

The fund will be privately owned and privately managed. OPIC is seeking proposals from qualified prospective fund managers. The proposed fund manager must demonstrate experience and success on at least the following four criteria: Capital raising capability; private equity management; a broad infrastructure investment record; and sub-Saharan Africa experience.

Proposals should identify the sources of capital that the proposer would expect to approach on behalf of the fund (either directly or through an independent securities placement agent). OPIC's preference is for a majority of the fund's equity to be provided by U.S. investors.

Proposals should describe the legal, financial and management structure that the proposed fund manager recommends for the fund. This should include the level of economic return and the other benefits that the various investors would look for, as well as the proposed compensation for the fund's management. The fund should be structured to ensure that it fully covers the cost of the program, including the OPIC-guaranteed debt, as well as projected fees and profit participations.

OPIC's evaluation of proposals will be based primarily on the following criteria:

- The ability of the fund sponsors to raise the required private capital in a reasonable period of time.
- The credibility and thoughtfulness of the fund's strategic concept and business plan.
- The experience and depth of the proposed management, both in the U.S. and in the countries where investments are to be made. OPIC seeks fund managers with a track record in direct equity investments and relevant regional experience. OPIC will weigh heavily the team's experience in infrastructure investment and project finance. The fund manager is expected to add value to the portfolio investments by providing management expertise and enhancing the business of portfolio investments, and to have a strategy for the eventual liquidation of investments.
- The amount and terms of the OPIC-guaranteed debt required by the fund.
- The responsiveness of the fund to current foreign policy objectives of the United States.

An OPIC Investment Funds Program Description, and a Questionnaire, may be obtained on OPIC's web site (<http://www.opic.gov>). The Questionnaire is designed to identify information that will be helpful to OPIC in evaluating proposals.

OPIC may periodically post additional information on its internet web site in

the form of Supplements to the Call for Proposals. Any information so designated on OPIC's web site may supplement or modify, and will be considered a part of, the information set forth in this Call for Proposals. The identity of all persons submitting proposals will be promptly posted on OPIC's web site, so that they are known to each other.

Proposals must be submitted both in writing and on diskette. Five copies of each proposal, together with a copy on diskette in Microsoft Word or Excel 97 format, as appropriate, must be received by OPIC by 5:00 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, on Friday, December 29, 2000. Proposals submitted after this time will not be accepted. OPIC may make a determination based solely on the written proposals. OPIC will begin review of proposals as they are received. Proposals submitted may be supplemented at any time up to the deadline for submission of proposals. Information contained in proposals or questions from submitters will not be given proprietary treatment. OPIC may suggest its own formulation from among the proposals it receives or based on its own analysis, which formulation may include a suggestion that certain proposals be combined. Such a suggestion from OPIC would not reinitiate this Call for Proposals process. OPIC also reserves the right not to select any of the proposals or alternatives and to re-initiate this Call for Proposals. The issuance of this Call for Proposals does not obligate OPIC to provide support to any proposal nor any fund.

Jeffrey T. Griffin,

Vice President/Investment Funds, Overseas Private Investment Corporation.

[FR Doc. 00-32729 Filed 12-21-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3210-01-U

POSTAL SERVICE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Sunshine Act Meeting

Time and Dates: 1 p.m., Monday, January 8, 2001; 8:30 a.m., Tuesday, January 9, 2001.

Place: Washington, DC, at U.S. Postal Service Headquarters, 475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW., in the Benjamin Franklin Room.

Status: January 8 (Closed); January 9 (Open).

Matters to be Considered:

Monday, January 8—1:00 p.m. (Closed)

1. Business Initiative.
2. Financial Performance.
3. Strategic Planning.

4. Compensation Issues.

5. Personnel Matters.

Tuesday, January 9—8:30 a.m. (Open)

1. Minutes of the Previous Meetings, December 1, and December 4-5, 2000.
2. Remarks of the Postmaster General/Chief Executive Officer.
3. Consideration of Board Resolution on Capital Funding.
4. Annual Report on Government in the Sunshine Act Compliance.
5. Consideration of Fiscal Year 2000 Annual Report.
6. Quarterly Report on Financial Results.
7. Capital Investments.
 - a. Integrated Data System Upgrade.
 - b. Time and Attendance Collection System.
 - c. Standard Accounting for Retail Annual Report.
 - d. Postal Field Computing Infrastructure.
8. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Board of Governors.
9. Tentative Agenda for the February 5-6, 2001, meeting in San Antonio, Texas.

