

not been received by USTR and re-submitting the comments via e-mail or fax.

Parties should refer to the original request for comments, published in the **Federal Register** on September 25, 2001, for an explanation of AGOA, the AGOA eligibility requirements, and a list of current beneficiary and non-beneficiary countries. *See*, 66 FR 49059. Submissions via e-mail should be sent to FR0003@ustr.gov; submissions via fax should be sent to (202) 395-4505.

**Carmen Suro-Bredie,**

*Chair, Trade Policy Staff Committee.*

[FR Doc. 01-28223 Filed 11-6-01; 2:23 pm]

**BILLING CODE 3190-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 34047 (Sub-No. 1)]

#### **Kansas & Oklahoma Railroad, Inc.- Trackage Rights Exemption-Central Kansas Railway, L.L.C.**

**AGENCY:** Surface Transportation Board, DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of exemption.

**SUMMARY:** The Board, under 49 U.S.C. 10502, exempts the trackage rights described in STB Finance Docket No. 34047<sup>1</sup> to permit the trackage rights to expire, as they relate to the operations extending near Garden Plains and Wichita, on the date that CKR certifies the completion of a line-relocation project near Kingman, KS, and a line-rehabilitation project between Wichita and Kingman, via Conway Springs, KS.<sup>2</sup>

**DATES:** This exemption is effective on November 8, 2001. Petitions to reopen must be filed by November 28, 2001.

**ADDRESSES:** An original and 10 copies of all pleadings referring to STB Finance Docket No. 34047 (Sub-No. 1) must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423-0001. In

<sup>1</sup> On May 25, 2001, K&O filed a notice of exemption under the Board's class exemption procedures at 49 CFR 1180.2(d)(7). The notice covered the trackage rights agreement by Central Kansas Railway, L.L.C. (CKR) to grant temporary overhead trackage rights to K&O over CKR track located between CKR milepost 19.5, near Garden Plain, KS, and CKR milepost 3.5, at Wichita, KS, a distance of 16 miles. *See Kansas & Oklahoma Railroad, Inc.—Trackage Rights Exemption—Central Kansas Railway, L.L.C.*, STB Finance Docket No. 34047 (STB served June 12, 2001).

<sup>2</sup> K&O has indicated that it currently expects to have the relocation and rehabilitation projects completed and to cease operating over CKR's line some time in October 2001.

addition, a copy of all pleadings must be served on petitioner's representative Karl Morell, Esq., BALL JANI LLP, 1455 F Street, NW., Suite 225, Washington, DC 20005.

#### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Joseph H. Dettmar, (202) 565-1600. (TDD for the hearing impaired: 1 (800) 877-8339.)

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

Additional information is contained in the Board's decision. To purchase a copy of the full decision, write to, call, or pick up in person from: D 2 D Legal, Suite 405, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20006. Telephone: (202) 293-7776. (Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through TDD services 1 (800) 877-8339.)

Board decisions and notices are available on our website at [www.stb.dot.gov](http://www.stb.dot.gov).

Decided: November 1, 2001.

By the Board, Chairman Morgan, Vice Chairman Clyburn, and Commissioner Burkes.

**Vernon A. Williams,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 01-27952 Filed 11-7-01; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4915-00-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0605]

### **Proposed Information Collection Activity: Proposed Collection; Comment Request**

**AGENCY:** Office of General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Office of General Counsel (OGC), 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 to determine applicants' eligibility for accreditation as claims agents.

**DATES:** Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before January 7, 2002.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit written comments on the collection of information to

Martin J. Sendek (022C), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420 or e-mail: [martin.sendek@mail.va.gov](mailto:martin.sendek@mail.va.gov). Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0605" in any correspondence.

#### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Martin J. Sendek at (202) 273-6325 or FAX (202) 273-6404.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under the PRA of 1995 (Public Law 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, OGC invites comments on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of OGC's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of OGC'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:* Application for Accreditation as a Claims Agent, VA Form 21a.

*OMB Control Number:* 2900-0605.

