

abandonment or discontinuance 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.

Provided no formal expression of intent to file an offer of financial assistance (OFA) has been received, these exemptions will be effective on November 5, 2014, unless stayed pending reconsideration. Petitions to stay that do not involve environmental issues,<sup>1</sup> formal expressions of intent to file an OFA under 49 CFR 1152.27(c)(2),<sup>2</sup> and trail use/rail banking requests under 49 CFR 1152.29 must be filed by October 16, 2014. Petitions to reopen or requests for public use conditions under 49 CFR 1152.28 must be filed by October 27, 2014, 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 CSXT, Louis E. Gitomer, Law Offices of Louis E. Gitomer, LLC, 600 Baltimore Avenue, Suite 301, Towson, MD 21204, and for NSR, William A. Mullins, 2401 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Suite 300, Washington, DC 20037.

If the verified notice contains false or misleading information, the exemptions are void *ab initio*.

Applicants have filed environmental and historic reports that address the effects, if any, of the abandonment and discontinuance on the environment and historic resources. OEA will issue an environmental assessment (EA) by October 10, 2014. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the EA by writing to OEA (Room 1100, Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423-0001) or by calling OEA at (202) 245-0305. Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at (800) 877-8339. Comments on environmental and historic preservation matters must be filed within 15 days

<sup>1</sup> The Board will grant a stay if an informed decision on environmental issues (whether raised by a party or by the Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) in its independent investigation) cannot be made before the exemption's effective date. See *Exemption of Out-of-Serv. 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.

<sup>2</sup> Each OFA must be accompanied by the filing fee, which is currently set at \$1,600. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).

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), CSXT shall file a notice of consummation with the Board to signify that it has exercised the authority granted and fully abandoned the Line. If consummation has not been effected by CSXT's filing of a notice of consummation by October 6, 2015, 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](http://WWW.STB.DOT.GOV)."

Decided: September 26, 2014.

By the Board, Joseph H. Dettmar, Acting Director, Office of Proceedings.

**Raina S. White,**  
*Clearance Clerk.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-(VA Form 20-0968)]

### Claim for Reimburse of Travel Expenses Activity: Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), 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 new collection and allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments on the information needed to provide beneficiary travel benefits under 38 CFR 21.370 through 21.376.

**DATES:** Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before December 5, 2014.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit written comments on the collection of information through the Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) at [www.Regulations.gov](http://www.Regulations.gov); or to Nancy J. Kessinger, Veterans Benefits

Administration (20M35), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20420 or email to [nancy.kessinger@va.gov](mailto:nancy.kessinger@va.gov). Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-(VA Form 20-0968)" in any correspondence. During the comment period, comments may be viewed online through FDMS.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Nancy J. Kessinger at (202) 632-8924 or FAX (202) 632-8925.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under the PRA of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13; 44 U.S.C. 3501-3521), Federal agencies must obtain approval from 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, VBA invites comments on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of VBA's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of VBA'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.

*Title:* Quarterly Report of State Approving Agency Activities.

*OMB Control Number:* 2900-(VA Form 20-0968).

*Type of Review:* New collection.

*Abstract:* The purpose of the information collection is for claimants to apply for the mileage reimbursement benefit in an efficient, convenient and accurate manner. VBA must determine the identity of the claimant; the dates and length of the trip being claimed, based on the claimant's residence and the place of evaluation and counseling, or other place in connection with vocational rehabilitation; and whether expenses other than mileage are being claimed.

*Affected Public:* Federal government.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 10,750 hours.

*Estimated Average Burden per Respondent:* 5 minutes.

*Frequency of Response:* Once.

*Estimated Number of Responses:* 129,000.

Dated: October 1, 2014.

By direction of the Secretary.

**Crystal Rennie,**

*Department Clearance Officer, Department of Veterans Affairs.*

[FR Doc. 2014-23738 Filed 10-3-14; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8320-01-P**

## **DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

### **Solicitation of Nominations for Appointment to the Research Advisory Committee on Gulf War Veterans' Illnesses**

**AGENCY:** Department of Veterans Affairs.  
**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Veterans Health Administration (VHA), is seeking nominations of qualified candidates to be considered for appointment as a member of the Research Advisory Committee on Gulf War Veterans' Illnesses (hereinafter referred to as "the Committee"). The Committee was established pursuant to Public Law 105-368, Section 104, to advise the Secretary of VA with respect to proposed research studies, plans, and strategies related to understanding and treating the health consequences of military service in the Southwest Asia theatre of operations during the 1990-1991 Gulf War. Nominations of qualified candidates are being sought to fill upcoming vacancies on the Committee.

**DATES:** Nominations for membership on the Committee must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. EDT on October 24, 2014.

**ADDRESSES:** All nominations should be mailed to Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Ave. NW., (10P), Washington, DC 20420, emailed to [victor.kalasinsky@va.gov](mailto:victor.kalasinsky@va.gov), or faxed to (202) 495-6155.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Victor Kalasinsky, Veterans Health

Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Ave. NW (10P), Washington, DC 20420, telephone (202) 443-5600. (This is not a toll free number.) A copy of the Committee charter and list of the current membership can be obtained by contacting Dr. Kalasinsky or by accessing the Web site: <http://www.va.gov/rac-gwvi/>.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Research Advisory Committee on Gulf War Veterans' Illnesses was established pursuant to Public Law 105-368, Section 104, to advise the Secretary of VA (hereinafter referred to as "the Secretary") with respect to proposed research studies, plans, and strategies related to understanding and treating the health consequences of military service in the Southwest Asia theatre of operations during the 1990-1991 Gulf War.

VHA is requesting nominations for upcoming vacancies on the Committee. The Committee is currently composed of 12 members. The members of the Committee are appointed by the Secretary from the general public, including but not limited to:

- (1) Gulf War Veterans;
- (2) Representatives of such Veterans;
- (3) Members of the medical and scientific communities representing disciplines such as, but not limited to, epidemiology, immunology, environmental health, neurology, and toxicology.

To the extent possible, the Secretary seeks members who have diverse professional and personal qualifications. We ask that nominations include information of this type so that VA can ensure a balanced Committee membership.

Individuals appointed to the Committee by the Secretary shall be invited to serve a two- or three-year term. The Secretary may reappoint a member for an additional term of

service. Committee members will receive travel expenses and a per diem allowance for any travel made in connection with duties as members of the Committee and within federal travel guidelines.

**Requirements for Nomination Submission:** Nominations should be typed (one nomination per nominator). Nomination package should include: (1) A letter of nomination that clearly states the name and affiliation of the nominee, the basis for the nomination (i.e., specific attributes which qualify the nominee for service in this capacity), and a statement from the nominee indicating the willingness to serve as a member of the Committee; (2) the nominee's contact information, including name, mailing address, telephone numbers, and email address; (3) the nominee's curriculum vitae; (4) a summary of the nominee's experience and qualifications relative to the membership considerations described above; and (5) a statement confirming that he/she is not a federally-registered lobbyist.

VA makes every effort to ensure that the membership of VA Federal advisory committees is fairly balanced in terms of points of view represented and the committee's function. Appointments to this Committee shall be made without discrimination based on a person's race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, age, disability, or genetic information. Nominations must state that the nominee appears to have no conflict of interest that would preclude membership. An ethics review is conducted for each selected nominee.

Dated: September 30, 2014.

**Rebecca Schiller,**

*Advisory Committee Management Officer.*

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