

CONTESTING RECORD PROCEDURES:

Individuals who wish to contest records pertaining to themselves should write to the Director; Office of Information Programs and Services (address above).

RECORD SOURCE CATEGORIES:

These records contain information obtained directly from individuals who interact with the Department of State through social media sites or who communicate electronically with the Department in response to public outreach.

SYSTEMS EXEMPTED FROM CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE ACT:

None.

[FR Doc. 2016-01648 Filed 1-26-16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-45-P

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

[Docket No. EP 526 (Sub-No. 7)]

Decision; Notice of Railroad-Shipper Transportation Advisory Council Vacancy

AGENCY: Surface Transportation Board (Board).

ACTION: Notice of vacancy on the Railroad-Shipper Transportation Advisory Council (RSTAC) and solicitation of nominations.

SUMMARY: The Board hereby gives notice of a vacancy for a small railroad representative on RSTAC. The Board is soliciting suggestions for candidates to fill this vacancy.

DATES: Nominations are due on February 22, 2016.

ADDRESSES: Suggestions may be submitted either via the Board's e-filing format or in the traditional paper format. Any person using e-filing should attach a document and otherwise comply with the instructions at the E-FILING link on the Board's Web site, at <http://www.stb.dot.gov>. Any person submitting a filing in the traditional paper format should send an original and 10 copies to: Surface Transportation Board, Attn: Docket No. EP 526 (Sub-No. 7), 395 E Street SW., Washington, DC 20423-0001 (if sending via express company or private courier, please use zip code 20024). Please note that submissions will be available to the public at the Board's offices and posted on the Board's Web site under Docket No. EP 526 (Sub-No. 7).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stephanie Lyons at 202-245-0536. Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through the Federal

Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Board, created in 1996 to take over many of the functions previously performed by the Interstate Commerce Commission, exercises broad authority over transportation by rail carriers, including regulation of railroad rates and service (49 U.S.C. 10701-47, 11101-24), as well as the construction, acquisition, operation, and abandonment of rail lines (49 U.S.C. 10901-07) and railroad line sales, consolidations, mergers, and common control arrangements (49 U.S.C. 10902, 11323-27).

RSTAC was established upon the enactment of the ICC Termination Act of 1995 (ICCTA), on December 29, 1995, to advise the Board's Chairman, the Secretary of Transportation, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives with respect to rail transportation policy issues RSTAC considers significant. RSTAC focuses on issues of importance to small shippers and small railroads, including car supply, rates, competition, and procedures for addressing claims. ICCTA directs RSTAC to develop private-sector mechanisms to prevent, or identify and address, obstacles to the most effective and efficient transportation system practicable. RSTAC also prepares an annual report concerning its activities and recommendations on whatever regulatory or legislative relief it considers appropriate. RSTAC is not subject to the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

Nine members of RSTAC are voting members and are appointed from senior executive officers of organizations engaged in the railroad and rail shipping industries. At least four of the voting members must be representatives of small shippers as determined by the Chairman, and at least four of the voting members must be representatives of Class II or III railroads. The remaining six members to be appointed—three representing Class I railroads and three representing large shipper organizations—serve in a nonvoting, advisory capacity, but are entitled to participate in RSTAC deliberations.

RSTAC is required by statute to meet at least semi-annually. In recent years, RSTAC has met four times a year. Meetings are generally held at the Board's headquarters in Washington, DC, although some are held in other locations.

RSTAC members receive no compensation for their services and are required to provide for the expenses incidental to their service, including travel expenses, as the Board cannot provide for these expenses. RSTAC may solicit and use private funding for its activities, again subject to certain restrictions in ICCTA. RSTAC members currently have elected to submit annual dues to pay for RSTAC expenses.

RSTAC members must be citizens of the United States and represent as broadly as practicable the various segments of the railroad and rail shipper industries. They may not be full-time employees of the United States. According to revised guidance issued by the Office of Management and Budget, it is permissible for federally registered lobbyists to serve on advisory committees, such as RSTAC, as long as they do so in a representative capacity, rather than an individual capacity. See *Revised Guidance on Appointment of Lobbyists to Federal Advisory Committees, Boards, and Commissions*, 79 FR 47482 (Aug. 13, 2014). Members of RSTAC are appointed to serve in a representative capacity.

RSTAC members are appointed for three-year terms. A member may serve after the expiration of his or her term until a successor has taken office. No member will be eligible to serve in excess of two consecutive terms.

Due to the expiration of one RSTAC member's second term, a vacancy exists for a small railroad representative. Upon appointment by the Chairman, the new representative will serve for three years, and may be eligible to serve a second three-year term following the end of their first term.

Suggestions for candidates to fill the vacancy should be submitted in letter form, identify the name of the candidate, provide a summary of why the candidate is qualified to serve on RSTAC, and contain a representation that the candidate is willing to serve as a member of RSTAC effective immediately upon appointment. RSTAC candidate suggestions should be filed with the Board by February 22, 2016. Members selected to serve on RSTAC are chosen at the discretion of the Board's Chairman. Please note that submissions will be available to the public at the Board's offices and posted on the Board's Web site under Docket No. EP 526 (Sub-No. 7).

