi-function switch, which causes the turn signal self-cancel feature to work intermittently after left turns. As a result, the turn signal does not meet the requirements of S5.1.1.5. GM stated that while all of the subject vehicles meet the latter requirement, some may intermittently fail to meet the self cancel requirement.

GM first became aware of this condition during a railhead audit in August of 1995. Once the condition was discovered, multiple inspections for suspect switches were immediately implemented, both at the assembly plant and by the supplier, and breakpoints were established. A total of 1,969 vehicles were built with suspect switches.

GM supported its application for inconsequential noncompliance with the following:

- No more than 5.5 percent of the 1,969 vehicles, or 108 vehicles, are predicted to have a defective switch. This prediction is based on a sort of 400 switches, of which 22 were determined to possibly be suspect. This projection may overstate the field condition since the sort was very conservative; many of the suspect 22 switches may function properly in vehicles. In addition, the projection is based on a sort of the latest shipments of switches before the supplier

corrected its manufacturing problem. Since the condition was caused by tooling dimensions drifting out of specification, the actual rate of defective switches for the entire production run may well be less than the projected rate.

- The self-cancel feature will operate properly for a majority of turn signal activations even on vehicles with a defective switch. The self-canceling feature works correctly when signaling for all right turns, as well as for some left turns. The switch is sensitive to the rate of turn signal lever actuation and position of the steering wheel, and will not cancel only intermittently, for some left hand turns. On one of the vehicles discovered with this condition, it took about 20 turn signal cycles to recreate the failure.

- All 1996 Skylarks have a turn signal reminder chime that will signal the driver if the turn signal indicator is still on after 1/2 mile of driving. Therefore, even in those instances when the self-cancel feature fails, the driver will get an additional cue that the turn signal is on and deactivate it.

- GM is not aware of any accidents, injuries, owner complaints or field reports associated with this condition.

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments on the application of GM, described above. Comments should refer to the docket number and be submitted to: Docket Section, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Room 5109, 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, D.C., 20590. It is requested but not required that six copies be submitted.

All comments received before the close of business on the closing date indicated below will be considered. The application and supporting materials and all comments received after the closing date will also be filed and will be considered to the extent possible. When the application is granted or denied, the notice will be published in the Federal Register pursuant to the authority indicated below. Comment closing date: August 15, 1996.

(49 U.S.C. 30118, 30120; delegation of authority at 49 CFR 1.50 and 501.8)

Issued on: July 11, 1996.

Barry Felrice,
Associate Administrator for Safety Performance Standards.

[FR Doc. 96-18016 Filed 7-15-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-59-P

Surface Transportation Board¹

[STB Finance Docket No. 32993]

Norfolk Southern Railway Company—Corporate Family Transaction Exemption—The Atlanta and Charlotte Air-Line Railway Company

Norfolk Southern Railway Company (NSR), a Class I railroad, and The Atlanta and Charlotte Air-Line Railway Company (A&CAL), a Class III railroad, have jointly filed a verified notice of exemption. The exempt transaction is a merger of A&CAL with and into NSR.²

The transaction is expected to be consummated on or after August 1, 1996.

The proposed merger will eliminate A&CAL as a separate corporate entity, thereby simplifying the corporate structure of NSR and the NSR system, and eliminating costs associated with separate accounting, tax, bookkeeping and reporting functions.

This is a transaction within a corporate family of the type specifically exempted from prior review and approval under 49 CFR 1180.2(d)(3). The parties state that the transaction will not result in adverse changes in service levels or significant operational changes.

As a condition to this exemption, any employees adversely affected by the 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 reopen the proceeding 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. 32993, must be filed with

¹ The ICC Termination Act of 1995, Pub. L. No. 104-88, 109 Stat. 803, which was enacted on December 29, 1995, and took effect on January 1, 1996, abolished the Interstate Commerce Commission and transferred certain functions to the Surface Transportation Board (Board). This notice relates to functions that are subject to Board jurisdiction pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 11323-24.

