

maintenance, mechanical, and personnel policies and practices of its rail carrier subsidiaries, and thereby improve the overall efficiency of rail service provided by the railroads in the Watco corporate family.

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. Because the transaction involves the control of one Class II and one or more Class III rail carriers, the transaction is subject to the labor protection requirements of 49 U.S.C. 11326(b) and *Wisconsin Central Ltd.—Acquisition Exemption—Lines of Union Pacific Railroad*, 2 S.T.B. 218 (1997).

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 effectiveness of the exemption. Petitions for stay must be filed by June 12, 2015 (at least seven days before the exemption becomes effective).

An original and 10 copies of all pleadings, referring to Docket No. FD 35931, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street SW., Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on Karl Morell, Karl Morell & Associates, 655 Fifteenth Street NW., Suite 225, Washington, DC 20005.

Board decisions and notices are available on our Web site at WWW.STB.DOT.GOV.

Decided: June 1, 2015.

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

Brendetta S. Jones,

Clearance Clerk.

[FR Doc. 2015-13769 Filed 6-4-15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposals, Submissions, and Approvals

AGENCY: Surface Transportation Board.

ACTION: 60-day notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: As part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork burdens, and as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. 3501-3519 (PRA), the Surface Transportation Board (Board) gives notice of its intent to request from the Office of Management

and Budget (OMB) approval without change of the six existing collections described below.

Comments are requested concerning each collection as to (1) whether the particular collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Board, including whether the collection has practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the Board's burden estimates; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology, when appropriate. Submitted comments will be included and/or summarized in the Board's request for OMB approval.

DATES: Written comments are due on August 4, 2015.

ADDRESSES: Direct all comments to Marilyn Levitt, Surface Transportation Board, Suite 1260, 395 E Street SW., Washington, DC 20423-0001, or to levittm@stb.dot.gov. Comments should be identified as "Paperwork Reduction Act Comments," and should refer to the title and control number of the specific collection(s) commented upon.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For additional information or copies of the information collection(s) contact Pedro Ramirez at (202) 245-0333 or ramirezp@stb.dot.gov [Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) for the hearing impaired: (800) 877-8339].

In this notice the Board is requesting comments on the following information collections:

Subjects:

Collection Number 1

Title: Quarterly Report of Revenues, Expenses, and Income—Railroads (Form RE&I).

OMB Control Number: 2140-0013.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Extension without change.

Respondents: Class I railroads.

Number of Respondents: Seven.

Estimated Time per Response: 6 hours.

Frequency of Response: Quarterly.

Total Annual Hour Burden: 168 hours annually.

Total Annual "Non Hour Burden" Cost: No "non-hour cost" burdens associated with this collection have been identified.

Needs and Uses: This collection is a report of railroad operating revenues, operating expenses and income items; it is a profit and loss statement, disclosing net railway operating income on a

quarterly and year-to-date basis for the current and prior years. See 49 CFR 1243.1. The Board uses the information in this report to ensure competitive, efficient, and safe transportation through general oversight programs that monitor and forecast the financial and operating condition of railroads, and through regulation of railroad rate and service issues and rail restructuring proposals, including railroad mergers, consolidations, acquisitions of control, and abandonments. Information from these reports is used by the Board, other Federal agencies, and industry groups to monitor and assess industry growth and operations, detect changes in carrier financial stability, and identify trends that may affect the national transportation system. Some of the information from these reports is compiled by the Board in our quarterly Selected Earnings Data Report, which is published on the Board's Web site, http://www.stb.dot.gov/stb/industry/econ_reports.html. The information contained in these reports is not available from any other source.

Collection Number 2

Title: Quarterly Condensed Balance Sheet—Railroads (Form CBS).

OMB Control Number: 2140-0014.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Extension without change.

Respondents: Class I railroads.

Number of Respondents: Seven.

Estimated Time per Response: Six hours.

Frequency of Response: Quarterly.

