

10. Cost Sharing: The proposal should maximize cost sharing through U.S. private sector support as well as institutional direct funding contributions. Preference will be given to proposal that demonstrate innovative approaches to the leveraging of funds, fundraising, and other sharing of costs. *Note:* The Fulbright Senior Scholar Program has historically enjoyed significant financial and other support from the U.S. and foreign academic communities and it is important that such support continues and be expanded wherever possible.

VI. Award Administration Information

VI.1. Award Notices

Final awards cannot be made until funds have been appropriated by Congress, allocated, and committed through internal Bureau procedures. Successful applicants will receive an Assistance Award Document (AAD) from the Bureau's Grants Office. The AAD and the original grant proposal with subsequent modifications (if applicable) shall be the only binding authorizing document between the recipient and the U.S. Government. The AAD will be signed by an authorized Grants Officer, and mailed to the recipient's responsible officer identified in the application.

Unsuccessful applicants will receive notification of the results of the application review from the ECA program office coordinating this competition.

VI.2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

Terms and Conditions for the Administration of ECA agreements include the following:

- Office of Management and Budget Circular A-122, "Cost Principles for Nonprofit Organizations."
- Office of Management and Budget Circular A-21, "Cost Principles for Educational Institutions."
- OMB Circular A-87, "Cost Principles for State, Local and Indian Governments".
- OMB Circular No. A-110 (Revised), Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Agreements with Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals, and other Nonprofit Organizations.
- OMB Circular No. A-102, Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants-in-Aid to State and Local Governments.
- OMB Circular No. A-133, Audits of States, Local Government, and Non-profit Organizations

Please reference the following Web sites for additional information:
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants>.
<http://exchanges.state.gov/education/grantsdiv/terms.htm#articleI>

VI.3. Reporting Requirements

You must provide ECA with a hard copy original plus two copies of the following reports:

- (1) A final program and financial report no more than 90 days after the expiration of the first year of the cooperative agreement;
- (2) Quarterly program and financial reports.

Grantees will be required to provide reports analyzing their evaluation findings to the Bureau in their regular program reports. (Please refer to IV. Application and Submission Instructions (IV.3.d.3) above for Program Monitoring and Evaluation information.)

All data collected, including survey responses and contact information, must be maintained for a minimum of three years and provided to the Bureau upon request.

All reports must be sent to the ECA Grants Officer and ECA Program Officer listed in the final assistance award document.

VI.4. Additional Program Data Requirements

The grantee awarded this cooperative agreement will be required to maintain specific data on program participants and activities in an electronically accessible database format that can be shared with the Bureau on demand. As a minimum, the data must include the following: Full name of applicant, home country address and contact information, host country affiliation, academic or professional discipline and biographical information (for example, but not limited to, date of birth, gender, country of birth, country of citizenship) for all participants awarded funding under the auspices of the Fulbright Senior Scholar Program. This includes the traditional Fulbright Senior Scholar Program and the recently developed New Century Scholars Program, Fulbright Senior Specialists Program, and the Direct Access to the Muslim World Visiting Specialist Program for scholars from the Islamic World. Applicant must consult with ECA/A/E to determine the requirements of the Bureau's Academic Exchanges Information System (AEIS) database.

VII. Department Contacts

For questions about this announcement, contact: Ms. Susan Borja, Office of Academic Exchange

Programs (ECA/A/E), Room 234, U.S. Department of State, SA-44, 301 4th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20547, Telephone (202) 619-4360, Fax (202) 401-5914, e-mail academic@state.gov.

All correspondence with the Bureau concerning this RFGP should reference the above title and number: ECA/A/E-06-01.

Please read the complete **Federal Register** announcement before sending inquiries or submitting proposals. Once the RFGP deadline has passed, Bureau staff may not discuss this competition with applicants until the proposal review process has been completed.

VIII. Other Information

Notice

The terms and conditions published in this RFGP are binding and may not be modified by any Bureau representative. Explanatory information provided by the Bureau that contradicts published language will not be binding. Issuance of the RFGP does not constitute an award commitment on the part of the Government. The Bureau reserves the right to reduce, revise, or increase proposal budgets in accordance with the needs of the program and the availability of funds. Awards made will be subject to periodic reporting and evaluation requirements per section VI.3 above.

