

payment with the application. No fee is required for a letter of interest.

Applicants may not include application fees or any other expenses associated with the application process (such as charges associated with obtaining the required preliminary rating opinion letter) among eligible project costs for the purpose of calculating the maximum 33 percent credit amount.

In addition, consistent with 23 U.S.C. 183(b)(7), 183(e)(2), 184(b)(9) and with 49 CFR 80.17, the TIFIA JPO will charge each borrower a credit processing fee equal to a portion of the costs incurred by the TIFIA JPO in negotiating the credit agreement. Each project term sheet will require the borrower to pay at closing, or, in the event no credit agreement is consummated, upon invoicing by the TIFIA JPO, an amount equal to the actual costs incurred by the TIFIA JPO in procuring the assistance of financial advisors and outside legal counsel through execution of the credit agreement(s) and satisfaction of all funding requirements of those agreements. The TIFIA JPO anticipates this fee will typically amount to \$100,000 to \$300,000, depending on the complexity of the financial structure and the length of negotiations. The borrower may not include the credit processing fee among eligible project costs for the purpose of calculating the maximum 33 percent.

Finally, the TIFIA JPO will continue to charge borrowers a fee of not less than \$10,000 per year, which may be adjusted annually, for loan servicing activities associated with each TIFIA credit instrument. The borrower may not include the loan servicing fee among eligible project costs for the purpose of calculating the maximum 33 percent credit amount.

The FHWA will publish in the **Federal Register**, at least once each fiscal year through FY 2003, a NOFA inviting applications for TIFIA credit assistance for major surface transportation projects through the TIFIA program. Such notices will advise potential applicants of the estimated amount of funding available for TIFIA credit instruments as well as any changes to the application process, including the nature and amount of any required fees.

**Authority:** 23 U.S.C. 181–189; 49 CFR 1.48(nn).

Issued on: October 30, 2001.

**Mary E. Peters,**

*Federal Highway Administrator.*

[FR Doc. 01–29059 Filed 11–20–01; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910–22–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Railroad Administration

#### Applications for TIFIA Credit Assistance

**AGENCY:** Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), Department of Transportation.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of funds inviting applications for credit assistance for major surface transportation projects.

**SUMMARY:** Elsewhere in today's **Federal Register**, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) published a notice announcing the availability of Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) assistance and inviting applicants to submit applications for credit assistance for major surface transportation projects. The TIFIA authorizes the Department of Transportation (DOT) to provide credit assistance in the form of secured (direct) loans, lines of credit, and loan guarantees to public and private sponsors of eligible surface transportation projects. Highway, passenger rail, transit, and "intermodal" projects (including intelligent transportation systems) may receive credit assistance under the TIFIA. Interested persons should review the FHWA Notice in today's **Federal Register** for further information.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Joanne McGowan, Office of Passenger and Freight Services, Freight Program Division, (202) 493–6390, or Mr. Joseph Pomponio, Office of the Chief Counsel, (202) 493–6051.

(Authority: 23, U.S.C. 181–189; 49 CFR 1.49).

Issued: November 9, 2001.

**Allan Rutter,**  
*Administrator.*

[FR Doc. 01–29060 Filed 11–20–01; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910–06–M**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Transit Administration

#### Applications for TIFIA Credit Assistance

**AGENCY:** Federal Transit Administration (FTA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of funds inviting applications for credit assistance for major surface transportation projects.

**SUMMARY:** Elsewhere in today's **Federal Register**, the the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) published a

notice announcing the availability of Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) assistance and inviting applicants to submit applications for credit assistance for major surface transportation projects. The TIFIA authorizes the Department of Transportation (DOT) to provide credit assistance in the form of secured (direct) loans, lines of credit, and loan guarantees to public and private sponsors of eligible surface transportation projects. Highway, passenger rail, transit, and "intermodal" projects (including intelligence transportation systems) may receive credit assistance under the TIFIA. Interested persons should review the FHWA Notice in today's **Federal Register** for further information.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Paul Marx, Office of Policy Development, (202) 366–1675, or Ms. Paula Schwach, Office of the Chief Counsel, (816) 329–3935.

(Authority: 23 U.S.C. 181–189; 49 CFR 1.51).

Issued on: November 13, 2001.

