

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Surface Transportation Board****[STB Finance Docket No. 34500]****Motive Rail, Inc. d/b/a Missouri North Central Railroad—Lease Exemption—the City of Chillicothe, MO**

Motive Rail, Inc. d/b/a Missouri North Central Railroad (MNCR), a noncarrier, has filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1150.31 to lease from the City of Chillicothe, MO, and operate 37.3 miles of rail line located between milepost 188.7 at Brunswick, MO, and milepost 226.0 at Chillicothe. MNCR certifies that its projected revenues as a result of this transaction will not result in MNCR becoming a Class II or Class I rail carrier, and further certifies that its projected annual revenues will not exceed \$5 million.

MNCR indicates that it expected to consummate the transaction on or shortly after April 30, 2004.

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 transaction.

An original and 10 copies of all pleadings, referring to STB Finance Docket No. 34500, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, one copy of each pleading must be served on Karl Morell, Suite 225, 1455 F St., NW., Washington, DC 20005.

Board decisions and notices are available on our website at <http://www.stb.dot.gov>.

Decided: May 6, 2004.

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

Vernon A. Williams,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 04-10774 Filed 5-12-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-01-P

Department as an acceptable surety/reinsurer on Federal bonds.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Surety Bond Branch at (202) 874-6850.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Statewide Insurance Company, an Illinois company, formerly held a Certificate of Authority as an acceptable surety on Federal bonds and was last listed as such at 66 FR 35056, July 2, 2001. The Company's authority was terminated by the Department of the Treasury effective April 11, 2002. Notice of the termination was published in the **Federal Register** of April 23, 2002, on page 19806.

On January 6, 2004, upon a petition by the Director of Insurance of the State of Illinois, the Circuit Court of Illinois issued an Order of Liquidation with respect to Statewide Insurance Company. J. Anthony Clark, Director of Insurance of the State of Illinois, and his successors in office, were appointed as the Liquidator. All persons having claims against Statewide Insurance Company must file their claims by January 6, 2005, or be barred from sharing in the distribution of assets.

All claims must be filed in writing and shall set forth the amount of the claim, the facts upon which the claim is based, any priorities asserted, and any other pertinent facts to substantiate the claim. Federal Agencies should assert claim priority status under 31 U.S.C. 3713, and send a copy of their claim, in writing, to: Department of Justice, Civil Division, Commercial Litigation Branch, P.O. Box 875, Ben Franklin Station, Washington, DC 20044-0875, Attn: Ms. Jennifer Blackwell, Legal Assistant.

The above office will consolidate and file any and all claims against Statewide Insurance Company, on behalf of the United States Government. Any questions concerning filing of claims may be directed to Ms. Blackwell at (202) 307-1114.

The Circular may be viewed and downloaded through the Internet (<http://www.fms.treas.gov/c570>). A hard copy may be purchased from the Government Printing Office (GPO), Subscription Service, Washington, DC, (202) 512-1800. When ordering the Circular from GPO, use the following stock number 769-004-04643-2.

Questions concerning this notice may be directed to the U.S. Department of the Treasury, Financial Management Service, Financial Accounting and Services Division, Surety Bond Branch, 3700 East-West Highway, Room 6F07, Hyattsville MD 20782.

Dated: May 3, 2004.

Vivian Cooper,

Director, Financial Accounting and Services Division, Financial Management Service.

[FR Doc. 04-10835 Filed 5-12-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810-35-M

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-NEW (Focus Groups of Department of Veterans Beneficiaries)]

Proposed Information Collection Activity: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Office of Planning and Evaluation, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Office of Policy, Planning and Preparedness, 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 proposed new collection of information, and allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments on information that will be collected by focus groups conducted nationwide concerning the usage of VA benefits.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before July 12, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments on the collection of information to David Walton, Project Manager, Office of Assistant Secretary for Planning, Policy and Preparedness (008B1), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20420 or e-mail david.walton@mail.va.gov. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-NEW (Focus Groups of Department of Veterans Beneficiaries)" in any correspondence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David Walton at (202) 273-5061 or FAX (202) 273-5991.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA of 1995 (Public Law 104-13; 44 U.S.C. 3501-3521), Federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. This request for comment is

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY**Fiscal Service****Surety Companies Acceptable on Federal Bonds: Liquidation—Statewide Insurance Company**

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

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Liquidation of an insurance company formerly certified by this

being made pursuant to Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA.

With respect to the following collection of information, the Office of Planning Policy, and Preparedness invites comments on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of VA's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of VA'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: Focus Groups of Department of Veterans Beneficiaries.

OMB Control Number: None assigned.

Type of Review: New collection.

Abstract: The proposed focus groups are intended to collect data as part of the Department's Environmental Scan to assess the effectiveness and efficiency of VA programs that assist veterans and their families. The Environmental Scan is used to support the Department's overall strategic planning process.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 60 minutes.

Estimated Time Per Respondent and Annual Burden: 560 hours.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 280.

Dated: May 6, 2004.

By direction of the Secretary.

Loise Russell,

Director, Records Management Service.

[FR Doc. 04-10809 Filed 5-12-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P