Dated: December 2, 2004.

C. Miller Crouch,

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Department of State.

[FR Doc. 04-27036 Filed 12-8-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-05-P

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

Trade Policy Staff Committee: Public Comments Regarding the WTO Doha Development Agenda (DDA) and the WTO Dispute Settlement Understanding (DSU) Negotiations

AGENCY: Office of the United States Trade Representative.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Trade Policy Staff Committee (TPSC) is requesting written public comments on general U.S. negotiating objectives as well as country-, product-, and service-specific priorities for the multilateral negotiations and work program in the Doha Development Agenda (DDA) negotiations conducted under the auspices of the World Trade

Organization. The TPSC is seeking to supplement and refine positions in the light of progress to date in the negotiations, notably, the Decision Adopted by the WTO General Council on 1 August 2004 on the Doha Work Program. The TPSC is also seeking comments on proposals advanced in the WTO review of the Dispute Settlement Understanding.

DATES: Public comments are due by January 31, 2005.

ADDRESSES: *Submissions by electronic mail:* FR0514@USTR.EOP.GOV.

Submissions by facsimile: Gloria Blue, Executive Secretary, Trade Policy Staff Committee, at (202) 395-6143. The public is strongly encouraged to submit documents electronically rather than by facsimile. (See requirements for submissions below.)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

General inquiries should be made to the USTR Office of WTO and Multilateral Affairs at (202) 395-6843; calls on individual subjects will be transferred as appropriate. Procedural inquiries concerning the public comment process should be directed to Gloria Blue, Executive Secretary, Trade Policy Staff Committee, Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR), (202) 395-3475. Further information on the WTO, including the declarations, decisions referred to in this notice or proposals tabled, can be obtained via the internet at the WTO Web site, <http://www.wto.org>, and/or the USTR Web site, <http://www.ustr.gov>. The 2004 President's Annual Report on the Trade Agreements Program, which is available on the USTR website, contains extensive information on the WTO, the Fifth WTO Ministerial Meeting in Cancún, Mexico, and the status of work in the WTO.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: *Doha Development Agenda:* The next meeting of the WTO at the ministerial-level will be in December 2005. Work in 2005 is expected to focus on the technical issues necessary to move the agenda forward, particularly in the light of the WTO General Council's Decision of 1 August 2004, which contained frameworks for the agriculture and non-agricultural market access negotiations, further directions for a number of areas in the negotiation including services, and the launch of negotiations on trade facilitation. Accordingly, the TPSC seeks to provide a new opportunity for public comment to help guide U.S. participation in the on-going negotiations.

This request for comment supplements earlier requests for comments, and there is no need to

resubmit comments previously provided to the TPSC. Submissions were received in response to notices seeking: (1) Public Comments Regarding the Doha Multilateral Trade Negotiations and Agenda in the World Trade Organization, published in 67 FR No. 53, March 19, 2002; (2) Public Comments on Preparations for the Fourth Ministerial Meeting of the World Trade Organization, November 9-13, 2001 in Doha, Qatar, published in 66 FR 18142, April 5, 2001; (3) Public Comments for Mandated Multilateral Trade Negotiations on Agriculture and Services in the WTO and Priorities for Future Market Access Negotiations on Non-Agricultural Products, published in 65 FR 16450, March 28, 2000; and, (4) Public Comments on Institutional Improvements to the World Trade Organization (WTO), Particularly with Respect to the Transparency of its Operations and Outreach to Civil Society, which included a solicitation of comments regarding the dispute settlement operations of the WTO and was published in 65 FR 36501, June 8, 2000. New or updated submissions are welcome. The TPSC will review supplemental or new comments, in conjunction with earlier submissions, in developing positions.

