DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket No. FRA 2016–0002–N–17]

Proposed Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request

AGENCY: Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) and its implementing regulations, FRA seeks approval of the proposed information collection activities described below. Before submitting the proposed information collection requests (ICRs) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for approval, FRA is soliciting public comment on specific aspects of the activities, which are identified in this notice.

DATES: Comments must be received no later than November 22, 2016.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments on any or all of the proposed activities by mail to either: Mr. Robert Brogan, Information Collection Clearance Officer, Office of Railroad Safety, Regulatory Analysis Division, RRS–21, Federal Railroad Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Mail Stop 25, Washington, DC 20590; or Ms. Kim Toone, Information Collection Clearance Officer, Office of Information Technology, RAD–20, Federal Railroad Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Mail Stop 35, Washington, DC 20590. Commenters requesting FRA to acknowledge receipt of their respective comments must include a self-addressed stamped postcard stating, “Comments on OMB Control Number 2130–XXXX,” and should also include the title of the collection of information. Alternatively, comments may be faxed to (202) 493–6216 or (202) 493–6497, or emailed to Mr. Brogan at Robert.Brogan@dot.gov, or to Ms. Toone at Kim.Toone@dot.gov. Please refer to the assigned OMB control number in any correspondence submitted. FRA will summarize comments received in response to this notice in a subsequent notice and include them in its information collection submission to OMB for approval.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Robert Brogan, Information Collection Clearance Officer, Office of Railroad Safety, Regulatory Analysis Division, RRS–21, Federal Railroad Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Mail Stop 25, Washington, DC 20590 (telephone: (202) 493–6292) or Ms. Kim Toone, Information Collection Clearance Officer, Office of Information Technology, RAD–20, Federal Railroad Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Mail Stop 35, Washington, DC 20590 (telephone: (202) 493–6132). (These telephone numbers are not toll free.)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The PRA, 44 U.S.C. 3501–3520, and its implementing regulations, 5 CFR part 1320, require Federal agencies to provide 60 days’ notice to the public to allow comment on information collection activities before seeking OMB approval to implement them. 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A); 5 CFR 1320.8(d)(1), 1320.10(e)(1), 1320.12(a). Specifically, FRA invites interested respondents to comment on the following summary of proposed information collection activities regarding: (1) Whether the information collection activities are necessary for FRA to properly execute its functions, including whether the activities will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of FRA’s estimates of the burden of the information collection activities, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used to determine the estimates; (3) ways for FRA to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information being collected; and (4) ways for FRA to minimize the burden of information collection activities on the public by automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology (e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses). See 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A), 5 CFR 1320.8(d)(1).

FRA believes soliciting public comment will promote its efforts to reduce the administrative and paperwork burdens associated with the collection of information Federal regulations mandate. In summary, FRA reasons that comments received will advance three objectives: (1) Reduce reporting burdens; (2) organize information collection requirements in a “user-friendly” format to improve the use of such information; and (3) accurately assess the resources expended to retrieve and produce information requested. See 44 U.S.C. 3501.

Below is a brief summary of the proposed ICRs that FRA will submit for OMB clearance as the FRA requires:

Title: Remotely Controlled Switch Operations.

OMB Control Number: 2130–0516.

Abstract: Upon notification of work to be performed on a track a remotely controlled switch provides access to, 49 CFR 218.30 and 218.77, require remotely controlled switch operators to ensure the switches are properly lined to protect workers vulnerable to being struck by moving cars as they inspect or service rolling equipment on the track or occupy camp cars on the track. FRA believes the required notifications promote safety by minimizing mental lapses of workers who are simultaneously handling several tasks. Sections 218.30 and 218.77 require operators of remotely controlled switches to maintain a record of each notification requesting Blue Signal Protection for 15 days. Operators of remotely controlled switches use the information as a record documenting Blue Signal Protection of workers or camp cars. This record also serves as a valuable resource for railroad supervisors and FRA inspectors monitoring regulatory compliance.

Type of Request: Extension of a currently approved collection.
## REPORTING BURDEN

### 218.30—Blue signal protection of workmen

<table>
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<tr>
<th>CFR section</th>
<th>Respondent universe</th>
<th>Total annual responses</th>
<th>Average time per response</th>
<th>Total annual burden hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>218.30</td>
<td>70 railroads</td>
<td>3,600,000 notifications</td>
<td>1 minute</td>
<td>60,000</td>
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<td>218.77</td>
<td>1 railroad</td>
<td>575 notifications</td>
<td>1 minute</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Estimated Responses: 3,600,575.
Total Estimated Annual Burden: 60,010 hours.

**Status:** Regular Review.
**Title:** Bad Order and Home Shop Card.
**OMB Control Number:** 2130–0519.
**Abstract:** Under 49 CFR part 215, railroads are required to inspect freight cars placed in service and take remedial action when defects are identified. Part 215 defects have a history of causing accidents or incidents by being inadvertently left in service when not properly tagged. A railroad freight car with a part 215 defect may be moved to another location for repair only after the railroad has complied with the process under 49 CFR 215.9. Section 215.9 requires railroads to affix a “bad order” tag describing each defect to each side of the freight car. It is imperative that a defective freight car be tagged “bad order” so it can be readily identified and moved to another location for repair purposes only. At the repair location, the “bad order” tag serves as a notification of the defective condition of the freight car. Railroads must retain each tag for 90 days to verify proper repairs were made at the designated location. When inspecting a freight car, FRA and State inspectors review all pertinent records to determine railroads’ compliance with the movement restrictions of 49 CFR 215.9.

