

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration****[Docket No. FMCSA-2000-8210]****Notice of Request To Renew Approval of an Information Collection: OMB No. 2126-0011 (Commercial Driver Licensing and Test Standards)****AGENCY:** Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), DOT.**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: This notice announces that FMCSA intends to submit a request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for renewed approval of the information collection described below. This information collection is needed to ensure that motor carriers and the States are complying with notification requirements for information about licensing, violations, convictions, and disqualifications within certain time periods as required by the Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1986 (CMVSA), as amended. This notice is required by the Paperwork Reduction Act.

DATES: Your comments must be submitted by July 6, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Mail or hand deliver comments to the U.S. Department of Transportation, Dockets Management Facility, Room PL-401, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590, or submit electronically at <http://dmses.dot.gov/submit>. Be sure to include the docket number appearing in the heading of this document on your comment. All comments received will be available for examination and copying at the above address from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. If you would like to be notified when your comment is received, you must include a self-addressed, stamped postcard or you may print the acknowledgment page that appears after submitting comments electronically.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Larry Slade, (202) 366-5721, Office of Safety Programs, State Programs Division (MC-ESS), Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC, 20590. Office hours are from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: *Title:* Commercial Driver Licensing and Test Standards.

OMB Number: 2126-0011.

Background: In 1986, Congress enacted the Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Act (CMVSA), Pub. L. 99-570, Title XII, among other things, to establish minimum standards for testing and licensing persons who want to operate a commercial motor vehicle (CMV) by weight or use category, and requiring drivers to have a single commercial driver's license (CDL) and driving history record. Under 49 CFR 383.5, a CMV is defined as a motor vehicle or combination of motor vehicles which: (a) has a gross combination weight rating of 11,794 or more kilograms (kg) (26,001 or more pounds (lbs)) inclusive of a towed unit with a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) of more than 4,536 kg (10,000 lbs); (b) has a GVWR of 11,794 kg or more (26,001 or more lbs); (c) is designed to transport 16 or more passengers, including the driver; or (d) is of any size and is used to transport hazardous materials which require the motor vehicle to be placarded under the Hazardous Materials Regulations, 49 CFR part 172, subpart F.

The CMVSA requires a driver to notify both their employer and the licensing official in the driver's State of licensure of all violations of any State or local laws relating to traffic control (except parking violations). A person whose CDL is suspended, revoked, or canceled by a State, or who is disqualified from operating a CMV for any period, also must notify their employer of such actions. A person applying for employment as a CMV driver also must notify prospective employers of their employment history as a CMV driver for the previous ten years.

Under section 31309, Title 49, U.S.C. (49 U.S.C. 31309), the Secretary of Transportation must maintain an information clearinghouse and depository of information about the issuance of license, identification, and disqualification of CMV operators, in conjunction with § 31106. The Secretary must consult with the States in carrying out this section. States must certify that they are in compliance with the CDL program. If a State does not substantially comply with these requirements, the FMCSA may penalize the State until compliance is achieved. The information required to be collected by the States will be used to determine whether the States are in substantial compliance with these requirements.

This request for renewed approval includes additional burdens for recordkeeping requirements under 49 CFR 384.231(d) concerning retention and updating of driver records on the

Commercial Driver's License Information System (CDLIS).

Respondents: Motor carriers, CMV drivers, and State government.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 938,995 hours. The information collection is comprised of four components:

(1) Notification of convictions: Estimated number of annual responses = 3,333,333 (10 million CDL drivers/3 = 3,333,333). It takes approximately 10 minutes to notify a motor carrier concerning convictions. Each driver averages approximately 1 conviction every 3 years. The notification requirement has an estimated annual burden of 555,556 burden hours. (10 million / 3 × 10/60 = 555,556 hours);

(2) Employment history: Estimated annual turnover rate = 14%. There are an estimated 1,400,000 annual responses to this requirement (10 million × .14 = 1,400,000). It takes approximately 15 minutes to complete this requirement. The employment history requirement has an estimated annual burden of 350,000 hours (10 million × .25 × .14 = 350,000 hours);

(3) State compliance and certification: There are 51 responses to this requirement (50 States and the District of Columbia). The compliance and certification requirement has an estimated annual burden of 1,632 hours (51 × 32 hours = 1,632 hours); and

(4) CDLIS Recordkeeping: 50 States and the District of Columbia are required to enter data into CDLIS and to perform record checks before issuing, renewing or upgrading a CDL or allowing a CDL transfer. We estimate that the average amount of time for each CDLIS inquiry is 2 minutes. The total burden hours is 31,807 for these combined activities: 10,761 hours for all States to create a new driver; 3,560 hours for all States to change the state of record; and 17,486 hours for all States to change data.

Public Comments Invited

We invite you to comment on any aspect of this information collection, including, but not limited to (1) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the FMCSA, including whether the information is practical and useful; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways to enhance the quality, usefulness, and clarity of the collected information; and (4) ways to minimize the collection burden without reducing the quality of the information collected.

Electronic Access and Filing

You may submit or retrieve comments online through the Docket Management

System (DMS) at <http://dmses.dot.gov/submit>. Acceptable formats include: MS Word (versions 95 to 97), MS Word for Mac (versions 6 to 8), Rich Text File (RTF), American Standard Code Information Interchange (ASCII)(TXT), Portable Document Format (PDF), and WordPerfect (versions 7 to 8). The DMS is available 24 hours each day, 365 days each year. Electronic submission and retrieval help and guidelines are available under the help section of the web site. You may also download an electronic copy of this document from the DOT Docket Management System on the Internet at <http://dms.dot.gov/search.htm>. Please include the docket number appearing in the heading of this document.

Authority: The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995; 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended; and 49 CFR 1.73.

Issued on: May 2, 2001.

Brian M. McLaughlin,

Acting Deputy Administrator.

[FR Doc. 01-11417 Filed 5-4-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-EX-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 34035]

The Central Illinois Railroad Company—Acquisition and Operation Exemption—Rail Lines of Union Pacific Railroad Company and Canadian Pacific Rail System at Elk Grove Village, Cook and DuPage Counties, IL

The Central Illinois Railroad Company (CIRY), a Class III rail carrier, has filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1150.41 to acquire by lease and operate rail lines owned by the Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP) and the Canadian Pacific Rail System (CP). CIRY describes the track in greater detail as follows: the Centex Industrial Park Trackage owned by UP, or jointly by UP and CP, beginning at the west edge of York Road, which is the west end of UP's approximately 800-foot Elk Grove lead track that extends from UP's Milwaukee Subdivision, at milepost 7.8, consisting of approximately 25 miles of tracks.¹

¹ On April 25, 2001, a petition to stay the effective date of the exemption was filed by Joseph C. Szabo, for and on behalf of United Transportation Union-Illinois Legislative Board. The petition for stay was denied in *The Central Illinois Railroad Company—Acquisition and Operation Exemption—Rail Lines of Union Pacific Railroad Company and Canadian Pacific Rail System at Elk Grove Village, Cook and DuPage Counties, IL*, STB Finance Docket No. 34035 (STB served Apr. 27, 2001).

The transaction was scheduled to be consummated no earlier than April 30, 2001, 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 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. 34035, 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 Thomas F. McFarland, Jr., Esq., McFarland & Herman, 20 North Wacker Drive, Suite 1330, Chicago, IL 60606-2902.

Board decisions and notices are available on our website at www.stb.dot.gov.

Decided: May 1, 2001.

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

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 01-11367 Filed 5-4-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0144]

Proposed Information Collection Activity: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), 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 extension of a currently approved collection, and allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments on information needed on the residential loan application.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed

collection of information should be received on or before July 6, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments on the collection of information to Nancy J. Kessinger, Veterans Benefits Administration (20S52), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420 or irmnkess@vba.gov. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0144" in any correspondence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Nancy J. Kessinger at (202) 273-7079 or FAX (202) 275-5947.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13; 44 U.S.C., 3501-3520), 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 being made pursuant to Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA.

With respect to the following collection of information, VBA invites comments on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of VBA's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of VBA'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: HUD/VA Addendum to Uniform Residential Loan Application, VA Form 26-1802a, and Freddie Mac 65/Fannie Mae Form 1003, Uniform Residential Loan Application.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0144.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: VA Form 26-1802a serves as a joint loan application for both VA and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Lenders and veterans use the form to apply for guaranty of home loans.

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

Estimated Annual Burden: 20,000 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 6 minutes.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 200,000.

Dated: March 30, 2001.