The U.S. International Trade Commission has provided to the TPSC the public comments received on agricultural and non-agricultural products as part of its investigation No. 332-440, Probable Economic Effects on Reduction or Elimination of U.S. Tariffs, August 9, 2002 (Confidential Report). Hence, these comments need not be resubmitted.

Comments are invited with as much specificity as possible on such subjects as:

- (1) General, commodity or service-specific negotiating objectives;
- (2) Country, service or product-specific export interests;
- (3) Specific tariff or non-tariff barriers the respondent is facing in key export markets;
- (4) Experience with particular foreign measures that impede U.S. market access; and,
- (5) The methods to be used in negotiating market access improvements.

Information should be as detailed as possible, including specific tariff numbers for products under the Harmonized System (HS) wherever possible, product or service descriptions, current tariff levels faced in key export markets, and the target tariff rate the respondent is requesting. Specific recommendations or suggestions on the type of tariff-cutting

mechanism to be used in the negotiations are also welcome. To assure a thorough and orderly review, the TPSC has identified the following headings under which comments may be submitted. Submissions should identify the relevant subject area or areas to which comments apply. These include:

(A) Agriculture—The framework for the agriculture negotiations is contained in Annex A of the 1 August WTO General Council Decision.

(B) Non-agricultural or Industrial Market Access (NAMA)—The framework for the NAMA negotiations is contained in Annex B of the 1 August WTO General Council Decision.

(C) Services—Recommendations for the negotiations in services are contained in Annex C of the 1 August WTO General Council Decision.

(D) Trade Facilitation—The 1 August 2004 Decision by the WTO General Council launched multilateral negotiations on Trade Facilitation, in accordance with modalities set forth in Annex D to the Decision.

The 1 August 2004 Decision by the WTO General Council also addressed certain development elements of the Doha Work Program (e.g., special and differential treatment, trade-related technical assistance and implementation-related issues) and the work of other negotiating bodies (Rules, Trade and the Environment and Trade-Related Intellectual Property Rights). The TPSC welcomes comments on U.S. negotiating objectives on these elements of the Doha Work Program as well.

Dispute Settlement—The TPSC also calls attention to the progress to date in the negotiations to clarify and improve the Dispute Settlement Understanding. Proposals related to the DSU can be found at <http://www.wto.org> in the document series "TN/DS/W". The two proposals of the United States, for example, are found in documents TN/DS/W/46 (providing for public access to dispute settlement proceedings) and TN/DS/W/52 (a joint proposal with Chile on ensuring sufficient flexibility and Member control in the procedures to facilitate resolving disputes).

In document TN/DS/W/52, the United States proposed, as item (f) of that proposal, "providing some form of additional guidance to WTO adjudicative bodies concerning (i) the nature and scope of the task presented to them (for example when the exercise of judicial economy is most useful) and (ii) rules of interpretation of the WTO agreements." The TPSC would welcome comments on areas in which to provide such guidance and the form such guidance should take.

In addition, proposals have spanned a broad range of topics from a wide spectrum of Members, both those that are frequent users of the dispute settlement system and those who have less experience with it. Proposals have been submitted on almost every phase of the dispute settlement process. For example, in addition to the U.S. proposals, a number of proposals have been made to require that a compliance panel must first review any measures taken to comply before a complaining party could request authorization to suspend equivalent concessions. Proposals have also been made to provide for a remand from the Appellate Body to a panel where there were insufficient factual findings to allow the Appellate Body to make a legal finding on a claim. Some of the proposals would result in a significant lengthening of the dispute settlement process. Proposals have also included ways in which to use time in the process more efficiently. The TPSC would welcome comments on any of the proposals made.

Written Submissions: Comments should state clearly the objective(s) and should contain detailed information supporting the objective(s). Submissions should clearly indicate the general topic (e.g., agriculture, services, non-agricultural market access, etc.). As noted in the sections on services, agriculture and industrial market access, the provision of supplemental technical information would be helpful. This information should be provided in an attachment containing a spreadsheet or table in Microsoft Word, Word Perfect, Excel, Quatro Pro or MS Access.