Contact Person for More Information: David G. Hunter, Secretary of the Board, U.S. Postal Service, 475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW., Washington, DC 20260-1000. Telephone (202) 268-4800.

David G. Hunter,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-32839 Filed 12-20-00; 2:50 pm]

BILLING CODE 7710-12-M

RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

SUMMARY: In Accordance with the requirement of Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 which provides opportunity for public comment on new or revised data collections, the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) will publish periodic summaries of proposed data collections.

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information has practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the RRB's estimate of the burden of the collection of the information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden related to the collection of information on respondents, including the use of

automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Title and purpose of information collection: Application for Employee Annuity Under the Railroad Retirement Act; OMB 3220-0002.

Section 2 of the Railroad Retirement Act (RRA), provides for payment of age and service, disability and supplemental annuities to qualified employees. The basic requirements for a regular employee annuity retirement annuity under the RRA is 120 months (10 years) of creditable railroad service. Benefits then become payable after the employee meets certain other requirements, which depend, in turn, on the type of annuity payable. The requirements relating to the annuities are prescribed in 20 CFR 216, and 220.

The forms used by the RRB to collect information needed for determining entitlement and the amount of, an employee retirement annuity follow: Form AA-1, Application for Employee Annuity Under the Railroad Retirement Act, is completed by an applicant for either an age and service or disability annuity. It obtains information about the

applicant's marital history, work history, military service, benefits from other governmental agencies and railroad pensions. Form AA-1d, Application for Determination of Employee Disability, is completed by an employee who is filing for a disability annuity under the RRA, or a disability freeze under the Social Security Act for early Medicare based on a disability. Form G-204, Verification of Workers Compensation/ Public Disability Benefit Information, is used to obtain and verify information concerning worker's compensation or public disability benefits that are or will be paid by a public agency to a disabled railroad employee. Completion of the forms is required to obtain a benefit. One response is requested of each respondent.

The RRB proposes minor non-burden impacting editorial and formatting changes to Forms AA-1, AA-1d and G-204. The RRB estimates that 13,4000 Form AA-1's, 5,650 AA-1d's and 50 G-204's are completed annually. The estimated completion time for Form AA-1 is 37 to 62 minutes per response.

The estimated completion time for Form AA-1d is 35 to 60 minutes per response. The estimated completion time for Form G-204 is 15 minutes per response.

The renewal of this information collection will continue the RRB's initiative to consolidate information collections by major functional areas. The purpose of the initiative is to bring related collection instruments together in one collection, better manage the instruments, and prepare for the electronic collection of this information. (A collection instrument can be an individual form, electronic collection, interview, or any other method that collects specific information from the public.)

As part of the OMB renewal process, the RRB proposes that this collection (OMB 3220-0002). Application for Employee Annuity under the Railroad Retirement Act, be renamed RRA Benefit Applications. Upon approval by OMB, the RRB intends to merge the following OMB approved collections into this collection by the expected expiration date(s).

| OMB collection No. | Title | RRB forms | Expected expiration date |
|--------------------|---|---|--------------------------|
| 3220-0016 | Certification of Relinquishment of Rights | G-88 | 5/31/2002 |
| 3220-0021 | Evidence of Marital Relationship; Living with Requirements. | G-124, G-124a, G-237, G-238, G-238a | 1/31/2003 |
| 3220-0030 | Application for Survivor Insurance Annuities | AA-17, AA-17 CERT, AA-17b, AA-18, AA-19, AA-20. | 2/28/2004 |
| 3220-0031 | Application for Survivor Death Benefits | AA-21, G-273a, AA-11a, G-131, AA-21 CERT ... | 1/31/2003 |
| 3220-0032 | Survivor Questionnaire | RL-94-F | 6/30/2003 |
| 3220-0042 | Application for Spouse Annuity Under the Railroad Retirement Act. | AA-3 | 6/30/2003 |
| 3220-0083 | Evidence for Application of Overall Minimum | G-319, G-320 | 11/30/2003 |
| 3220-0099 | Statement Regarding Contributions and Support ... | G-134 | 6/30/2002 |
| 3220-0106 | Application for Search of Census Records | G-256 | 7/31/2001 |
| 3220-0123 | Student Beneficiary Monitoring | G-315, G-315a, G-315a.1 | 11/30/2003 |
| 3220-0136 | Public Service Pension Questionnaire | G-208, G-212 | 3/31/2004 |
| 3220-0138 | Self-Employment Questionnaire | AA-4 | 3/31/2004 |
| 3220-0140 | Employee's Certification | G-346 | 1/31/2003 |
| 3220-0154 | Employee Noncovered Service Pension Questionnaire. | G-209 | 7/31/2002 |
| 3220-0155 | Supplement to Claim of Person Outside the United States. | G-45 | 6/30/2001 |
| 3220-0195 | Statement Regarding Contributions and Support of Children. | G-139 | 2/28/2002 |

