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Decided: August 22, 2001.

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

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 01-21684 Filed 8-28-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Docket Nos. AB-590X and AB-193 (Sub-No. 2X)]

Maryland Mass Transit Administration—Abandonment Exemption in Baltimore City, Baltimore County, and Anne Arundel County, MD and Canton Railroad Company—Discontinuance of Trackage Rights Exemption

Maryland Mass Transit Administration (MTA) and Canton Railroad Company (Canton) have filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F—*Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuances of Trackage Rights* for MTA to abandon and Canton to discontinue trackage rights over MTA's line of railroad known as the South Line-Central Light Rail Line (Line) from the Line's point of connection with CSX Transportation, Inc. (CSXT) at Patapsco Avenue in Baltimore City, MD (CSXT milepost 0.0, Clifford Junction, MD), to the end of the Line at Dorsey (Dorsey Road), in Glen Burnie, MD, within Baltimore City, Baltimore County, and Anne Arundel County, MD. The line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Codes 21225, 21227, 21090, and 21061.

MTA and Canton have certified that: (1) No local traffic has moved over the line for at least 2 years; (2) there is no overhead traffic that is to be 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 (Board) or with any U.S. District Court or has been decided in favor of complainant within the 2-year period; and (4) the requirements at 49 CFR 1105.7 (environmental reports), 49 CFR 1105.8 (historic reports), 49 CFR 1105.11 (transmittal letter), 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 abandonment or discontinuance shall be protected under *Oregon Short Line R. Co.—Abandonment—Goshen*, 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 September 28, 2001, unless stayed pending reconsideration. Petitions to stay that do not involve environmental issues,¹ formal expressions of intent to file an OFA under 49 CFR 1152.27(c)(2)² and trail use/rail banking requests under 49 CFR 1152.29 must be filed by September 10, 2001. Petitions to reopen or requests for public use conditions under 49 CFR 1152.28 must be filed by September 18, 2001, with: Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20423.

MTA states that the line is suitable for the public purpose of light rail mass transportation, and it will continue to use the right-of-way for provision of such service after the abandonment and discontinuance take effect. MTA also states that the Line is not suitable for any other concurrent use, public or private and it is not willing to transfer title to the right-of-way or use the property for other than light rail purposes.

A copy of any petition filed with the Board should be sent to applicants' representative: Jamie P. Rennert, Esq., Foley & Lardner, 888 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20006.

If the verified notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void *ab initio*.

MTA and Canton have filed an environmental report which addresses the abandonment's effects, if any, on the environment and historic resources. SEA will issue an environmental assessment (EA) by August 31, 2001. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the EA by writing to SEA (Room 500, Surface Transportation Board,

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

² Each offer of financial assistance must be accompanied by the filing fee, which currently is set for \$1000. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).

Washington, DC 20423) or by calling SEA, at (202) 565-1545. Comments on environmental and historic preservation matters must be filed within 15 days after the EA becomes available to the public.

Pursuant to the provisions of 49 CFR 1152.29(e)(2), MTA shall file a notice of consummation with the Board to signify that it has exercised the authority granted and fully abandoned its line. If consummation has not been effected by MTA's filing of a notice of consummation by August 29, 2002, and there are no legal or regulatory barriers to consummation, the authority to abandon will automatically expire.

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Decided: August 22, 2001.

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

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 01-21794 Filed 8-28-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Fiscal Service

Surety Companies Acceptable on Federal Bonds: Termination—Star Insurance Company

AGENCY: Financial Management Service, Fiscal Service, Department of the Treasury.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This is Supplement No. 2 to the Treasury Department Circular 570; 2001 Revision, published July 2, 2001 at 66 FR 35024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Surety Bond Branch at (202) 874-7102.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given that the Certificate of Authority issued by the Treasury to the above named Company, under the United States Code, Title 31, Sections 9304-9308, to qualify as an acceptable surety on Federal bonds is hereby terminated effective today.

The Company was last listed as an acceptable surety on Federal bonds at 66 FR 35055, July 2, 2001.

With respect to any bonds, including continuous bonds, currently in force with the above listed Company, bond-approving officers should secure new bonds with acceptable sureties in those instances where a significant amount of liability remains outstanding. In addition, in no event, should bonds that are continuous in nature be renewed.

The Circular may be viewed and downloaded through the Internet at <http://www.fms.treas.gov.c570/index.html>. A hard copy may be purchased from the Government Printing Office (GPO) Subscription Service, Washington, DC, Telephone (202) 512-1800. When ordering the Circular from GPO, use the following stock number: 769-004-04067-1.