² A&CAL is a wholly owned, direct subsidiary of NSR with authorized capital stock consisting of 17,000 shares of Common Stock, 16,999 of which are issued and outstanding and owned by NSR. NSR has controlled A&CAL through stock ownership, and has leased and operated the properties of A&CAL since approximately 1881. The proposed Agreement and Plan of Merger provides that all shares of A&CAL's capital stock will be canceled and retired, and no consideration will be paid in respect of such shares. NSR is controlled through stock ownership by Norfolk Southern Corporation, a noncarrier holding company.

the Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Branch, 1201 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20423. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on James A. Squires, Norfolk Southern Corporation, Three Commercial Place, Norfolk, VA 23510-2191.

Decided: July 10, 1996.

By the Board, David M. Konschnik, Director, Office of Proceedings.
Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96-18010 Filed 7-15-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Office of Thrift Supervision

[AC-36; OTS No. 02230]

Foundation Savings Bank, Cincinnati, Ohio; Approval of Conversion Application

Notice is hereby given that on July 8, 1996, the Director, Corporate Activities, Office of Thrift Supervision, or her designee, acting pursuant to delegated authority, approved the application of Foundation Savings Bank, Cincinnati, Ohio, to convert to the stock form of organization. Copies of the application are available for inspection at the Dissemination Branch, Office of Thrift Supervision, 1700 G Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20552, and the Central Regional Office, Office of Thrift Supervision, 200 West Madison Street, Suite 1300, Chicago, Illinois 60606-4360.

Dated: July 10, 1996.

By the Office of Thrift Supervision,
Nadine Y. Washington,
Corporate Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96-17965 Filed 7-15-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7620-01-M

[AC-35; OTS No. 0805]

Park Federal Savings Bank, Chicago, Illinois; Approval of Conversion Application

Notice is hereby given that on June 21, 1996, the Director, Corporate Activities, Office of Thrift Supervision, or her designee, acting pursuant to delegated authority, approved the application of Park Federal Savings Bank, Chicago, Illinois, to convert to the stock form of organization. Copies of the application are available for inspection at the Dissemination Branch, Office of Thrift Supervision, 1700 G Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20552, and the Central

Regional Office, Office of Thrift Supervision, 200 West Madison Street, Suite 1300, Chicago, Illinois 60606-4360.

Dated: July 10, 1996.

By the Office of Thrift Supervision,
Nadine Y. Washington,
Corporate Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96-17966 Filed 7-15-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6720-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: As part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on this information collection. This request for comment is being made pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13; 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Comments should address the accuracy of the burden estimates and ways to minimize the burden including the use of automated collection techniques or the use of other forms of information technology, as well as other relevant aspects of the information collection.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposal for the collection of information should be received on or before September 16, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Nancy J. Kessinger, Veterans Benefits Administration (20M30), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420. All comments will become a matter of public record and will be summarized in the VBA request for Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval. In this document the VBA is soliciting comments concerning the following information collection:

OMB Control Number: 2900-0381.

Title and Form Number: Notice for Election to Convey and/or Invoice for Transfer of Property, VA Form 26-8903.
Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Need and Uses: VA Form 26-8903 serves four purposes: holder's election to convey; invoice for the purchase price of the property; VA's voucher for

authorizing payment to the holder; and establishment of the VA's property records. The form provides the holder, who has elected to convey a property to the VA, with a convenient and uniform means of notification to the proper VA regional office. This form simplifies processing for lenders/holders who, in most instances, operate branch offices statewide and nationwide.

Current Actions: Section 3732 of Title 38, U.S.C., and 38 CFR 36.4320(a)(1), provide that if a minimum amount for credit to the borrower's indebtedness has been specified by VA in relation to the sale of the real property and the holder is the successful bidder at the sale for no more than the amount specified by the Secretary, the holder will credit the indebtedness with that amount. The holder may then retain the property, or not later than 15 days after the date of sale, advise the Secretary of its election to convey and transfer the property to the Secretary.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit.

Estimated Annual Burden: 5,000 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 10 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 30,000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the form should be directed to Department of Veterans Affairs, Attn: Jacquie McCray, Information Management Service (045A4), 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420, Telephone (202) 273-8032 or FAX (202) 273-5981.

Dated: July 2, 1996.

By direction of the Secretary,
Donald L. Neilson,
Director, Information Management Service.
[FR Doc. 96-17978 Filed 7-15-96; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: As part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on this information collection. This request for comment is being made pursuant to the