Revisions to existing collection instruments and, occasionally, a new instrument related to this program function may be required during the three-year cycle of this information collection. The RRB currently estimates the completion time for Form G-88, Certification of Termination of Service and Relinquishment of Rights at 6 minutes, Form G-124, Statement of Marital Relationship at 15 to 20 minutes, Form G-124a, Statement Regarding Marriage at 10 minutes, Form G-237, Statement Regarding Marital

Status at 15 to 20 minutes, Form G-238, Statement of Residence at 3 to 5 minutes, Form G-238a, Statement Regarding Divorce or Annulment at 10 minutes, Form AA-17, Application for Widow(ers) Annuity at 47 minutes, Form AA-17cert, Application Summary and Certification at 20 minutes, Form AA-17b, Application for Determination of Widow(ers) Disability at 40 to 50 minutes, Form AA-18, Application for Mother's/Father's and Child's Annuity at 47 minutes, Form AA-19, Application for Child's Annuity at 47 minutes, Form

AA-20, Application for Parent's Annuity at 47 minutes, Form AA-21, Application for Lump-Sum Death Payments and Annuities Unpaid at Death at 40 minutes, Form G-273a, Funeral Director's Statement of Burial Charges at 10 minutes, Form AA-11a, Designation or Change of Beneficiary for Residual Lump Sum at 10 minutes, Form G-131, Authorization of Payment and Release of All Claims to a Death Benefit or Accrued Annuity Payment at 5 minutes, Form AA-21CERT, Application Summary and Certification,

at 20 minutes, Form RL-94-F. Survivor Questionnaire, at 5 to 11 minutes, Form AA-3, Application for Spouse/Divorce Spouse Annuity, at 14 to 30 minutes, Form G-319, Employee Annuitant's Statement Regarding Family and Earnings, at 25 to 60 minutes, Form G-320, Statement by Employee Annuitant Regarding Student Age 18-19, at 14-30 minutes, Form G-134, Statement Regarding Contributions and Support, at 75 to 85 minutes, Form G-256, Application for Search of Census Records, at 10 minutes, Form G-315, Student Questionnaire, at 7 minutes, Form G-315a, Statement by School Official of Student's Full-Time Attendance, at 2 minutes, Form G-315a.1, Notice of Cessation of Full-Time Attendance, at 2 minutes, Form G-208, Public Service Pension Questionnaire, at 15 minutes, Form G-212, Public Service Pension Monitoring Questionnaire, at 3 minutes, Form AA-4, Self-Employment and Substantial Service Questionnaire, at 40 to 70 minutes, Form G-346, Employee's Certification, at 5 minutes, G-209, Employee Noncovered Service Pension Questionnaire at 1 to 8 minutes, G-45, Supplement to Claim of Person Outside the United States, at 10 minutes, G-139, Statement Regarding Contributions and Support of Children, at 15 minutes.

After the last information collection is merged and other necessary adjustments are made, the resultant information collection is expected to total approximately 17,904 annual burden hours. A justification for each action described above (merge collection, revised collection instrument, new collection instrument) will be provided to OMB with a Correction Change Worksheet (OMB Form 83-C) at the time the action occurs. With the next renewal of this collection, the RRB will update the information collection package to account for the consolidation and other interim adjustments.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS:

To request more information or to obtain a copy of the information collection justification, forms, and/or supporting material, please call the RRB Clearance Officer at (312)751-3363. Comments regarding the information collection should be addressed to Ronald J. Hodapp, Railroad Retirement Board, 844 North Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611-2092. Written comments should be received within 60 days of this notice.

