DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Maritime Administration

Reports, Forms and Recordkeeping Requirements Agency Information Collection Activity Under OMB Review

AGENCY: Maritime Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.), this notice announces that the Information Collection abstracted below has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval. The nature of the information collection is described as well as its expected burden. The Federal Register notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on the following collection of information was published on April 16, 2010 and expired on June 15, 2010. No comments were received.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before August 16, 2010.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Anne Dougerty, Maritime Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590. Telephone: 202–366–5469; or E-MAIL: anne.dougerty@dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Maritime Administration.

Title: Information to Determine Seamen’s Re-employment Rights—National Emergency.

OMB Control No.: 2133–0526.

Type of Request: Extension of currently approved collection.

Affected Public: U.S. merchant seamen who have completed designated national service during a time of maritime mobilization need and are seeking re-employment with a prior employer.

Forms: None.

Abstract: This collection is needed in order to implement provisions of the Maritime Security Act of 1996. These provisions grant re-employment rights and other benefits to certain merchant seamen serving aboard vessels used by the United States during times of national emergencies. The Maritime Security Act of 1996 establishes the procedures for obtaining the necessary Maritime Administration certification for re-employment rights and other benefits.

Need and Use of the Information: The Maritime Administration will use the information to determine if U.S. civilian mariners are eligible for re-employment rights under the Maritime Security Act of 1996.

Annual Estimated Burden Hours: 10 hours.

ADDRESS: Send comments to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20503, Attention: Maritime Administration Desk Officer. Comments are invited on: Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; the accuracy of the agency’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. A comment to OMB is best assured of having its full effect, if OMB receives it within 30 days of publication.

(Authority: 49 CFR 1.66)

Issued in Washington, DC on July 8, 2010.

Murray Bloom,

Acting Secretary, Maritime Administration.

[FR Doc. 2010–17246 Filed 7–14–10; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[Docket No. FD 35384]

US Rail Partners, Ltd. and Blackwell Northern Gateway Railroad Company—Continuance in Control of a Railroad Company

US Rail Partners, Ltd. (USRP), a noncarrier holding company, and Blackwell Northern Gateway Railroad Company (BNGR), a Class III carrier, have filed a verified notice of exemption to continue in control of Eastern Berks Gateway Railroad Company (EBGR), upon EBGR’s becoming a rail carrier.1

USRP and BNGR state that the transaction is expected to be consummated on August 1, 2010. The earliest this transaction may be consummated is July 29, 2010, the effective date of the exemption (30 days after the exemption was filed).

Applicants state that EBGR intends to file a notice for a modified certificate of public convenience and necessity in STB Finance Docket No. 35383, Eastern Berks Gateway Railroad Company—

1 EBGR is wholly owned by BNGR and indirectly controlled by USRP.
Modified Rail Certificate, wherein EBGR seeks to lease and operate approximately 8.6 miles of railroad, known as the Colebrookdale Line, from Berks County, Pa.


USRP and BNGR state that: (i) The railroads will not connect with each other or any railroads within its corporate family; (ii) the transaction is not part of a series of anticipated transactions that would connect any of these railroads with one another or any other railroad, and (iii) the transaction does not involve a Class I railroad. Therefore, the transaction is exempt from the prior approval requirements of 49 U.S.C. 11323. See 49 CFR 1180.2(d)(2).

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. Section 11326(c), however, does not provide for labor protection for transactions under sections 11324 and 11325 that involve only Class III rail carriers. Accordingly, the Board may not impose labor protective conditions here, because all of the carriers involved are Class III carriers.

If the verified notice 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. Petitions for stay must be filed no later than July 26, 2010.3 Petitions to reopen must be filed by August 4, 2010, with the Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street, SW., Washington, DC 20423–0001. A copy of any petition filed with the Board should be sent to applicants’ representatives: For CGA, Daniel G. Kruger, Norfolk Southern Railway Company, Three Commercial Place, Norfolk, VA 23510; and for GRWR, Richard H. Streeter, Barnes & Thornburg, LLP, 750 17th Street, NW., Suite 900, Washington, DC 20006.

Provided no formal expression of intent to file an offer of financial assistance (OFA) has been received, these exemptions will be effective on August 14, 2010, unless stayed pending reconsideration. Petitions to stay that do not involve environmental issues and formal expressions of intent to file an OFA under 49 CFR 1152.27(c)(2) must be filed by July 26, 2010.3 Petitions to reopen must be filed by August 4, 2010, with the Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street, SW., Washington, DC 20423–0001. A copy of any petition filed with the Board should be sent to applicants’ representatives: For CGA, Daniel G. Kruger, Norfolk Southern Railway Company, Three Commercial Place, Norfolk, VA 23510; and for GRWR, Richard H. Streeter, Barnes & Thornburg, LLP, 750 17th Street, NW., Suite 900, Washington, DC 20006. If the verified notice contains false or misleading information, the exemptions are void ab initio.

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

Decided: July 8, 2010.

By the Board, Rachel D. Campbell, Director, Office of Proceedings.

Kulunie L. Cannon,
Clearance Clerk.

BILLING CODE 4915–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[Docket No. AB 290 (Sub-No. 319X); Docket No. AB 1060X]

Central of Georgia Railroad Company—Discontinuance of Service Exemption—Newton County, GA; Great Walton Railroad Company—Discontinuance of Operations Exemption—Newton County, GA

Central of Georgia Railroad Company (CGA)1 and Great Walton Railroad Company (GRWR) (collectively, applicants) have jointly filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR part 1152 Subpart F—Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuances of Service for CGA to discontinue service, and for GRWR to discontinue operating rights under a lease, over a 14.90-mile line of railroad between milepost E 65.80 at Newton, Ga., and the end of the line at milepost E 80.70 at Covington, Ga., in Newton County, Ga. The line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Codes 30014, 30055 and 30056.

Applicants have certified that: (1) No local traffic has moved over the line for at least 2 years; (2) all overhead traffic has been rerouted over other lines; (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 or has been decided in favor of complainant within the 2-year period; and (4) the requirements of 49 CFR 1105.12 (newspaper publication) and 49 CFR 1152.50(d)(1) (notice to governmental agencies) have been met.

As a condition to these exemptions, any employee adversely affected by the discontinuance of service shall be protected under Oregon Short Line Railroad—Abandonment Portion Goshen Branch Between Firth & Ammon, in Bingham & Bonneville Counties, Idaho, 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.

1 CGA is a wholly owned subsidiary of Norfolk Southern Railway Company.