**Jennifer L. Dorn,**  
*Administrator.*

[FR Doc. 01–29061 Filed 11–20–01; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910–57–M**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 34107]

#### Genesee & Wyoming Inc.—Control Exemption—South Buffalo Railway Company

**AGENCY:** Surface Transportation Board.

**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, *et seq.*, the acquisition by Genesee & Wyoming Inc. (GWI) of control of Class III rail carrier South Buffalo Railway Company. GWI is a noncarrier holding company that directly controls Buffalo & Pittsburgh Railroad, Inc., a Class II carrier operating in New York and Pennsylvania. GWI also directly controls 13 Class III rail carriers.<sup>1</sup> GWI indirectly controls three Class III rail

<sup>1</sup> Allegheny & Eastern Railroad, Inc., Bradford Industrial Rail, Inc., Corpus Christi Terminal Railroad, Inc., Dansville and Mount Morris Railroad Company, Genesee & Wyoming Railroad Company, Inc., Golden Isles Terminal Railroad, Inc., Savannah Port Terminal Railroad, Inc., Illinois & Midland Railroad, Inc., Louisiana & Delta Railroad, Inc., Pittsburgh & Shawmut Railroad, Inc., Portland & Western Railroad, Inc., Rochester and Southern Railroad, Inc., and Willamette & Pacific Railroad, Inc.

carriers through its ownership of noncarrier Rail Link, Inc.<sup>2</sup> In order to avoid an unlawful control violation, GWI has submitted, under 49 CFR 1013, a proposed voting trust agreement. GWI requests expedited action on the exemption petition, which the Board is granting by making the exemption effective 15 days from the date of service rather than the normal 30 days. This request is addressed in the Board's decision.

**DATES:** The exemption will be effective December 6, 2001. Petitions for stay must be filed by November 26, 2001. Petitions for reconsideration must be filed by December 11, 2001.

**ADDRESSES:** Send an original and 10 copies of any pleadings referring to STB Finance Docket No. 34107 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 pleadings to petitioner's representatives: Jo A. DeRoche and Troy W. Garris, 1300 19th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20036-1609.

**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: Da 2 Da Legal, 1925 K Street NW., Suite 405, 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 web site at "WWW.STB.DOT.GOV."

Decided: November 14, 2001.

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

**Vernon A. Williams,**  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 01-28994 Filed 11-20-01; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4915-00-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Bureau of Transportation Statistics

#### Grant Program for Research and Development in the Field of Transportation Statistics

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Transportation Statistics, DOT.

**ACTION:** Announcement of grant program.

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of Transportation Statistics supports its goal of advancing the field of transportation statistics through the Transportation Statistics Research Grants program. This notice solicits applications for projects that (1) support the development of the field of transportation statistics; and/or (2) involve research or development in transportation statistics. It outlines the purpose, goals, and general procedures for application and award. For this cycle, BTS will make available up to approximately \$500,000 in grant funds to eligible organizations.

**DATES:** For BTS to consider your application, we must receive it by January 25, 2002, at 5 P.M. Eastern Standard Time. Applications received after January 25, 2002, will be held for the next cycle, which is anticipated to be every six to twelve months, unless you request in writing that your application be returned.

**ADDRESSES:** You must send six copies of the application package to the BTS Grants Program, Room 3430, Bureau of Transportation Statistics, U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Promod Chandhok, Office of Statistical Programs and Services, Bureau of Transportation Statistics, Room 3430, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590; phone (202) 366-2158; fax: (202) 366-3640; e-mail: promod.chandhok@bts.gov. 1

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Background—Advancing the Discipline of Transportation Statistics

The purpose of this grant program is to provide financial assistance to eligible organizations to help advance the discipline of transportation statistics. These grants are authorized by section 5109 of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) (Public Law 105-178 (1998), codified at 49 U.S.C. 111(g)). BTS anticipates awarding up to \$500,000 per year in grants for projects that (1) support development of the field of transportation statistics; and/or (2)

advance research or development in transportation statistics.

BTS is a separate operating administration within the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT). Its mission is to lead in developing transportation data and information of high quality, and to advance their effective use in public and private transportation decision-making. In accomplishing this mission, BTS works to improve six key attributes of transportation data and analysis—quality, comparability, completeness, timeliness, relevance, and utility.

Our ultimate goal is to make transportation better—to enhance safety, mobility, economic growth, the human and natural environment, and national security (the five strategic goals of the Department of Transportation). BTS's role in this goal is to put together data and information that others need to make decisions concerning transportation. We collect data and compile, analyze, and publish statistics. Many others, both within and outside DOT, are involved in building this knowledge base and BTS could not do it alone.

While there are many excellent transportation data programs and many excellent statistics programs, few are devoted to the intersection of these two disciplines. Bringing a better understanding of statistics to transportation data will improve data quality, increase utility (e.g., by improving measures of travel), and reduce costs (e.g., by using techniques to make data collection, analysis, and dissemination more efficient). BTS wants to foster the transportation statistics discipline and increase its quality and usefulness to the transportation community. This grants program is one way BTS is working toward this goal.

##### II. Eligibility Requirements

###### What Organizations May Apply?

BTS invites applications from public and private non-profit institutions of higher education. We strongly encourage Minority Serving Institutions, which have been traditionally under represented in transportation statistics, to submit applications. If organizations partner on a project, the participants should submit a single application. You may submit more than one application as long as the applications are for separate and distinct projects.

###### What Projects Are Eligible for Funding?

Proposals should serve the broad transportation interests of the country, and we are particularly interested in

<sup>2</sup> Carolina Coastal Railway, Inc., Commonwealth Railway, Inc., and Talleyrand Terminal Railroad, Inc.