Total Annual Hour Burden: 168 hours annually.

Total Annual "Non-Hour Burden"

Cost: No "non-hour cost" burdens associated with this collection have been identified.

Needs and Uses: This collection shows the balance, quarterly and cumulative, for the current and prior year of the carrier's assets and liabilities, gross capital expenditures, and revenue tons carried. See 49 CFR 1243.2. The Board uses the information in this report to ensure competitive, efficient, and safe transportation through general oversight programs that monitor and forecast the financial and operating condition of railroads, and through specific regulation of railroad rate and service issues and rail restructuring proposals, including railroad mergers, consolidations, acquisitions of control, and abandonments. Information from these reports is used by the Board, other Federal agencies, and industry groups to assess industry growth and operations, detect changes in carrier financial stability, and identify trends that may

affect the national transportation system. Revenue ton-miles, which are reported in these reports, are compiled and published by the Board in its quarterly Selected Earnings Data Report, which is published on the Board's Web site, http://www.stb.dot.gov/stb/industry/econ_reports.html. The information contained in these reports is not available from any other source.

Collection Number 3

OMB Control Number: 2140-0004.

Title: Report of Railroad Employees, Service and Compensation (Wage Forms A and B).

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Extension without change.

Respondents: Class I railroads and the Association of American Railroads.

Number of Respondents: Eight.

Estimated Time per Response: No more than 30 hours per quarterly report and 40 hours per annual summation.

Frequency of Response: Quarterly, with an annual summation.

Total Annual Hour Burden: No more than 1,280 hours annually.

Total Annual "Non-Hour Burden"

Cost: No "non-hour cost" burdens associated with this collection have been identified.

Needs and Uses: This collection shows the number of employees, service hours, and compensation, by employee group (e.g., executive, professional, maintenance-of-way and equipment, and transportation), of the reporting railroads. See 49 CFR 1245. The information is used by the Board to forecast labor costs and measure the efficiency of the reporting railroads. The information is also used by the Board to evaluate proposed regulated transactions that may impact rail employees, including mergers and consolidations, acquisitions of control, purchases, and abandonments. Other Federal agencies and industry groups, including the Railroad Retirement Board, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and Association of American Railroads, use the information contained in the reports to monitor railroad operations. Certain information from these reports is compiled and published on the Board's Web site, http://www.stb.dot.gov/stb/industry/econ_reports.html. The information contained in these reports is not available from any other source.

Collection Number 4

Title: Monthly Report of Number of Employees of Class I Railroads (Wage Form C).

OMB Control Number: 2140-0007.

Form Number: STB Form 350.

Type of Review: Extension without change.

Respondents: Class I railroads and the Association of American Railroads.

Number of Respondents: Eight.

Estimated Time per Response: 1.25 hours.

Frequency of Response: Monthly.

Total Annual Hour Burden: 120 hours annually.

Total Annual "Non-Hour Burden"

Cost: No "non-hour cost" burdens associated with this collection have been identified.

Needs and Uses: This collection shows, for each reporting carrier, the average number of employees at mid-month in the six job-classification groups that encompass all railroad employees. See 49 CFR 1246. The information is used by the Board to forecast labor costs and measure the efficiency of the reporting railroads. The information is also used by the Board to evaluate the impact on rail employees of proposed regulated transactions, including mergers and consolidations, acquisitions of control, purchases, and abandonments. Other Federal agencies and industry groups, including the Railroad Retirement Board, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and Association of American Railroads, use the information contained in these reports to monitor railroad operations. Certain information from these reports is compiled and published on the Board's Web site, www.stb.dot.gov/stb/industry/urcs.html. The information contained in these reports is not available from any other source.

Collection Number 5

Title: Annual Report of Cars Loaded and Cars Terminated.

OMB Control Number: 2140-0011.

Form Number: Form STB-54.

Type of Review: Extension without change.

Number of Respondents: Seven.

