

2992; Fax 202-366-3820; E-mail: George.Feygin@nhntsa.dot.gov).

Issued on: January 15, 2004.

Jeffrey W. Runge,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 04-1272 Filed 1-21-04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

[Docket RSPA-98-4957; Notice 04-02]

Research and Special Programs Administration

AGENCY: Research and Special Programs Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of information collection renewal and request for public comments.

SUMMARY: As required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Research and Special Programs Administration's (RSPA) Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS) is publishing a notice indicating its intention to renew an existing information collection in support of RSPA/OPS's requirement that pipeline operators submit drug and alcohol test results for their employees. The purpose of this notice is to allow the public 60 days from the date of this notice to send in their comments.

RSPA/OPS believes that its drug and alcohol testing requirements are an important tool for operators to monitor drug and alcohol usage in the pipeline industry. RSPA/OPS has found, on a yearly basis, that less than 1% of employees in the pipeline industry tested positive for drug and alcohol usage.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received no later than March 22, 2004, to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: You must identify docket number RSPA-98-4957; Notice 04-02 at the beginning of your comments. Comments may be mailed to the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), Dockets Facility, Plaza 401, 400 Seventh St., SW., Washington, DC 20590 or sent by e-mail to dms.dot.gov.

Anyone is able to search the electronic form of all comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the comment, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** published on April 11, 2000 (Volume 65, Number 70; Pages 19477-78) or you may visit <http://dms.dot.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Marvin Fell, Office of Pipeline Safety,

Research and Special Programs Administration, Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC. 20950, (202) 366-6205 or by e-mail at Marvin.fell@rspa.dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Abstract:

Drug and alcohol abuse is a major societal problem and it is reasonable to assume the problem exists in the pipeline industry as it does in society as a whole. The potential harmful effect of drug and alcohol abuse on safe pipeline operations warrants imposing comprehensive testing regulations on the pipeline industry. These rules are found in 49 CFR 199.

Title: Drug and Alcohol Testing of Pipeline Operators.

OMB Number: 2137-0579.

Type of Request: Extension of an existing information collection.

Estimate of Burden: 1.22 hours per operator.

Respondents: Pipeline operators.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 2,419.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 2,963 hours.

Copies of this information collection can be reviewed at the Dockets Unit, Room 8421, Research and Special Programs Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC. You may review the public docket containing comments in person in the Dockets Office between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday except Federal Holidays. You may also review public dockets on the Internet at <http://dms.dot.gov/search>. Once on the search page, type in the last four digits of the docket number shown at the beginning of this notice (4957) and click on "search."

Comments are invited on: (a) The need for the proposed collection of information for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques.

Issued in Washington, DC, on January 14, 2004.

Richard D. Huriaux,

Manager, Regulations, Office of Pipeline Safety.

[FR Doc. 04-1333 Filed 1-21-04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

Release of Waybill Data

The Surface Transportation Board has received a request from the State of North Dakota (WB456—1/5/04), for permission to access data from the Board's Carload Waybill Samples beyond the scope of waybill information that the State may usually obtain. A copy of the request may be obtained from the Office of Economics, Environmental Analysis, and Administration.

The requested information from the waybill sample contains confidential railroad and shipper data; therefore, if any parties object to this request, they should file their objections with the Director of the Board's Office of Economics, Environmental Analysis, and Administration, within 14 calendar days of the date of this notice. The rules for release of waybill data are codified at 49 CFR 1244.9.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mac Frampton, (202) 565-1541.

Vernon A. Williams,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 04-1197 Filed 1-21-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 34448]

Allegheny & Eastern Railroad, LLC—Acquisition Exemption—Buffalo & Pittsburgh Railroad, Inc.

Allegheny & Eastern Railroad, LLC (A&E), a newly formed noncarrier and wholly owned subsidiary of Buffalo & Pittsburgh Railroad, Inc. (BPRR), has filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1150.31 to acquire from BPRR the physical assets that comprise approximately 128.2 miles of rail line formerly operated by Allegheny & Eastern Railroad, Inc. (ALY), between milepost 2.8 in the City of Erie and milepost 131.0 in the City of St. Marys, in Erie, Warren, McKean and Elk Counties, PA. BPRR is acquiring the line in a related transaction concurrently

filed in STB Finance Docket No. 34447, *Buffalo & Pittsburgh Railroad, Inc., Allegheny & Eastern Railroad, Inc., Pittsburgh & Shawmut Railroad, Inc. and Bradford Industrial Rail, Inc.—Corporate Family Transaction Exemption*, wherein ALY and other subsidiaries will be merged into BPRR. The instant transaction contemplates that BPRR will retain the operating authority over the line and A&E will have a residual common carrier obligation.

The transaction was expected to be consummated on January 1, 2004.

A&E 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. It further certifies that its total annual revenues will not exceed \$5 million.

