

voluntarily opt to use FRA's proposed template to concisely organize and present certain quantitative (i.e. measurable) data relating to its PTC implementation efforts, and its projected timeframe for completing PTC implementation. Although some of this information may have been provided by each railroad in the past, the Acts now require submission of specific measurable data as part of each railroad's revised PTCIP. This information includes, but is not limited to:

- The calendar year(s) when wireless spectrum required for PTC operation will be acquired and available for use;
- The total amount of PTC hardware the railroad must install (broken down by each major hardware category);
- The total amount of PTC hardware the railroad must install by the end of each

calendar year (broken down by each major hardware category);

- The total number of employees the railroad must train; and
- The total number of employees that will receive training by the end of each calendar year.

FRA believes that providing a template will serve as guidance to railroads by reducing confusion as to the necessarily level of detail required. Further, the template will help to expedite the conveyance of this information, and FRA's review for statutory and regulatory compliance, particularly for those railroads that may not have been tracking these details previously. FRA intends to provide the template on its Web site for use by all interested parties.

As provided under 49 CFR 1320.13, FRA is requesting Emergency processing

for this new collection of information as specified in the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 and its implementing regulations. FRA cannot reasonably comply with normal clearance procedures since they would be reasonably likely to disrupt the collection of information. Each railroad is required to submit its revised PTCIP by January 27, 2016. FRA cannot wait the typical 90-day period for public comment. Therefore, FRA is requesting OMB approval as soon as possible (i.e., 7 days after publication of this Notice) for this collection of information.

The associated collection of information is summarized below.

*Title:* PTC Implementation Plan (PTCIP) Template.

*Reporting Burden:*

| PTCIP Template            | Respondent universe | Total annual responses    | Average time per response | Total annual burden hours |
|---------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Form FRA F 6180.164 ..... | 38 Railroads .....  | 38 Forms .....<br>0 ..... | 50 hours .....            | 1,900 hours.              |

*Form Number(s):* FRA F 6180.164.  
*Respondent Universe:* 38 Railroads.  
*Frequency of Submission:* One-time; on occasion.  
*Total Estimated Responses:* 38.  
*Total Estimated Annual Burden:* 1,900 hours.

*Status:* Emergency Review.  
 Pursuant to 44 U.S.C. 3507(a) and 5 CFR 320.5(b), 1320.8(b)(3)(vi), FRA informs all interested parties that it may not conduct or sponsor, and a respondent is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

**Authority:** 44 U.S.C. 3501–3520.  
 Issued in Washington, DC, on December 22, 2015.  
**Corey Hill,**  
*Acting Executive Director.*  
 [FR Doc. 2015–32617 Filed 12–24–15; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910–06–P**

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Surface Transportation Board**

[Docket No. FD 35979]

**R.J. Corman Railroad Company/ Carolina Lines, LLC—Modified Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity—Horry County, S.C.**

On November 25, 2015, R.J. Corman Railroad Company/Carolina Lines, LLC (RJCS), a Class III rail carrier, filed a notice for a modified certificate of

public convenience and necessity, pursuant to 49 CFR pt. 1150 subpart C—*Modified Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity*, to operate approximately 11.5 miles of rail line owned by Horry County, S.C., and located between RJCS's line at Station 9+34.65 (milepost 336.18) in the City of Conway, S.C., and the beginning of the concrete bridge deck on the Conway side of the Pine Island Bascule Bridge over the Intracoastal Waterway at Station 609+91 (milepost 347.55) (the Line).

The Line was authorized for abandonment by the Board's predecessor, the Interstate Commerce Commission, in *Seaboard System Railroad Inc.—Abandonment—in Horry County, S.C.*, AB–55 (Sub-No. 107) (ICC served Sept. 12, 1984). According to RJCS, Horry County, a political subdivision of the State of South Carolina, purchased the Line in 1984 pursuant to 49 CFR 1150.22 after it was abandoned by the Seaboard System Railroad.<sup>1</sup>

Pursuant to a Lease Agreement entered into between R.J. Corman

Railroad Company, LLC (R.J. Corman), and Horry County, dated September 16, 2015, R.J. Corman will lease and maintain the Line for an initial term of 15 years with the option to renew the agreement for up to an additional 15 years. The Lease Agreement grants Horry County the right to cancel the lease upon 180-days written notice.

In a Lease Addendum and Assignment Agreement, dated November 6, 2015, R.J. Corman assigned its rights and obligations under the Lease Agreement to RJCS, with the written consent of Horry County. According to RJCS, under the terms of the agreement, RJCS has the exclusive right and responsibility to provide common carrier rail freight service on the Line to both existing and prospective customers that have facilities served by sidetracks or other connections to the Line. RJCS states that it must rehabilitate the Line before it can safely provide service and hopes that rehabilitation of the Line will be completed in January of 2016.

The Line qualifies for a modified certificate of public convenience and necessity. *See Common Carrier* and 49 CFR 1150.22. RJCS states that it will receive no subsidies in connection with its operations and that there will be no preconditions that shippers must meet to receive service.

This notice will be served on the Association of American Railroads (Car Service Division) as agent for all railroads subscribing to the car-service

<sup>1</sup> The Waccamaw Coast Line Railroad (WCLR), a division of the Baltimore and Annapolis Railroad Company, previously operated the Line pursuant to a modified certificate of public convenience and necessity obtained in 2001. *See Waccamaw Coast Line R.R.—Modified Rail Certificate*, FD 34064 (STB served July 13, 2001). WCLR provided notice to terminate its service on the Line on December 11, 2013, which became effective on February 9, 2014. *See Waccamaw Coast Line R.R.—Modified Rail Certificate*, FD 34064 et al., slip op. at 1 (STB served Jan. 31, 2014).

and car-hire agreement at 425 Third Street SW., Suite 1000, Washington, DC 20024; and on the American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association at 50 F Street NW., Suite 7020, Washington, DC 20001.