Estimated Time per Response: Four hours.

Frequency of Response: Annual.

Total Annual Hour Burden: 28 hours annually.

Total Annual "Non Hour Burden"

Cost: No "non-hour cost" burdens associated with this collection have been identified.

Needs and Uses: This collection reports the number of cars loaded and cars terminated on the reporting carrier's line. See 49 CFR 1247. Information in this report is entered into the Board's Uniform Rail Costing System (URCS), which is a cost measurement methodology. URCS, which was developed by the Board pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 11161, is used as a tool in rail rate proceedings, in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 10707(d), to

calculate the variable costs associated with providing a particular service. The Board also uses URCS to carry out more effectively other of its regulatory responsibilities, including: acting on railroad requests for authority to engage in Board-regulated financial transactions such as mergers, acquisitions of control, and consolidations, see 49 U.S.C. 11323-11324; analyzing the information that the Board obtains through the annual railroad industry waybill sample, see 49 CFR 1244; measuring off-branch costs in railroad abandonment proceedings, in accordance with 49 CFR 1152.32(n); developing the "rail cost adjustment factors," in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 10708; and conducting investigations and rulemakings. This collection is compiled and published on the Board's Web site, http://www.stb.dot.gov/stb/industry/econ_reports.html. There is no other source for the information contained in this report.

Collection Number 6

OMB Control Number: 2140-0001.

Title: Quarterly Report of Freight Commodity Statistics (Form QCS).

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Extension without change.

Respondents: Class I railroads.

Number of Respondents: Seven.

Estimated Time per Response: 217 hours.

Frequency of Response: Quarterly, with an annual summation.

Total Annual Hour Burden: 7,595 hours annually.

Total Annual "Non-Hour Burden"

Cost: No "non-hour cost" burdens associated with this collection have been identified.

Needs and Uses: This collection, which is based on information contained in carload waybills used by railroads in the ordinary course of business, reports car loadings and total revenues by commodity code for each commodity that moved on the railroad during the reporting period. See 49 CFR 1248. Information in this report is entered into the Board's URCS, the uses of which are explained under Collection Number 5. This collection is compiled and published on the Board's Web site, http://www.stb.dot.gov/stb/industry/econ_reports.html. There is no other source for the information contained in this report.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA, a Federal agency conducting or sponsoring a collection of information must display a currently valid OMB control number. A collection of information, which is defined in 44 U.S.C. 3502(3) and 5 CFR 1320.3(c),

includes agency requirements that persons submit reports, keep records, or provide information to the agency, third parties, or the public. Under § 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA, Federal agencies are required, prior to submitting a collection to OMB for approval, to provide a 60-day notice and comment period through publication in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of an existing collection of information.

Dated: June 1, 2015.

Jeffrey Herzig,
Clearance Clerk.

[FR Doc. 2015-13705 Filed 6-4-15; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[Docket No. FD 35933]

Watco Holdings, Inc.—Continuance in Control Exemption—Lubbock and Western Railway, L.L.C.

Watco Holdings, Inc. (Watco), a noncarrier, has filed a verified notice of exemption pursuant to 49 CFR 1180.2(d)(2) to continue in control of Lubbock and Western Railway, L.L.C. (LWR), upon LWR's becoming a Class III rail carrier. Watco owns, indirectly, 100 percent of the issued and outstanding stock of LWR, a limited liability company.

This transaction is related to a concurrently filed verified notice of exemption in *Lubbock & Western Railway—Acquisition & Operation Exemption—West Texas & Lubbock Railway*, Docket No. FD 35932, wherein LWR seeks Board approval (1) to acquire and operate approximately 9.5 miles of rail line and to lease approximately 134.75 miles of rail line from West Texas and Lubbock Railway Company, Inc., and West Texas and Lubbock Railroad Company, Inc. (WTLR), between specified points in Texas; and (2) to acquire by assignment approximately 5 miles of trackage rights that WTLR currently has over BNSF Railway Company's line between Canyon Jct., and Broadview, Tex.

