

International Harmonization of Chemical Classification and Labeling Systems.

SUMMARY: This public meeting will provide an update on current activities related to international harmonization since the previous public meeting, conducted October 7, 1998. (See Department of State Public Notice 2896 on pages 51394–51395 of the **Federal Register** of September 25, 1998.) The meeting will also offer interested organizations and individuals the opportunity to provide information and views for consideration in the development of United States Government policy positions. For more complete information on the harmonization process, please refer to State Department Public Notice 2526, pages 15951–15957 of the **Federal Register** of April 3, 1997.

The meeting will take place from 10 a.m. until noon on January 11, 1999, in Room N 3437 A, B&C, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC. Attendees should use the entrance at C and Third Streets NW. To facilitate entry, please have a picture ID available and/or a U.S. Government building pass if applicable.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information or to submit written comments or information, please contact Mary Frances Lowe, U.S. Department of State, OES/ENV, Room 4325, 2201 C Street NW, Washington DC 20520. Phone (202) 736-4660, fax (202) 647-5947. A public docket is also available for review (OSHA docket H-022H.)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department of State is announcing a public meeting of the interagency committee concerned with the international harmonization of chemical hazard classification and labeling systems (an effort often referred to as the "globally harmonized system" or GHS). The purpose of the meeting is to provide interested groups and individuals with an update on activities since the October 7, 1998, public meeting, a preview of upcoming international meetings, and an opportunity to submit additional information and comments for consideration in developing U.S. Government positions. Representatives of the following agencies participate in the interagency group: the Department of State, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Transportation, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, the Consumer Product Safety Commission, the Food and Drug Administration, the Department of Commerce, the Department of Agriculture, the Office of

the U.S. Trade Representative, and the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences.

The Agenda of the public meeting will include:

1. Introduction
2. Reports on recent international meetings
 - UN Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, December 7–16, Geneva, Switzerland. Among the GHS-related topics discussed at this meeting were the status of classification criteria for physical hazards and a proposed institutional setting within the UN ECOSOC for the GHS.
3. Preparation for upcoming meetings
 - Second meeting of the Inter-Organization Program for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC)/International Labour Organization Working Group on Hazard Communication, January 26–27, 1999, Geneva Switzerland
 - Thirteenth Consultation of Coordinating Group for the Harmonization of Chemical Classification Systems, January 28–29, 1999, Geneva Switzerland.
 - Third meeting of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development Working Group on Classification Criteria for Mixtures, February 1–3, 1999, Paris, France.
4. Public Comments
5. Concluding Remarks

Interested parties are invited to submit their comments as soon as possible for consideration in the development of U.S. positions and to present their views orally and/or in writing at the public meeting. Participants may address other topics relating to harmonization of chemical classification and labeling systems and are particularly invited to identify issues of concern to specific sectors that may be affected by the GHS. Participants who attended and participated in recent international sessions may also offer their observations on the results of the sessions.

All written comments will be placed in the public docket (OSHA docket H-022H). The docket is open from 10 am until 4 pm, Monday through Friday, and is located at the Department of Labor, Room 2625, 200 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC. (Telephone: 202-219-7894; Fax: 202-219-5046.) The public may also consult the docket to review previous **Federal Register** notices, comments received, Questions and Answers about the GHS, a response to comments on the April 3, 1997,

Federal Register notice, and other relevant documents.

Dated: December 29, 1998.

Michael Metelits,

Director, Office of Environmental Policy, Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs.

[FR Doc. 99-356 Filed 1-7-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-09-M

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Delegation of Authority No. 227

By virtue of the authority vested in the Secretary of State by section 1 of the Department of State Basic Authorities Act (22 U.S.C. § 2651a), I hereby delegate to the Assistant Secretary for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs the function vested in the Secretary of State by 18 U.S.C. § 981(i), 19 U.S.C. 1616a(c)(2), and 21 U.S.C. 881(e)(1)(E), and similar statutes that may be enacted, to approve the transfer of forfeited assets to foreign governments. Notwithstanding this delegation of authority, the Secretary of State or the Deputy Secretary of State may at any time exercise any authority conferred upon the Secretary by these statutes on the transfer of forfeited assets to foreign governments. Any section affected by this delegation shall be deemed to such act as it may be amended from time to time.

This Delegation of Authority shall be published in the **Federal Register** and shall be effective upon date of signature.

Dated: December 17, 1998.

Madeleine K. Albright,

Secretary of State.

[FR Doc. 99-357 Filed 1-7-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-10-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

Notice of Public Meeting on Proposed Change of Sioux Falls Airspace From Class D to Class C

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a fact-finding informal airspace meeting to solicit information from airspace users and others, concerning proposals to change the Class D airspace to Class C at Sioux Falls, SD. The purpose of this meeting is to provide views, recommendations, and comment on these proposals. All comments received during the meeting will be considered

prior to any revisions or issuance of notices of proposed rulemaking.

