

Modality of completion	Number of responses	Frequency of response	Average burden per response (minutes)	Estimated total annual burden (hours)
Requests for pension plan information .....	580	1	30	290

Dated: February 12, 2016.

**Naomi R. Sipple,**

*Reports Clearance Officer, Social Security Administration.*

[FR Doc. 2016-03380 Filed 2-17-16; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4191-02-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice: 9449]

### U.S. Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy; Notice of Meeting

The U.S. Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy will hold a public meeting from 10:00 a.m. until 11:30 a.m., Tuesday, March 8, 2016 in Room 106 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, at the corner of First Street and Constitution Ave. NE., Washington, DC 20002.

The meeting's topic will be "Reassessing Global Countering Violent Extremism Strategy" and will feature the head of the new Global Engagement Center at the U.S. Department of State. Other representatives from the State Department will be in attendance.

This meeting is open to the public, members and staff of Congress, the State Department, Defense Department, the media, and other governmental and non-governmental organizations. To attend and make any requests for reasonable accommodation, email [pdcommission@state.gov](mailto:pdcommission@state.gov) by 5 p.m. on Thursday, March 3, 2016. Please arrive for the meeting by 9:45 a.m. to allow for a prompt meeting start.

The United States Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy appraises U.S. Government activities intended to understand, inform, and influence foreign publics. The Advisory Commission may conduct studies, inquiries, and meetings, as it deems necessary. It may assemble and disseminate information and issue reports and other publications, subject to the approval of the Chairperson, in consultation with the Executive Director. The Advisory Commission may undertake foreign travel in pursuit of its studies and coordinate, sponsor, or oversee projects, studies, events, or other activities that it deems desirable and necessary in fulfilling its functions.

The Commission consists of seven members appointed by the President, by

and with the advice and consent of the Senate. The members of the Commission represent the public interest and are selected from a cross section of educational, communications, cultural, scientific, technical, public service, labor, business, and professional backgrounds. Not more than four members are from any one political party. The President designates a member to chair the Commission.

The current members of the Commission are: Mr. William Hybl of Colorado, Chairman; Ambassador Lyndon Olson of Texas, Vice Chairman; Mr. Sim Farar of California, Vice Chairman; Ambassador Penne Korth-Peacock of Texas; Ms. Lezlee Westine of Virginia; and Anne Terman Wedner of Illinois. One seat on the Commission is currently vacant.

To request further information about the meeting or the U.S. Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy, you may contact its Executive Director, Katherine Brown, at [BrownKA4@state.gov](mailto:BrownKA4@state.gov).

Dated: February 4, 2016.

**Katherine Brown,**

*Executive Director, Department of State.*

[FR Doc. 2016-03374 Filed 2-17-16; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4710-45-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

### Delegation of Authority 250-1: Further Assignment of Functions Under the Bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities and Accountability Act of 2015 (the "Act") to Other Departments and Agencies of the Executive Branch

**AGENCY:** Department of State.

**ACTION:** Further assignment of functions.

**SUMMARY:** The Act specifically granted the President certain authorities and assigned the President certain functions related to agreements covered by the Act's provisions. In Executive Order No. 13701, the President assigned certain of these functions to the Secretary of State and provided guidance for performing those functions, including the further assignment of functions to officers of any other department or agency within the Executive Branch. This notice informs the public of the Secretary of State's further assignment of certain functions. This notice does not create

any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or equity by a party against the United States, its departments, agencies, instrumentalities or entities, its officers or employees, or any other person.

**DATES:** These actions were effective on the signature date.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Tiffany Prather, [PratherTA@state.gov](mailto:PratherTA@state.gov); Tel: (202) 647-4548.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Further Assignment of Functions

Pursuant to section 1(c)(i) of Executive Order No. 13701, the Secretary of State hereby, as set forth below, further assigns certain functions of the Secretary of State under the Order. Departments and agencies shall carry out those functions in a manner that is supportive of agreements subject to the Act.

The functions of the President under section 102(c)(2) of the Act with respect to establishing consultative mechanisms assigned to the Secretary of State are further assigned to the United States Trade Representative, and shall be carried out jointly by the Secretary of State and the United States Trade Representative. Such consultative mechanisms are those established through trade agreements subject to the Act. This further assignment is without prejudice to the Secretary of State's responsibility for coordinating the operation of such mechanisms and obtaining the advice and assistance of any other agency as necessary and appropriate.

Dated: February 11, 2016.

**John Kerry,**

*Secretary of State.*

[FR Doc. 2016-03376 Filed 2-17-16; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4710-09-P**

## SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

[Docket No. EP 290 (Sub-No. 4)]

### Railroad Cost Recovery Procedures—Productivity Adjustment

**AGENCY:** Surface Transportation Board.

**ACTION:** Proposed Railroad Cost Recovery Procedures Productivity Adjustment.

**SUMMARY:** In a decision served on February 12, 2016, we proposed to adopt 1.014 (1.4% per year) as the measure of average change in railroad productivity for the 2010–2014 (five-year) averaging period. This value represents an increase of 0.7% from the average for the 2009–2013 period. The Board's February 12, 2016 decision in this proceeding stated that comments may be filed addressing any perceived data and computational errors in the Board's calculation. It also stated that, if there were no further action taken by the Board, the proposed productivity adjustment would become effective on March 1, 2016.