*Type of Review:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Abstract:* Applicants for accreditation as claims agents to represent benefit claimants before the VA are required to file VA Form 21a with VA Office of General Counsel to establish initial eligibility for accreditation. The information requested includes basic identifying information, information concerning past representation, military service, employment, criminal activity and mental health and is necessary to establish that statutory and regulatory eligibility requirement; e.g., good character and reputation are met. The form further ensures that VA has the information necessary to make decisions concerning an applicant's potential eligibility for accreditation as a claims agent.

*Affected Public:* Individuals and households.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 15 hours.

*Estimated Average Burden Per*

*Respondent:* 45 minutes.

*Frequency of Response:* On occasion.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 20.

Dated: October 19, 2001.

By direction of the Secretary.

**Donald L. Neilson,**

*Director, Information Management Service.*

[FR Doc. 01-28043 Filed 11-7-01; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8320-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0036]

### Agency Information Collection Activities Under OMB Review

**AGENCY:** Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995 (44 U.S.C., 3501 et seq.), this notice announces that the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), Department of Veterans Affairs, has submitted the collection of information abstracted below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The PRA submission describes the nature of the information collection and its expected cost and burden; it includes the actual data collection instrument.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted on or before December 10, 2001.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR A COPY OF THE SUBMISSION CONTACT:** Denise McLamb, Information Management Service (045A4), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420, (202) 273-8030, FAX (202) 273-5981 or e-mail: [denise.mclamb@mail.va.gov](mailto:denise.mclamb@mail.va.gov). Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0036."

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Title:* Statement of Disappearance, VA Form 21-1775.

*OMB Control Number:* 2900-0036.

*Type of Review:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Abstract:* Title 38, U.S.C., section 108, requires a formal presumption of death when a veteran has been missing for seven years. VA Form 21-1775 is used to gather the necessary information for proper decisions regarding the unexplained absence of an individual. Without this information, it would not be possible for VA to authorize death benefits.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on this collection of information was published on August 24, 2001, at pages 44668-44669.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 5,500 hours.

*Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent:* 2 hours, 45 minutes.

*Frequency of Response:* On occasion.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 2,000.

Send comments and recommendations concerning any aspect of the information collection to VA's OMB Desk Officer, OMB Human Resources and Housing Branch, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503 (202) 395-7316. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0036" in any correspondence.

Dated: October 24, 2001.

By direction of the Secretary.

**Donald L. Neilson,**

*Director, Information Management Service.*

[FR Doc. 01-28044 Filed 11-7-01; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8320-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0159]

### Agency Information Collection Activities Under OMB Review

**AGENCY:** Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995 (44 U.S.C., 3501 et seq.), this notice announces that the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), Department of Veterans Affairs, has submitted the collection of information abstracted below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The PRA submission describes the nature of the information collection and its expected cost and burden; it includes the actual data collection instrument.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted on or before December 10, 2001.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR A COPY OF THE SUBMISSION CONTACT:** Denise McLamb, Information Management Service (045A4), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420, (202) 273-8030, FAX (202) 273-5981 or e-mail: [denise.mclamb@mail.va.gov](mailto:denise.mclamb@mail.va.gov). Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0159."

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Title:* Application for Payment of Matured Endowment, VA Form 29-5767.

*OMB Control Number:* 2900-0159.

*Type of Review:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Abstract:* The form is used to notify the insured that his/her endowment policy has matured and to solicit the disposition of the proceeds of the policy. The information collected is required by law and is used by VA to process the insured's request.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on this collection of information was published on August 24, 2001, at page 44668.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 2,867 hours.

*Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent:* 20 minutes.

*Frequency of Response:* On occasion.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 8,600.

Send comments and recommendations concerning any aspect of the information collection to VA's OMB Desk Officer, OMB Human Resources and Housing Branch, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503 (202) 395-7316. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0159" in any correspondence.

Dated: October 24, 2001.

By direction of the Secretary.

**Donald L. Neilson,**

*Director, Information Management Service.*

[FR Doc. 01-28045 Filed 11-7-01; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8320-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0418]

### Agency Information Collection Activities Under OMB Review

**AGENCY:** Office of Acquisition and Materiel Management, Department of Veterans Affairs.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995 (44 U.S.C., 3501 et seq.), this notice announces that the Office of Acquisition and Materiel Management, Department of Veterans Affairs, has submitted the collection of information abstracted below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The PRA submission describes the nature of the information collection and its expected cost and burden; it includes the actual data collection instrument.