Persons submitting comments may either send one copy by fax to Gloria Blue, Executive Secretary, Trade Policy Staff Committee, at (202) 395-6143 or transmit a copy electronically to FR0514@USTR.EOP.GOV, with "Doha Work Program" in the subject line. For documents sent by fax, USTR requests that the submitter provide a confirmation copy electronically. The public is strongly encouraged to submit documents electronically rather than by facsimile. USTR encourages the use of Adobe PDF format to submit attachments to an electronic mail. Interested persons who make submissions by electronic mail should not provide separate cover letters; information that might appear in a cover letter should be included in the submission itself. Similarly, to the extent possible, any attachments to the submission should be included in the same file as the submission itself, and not as separate files.

Comments should be submitted electronically no later than January 31, 2005.

Business confidential information will be subject to the requirements of 15 CFR 2003.6. Any business confidential material must be clearly marked as such and must be accompanied by a non-confidential summary thereof. A justification as to why the information contained in the submission should be treated confidentially should also be contained in the submission. In addition, any submissions containing business confidential information must clearly be marked "Business Confidential" at the top and bottom of the cover page (or letter) and each succeeding page of the submission. The version that does not contain business confidential information should also be clearly marked at the top and bottom of each page, "Public Version" or "Non-Confidential."

Written comments submitted in connection with this request, except for information granted "business confidential" status pursuant to 15 CFR 2003.6 will be available for public inspection in the USTR Reading Room, Office of the United States Trade Representative. An appointment to review the file can be made by calling (202) 395-6186. The Reading Room is open to the public from 10 a.m. to 12 noon and from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Carmen Suro-Bredie,
Chairman, Trade Policy Staff Committee.
[FR Doc. 04-27037 Filed 12-8-04; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3190-W5-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[Ex Parte No. 333]

Sunshine Act Meeting

TIME AND DATE: 10 a.m., December 13, 2004.

PLACE: The Board's Hearing Room, Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423.

STATUS: The Board will meet to discuss among themselves the following agenda items. Although the conference is open for public observation, no public participation is permitted.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

STB Docket No. AB-556 (Sub-No. 2X), *Railroad Ventures, Inc.—Abandonment Exemption—Between Youngstown, OH, and Darlington, PA, in Mahoning and Columbiana Counties, OH, and Beaver County, PA.*

Docket No. 41185, *Arizona Public Service Company & PacifiCorp v. The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company.*

STB Docket No. 42057, *Public Service Company of Colorado D/b/a Xcel Energy v. The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company.*

STB Docket No. 42071, *Otter Tail Power Company v. The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company.*

STB Docket No. WCC-105, *DHX Inc., v. Matson Navigation Company and Sea-Land Service, Inc.*

STB Ex Parte No. 656, *Motor Carrier Bureaus—Periodic Review Proceeding.*

STB Ex Parte No. 558 (Sub-No. 8), *Railroad Cost of Capital—2004.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: A. Dennis Watson, Office of Congressional and Public Services, Telephone: (202) 565-1596; FIRS: 1-800-877-8339.

Dated: December 6, 2004.

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 04-27140 Filed 12-7-04; 11:26 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 34619]

Union Pacific Railroad Company— Temporary Trackage Rights Exemption—The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company

The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company (BNSF) has agreed to grant temporary overhead trackage rights to Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP) over BNSF's rail line between BNSF milepost 2.1 near St. Louis, MO (Grand Avenue), and BNSF milepost 34.1 near Pacific, MO, a distance of 32.0 miles.

The transaction was scheduled to be consummated on December 1, 2004, and the temporary trackage rights are intended to expire on or about February 15, 2005. The purpose of the temporary rights is to facilitate maintenance work on UP lines.

As a condition to this exemption, any employee affected by the acquisition of the temporary trackage rights will be protected by the conditions imposed in *Norfolk and Western Ry. Co.—Trackage Rights—BN*, 354 I.C.C. 605 (1978), as modified in *Mendocino Coast Ry., Inc.—Lease and Operate*, 360 I.C.C. 653 (1980), and, any employee affected by the discontinuance of those trackage rights will be protected by the conditions set out in *Oregon Short Line*