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. 34448, 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 Eric M. Hocky, Gollatz, Griffin & Ewing, P.C., Four Penn Center, Suite 200, 1600 John F. Kennedy Blvd., Philadelphia, PA 19103–2808.

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

Decided: January 15, 2004.

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

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 04–1364 Filed 1–21–04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 34447]

Buffalo & Pittsburgh Railroad, Inc., Allegheny & Eastern Railroad, Inc., Pittsburgh & Shawmut Railroad, Inc., and Bradford Industrial Rail, Inc.—Corporate Family Transaction Exemption

Buffalo & Pittsburgh Railroad, Inc. (BPRR), Allegheny & Eastern Railroad, Inc. (ALY), Pittsburgh & Shawmut Railroad, Inc. (PSRR), and Bradford Industrial Rail, Inc. (BIR) (collectively,

applicants),¹ have filed a verified notice of exemption under the Board's class exemption procedures at 49 CFR 1180.2(d)(3) to merge ALY, PSRR and BIR into BPRR, with BPRR as the surviving entity.

The transaction was expected to be consummated on January 1, 2004.

This transaction is related to STB Finance Docket No. 34448, *Allegheny & Eastern Railroad, LLC—Acquisition Exemption—Buffalo & Pittsburgh Railroad, Inc.*, and STB Finance Docket No. 34449, *Pittsburgh & Shawmut Railroad, LLC—Acquisition Exemption—Buffalo & Pittsburgh Railroad, Inc.*, wherein certain physical assets comprising the rail lines formerly operated by ALY and PSRR will be transferred to two newly formed wholly owned subsidiaries of BPRR. The operating authority of ALY and PSRR (along with that of BIR) will remain with BPRR.

Applicants state that the transaction will not result in adverse changes in service levels, significant operational changes, or any change in the competitive balance with carriers outside the GWI corporate family. The merger will simplify GWI's corporate structure, streamline accounting, finance and management functions and facilitate improvements in operating efficiency for GWI's rail operations in western Pennsylvania and New York.

Under 49 U.S.C. 10502(g), the Board may not use its exemption authority to relieve a rail carrier of its statutory obligation to protect the interests of its employees. Because the transaction involves one Class II rail carrier and one or more Class III rail carriers, the transaction will be made subject to the employee protective conditions described in 49 U.S.C. 11326(b).

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. 34447, 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 Eric M. Hocky, Gollatz, Griffin & Ewing, P.C., Four Penn Center, Suite 200, 1600 John

¹ BPRR is a Class II carrier operating in western New York and western Pennsylvania. ALY, PSRR and BIR are all Class III carriers that operate in the same region of Pennsylvania. All of the involved corporations are wholly owned subsidiaries of Genessee & Wyoming, Inc. (GWI).

F. Kennedy Blvd., Philadelphia, PA 19103–2808.

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Decided: January 15, 2004.

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

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 04–1363 Filed 1–21–04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 34449]

Pittsburgh & Shawmut Railroad, LLC—Acquisition Exemption—Buffalo & Pittsburgh Railroad, Inc.

Pittsburgh & Shawmut Railroad, LLC (P&S), a newly formed noncarrier and wholly owned subsidiary of Buffalo & Pittsburgh Railroad, Inc. (BPRR), has filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1150.31 to acquire from BPRR the physical assets that comprise approximately 189.47 miles of rail line formerly operated by Pittsburgh & Shawmut Railroad, Inc. (PSRR), between: (a) Brockway Yard, Brockway (milepost 0.0) and Freeport (milepost 88.027) (except for an abandoned segment between milepost 2.0 and milepost 19.0); (b) milepost 0.98 on the main line at Snyder Township (a/k/a milepost 0.0) and milepost 0.37; (c) Brookville Yard (milepost 20.89) and the connection with Mountain Laurel (milepost 0.30); (d) milepost 69.86 on the main line in East Franklin (a/k/a milepost 0.0) and milepost 1.28; (e) Lawsonham (milepost 6.0) and Driftwood (milepost 110.0); (f) Lawsonham (milepost 0.0) and Sligo (milepost 10.5); and (g) the end of track (milepost 4.0) and Lawsonham (milepost 6.0) (the lines). The lines are located in Armstrong, Cameron, Clarion, Clearfield, Elk, and Jefferson Counties, PA. BPRR is acquiring the lines in a related transaction concurrently filed in STB Finance Docket No. 34447, *Buffalo & Pittsburgh Railroad, Inc., Allegheny & Eastern Railroad, Inc., Pittsburgh & Shawmut Railroad, Inc., and Bradford Industrial Rail, Inc.—Corporate Family Transaction Exemption*, wherein PSRR and other subsidiaries will be merged into BPRR. The instant transaction contemplates that BPRR will retain the operating authority over the lines and P&S will have a residual common carrier obligation.