

Other required information that must be included in the application materials by candidates are:

- Name and title of the individual requesting consideration;
- Name and address of the company where the candidate is employed;
- The particular business sector the candidate would represent;
- Company's product or service line;
- Company size (market capitalization, annual revenues, number of employees); and
- Company's experience in Japan (exports, sales, employees, years in Japan).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Karin Ryerson, Office of Japan, Department of Commerce, Room 2320, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230, facsimile (202) 482-0469; or John Neuffer, Office of North Asian Affairs, Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, 600 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20508, facsimile (202) 395-3597.

Dated: March 16, 2004.

**Wendy Cutler,**

*Assistant United States Trade Representative for North Asian Affairs.*

[FR Doc. 04-6267 Filed 3-19-04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3190-W3-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Highway Administration

#### Environmental Impact Statement: Hays and Caldwell Counties, State of Texas

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

**ACTION:** Notice of Intent (NOI) to rescind NOI of November 17, 1987.

**SUMMARY:** The FHWA is issuing this notice to advise the public that they are rescinding the NOI to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on a proposal to construct a loop designated as Farm-to-Market (FM) 110 Loop around the City of San Marcos in Hays and Caldwell Counties, Texas.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Salvador Deocampo, District Engineer, FHWA, Texas Division Office, 300 E. 8th Street, Suite 826, Austin, Texas, 78701, Telephone: (512) 536-5950.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The FHWA, in cooperation with the Texas Department of Transportation, is rescinding the NOI published in the *Federal Register* on November 17, 1987, to prepare an EIS for a proposed FM 110 Loop roadway in Hays and Caldwell Counties, Texas. The project limits,

study area and the type of environmental documentation for the proposed FM 110 Loop have changed. In 1994, FM 110 was evaluated as a full-circle loop roadway in a Preliminary Draft Environmental Impact Statement (PDEIS), which was never officially approved by FHWA or distributed for agency or public review and comment. Since the preparation of the PDEIS, the western portion of the FM 110 Loop project has been eliminated from further consideration. However, based on the information gathered from the PDEIS, enough environmental analysis was developed to assess any potential impacts associated with the proposed FM 110 portion located east of IH-35. Therefore, based on that information, and since the scope of the original FM 110 has been decreased, an Environmental Assessment (EA) for only the portion of FM 110 east of IH-35 will be prepared instead of an EIS.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number 20.205, Highway Research, Planning, and Construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 12372 regarding intergovernmental consultation on Federal programs and activities apply to this program.)

Issued on: March 11, 2004.

**Salvador Deocampo,**

*District Engineer, Austin, Texas.*

[FR Doc. 04-6314 Filed 3-19-04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-22-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Surface Transportation Board

[STB Docket No. AB-6 (Sub-No. 408X)]

#### The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company—Abandonment Exemption—in Hamilton and Merrick Counties, NE

The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company (BNSF) has filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 subpart F—*Exempt Abandonments* to abandon a 15.60-mile line of railroad between BNSF milepost 1.90, near Aurora, and milepost 17.50, near Central City, in Hamilton and Merrick Counties, NE. The line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Codes 68818, 68854, and 68826.

BNSF has certified that: (1) No local traffic has moved over the line for at least 2 years; (2) there is no overhead traffic to be rerouted; (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 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 April 21, 2004, unless stayed pending reconsideration. Petitions to stay that do not involve environmental issues,<sup>1</sup> formal expressions of intent to file an OFA under 49 CFR 1152.27(c)(2),<sup>2</sup> and trail use/rail banking requests under 49 CFR 1152.29 must be filed by April 1, 2004. Petitions to reopen or requests for public use conditions under 49 CFR 1152.28 must be filed by April 12, 2004, with the Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423-0001.

A copy of any petition filed with the Board should be sent to BNSF's representative: Michael Smith, Freeborn & Peters, 311 S. Wacker Dr., Suite 3000, Chicago, IL 60606-6677.

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

BNSF has filed an environmental report which addresses the abandonment's effects, if any, on the environment and historic resources. SEA will issue an environmental assessment (EA) by March 26, 2004. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the EA by writing to SEA (Room 500, Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423-0001) or by calling SEA, at (202) 565-1539. [Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through the Federal

<sup>1</sup> 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 (SEA) 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.

<sup>2</sup> Each OFA must be accompanied by the filing fee, which currently is set at \$1,100. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).

Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1–800–877–8339.] 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), BNSF 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 BNSF's filing of a notice of consummation by March 22, 2005, and there are no legal or regulatory barriers to consummation, the authority to abandon will automatically expire.

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

Decided: March 12, 2004.

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

**Vernon A. Williams,**  
*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 04–6091 Filed 3–19–04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4915–01–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Internal Revenue Service

[INT–362–88]

#### 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 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, INTL–362–88 (TD 8618), Definition of a Controlled Foreign Corporation, Foreign Base Company Income and Foreign Personal Holding Company Income of a Controlled Foreign Corporation (§§ 1.954–1 and 1.954–2).

**DATES:** Written comments should be received on or before May 21, 2004, to be assured of consideration.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Glenn Kirkland, Internal Revenue Service, room 6411, 1111 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20224.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the regulations should be directed to Larnice Mack at Internal Revenue Service, room 6407, 1111 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20224, or at (202) 622–3179, or through the Internet at ([Larnice.Mack@irs.gov](mailto:Larnice.Mack@irs.gov)).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Title:* Definition of a Controlled Foreign Corporation, Foreign Base Company Income and Foreign Personal Holding Company Income of a Controlled Foreign Corporation.

*OMB Number:* 1545–1068.

*Regulation Project Number:* INTL–362–88.

*Abstract:* A U.S. shareholder of a controlled foreign corporation is subject to current U.S. taxation on the subpart F income of the foreign corporation, which consists of several categories of income. The election and recordkeeping requirements in the regulation are necessary to exclude certain high-taxed or active business income from subpart F income or to include certain income in the appropriate category of subpart F income. The record-keeping and election procedures allow the U.S. shareholders and the IRS to know the amount of the controlled foreign corporation's subpart F income.

*Current Actions:* There is no change to this existing regulation.

*Type of Review:* Extension of OMB approval.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit organizations.

*Estimated Number of Respondents/Recordkeepers:* 50,500.

*Estimated Time Per Respondent/Recordkeeper:* 1 hour.

*Estimated Total Annual Reporting/Recordkeeping Hours:* 50,417.

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 revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

*Request for Comments:* Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the

request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Approved: March 12, 2004.

**Glenn Kirkland,**

*IRS Reports Clearance Officer.*

[FR Doc. 04–6344 Filed 3–19–04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4830–01–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Internal Revenue Service

#### Open Meeting of the Taxpayer Advocacy Panel (TAP) Multilingual Initiative Issue (MLI) Committee Will Be Conducted (Via Teleconference)

**AGENCY:** Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** An open meeting of the Taxpayer Advocacy Panel (TAP) Multilingual Initiative Issue (MLI) Committee will be conducted (via teleconference). The Taxpayer Advocacy Panel is soliciting public comments, ideas, and suggestions on improving customer service at the Internal Revenue Service.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held Friday, April 16, 2004 from 1 p.m. EDT to 2 p.m. EDT.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Inez E. De Jesus at 1–888–912–1227, or 954–423–7977.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notice is hereby given pursuant to section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. (1988) that an open meeting of the Taxpayer Advocacy Panel Multilingual Initiative Issue Committee will be held Friday, April 16, 2004 from 1 p.m. EDT to 2 p.m. EDT via a telephone conference call. Individual comments will be limited to 5 minutes. If you would like to have the TAP consider a written