DATES: The informal airspace meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 3, 1999, starting at 7:00 p.m. Comments must be received on or before April 3, 1999. Date: March 3, 1999. Place: Gilbert Science Center Auditorium, Augustana College, 2001 South Summit Avenue, Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

COMMENTS: Send or deliver comments on the proposal in triplicate to: Manager, Air Traffic Division, AGL-500, Federal Aviation Administration, 2300 East Devon Avenue, Des Plaines IL 60018.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Vinnie Vander Laan, Air Traffic Division, AGL-520, FAA, Great Lakes Regional Office, telephone (847) 294-7546.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Meeting Procedures

The following procedures will be used to facilitate the meeting:

(a) The meeting will be informal in nature and will be conducted by a representative of the FAA Great Lakes Region. A representative from the FAA will present a formal briefing on the proposed revisions of the airspace. Each participant will be given an opportunity to deliver comments or make a presentation.

(b) The meeting will be open to all persons on a space-available basis. There will be no admission fee or other charge to attend and participate.

(c) Any person wishing to make a presentation to the FAA panel will be asked to sign in and estimate the amount of time needed for such presentation. This will permit the panel to allocate an appropriate amount of time for each presenter.

(d) The meeting will not be adjourned until everyone on the list has had an opportunity to address the panel.

(e) Position papers or other handout material relating to the substance of the meeting will be accepted. Participants wishing to submit handout material should present three copies to the presiding officer. These should be additional copies of each handout available for other attendees.

(f) The meeting will not be formally recorded. However, a summary of the comments made at the meeting will be filed in the docket.

Agenda for the Meeting

Opening Remarks and Discussion of Meeting Procedures.
Briefing on Background for Proposals.
Public Presentations.
Closing Comments.

Issued in Des Plaines, Illinois on December 16, 1998.

Maureen Woods,

Manager, Air Traffic Division.

[FR Doc. 99-386 Filed 1-7-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 33700]

The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company—Operation Exemption—A Line of Railroad Owned by the City of Los Angeles, CA, Through Its Board of Harbor Commissioners

The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company (BNSF) has filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1150.31 to operate a rail line owned by the City of Los Angeles, CA, through its Board of Harbor Commissioners, a noncarrier. The 0.8-mile rail line involved in this transaction is located between milepost 17.0 and milepost 17.8, in Los Angeles, and will constitute part of the Alameda Rail Corridor (Corridor).¹

The exemption became effective on December 30, 1998, but the exempted transaction is not expected to be consummated until approximately March 2002.²

BNSF and the UP will operate the rail line as part of an overall coordination of rail operations along the Corridor that will give BNSF and UP access to facilities and terminals in the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, CA.³ As part of the coordination project, BNSF has concurrently filed a verified notice of exemption in STB Finance Docket No. 33701, *The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company—Trackage*

¹ See *Alameda Corridor Construction Application*, Finance Docket No. 32830 (STB served May 13, 1996).

² In order to comply with the funding requirements for the Corridor construction project, applicant states that authorization by the Board for these operating rights must be effective by December 31, 1998. Applicant notes that the segment of track involved in this proceeding is located within the Port of Los Angeles and is currently being operated by BNSF and the Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP) without prior Board authority pursuant to the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 10906. According to applicant, upon substantial completion of the Corridor, on or about March 2002, the segment of track will become part of the Corridor, and at that time, operations over the track that are authorized by this exemption will begin.

³ UP has filed a separate notice of exemption to operate the line in STB Finance Docket No. 33698, *Union Pacific Railroad Company—Operation Exemption—A Line of Railroad Owned by the City of Los Angeles, CA, Through its Board of Harbor Commissioners*.

Rights Exemption—Union Pacific Railway Company, to acquire overhead trackage rights.

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. 33700, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on Karl Morell, Esq., Ball Janik LLP, 1455 F Street, N.W., Suite 225, Washington, DC 20005.

Board decisions and notices are available on our website at "WWW.STB.DOT.GOV."

Decided: December 30, 1998.

By the Board, David M. Konschnik, Director, Office of Proceedings.

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99-208 Filed 1-7-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 33701]

The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company—Trackage Rights Exemption—Union Pacific Railroad Company

Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP) has agreed to grant overhead trackage rights to The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company (BNSF) over UP's rail line located between UP milepost 484.9 and UP milepost 500.95, in Los Angeles, CA, that constitutes a portion of the Alameda Rail Corridor (Corridor).¹

The exemption became effective on December 30, 1998, but the exempted transaction is not scheduled to be consummated until approximately March 2002.²

¹ The rail line is being constructed by the City of Los Angeles and the City of Long Beach on property acquired from predecessors of BNSF and UP. See *Alameda Corridor Construction Application*, Finance Docket No. 32830 (STB served May 13, 1996).

² While Board authorization of these trackage rights must be effective by December 31, 1998 in order to comply with the funding requirements for the Corridor construction project, the trackage rights will commence upon substantial completion of the Corridor, which is currently expected to be on or about March 2002.