Chuck Mierzwa,
Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 00-32739 Filed 12-21-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7905-01-M

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

Upon Written Request, Copies Available From: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Filings and Information Services, Washington, D.C. 20549.

Extension: Rule 154; SEC File No. 270-438; OMB Control No. 3235-0495.

Notice is hereby given that, under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520), the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget a request for extension of the previously approved collection of information discussed below.

The federal securities laws generally prohibit an issuer, underwriter, or dealer from delivering a security for sale unless a prospectus meeting certain requirements accompanies or precedes the security for sale unless a prospectus meeting certain requirements accompanies or precedes the security. Rule 154 [17 CFR 230.154] under the Securities Act of 1933 [15 U.S.C. 77a] (the "Securities Act") permits, under certain circumstances, delivery of a single prospectus to investors who purchase securities from the same issuer and share the same address ("householding") to satisfy the applicable prospectus delivery requirements.¹ The purpose of rule 154 is to reduce the amount of duplicative prospectuses delivered to investors sharing the same address.

Under rule 154, a prospectus is considered delivered to all investors at a shared address, for purposes of the federal securities laws, if the person relying on the rule delivers the prospectus to the shared address and the investors consent to the delivery of a single prospectus. The rule applies to prospectuses and prospectus supplements. Currently, the rule permits householding of all prospectuses except those required to be delivered for business combinations, exchange offers, or reclassifications of

securities.² Rule 154 permits householding of prospectuses by an issuer, underwriter, or dealer relying on the rule if, in addition to the other conditions set forth in the rule, the issuer, underwriter, or dealer has obtained from each investor written or implied consent to householding.³ The rule requires issuers, underwriters, or dealers that wish to household prospectuses with implied consent to send a notice to each investor stating that the investors in the household will receive one prospectus in the future unless the investors provide contrary instructions. In addition, at least once year, issuers, underwriters, or dealers, relying on rule 154 for the householding of prospectuses, must explain to investors who have provided written or implied consent how they can revoke their consent. Preparing and sending the initial notice and the annual explanation of the right to revoke are collections of information.

The rule allows issuers, underwriters, or dealers to household prospectuses and prospectus supplement if certain conditions are met. Among the conditions with which a person relying on the rule must comply are providing notice to each investor that only one prospectus will be sent to the household and providing to each investor who consents to householding an annual explanation of the right to revoke consent to the delivery of a single prospectus to multiple investors sharing an address. The purpose of the notice and annual explanation requirements of the rule is to ensure that investors who wish to receive individual copies of shareholder reports are able to do so.

Although rule 154 is not limited to investment companies, the Commission believes that it is used mainly by mutual funds and by broker-dealers that deliver mutual fund prospectuses. The Commission is unable to estimate the number of issuers other than mutual funds that rely on the rule.

The Commission estimates that there are approximately 3000 mutual funds, approximately 545 of which engage in

² The Commission has proposed an amendment to rule 154 that would permit the householding of prospectuses required to be delivered for business combinations, exchange offers, or reclassifications of securities. See Delivery of Proxy and Information Statement to Households, Securities Act Rel. No. 7767; Securities Exchange Act Rel. No. 42102; Investment Company Act Rel. No. 24124 (Nov. 4, 1999) [64 FR 62548 (Nov. 16, 1999)]. The proposed amendment has not been adopted as of the date of this notice.

³ Rule 154 permits the householding of prospectuses that are delivered electronically to investors only if delivery is made to a shared electronic address and the investors give written consent to householding. Implied consent is not permitted in such a situation. See rule 154(b)(4).

¹ The Securities Act requires the delivery of prospectuses to investors who buy securities from an issuer or from underwriters or dealers who participate in a registered distribution of securities. See Securities Act sections 2(a)(10), 4(1), 4(3), 5(b) [15 U.S.C. 77b(a)(10), 77d(1), 77d(3), 77e(b)]; see also rule 174 under the Securities Act [17 CFR 230.174] (regarding the prospectus delivery obligation of dealers); rule 15c2-8 under the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934 [17 CFR 240.15c2-8] (prospectus delivery obligations of brokers and dealers).