DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[Docket No. EP 290 (Sub-No. 4)]

Railroad Cost Recovery Procedures—Productivity Adjustment

AGENCY: Surface Transportation Board, DOT.

ACTION: Proposed railroad cost recovery procedures productivity adjustment.

SUMMARY: In a decision served on February 13, 2015, we proposed to adopt 1.007 (0.7% per year) as the measure of average change in railroad productivity for the 2009–2013 (5-year) averaging period. This value represents a decrease of 0.3% from the average for the 2008–2012 period. The Board’s February 13, 2015 decision in this proceeding stated that comments may be filed addressing any perceived data and computational errors in our calculation. It also stated that, if there were no further action taken by the Board, the proposed productivity adjustment would become effective on March 1, 2015.

DATES: The productivity adjustment is effective March 1, 2015. Comments are due by February 25, 2015.

ADDRESSES: Send comments (an original and 10 copies) referring to Docket No. EP 290 (Sub-No. 4) to: Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street SW., Washington, DC 20423–0001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Pedro Ramirez at (202) 245–0333. Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) for the hearing impaired is available through the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at (800) 877–8339.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[Docket No. EP 558 (Sub-No. 18)]

Railroad Cost of Capital—2014

AGENCY: Surface Transportation Board, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of decision instituting a proceeding to determine the railroad industry’s 2014 cost of capital.

SUMMARY: The Board is instituting a proceeding to determine the railroad industry’s cost of capital for 2014. The decision solicits comments on the following issues: (1) The railroads’ 2014 current cost of debt capital; (2) the railroads’ 2014 current cost of preferred equity capital (if any); (3) the railroads’ 2014 cost of common equity capital; and (4) the 2014 capital structure mix of the railroad industry on a market value basis. Comments should focus on the various cost of capital components listed above using the same methodology followed in Railroad Cost of Capital—2013, EP 558 (Sub-No. 17) (STB served July 31, 2014).

DATES: Notices of intent to participate are due by March 30, 2015. Statements of the railroads are due by April 20, 2015. Statements of other interested persons are due by May 11, 2015. Rebuttal statements by the railroads are due by June 1, 2015.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted either via the Board’s e-filing system or in the traditional paper format. Any person using e-filing should comply with the instructions at the E–FILING link on the Board’s Web site, http://www.stb.dot.gov. Any person submitting a filing in the traditional paper format should send an original and 10 copies to: Surface Transportation Board, Attn: Docket No. EP 558 (Sub-No. 18), 395 E Street SW., Washington, DC 20423–0001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jeffrey Herzig, Clearance Clerk.

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Departmental Offices; Submission for OMB Review, Comment Request

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury, on behalf of itself and the United States Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) and as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on a new proposed information collection, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). The BEP has requested and received approval for a generic clearance to conduct conference studies and focus groups. This generic clearance has allowed the BEP to collect information from attendees of conferences and gatherings for persons who are blind and visually impaired about which tactile features most effectively provide meaningful access to denominate United States paper currency. BEP is now considering a series of scientific studies that will help gauge the acuity with which blind and visually impaired persons can denominate United States paper currency using various tactile features.