

distance of 7.05 miles in Barron County.¹

PGR certifies that its projected revenues as a result of this transaction will not result in the creation of a Class II or Class I rail carrier. The transaction was scheduled to be consummated no sooner than October 27, 2004, the effective date of the exemption (7 days after the exemption was filed).

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 transaction.

An original and 10 copies of all pleadings, referring to STB Finance Docket No. 34600, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on: Thomas F. McFarland, P.C., 208 South LaSalle St., Suite 1890, Chicago, IL 60604-1112.

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

Decided: November 3, 2004.

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

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 04-25054 Filed 11-10-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

[REG-104924-98]

Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Regulation Project

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and

other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning an existing notice of proposed rulemaking, REG-104924-98, Mark-to-Market Accounting for Dealers in Commodities and Traders in Securities or Commodities (§§ 1.475(e)-1 and 1.475(f)-2).

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before January 11, 2005 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to R. Joseph Durbala, Internal Revenue Service, room 6516, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the regulations should be directed to Carol Savage at Internal Revenue Service, room 6516, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224, or at (202) 622-3945, or through the Internet at CAROL.A.SAVAGE@irs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Mark-to-Market Accounting for Dealers in Commodities and Traders in Securities or Commodities.

OMB Number: 1545-1640.

Regulation Project Number: REG-104924-98.

Abstract: The collection of information in this proposed regulation is required by the Internal Revenue Service to determine whether an exemption from mark-to-market treatment is properly claimed. This information will be used to make that determination upon audit of taxpayers' books and records.

Current Actions: There is no change to this existing proposed regulation.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organization and Individuals.

Estimated Number of Recordkeepers: 1,000.

Estimated Time Per Recordkeeper: 1 hour.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Recordkeeping Hours: 1,000.

The following paragraph applies to all of the collections of information covered by this notice:

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained as long

as their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

Request for Comments

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Approved: November 3, 2004.

Carol Savage,

Management and Program Analyst.

[FR Doc. 04-25126 Filed 11-10-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

[INTL-9-95]

Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Regulation Project

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning an existing final regulation, INTL-9-95 (TD 8702), Certain Transfers of Domestic Stock or Securities by U.S. Persons to Foreign Corporations (§ 1.367(a)-3).

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before January 11, 2005 to be assured of consideration.

¹ The rail line in the instant transaction was the subject of a notice of exemption originally filed by Wisconsin Northern Railroad Company, LLC (WNRC), a subsidiary of PGR, and voluntarily withdrawn by WNRC. See *Wisconsin Northern Railroad Company, LLC—Lease and Operation Exemption—Rail Lines of Wisconsin Central Ltd.* STB Finance Docket No. 34596 (STB served Oct. 22, 2004). The rail line in the instant transaction also connects in Barron County, WI, to another PGR rail line recently acquired in *Progressive Rail, Incorporated—Lease and Operation Exemption—Rail Line of Union Pacific Railroad Company*, STB Finance Docket No. 34597 (STB served Oct. 29, 2004).

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Joseph Durbala, Internal Revenue Service, room 6516, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the regulations should be directed to Larnice Mack at Internal Revenue Service, room 6512, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224, or at (202) 622-3179, or through the Internet at Larnice.Mack@irs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Certain Transfers of Domestic Stock or Securities by U.S. Persons to Foreign Corporations.

OMB Number: 1545-1478.

Regulation Project Number: INTL-9-95.

Abstract: This regulation relates to certain transfers of stock or securities of domestic corporations pursuant to the corporate organization, reorganization, or liquidation provisions of the internal Revenue Code. Transfers of stock or securities by U.S. persons in tax-free transactions are treated as taxable transactions when the acquirer is a foreign corporation, unless an exception applies under Code section 367(a). This regulation provides that no U.S. person will qualify for an exception unless the U.S. target company complies with certain reporting requirements.

Current Actions: There is no change to this existing regulation.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Responses: 100.

Estimated Time Per Response: 10 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 1,000.

The following paragraph applies to all the collections of information covered by this notice.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

Request for Comments

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are

invited on: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Approved: November 3, 2004.

R. Joseph Durbala,

IRS Reports Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 04-25238 Filed 11-10-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0500]

Agency Information Collection Activities Under OMB Review

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-21), this notice announces that the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), Department of Veterans Affairs, has submitted the collection of information abstracted below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The PRA submission describes the nature of the information collection and its expected cost and burden and includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before December 13, 2004.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Denise McLamb, Records Management Service (005E3), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., or e-mail denise.mclamb@mail.va.gov.

Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0500." Send comments and recommendations concerning any aspect of the information collection to VA's OMB Desk Officer, OMB Human Resources and Housing Branch, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503, (202) 395-7316. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0500" in any correspondence.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Status of Dependents

Questionnaire, VA Form 21-0538.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0500.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: Veterans receiving compensation for service-connected disability which includes an additional amount for their spouse and/or child(ren) must report any changes in the number of dependents. VA Form 21-0538 is used to request certification of the status of dependents for whom additional compensation is being paid.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on this collection of information was published on August 10, 2004 at pages 48565-48566.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 14,083 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 10 minutes.

Frequency of Response: Once in eight years.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 84,500.

Dated: October 26, 2004.

By direction of the Secretary.

Loise Russell,

Director, Records Management Service.

[FR Doc. 04-25144 Filed 11-10-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0036]

Agency Information Collection Activities Under OMB Review

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3521), this notice announces that the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), Department of Veterans Affairs, has submitted the collection of information abstracted below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The PRA submission describes the nature of the information collection and its expected cost and burden; it includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before December 13, 2004.