

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Surface Transportation Board****[Docket No. FD 35980]****Reading Blue Mountain & Northern Railroad Company—Trackage Rights Exemption—Norfolk Southern Railway Company**

Norfolk Southern Railway Company (NSR), pursuant to two amendments to an existing trackage rights agreement (the Base Agreement), has agreed to grant Reading Blue Mountain & Northern Railroad Company (RBMN) additional trackage rights over approximately 6.1 miles of rail line (the Line), between milepost JW 147.4 at Oneida Jct., Pa., and milepost JW 141.3 ± at Ashmore, Jct., Pa.¹ The two amendments grant RBMN limited local and additional overhead trackage rights, in addition to the overhead trackage rights originally granted in the Base Agreement, for RBMN to provide service over the Line at two different intermediate points. Specifically, Amendment No. 2 provides RBMN with the right to enter and exit the Line at milepost JW 143.7 to serve a coal customer; Amendment No. 3 will provide RBMN with the right to enter and exit the Line at a point shown on the map attached to the notice and use NSR's connecting industrial track to milepost KA 150± (the RBMN/NSR property line) at Humboldt Industrial Park to provide service to customers in a connected industrial park.²

RBMN may consummate the transaction on or after December 25, 2015, the effective date of the exemption (30 days after the verified notice of exemption was filed).

As a condition to this exemption, any employees affected by the trackage rights will be protected by the conditions imposed in *Norfolk & Western Railway—Trackage Rights—Burlington Northern, Inc.*, 354 I.C.C. 605 (1978), as modified in *Mendocino Coast Railway—Lease & Operate—California Western Railroad*, 360 I.C.C. 653 (1980).

¹ The Base Agreement was between East Mahanoy and Hazleton Railroad Company (EMHR) and Consolidated Rail Corporation (Conrail); it granted EMHR overhead trackage rights (authorized as incidental trackage rights) over the Line. See *E. Mahanoy & Hazleton R.R.—Acquis. & Operation Exemption—Consolidated Rail Corp.*, FD 32076 (ICC served July 15, 1992). The Base Agreement was first amended by a letter agreement in 1997. RBMN is the successor to EMHR, and NSR is the successor-in-interest to Conrail.

² Amendment No. 2 was signed and dated on December 11, 2011, but RBMN states that it has yet to use these additional trackage rights, as the switch was installed last month, and the sidetrack to the customer is still under construction. RBMN states that Amendment No. 3 has not yet been executed.

This notice is filed under 49 CFR 1180.2(d)(7). 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 will not automatically stay the effectiveness of the exemption. Petitions for stay must be filed by December 18, 2015 (at least seven days before the exemption becomes effective).

An original and 10 copies of all pleadings, referring to Docket No. FD 35980, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street SW., Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on Eric M. Hocky, Clark Hill, PLC, One Commerce Square, 2005 Market St., Suite 1000, Philadelphia, PA 19103.

Board decisions and notices are available on our Web site at “WWW.STB.DOT.GOV.”

Decided: December 8, 2015.

By the Board, Rachel D. Campbell, Director, Office of Proceedings.

Kenyatta Clay,
Clearance Clerk.

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**[OMB Control No. 2900-0465]****Proposed Information Collection (Student Verification of Enrollment) Activity: Comment Request**

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) 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 revision of a currently approved collection, and allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before February 9, 2016.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments on the collection of information through

Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) at www.Regulations.gov, or to Nancy J. Kessinger, Veterans Benefits Administration (20M33), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20420 or email to nancy.kessinger@va.gov. Please refer to “OMB Control No. 2900-0465” in any correspondence. During the comment period, comments may be viewed online through FDMS.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nancy J. Kessinger at (202) 632-8924 or FAX (202) 632-8925.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13; 44 U.S.C. 3501-21), 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, VBA invites comments on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of VBA's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of VBA'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: Student Verification of Enrollment, VA Form 22-8979.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0465.

Type of Review: Revision.

Abstract: VA Form 22-8979 contains a student's certification of actual attendance and verification of the student's continued enrollment in courses leading to a standard college degree or in non-college degree programs. VA uses the data collected to determine the student's continued entitlement to benefits. Students are required to submit verification on a monthly basis to allow for frequent, periodic release of payment.

Affected Public: Individuals or Households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 12,961.

Estimated Average Burden per Respondent: 1 minute.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 777,688.