**DATES:** The productivity adjustment is effective March 1, 2016. Comments are due by February 24, 2016.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments (an original and 10 copies) referring to Docket No. EP 290 (Sub-No. 4) to: Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street SW., Washington, DC 20423–0001.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Michael Smith, (202) 245–0322. Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) for the hearing impaired, (800) 877–8339.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Additional information is contained in the Board's decision, which is available on our Web site at <http://www.stb.dot.gov>. Copies of the decision may be purchased by contacting the Board's Office of Public Assistance, Governmental Affairs, and Compliance at (202) 245–0236. Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through FIRS at (800) 877–8339.

Decided: February 12, 2016

By the Board, Chairman Elliott, Vice Chairman Miller, and Commissioner Begeman.

**Tia Delano,**

*Clearance Clerk.*

[FR Doc. 2016–03347 Filed 2–17–16; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4915–01–P**

## SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

[Docket No. AB 55 (Sub-No. 753X)]

### CSX Transportation, Inc.— Discontinuance of Service Exemption—in Harlan County, KY

CSX Transportation, Inc. (CSXT), filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR part 1152 subpart F—*Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuances of Service* to discontinue service over an approximately 1.6-mile rail line on its Southern Region, Huntington Division, CV Subdivision, Engineering Appalachian Division, also known as the Merna Spur from milepost 0MV 248.5 to milepost 0MV 250.1, in Harlan

County, Ky. (the Line). The Line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Code 40818, and includes the station of Creech (FSAC 43739/OPSL 20395) at milepost 0MV 250.

CSXT has certified that: (1) No local traffic has moved over the Line for at least two years; (2) because the Line is not a through line, no overhead traffic has operated, and, therefore, none needs 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 is pending either with the Surface Transportation Board or any U.S. District Court or has been decided in favor of a complainant within the two-year period; and (4) the requirements at 49 CFR 1105.12 (newspaper publication) and 49 CFR 1152.50(d)(1) (notice to governmental agencies) have been met.

As a condition to this exemption, any employee adversely affected by the discontinuance of service shall be protected under *Oregon Short Line Railroad—Abandonment Portion Goshen Branch Between Firth & Ammon, in Bingham & Bonneville Counties, Idaho*, 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) to subsidize continued rail service has been received, this exemption will become effective on March 19, 2016, unless stayed pending reconsideration. Petitions to stay that do not involve environmental issues and formal expressions of intent to file an OFA to subsidize continued rail service under 49 CFR 1152.27(c)(2) <sup>1</sup> must be filed by February 29, 2016.<sup>2</sup> Petitions to reopen must be filed by March 9, 2016, with the Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street SW., Washington, DC 20423–0001.

A copy of any petition filed with the Board should be sent to CSXT's representative: Louis E. Gitomer, Law Offices of Louis E. Gitomer, LLC, 600 Baltimore Avenue, Suite 301, Towson, MD 21204.

<sup>1</sup> Each OFA must be accompanied by the filing fee, which is currently set at \$1,600. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).

<sup>2</sup> Because this is a discontinuance proceeding and not an abandonment, interim trail use/rail banking and public use conditions are not appropriate. Because there will be an environmental review during abandonment, this discontinuance does not require an environmental review.

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

Board decisions and notices are available on our Web site at “[WWW.STB.DOT.GOV](http://WWW.STB.DOT.GOV).”

Decided: February 12, 2016.

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

**Brendetta S. Jones,**

*Clearance Clerk.*

[FR Doc. 2016–03356 Filed 2–17–16; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4915–01–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Highway Administration

#### Notice of Final Federal Agency Actions on Proposed Highway in California

**AGENCY:** Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of Limitation on Claims for Judicial Review of Actions by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327.

**SUMMARY:** The FHWA, on behalf of Caltrans, is issuing this notice to announce actions taken by Caltrans that are final within the meaning of 23 U.S.C. 139(l)(1). The actions relate to a proposed highway project, Centennial Corridor Project on State Route 58 from Cottonwood Road to Interstate 5 and State Route 99 from Wilson Road to Gilmore Avenue in the County of Kern, State of California. Those actions grant licenses, permits, and approvals for the project.

**DATES:** By this notice, the FHWA, on behalf of Caltrans, is advising the public of final agency actions subject to U.S.C. § 139(l)(1). A claim seeking judicial review of the Federal agency actions on the highway project will be barred unless the claim is filed on or before July 18, 2016. If the Federal law that authorizes judicial review of a claim provides a time period of less than 150 days for filing such claim, then that shorter time period still applies.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jennifer H. Taylor, Office Chief, California Department of Transportation District 6, 855 M Street, Suite 200, Fresno, CA 93721, during normal business hours from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Telephone number (888) 404–6375, email: [Jennifer.taylor@dot.ca.gov](mailto:Jennifer.taylor@dot.ca.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Effective July 1, 2007, the FHWA assigned, and the Caltrans assumed environmental responsibilities for this project pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327. Notice is hereby given that Caltrans has taken final agency