Board decisions and notices are available on our Web site at “[WWW.STB.DOT.GOV](http://WWW.STB.DOT.GOV).”

Decided: December 22, 2015.

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

**Tia Delano,**

*Clearance Clerk.*

[FR Doc. 2015–32615 Filed 12–24–15; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4915–01–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Surface Transportation Board

[Docket No. FD 35802]

#### Northwest Tennessee Regional Port Authority—Construction and Operation Exemption—in Lake County, TN

**AGENCY:** Surface Transportation Board.

**ACTION:** Issuance of Draft Environmental Assessment; Request for Comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Surface Transportation Board’s (Board) Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) in response to a petition for exemption filed on June 27, 2014 by the Northwest Tennessee Regional Port Authority (NWTRPA) to construct and operate an approximately 5.5 mile line of railroad in Lake County, Tennessee. The proposed rail line would connect the Port of Cates Landing, a river port located on the Mississippi River, with an existing line of railroad operated by the Tennken Railroad at a connection near Tiptonville, Tennessee. The proposed rail line would provide rail service to customers at the Port of Cates Landing and at the Lake County Industrial Park, a proposed industrial park located adjacent to the Port of Cates Landing.

The EA evaluates the potential environmental impacts of three alternative rail alignments, as well as the No Action Alternative and preliminarily concludes that construction of the proposed rail line connection would have no significant environmental impacts if the Board imposes and NWTRPA implements the recommended mitigation measures set forth in the EA. The entire EA is available on the Board’s Web site ([www.stb.dot.gov](http://www.stb.dot.gov)) by clicking on the “Decisions & Notices” button that

appears in the drop down menu for “ELIBRARY,” and searching by Service Date (December 28, 2015) or Docket Number (FD 35802).

**DATES:** The EA is available for public review and comment. Comments must be postmarked by January 27, 2016. OEA will consider and respond to comments received on the Draft EA in the Final EA. The Board will issue a final decision on the proposed transaction after issuance of the Final EA.

**Filing Environmental Comments:** Comments submitted by mail should be addressed to: Josh Wayland, Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street SW., Washington, DC 20423. Comments on the Draft EA may also be filed electronically on the Board’s Web site, [www.stb.dot.gov](http://www.stb.dot.gov), by clicking on the “E FILING” link. Please refer Docket No. FD 35802 in all comments, including electronic filings.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Josh Wayland by mail at the address above, by telephone at 202–245–0330, or by email at [waylandj@stb.dot.gov](mailto:waylandj@stb.dot.gov).

By the Board, Victoria Rutson, Director, Office of Environmental Analysis.

**Tia Delano,**

*Clearance Clerk.*

[FR Doc. 2015–32566 Filed 12–24–15; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4915–01–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Surface Transportation Board

[Docket No. EP 728]

#### Policy Statement on Implementing Intercity Passenger Train On-Time Performance and Preference Provisions of 49 U.S.C. 24308(c) and (f)

**AGENCY:** Surface Transportation Board, DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of Proposed Statement of Board Policy.

**SUMMARY:** The Surface Transportation Board (Board) is issuing a proposed Policy Statement to provide guidance to the public regarding complaint proceedings under 49 U.S.C. 24308(f) and related issues under 49 U.S.C. 24308(c). The Board seeks public comment on the proposed Policy Statement, and may revise it, as appropriate, after consideration of the comments received.

**DATES:** Comments on the proposed Policy Statement are due February 22, 2016. Reply comments are due March 14, 2016.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Scott M. Zimmerman, (202) 245–0386.

[Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1–800–877–8339.]

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

Additional information is contained in the Board’s decision. Board decisions and notices are available on our Web site at [WWW.STB.DOT.GOV](http://WWW.STB.DOT.GOV).

Decided: December 16, 2015.

By the Board, Chairman Elliott, Vice Chairman Begeman, and Commissioner Miller.

**Brendetta S. Jones,**

*Clearance Clerk.*

[FR Doc. 2015–32412 Filed 12–24–15; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4915–01–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Internal Revenue Service

#### Open Meeting of the Taxpayer Advocacy Panel’s Special Projects Committee

**AGENCY:** Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** An open meeting of the Taxpayer Advocacy Panel’s Special Projects Committee will be conducted. The Taxpayer Advocacy Panel is soliciting public comments, ideas and suggestions on improving customer service at the Internal Revenue Service.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held Thursday, January 14, 2016 and Friday, January 15, 2016.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kim Vinci at 1–888–912–1227 or 916–974–5086.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. (1988) that an open meeting of the Taxpayer Advocacy Panel’s Special Projects Committee will be held Thursday, January 14, 2016, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Mountain Time and Friday, January 15, 2016, from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. Mountain Time at the IRS Office, 5338 Montgomery Blvd. Albuquerque, New Mexico 87109–1338. The public is invited to make oral comments or submit written statements for consideration. Due to limited time and structure of meeting, notification of intent to participate must be made with Kim Vinci. For more information please contact Kim Vinci at 1–888–912–1227 or 916–974–5086, or write TAP Office, 4330 Watt Ave. Sacramento, CA 95821–7012 or contact us at the Web site: