

criteria given in § 388.4 of MARAD'S regulations at 46 CFR Part 388.

Vessel Proposed for Waiver of the U.S.-build Requirement

(1) Name of vessel and owner for which waiver is requested: Name of vessel: R' ADVENTURE II. Owner: Spenser Rohrluck

(2) Size, capacity and tonnage of vessel: According to the Applicant: Length 39'6"; Breadth 13'9"; Draft 3'6". The capacity of the vessel is a maximum of six passengers. The tonnage is 25 tons net and is calculated pursuant to 46 U.S.C. 14502.

(3) Intended use for vessel, including geographic region of intended operation and trade: According to the applicant: The intended use of the vessel is to enable an existing boat and breakfast with overnight accommodations for up to six guests to: (1) Leave its berth in Kingston NY with up to six passengers; (2) Cruise on the Hudson River to an anchorage for overnight anchoring purposes or (3) Cruise to a marina or yacht club where guests could go ashore for dinner or other shore based activities and return later to the vessel to sleep onboard. Breakfast to be served the next morning onboard. The geographic region for intended use would encompass the Rondout Creek in Kingston NY with a potential cruise range to as far south as West Point (32.6 miles) or as far north as Albany NY (46 miles).

(4) Date and place of construction and (if applicable) rebuilding: Date of construction: 1986. Place of construction: Kaoshiung Taiwan.

(5) A statement on the impact this waiver will have on other commercial passenger vessel operators: According to the applicant: This is an innovative and unique concept for the tourism industry. The nearest known Boat and Breakfast offering a cruise and overnight accommodations is located in Annapolis, MD. N.B. There are the two local boats engaged in cruise related activities originating from Kingston NY. One is the M/V Rip Van Winkle, which takes up to 300 passengers on a two-hour day or evening cruise. Passengers may buy refreshments onboard. They also offer a late night party cruise. The M/V Teal offers a two-hour cruise for up to 80 passengers and serves refreshments. Both vessels can be booked for private parties whereby catered meals are brought onboard for their guests. Nonetheless, neither vessel offers (1) Overnight accommodations, (2) Anchoring out overnight, (3) Cruising to other locations and, or course, (4) Breakfast for up to six guests.

(6) A statement on the impact this waiver will have on U.S. shipyards: According to the applicant: I do not believe that this vessel has had any negative impact on any U.S. shipyards. On the contrary, I believe that local marine repair facilities in the Kingston NY area have profited from me since I acquired this vessel in 1998. In addition to brokers fees (10% of the purchase price) and NY state sales tax, (7¾% of the purchase price) an additional 25% of the purchase price has been expended to repair, remodel, and upgrade this vessel with all work being done by local canvas, fiberglass, diesel engine, and air conditioning specialists located at area marina facilities.

Dated: August 15, 2000.

By Order of the Maritime Administrator.

Joel C. Richard,

Secretary, Maritime Administration.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Research and Special Programs Administration

[RSPA-00-7795]

Pipeline Safety: Meeting of the Integrity Management Communication Team

AGENCY: Research and Special Programs Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of Integrity Management Communication Team telephone conference meeting.

SUMMARY: The Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA) Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS) is giving notice of a meeting of the Integrity Management Communication Team. The Team will discuss the content and delivery of pipeline information to be conveyed to local officials and members of the public in or near high consequence areas.

DATES: The conference call will be held on August 28 at 1:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: Members of the public may attend the meeting at the Department of Transportation, Nassif Building, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Room 7128, Washington, D.C. 20590. An opportunity will be provided for the public to make short statements on the topics under discussion. Anyone wishing to make an oral statement should notify Mary Jo Cooney, (202) 366-4774, or Christina Sames, (202) 366-4561, no later than August 24, 2000, on the topic of the statement and the time requested for the presentation.

Information on Services for Individuals With Disabilities: For information on facilities or services for individuals with disabilities or to request special assistance during the telephone conference calls, contact Christina Sames at (202) 366-4561.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mary Jo Cooney, OPS, (202) 366-4774, or Christina Sames, OPS, (202) 366-4561.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background Information

In connection with the proposed rule on Pipeline Integrity Management in High Consequence Areas, OPS plans to propose related rules governing operator communications with local public officials and agencies. To assist in this effort, the OPS Technical Advisory Committees created an Integrity Management Communications Subcommittee to focus on communications issues and to report back to the full Advisory Committee. OPS expanded this Subcommittee to form a team with equal representation from the public, government agencies, and the pipeline industry, and to consolidate several related efforts.

The Team will provide feedback, insight, and information to the Advisory Committee on the content and delivery of information conveyed to local officials and public about pipeline operations, systems, and the risks they pose in or near high consequence areas. The Advisory Committee will provide pipeline communication recommendations to OPS for consideration in drafting the Integrity Management Communications rulemaking. Team will also assist OPS in finalizing a primer to educate local officials on pipelines and their operations.

Issued in Washington, DC on August 14, 2000.

Jeffrey D. Wiese,

Manager, Program Development, Office of Pipeline Safety.

[FR Doc. 00-21056 Filed 8-17-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Docket No. AB-77 (Sub-No. 11X)]

Bangor & Aroostook Railroad Company—Abandonment Exemption—in Aroostook County, ME

Bangor & Aroostook Railroad Company (Applicant) has filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152

Subpart F—*Exempt Abandonments* to abandon a 0.4-mile portion of its St. Francis line between milepost 0.0 and milepost R-0.40 in Fort Kent, Aroostook County, ME.¹ The line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Code 04743.

Applicant has certified that: (1) No local traffic has moved over the line for at least 2 years; (2) there is no overhead traffic moving over the line; (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 this exemption, any employee adversely affected by the abandonment 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, this exemption will be effective on September 19, 2000, unless stayed pending reconsideration. Petitions to stay that do not involve environmental issues,² formal expressions of intent to file an OFA under 49 CFR 1152.27(c)(2),³ and trail use/rail banking requests under 49 CFR 1152.29 must be filed by August 28, 2000. Petitions to reopen or requests for public use conditions under 49 CFR 1152.28 must be filed by September 7, 2000, with: Surface Transportation

Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423.

A copy of any petition filed with the Board should be sent to applicant's representative: Eric Hocky, Gollatz, Griffin & Ewing, P.C., 213 W. Miner Street, P.O. Box 796, West Chester, PA 19381-0796.

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

Applicant has filed an environmental report which addresses the abandonment's effects, if any, on the environment and historic resources. The Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) will issue an environmental assessment (EA) by August 23, 2000. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the EA by writing to SEA (Room 500, Surface Transportation Board, 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.

Environmental, historic preservation, public use, or trail use/rail banking conditions will be imposed, where appropriate, in a subsequent decision.

Pursuant to the provisions of 49 CFR 1152.29(e)(2), Applicant shall file a notice of consummation with the Board to signify that it has exercised the authority granted and fully abandoned the line. If consummation has not been effected by Applicant's filing of a notice of consummation by August 18, 2001, and there are no legal or regulatory barriers to consummation, the authority to abandon will automatically expire.

Decided: August 11, 2000.

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

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

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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, IA-56-87 and IA-53-87 (TD 8416), Minimum Tax—Tax Benefit Rule (§§ 1.58-9(c)(5)(iii)(B), and 1.58-9(e)(3)).

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before October 17, 2000, to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Garrick R. Shear, Internal Revenue Service, room 5244, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of this regulation should be directed to Faye Bruce, (202) 622-6665, Internal Revenue Service, room 5244, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Minimum Tax—Tax Benefit Rule.

OMB Number: 1545-1093.

Regulation Project Number: IA-56-87 and IA-53-87.

Abstract: Section 58(h) of the Internal Revenue Code provides that the Secretary of the Treasury shall prescribe regulations that adjust tax preference items where such items provided no tax benefit for any taxable year. This regulation provides guidance for situations where tax preference items did not result in a tax benefit because of available credits or refund of minimum tax paid on such preferences.

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 Respondents: 200.

Estimated Time Per Respondent: 12 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 40.

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

¹ This line segment is the remaining portion of the St. Francis line, which Applicant having received authority to abandon a 16.20-mile segment of the St. Francis line between milepost R-0.40 and milepost R-16.60 in *Bangor & Aroostook Railroad Company—Abandonment Exemption—in Aroostook County, ME*, STB Docket No. AB-77 (Sub-No. 8X) (STB served June 20, 1996).

² 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 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.

³ Each offer of financial assistance must be accompanied by the filing fee, which currently is set at \$1000. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

[IA-56-87 and IA-53-87]

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