

shall set forth specifically the grounds upon which the protest is made, and contain a concise statement of the interest of the protestant in the proceeding. Additionally, one copy of the protest shall be furnished to the applicant at the address listed above.

All communications concerning this proceeding should be identified by the docket number and must be submitted to the Docket Clerk, DOT Central Docket Management Facility, Room PI-401, Washington, D.C. 20590-0001.

Communications received within 45 days of the date of this notice will be considered by the FRA before final action is taken. Comments received after that date will be considered as far as practicable. All written communications concerning these proceedings are available for examination during regular business hours (9 a.m.-5 p.m.) at DOT Central Docket Management Facility, Room PI-401 (Plaza Level), 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20590-0001. All documents in the public docket are also available for inspection and copying on the internet at the docket facility's Web site at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

FRA expects to be able to determine these matters without an oral hearing. However, if a specific request for an oral hearing is accompanied by a showing that the party is unable to adequately present his or her position by written statements, an application may be set for public hearing.

Issued in Washington, D.C. on November 27, 2000.

Grady C. Cothen, Jr.,

Deputy Associate Administrator for Safety Standards and Program Development.

[FR Doc. 00-30535 Filed 11-29-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-06-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 33943]

Progressive Rail, Inc.—Acquisition and Operation Exemption—Canadian Pacific Railway

Progressive Rail, Inc., a Class III rail carrier has filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1150.41 to acquire from Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR) and operate CPR's Richfield Line located in Bloomington, Richfield and Minneapolis, MN. The track extends from Auto Club, MN, milepost 25.63, to end of track at Pleasant Avenue South and West 60th Street, Minneapolis, a distance of approximately 9.1 miles.

The transaction is scheduled to be consummated on December 1, 2000.

If the verified notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void *ab initio*. Petitions to reopen the proceeding 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. 33943, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, NW, Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on Mr. Dave Fellon, President, Progressive Rail, Inc., 21778 Highview Avenue, Lakeville, MN 55044.

Board decisions and notices are available on our website at "www.stb.dot.gov."

Decided: November 22, 2000.

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

Vernon A. Williams,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-30520 Filed 11-29-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 33942]

USX Corporation—Control Exemption—Transtar, Inc.

AGENCY: Surface Transportation Board, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of Exemption.

SUMMARY: Under 49 U.S.C. 10502, the Board exempts from the prior approval requirements of 49 U.S.C. 11323-25, the acquisition by USX Corporation of control of Transtar, Inc. and the following five rail carriers, which are currently owned by Transtar, Inc.: (1) The Birmingham Southern Railroad Company; (2) the Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railway Company; (3) the Lake Terminal Railroad Company; (4) the Union Railroad Company; and (5) the McKeesport Connecting Railroad Company, subject to the employee protection conditions in *New York Dock Ry-Control-Brooklyn Eastern Dist.*, 360 I.C.C. 60 (1979).

DATES: The exemption will be effective December 15, 2000. Petitions for stay must be filed by December 5, 2000. Petitions for reconsideration must be filed by December 20, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Send an original and 10 copies of any comments referring to STB Finance Docket No. 33942 to: Surface

Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, NW, Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, send one copy of any comments to petitioners' representative: Richard J. Munsch, USX Corporation, 600 Grant Street, Room 1500, Pittsburgh, PA 15219-2749

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Joseph H. Dettmar (202) 565-1600 [TDD for 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: Da-to-Da Office Solutions, 1925 K Street, NW, Room 405, Washington, DC 20006. Telephone: (202) 466-5530. [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."

Decided: November 22, 2000.

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

Vernon A. Williams,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-30519 Filed 11-29-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Customs Service

Extension of General Program Test: Quota Preprocessing

AGENCY: Customs Service, Treasury.