The transaction may be consummated on or after June 20, 2015, the effective date of the exemption (30 days after the notice of exemption was filed).

Watco is a Kansas corporation that currently controls, indirectly, 30 Class III rail carriers and one Class II rail carrier, collectively operating in 22 states. For a complete list of these rail carriers, and the states in which they

operate, see Watco's notice of exemption filed on May 21, 2015. The notice is available on the Board's Web site at "www.stb.dot.gov."

Watco represents that: (1) The rail lines to be operated by LWR do not connect with any of the rail lines operated by the carriers in the Watco corporate family; (2) the continuance in control is not a part of a series of anticipated transactions that would result in such a connection; and (3) the transaction does not involve a Class I carrier. Therefore, the transaction is exempt from the prior approval requirements of 49 U.S.C. 11323. See 49 CFR 1180.2(d)(2).

Watco states that the purpose of the transaction is to reduce overhead expenses, coordinate billing, maintenance, mechanical, and personnel policies and practices of its rail carrier subsidiaries, and thereby improve the overall efficiency of rail service provided by the railroads in the Watco corporate family.

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. Because the transaction involves the control of one Class II and one or more Class III rail carriers, the transaction is subject to the labor protection requirements of 49 U.S.C. 11326(b) and *Wisconsin Central Ltd.—Acquisition Exemption—Lines of Union Pacific Railroad*, 2 S.T.B. 218 (1997).

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 effectiveness of the exemption. Petitions for stay must be filed by June 12, 2015 (at least seven days before the exemption becomes effective).

An original and 10 copies of all pleadings, referring to Docket No. FD 35933, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street SW., Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on Karl Morell, 655 Fifteenth Street NW., Suite 225, Washington, DC 20005.

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

Decided: June 2, 2015.

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

Brendetta S. Jones,
Clearance Clerk.

[FR Doc. 2015-13794 Filed 6-4-15; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[Docket No. FD 35930]

Texas New Mexico Railway, L.L.C.—Acquisition and Operation Exemption—Austin & Northwestern Railroad Company, Inc.

Texas New Mexico Railway, L.L.C. (TNMR),¹ a noncarrier, has filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1150.31 to acquire from Austin & Northwestern Railway Company, Inc. (ANR), and to operate, approximately 104.191 miles of rail line between milepost 0.079 at Monahans, Tex., and milepost 104.27 at Lovington, NM.

This transaction is related to a concurrently filed verified notice of exemption in *Watco Holdings, Inc.—Continuance in Control Exemption—Texas New Mexico Railway*, Docket No. FD 35931, wherein Watco Holdings, Inc., seeks Board approval under 49 CFR 1180.2(d)(2) to continue in control of TNMR, upon TNMR's becoming a Class III rail carrier.

TNMR states that the agreement between TNMR and ANR does not contain any provision that prohibits TNMR from interchanging traffic with a third party or limits TNMR's ability to interchange with a third party.

The transaction is expected to be consummated on or after the effective date of the exemption.

TNMR has certified that this transaction will not result in TNMR's becoming a Class II or Class I rail carrier. Because TNMR's projected annual revenues will exceed \$5 million, TNMR certified to the Board on May 19, 2015, that it had complied with the requirements of 49 CFR 1150.32(e) on May 18, 2015, by providing notice to employees on the affected line.² Under 49 CFR 1150.32(e), this exemption cannot become effective until 60 days after the requirements of that section have been satisfied (here, July 18, 2015).

If the 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 effectiveness of the exemption. Petitions for stay must be filed no later than July 10, 2015 (at least seven days before the exemption becomes effective).

An original and 10 copies of all pleadings, referring to Docket No. FD

¹ TNMR is a new, wholly owned, subsidiary of Watco Holdings, Inc.

² In its May 19 letter to the Board, TNMR stated that there are no union employees at ANR.