

Dated: Issued on: February 17, 2000.

Michael G. Ritchie,

Division Administrator, Salt Lake City, Utah.

[FR Doc. 00-4372 Filed 2-23-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-22-M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 33772]

Maryland and Delaware Railroad Company—Acquisition Exemption—Snow Hill Shippers Association, Inc.

Maryland and Delaware Railroad Company, a Class III rail carrier, has filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1150.41 to acquire ownership rights in approximately 26.7 miles of rail line from the Snow Hill Shippers Association, Inc. (SHSA) between approximately milepost 39, in Frankford, Sussex County, DE, and approximately milepost 65.7, in Snow Hill, Worcester County, MD (Frankford-Snow Hill Branch).¹

The transaction is expected to be consummated on or soon after February 21, 2000, the effective date of the exemption.

If the 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 does not automatically stay the transaction.

An original and 10 copies of all pleadings, referring to STB Finance Docket No. 33772, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on Kevin M. Sheys, Esq., Oppenheimer Wolff Donnelly & Bayh LLP, 1350 Eye Street, N.W., Suite 200, Washington, DC 20005-3324.

Board decisions and notices are available on our website at "WWW.STB.DOT.GOV."

Dated: Decided: February 16, 2000.

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

Vernon A. Williams,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-4365 Filed 2-23-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY WORKFORCE COMMISSION

Notice of public information hearing

AGENCY: Twenty-first Century Workforce Commission.

ACTION: Notice of public information hearing.

SUMMARY: This notice is to announce a public information hearing on Thursday, February 24, 2000. Members of the public are invited to attend the hearing. Several witnesses have been invited by the Commissioners to testify and to address the questions identified by the agenda set forth below.

The purpose of the hearing is for Commissioners to learn how Texas companies, educational institutions, community organizations, and governments are working together so more Texans gain the skills and knowledge necessary to be part of the Information Technology (IT) workforce.

DATES: The Public Information Hearing will be held on Thursday, February 24, 2000, from 9:00 am to approximately 3:00 p.m. Registration is from 9:00 am to 10:00 am. The dates, locations and times for subsequent meetings will be announced in advance in the **Federal Register**.

ADDRESSES: The InfoMart Technology Center in Dallas, Texas is located at Infomart, 1950 Stemmons Freeway. For more information, please visit the Center's website at www.infomartusa.com or call 214-800-8200. All interested parties are invited to attend this Information Hearing. Seating may be limited and will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Hans Meeder, Executive Director, Twenty-First Century Workforce Commission, 1201 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20005. (Telephone (202) 289-2939. TTY (202) 289-2977) These are not toll-free numbers. Email: Workforce21@nab.com.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Establishment of the Twenty-First Century Workforce Commission was mandated by Subtitle C of Title III of the Workforce Investment Act, Sec. 331 of Pub. L. 105-220, 112 Stat. 1087-109, (29 U.S.C. 2701 note), signed into law on August 7, 1998. The 15 voting member Twenty-First Century Workforce Commission is charged with studying all aspects of the information technology workforce in the United States. Notice is hereby given of the second Public Information Hearing of

the Twenty-First Century Workforce Commission.

The Workforce Investment Act (Pub. L. No. 105-220), signed into law on August 7, 1998, established the Twenty-First Century Workforce Commission. The Commission is charged with carrying out a study of the information technology workforce in the U.S., including the examination of the following issues:

1. What skills are currently required to enter the information technology workforce? What technical skills will be demanded in the near future?

2. How can the United States expand its number of skilled information technology workers?

3. How do information technology education programs in the United States compare with other countries in effectively training information technology workers? [The Commission study should place particular emphasis upon contrasting secondary, non- and post-baccalaureate degree education programs available within the U.S. and foreign countries.]

The Workforce Investment Act directs the Commission to issue recommendations to the President and Congress within six months. The Commission first met on November 16, 1999, and will issue its recommendations by May 16, 2000.

Agenda: At the Dallas, Texas hearing, the Commission working group conducting the hearing will emphasize the following issues: (1) How will information technology advances continue to change Texas' economy in coming years, and what skills will individuals need to participate in the IT workforce? (2) How are Texas companies, educational institutions, community organizations, state and local governments partnering to provide educational and training opportunities for individuals who want to enter the IT workforce? (3) What particular barriers face Texas in building and strengthening the IT workforce, and how are under-represented populations being reached for participation in the IT workforce?

Commission Membership: The Workforce Investment Act mandates that 15 voting members be appointed by the President, Majority Leader of the Senate, and Speaker of the House (5 members each), including 3 educators, 3 state and local government representatives, 8 business representatives and 1 labor representative. The Act also mandates that the President appoint 2 ex-officio members, one each from the Departments of Labor and Education.

¹ SHSA is a non-profit, non-stock Maryland membership corporation comprised of on-line shippers who own the Frankford-Snow Hill Branch.