ACTION: General notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces that the testing period for the quota preprocessing program, which allows for the electronic processing of quota-class apparel merchandise, is being extended through the year 2002. The test is being extended at the ports where quota preprocessing is currently being tested, but not being expanded to other ports at this time because of programming changes that have yet to be made to the Automated Commercial System. When the programming changes are completed, Customs will expand the program to all ports. Public comments concerning any aspect of the test are solicited.

DATES: The test is extended from January 1, 2001, until December 31, 2002, with evaluations of the test occurring periodically. Applications to participate in the test and comments concerning the test will continue to be accepted throughout the testing period.

ADDRESSES: Written comments regarding this notice or any aspect of this test should be addressed to Lori Bowers, U.S. Customs Service, QWG Team Leader, 1000 Second Ave., Suite 2100, Seattle, WA 98104-1020 or may be sent via e-mail to

Lori.Bowers@customs.treas.gov.

Applications should be sent to the prototype coordinator at any of the four following port(s) where the applicant wishes to submit quota entries for preprocessing:

(1) Nancy Petagna, Port of Los Angeles, 300 S. Ferry St., Terminal Island, CA 90731;

(2) Tony Piscitelli, Los Angeles International Airport, 11099 S. La Cienega Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90045;

(3) Barry Goldberg, JFK Airport, JFK Building 77, Jamaica, NY 11430; and

(4) John Lava, Ports of New York/Newark, 6 World Trade Center, New York, NY 10048.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lori Bowers (206) 553-0452 or Cynthia Porter (202) 927-5399.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On July 24, 1998, Customs published a general notice in the **Federal Register** (63 FR 39929) announcing the limited testing, pursuant to the provisions of § 101.9(a) of the Customs Regulations (19 CFR 101.9(a)), of a new operational procedure regarding the electronic processing of quota-class apparel merchandise. The new procedure was designed to allow certain quota entries (merchandise classifiable in chapters 61 and 62 of the Harmonized Tariff

Schedule of the United States (HTSUS)) to be processed prior to carrier arrival, thus, reducing the quota processing time. The test was to be conducted at only four ports located in New York/Newark and Los Angeles and was to commence no earlier than August 24, 1998, and run for approximately six months. The notice informed the public of the new procedure and eligibility requirements for participation in the test, and solicited comments concerning any aspect of the test. The initial testing of the quota preprocessing program did not begin until September 15, 1998. The six-month time period of the original test expired on March 14, 1999.

On March 25, 1999, Customs published a general notice in the **Federal Register** (64 FR 14499) announcing that the testing period for the quota preprocessing program was being extended through the remainder of 1999. The testing was extended so that Customs could further evaluate the program's effectiveness and determine whether the program should be expanded to other ports. Again, the notice informed the public of the eligibility requirements for participation in the test, and solicited comments concerning any aspect of the test.

On January 6, 2000, Customs published another general notice in the **Federal Register** (65 FR 806) announcing that the testing period for the quota preprocessing program was being extended through the year 2000. The testing was extended at the ports where the test was already underway,

but not expanded to other ports, so that programming changes could be made to the Automated Commercial System (ACS) which would have an impact on the expansion. At that time, the changes were scheduled to begin in March of 2000.

For budgetary reasons, the ACS programming changes could not be made as scheduled. Thus, the testing of the quota preprocessing program must continue until Customs can evaluate the electronic feasibility of expanding the program to all ports.

Accordingly, this document announces that Customs is extending the test of the quota preprocessing prototype at the ports where testing is already underway until the end of 2002. Those ports are: the port of Los Angeles (Port code: 2704); the port of New York/Newark (Port codes: 1001/4601); JFK Airport (Port code: 4701); and Los Angeles International Airport (Port code: 2720). Anyone interested in participating in the test should refer to the test notice published in the July 24, 1998 **Federal Register** for eligibility and application information. Any expansion of the parameters of the test will be the subject of a future **Federal Register** notice.

Dated: November 27, 2000.

Bonni G. Tischler,

Assistant Commissioner, Office of Field Operations.

[FR Doc. 00-30467 Filed 11-29-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4820-02-P