Questions concerning this Notice may be directed to the U.S. Department of the Treasury, Financial Management Service, Financial Accounting and Service Division, Surety Bond Branch, 3700 East-West Highway, Room 6A04, Hyattsville, MD 20782.

Dated: August 22, 2001.

Judith R. Tillman,

Assistant Commissioner, Financial Operations, Financial Management Service.
[FR Doc. 01-21797 Filed 8-28-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810-35-M

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

National Research Advisory Council; Notice of Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) gives notice under Public Law 92-463 (Federal Advisory Committee Act) that the Veterans Affairs National Research Advisory Council will meet at the Residence Inn by Marriott, Pentagon City in the Eisenhower Ballroom, 550 Army Navy Drive, Arlington, VA 22202, on September 5, 2001, from 8 a.m. to 1 a.m. The agenda for this session of the meeting will include the minutes from the previous meeting and overview of the VA Career Development Program, research infrastructure needs, and the Rehabilitation Research and Development Service. Established by the Secretary of the VA, the purpose of the Council is to provide external advice and review for VA's research mission. Those planning to attend the open meeting should contact Ms. Lisa Gilbert, Office of Research and Development at (202) 273-8243.

Dated: August 21, 2001.

Nora E. Egan,

Committee Management Officer.
[FR Doc. 01-21803 Filed 8-28-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

President's Task Force To Improve Health Care Delivery for Our Nation's Veterans; Notice of Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) gives notice under Public Law 92-463 that a meeting of the President's Task Force to Improve Health Care Delivery for Our Nation's Veterans will take place on Wednesday, September 12, 2001. The meeting will be held in the Polaris Room at the Ronald Reagan International Trade Center, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC. The meeting will convene at 8:30 a.m., adjourn at 5:30 p.m. and is open to the general public.

The purpose of the President's Task Force to Improve Health Care Delivery for Our Nation's Veterans is to:

- (a) Identify ways to improve benefits and services for Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) beneficiaries and for Department of Defense (DoD) military retirees who are also eligible for benefits from VA, through better coordination of the activities of the two departments;
- (b) Review barriers and challenges that impede VA and DoD coordination, including budgeting processes, timely billing, cost accounting, information technology, and reimbursement. Identify opportunities to improve such business practices to ensure high quality and cost effective health care; and
- (c) Identify opportunities for improved resource utilization through partnership between VA and DoD to maximize the use of resources and infrastructure, including: buildings, information technology and data sharing systems, procurement of supplies, equipment and services, and delivery of care.

The meeting will commence with the formal administration of the oath to the appointed Task Force members followed by further introductions and discussion of administrative and substantive issues. Such issues will include dates and locations of future meetings, potential topics and similar matters pertaining to the official organization and charge of the Task Force.

The VA and DoD will separately brief the Task Force on existing VA-DoD joint-venture initiatives and other practices currently being undertaken within VA and DoD concerning the Task Force's designated mission under Executive Order 13214.

Representatives of the General Accounting Office (GAO) will provide a synopsis of their findings from GAO's studies of VA-DoD joint ventures and opportunities for sharing initiatives.

Task Force members will conduct brief question and answer sessions with VA, DoD and GAO officials following their respective presentations.

Interested parties can provide written comments to Mr. Richard Larson, Staff Assistant, Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of the Secretary, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420.

Dated: August 24, 2001.

By Direction of the Secretary.

Nora E. Egan,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 01-21805 Filed 8-28-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Special Medical Advisory Group; Notice of Meeting

As required by the Federal Advisory Committee Act, VA hereby gives notice that the Special Medical Advisory Group has scheduled a meeting on September 12, 2001. The meeting will convene at 9 a.m. and end at 2 p.m. The meeting will be held in Room 830 at VA Central Office, 810 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. The purpose of the meeting is to advise the Secretary and Under Secretary for Health relative to the care and treatment of disabled veterans, and other matters pertinent to the Department's Veterans Health Administration (VHA).

The agenda for the meeting will include an update on VHA Communication Plans; Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Services (CARES) update; Graduation Medical Education update; and an overview on the Mental Health Program.

All sessions will be open to the public. Those wishing to attend should contact Celestine Brockington, Office of the Under Secretary for Health, Department of Veterans Affairs at (202) 273-5878.

Dated: August 23, 2001.

By direction of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

Nora E. Egan,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 01-21804 Filed 8-28-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-M