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 726.

Decided: January 22, 2016.

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

Tia Delano,
Clearance Clerk.

[FR Doc. 2016-01642 Filed 1-26-16; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Office of the Secretary

Mounir R. Khouri; Public Interest Exclusion Order

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, DOT.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: On January 20, 2016, the Department of Transportation (DOT) issued a decision and order under the Procedures for Transportation Workplace Drug and Alcohol Testing Programs that excludes a service agent, Mounir R. Khouri, from providing drug and alcohol testing services in any capacity to any DOT-regulated employer for a period of 5 years. Mr. Khouri provided Consortium/Third Party Administrator Services (C/TPA) and Medical Review Officer (MRO) services to DOT-regulated trucking companies. Mr. Khouri pled guilty to criminal charges that he made materially false statements that an MRO had reviewed drug test results, when a qualified MRO had not done so. This **Federal Register** publication serves as notice to the public that DOT-regulated employers or their service agents must stop using the services of Mounir R. Khouri for administering their DOT-regulated drug and/or alcohol testing programs.

DATES: The effective date of the Public Interest Exclusion is January 20, 2016 and it will remain in effect until January 20, 2021.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Patrice M. Kelly, Acting Director, U.S. Department of Transportation, Office of Drug and Alcohol Policy and Compliance, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590; (202) 366-3784 (voice), (202) 366-3897 (fax), or patrice.kelly@dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

In accordance with the provisions of the Department's regulation at 49 CFR part 40 (Part 40), Subpart R, Public Interest Exclusions (PIE), the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) issued a Notice of Proposed Exclusion (NOPE) to Mr. Khouri on August 27, 2015, notifying him that he had engaged in serious noncompliance. In the NOPE, the FMCSA stated that the Department's Office of the Inspector

General had conducted a criminal investigation that revealed that Mr. Khouri subverted the MRO's role in the testing process. Specifically, Mr. Khouri held out as performing C/TPA services and he: Received laboratory confirmed drug test results and falsely certified that those results were reviewed by a qualified MRO; acted as an MRO, without qualifications to do so, by verifying laboratory confirmed positive test results; and prepared false Federal Drug Testing Custody and Control Forms (CCFs) for untested specimens and misrepresented that the specimens had tested negative. In the United States District Court for the District of Vermont, Mr. Khouri pled guilty and was convicted for making false statements on a CCF. Those false statements indicated that an MRO had reviewed a drug test, when Mr. Khouri knew that had not occurred.

Public Interest Exclusion Decision and Order

On January 20, 2016, the Department issued a PIE against Mounir R. Khouri. This PIE prohibits all DOT-regulated employers and service agents from utilizing Mounir R. Khouri for drug and alcohol testing services in any capacity for a period of 5 years. A full copy of the Department's Decision and Order can be found at <http://www.dot.gov/odapc>.

In accordance with the terms of the Department's Decision and Order and per 49 CFR 40.403(a), Mounir R. Khouri is required to directly notify each of the affected DOT-regulated employer clients in writing about the issuance, scope, duration, and effect of the PIE. The Department is notifying employers and the public about this PIE by publishing it in a "List of Excluded Drug and Alcohol Service Agents" on its Web site at <http://www.dot.gov/odapc/> and will make the list available upon request. As required by 49 CFR 40.401(d), the Department is publishing this **Federal Register** notice to inform the public that Mounir R. Khouri is subject to a PIE for 5 years. After January 20, 2021, Mounir R. Khouri, will be removed from the list and the public will be notified of that removal, also in accordance with 49 CFR 40.401(d).

Any DOT-regulated employer who uses the services of Mounir R. Khouri between January 20, 2016 and January 20, 2021 may be subject to a civil penalty for violation of Part 40.

Dated this 20th day of January, 2016, at Washington, DC.

Patrice M. Kelly,
Acting Director, Office of Drug and Alcohol
Policy Compliance.

[FR Doc. 2016-01630 Filed 1-26-16; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Office of the Secretary

List of Countries Requiring Cooperation With an International Boycott

In accordance with section 999(a)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, the Department of the Treasury is publishing a current list of countries which require or may require participation in, or cooperation with, an international boycott (within the meaning of section 999(b)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986).

On the basis of the best information currently available to the Department of the Treasury, the following countries require or may require participation in, or cooperation with, an international boycott (within the meaning of section 999(b)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986).

Iraq
Kuwait
Lebanon
Libya
Qatar
Saudi Arabia
Syria
United Arab Emirates
Yemen

Dated: January 19, 2016.

Danielle Rolfes,
International Tax Counsel, (Tax Policy).

[FR Doc. 2016-01622 Filed 1-26-16; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Multiemployer Pension Plan Application To Reduce Benefits

AGENCY: Department of the Treasury.

ACTION: Notice of availability; Request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Board of Trustees of the Iron Workers Local 17 Pension Plan, a multiemployer pension plan, has submitted an application to Treasury to reduce benefits under the plan in accordance with the Multiemployer Pension Reform Act of 2014 (MPRA). The purpose of this notice is to announce that the application submitted by the Board of Trustees of the Iron