**Type of Request:** Extension of a currently approved collection.
**Affected Public:** Businesses.
**Form Number(s):** N/A.
**Frequency of Submission:** On occasion.
**Respondent Universe:** 763 railroads.

### 215.9—Movement of Defective Cars for Repairs—Tagging, Notifications of Removal of Defective Car Tags

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CFR section</th>
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<th>Average time per response</th>
<th>Total annual burden hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>215.9</td>
<td>763 railroads</td>
<td>150,000 tags</td>
<td>5 minutes</td>
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<td>215.11</td>
<td>763 railroads</td>
<td>75,000 notifications</td>
<td>2 minutes</td>
<td>2,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>215.11</td>
<td>763 railroads</td>
<td>45,000 records</td>
<td>1 minute</td>
<td>750</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Estimated Responses: 270,000.
Total Estimated Annual Burden: 15,750 hours.

**Status:** Regular Review.
**Title:** Bad Order and Home Shop Card.
**OMB Control Number:** 2130–0520.
**Abstract:** 49 CFR 215.301 sets forth certain requirements for the stencilling of freight cars. Section 215.301 requires railroads and private car owners to stencil or otherwise display identification marks on railroad equipment.

**Type of Request:** Extension of a currently approved collection.
**Affected Public:** Businesses.
**Form Number(s):** N/A.
**Frequency of Submission:** On occasion.
**Respondent Universe:** 763 railroads.

### 234.109—Record Keeping

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CFR section</th>
<th>Respondent universe</th>
<th>Total annual responses</th>
<th>Average time per response</th>
<th>Total annual burden hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>234.109</td>
<td>728 railroads</td>
<td>12,000 records</td>
<td>10 minutes</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Frequency of Submission:** On occasion.
**Respondent Universe:** 728 railroads.
**Crossing Warning System Failure—When a Train’s Arrival at the Crossing Occurs at Least 20 Seconds After the Crossing Warning System Fails to Indicate the Arrival of a Train**

**Affected Public:** Businesses.
**Form Number(s):** FRA F 6180.83.
**Frequency of Submission:** On occasion; record keeping.
**Respondent Universe:** 728 railroads.

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**Affected Public:** Businesses.
**Form Number(s):** N/A.
**Frequency of Submission:** On occasion.
Summary: Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), this notice announces that FRA is forwarding the new Information Collection Request (ICR) abstracted below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The ICR describes the information collection and its expected burden. On June 3, 2016, FRA published a notice providing a 60-day period for public comment on the ICR.

Dates: Comments must be submitted on or before October 24, 2016.

For Further Information Contact: Mr. Robert Brogan, Information Collection Clearance Officer, Office of Railroad Safety, Regulatory Analysis Division, RR–21, Federal Railroad Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Mail Stop 25, Washington, DC 20590 (Telephone: (202) 493–6292); or Ms. Kim Toone, Information Collection Clearance Officer, Office of Information Technology, RAD–20, Federal Railroad Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Mail Stop 35, Washington, DC 20590 (Telephone: (202) 493–6132). (These telephone numbers are not toll free.)

Supplementary Information: The PRA, 44 U.S.C. 3501–3520, and its implementing regulations, 5 CFR part 1320, require Federal agencies to issue two notices seeking public comment on information collection activities before OMB may approve paperwork packages. 44 U.S.C. 3507, 5 CFR 1320.5, 1320.8(d)(1), and 1320.12. On June 3, 2016, FRA published a 60-day notice in the Federal Register soliciting comment on the ICR for which it is now seeking OMB approval. See 81 FR 35814. FRA received no comments in response to this notice.

Before OMB decides whether to approve these proposed collections of information, it must provide 30 days for public comment. 44 U.S.C. 3507(b); 5 CFR 1320.12(d). Federal law requires OMB to approve or disapprove paperwork packages between 30 and 60 days after the 30-day notice is published. 44 U.S.C. 3507(b); see also 60 FR 44978, 44983, Aug. 29, 1995. OMB believes the 30-day notice informs the regulated community to file relevant comments and affords the agency adequate time to digest public comments before it renders a decision. 60 FR 44983, Aug. 29, 1995. Therefore, respondents should submit their respective comments to OMB within 30 days of publication to best ensure having their full effect. 5 CFR 1320.12(c); see also 60 FR 44983, Aug. 29, 1995.

The summary below describes the ICR and its expected burden. FRA is submitting the new request for clearance by OMB as the PRA requires.

Title: Survey of Plant and Insular Tourist Railroads Subject to FRA Bridge Safety Standards (49 CFR part 237).

OMB Control Number: 2130–New.

Abstract: FRA’s Bridge Safety Standards (49 CFR part 237) require all owners of railroad track with a gage of 2 feet or more supported by a bridge to comply with the regulations. This includes track owners with bridges located within an industrial installation (plant) that is not part of the general railroad system of transportation (general system), but over which railroad equipment is moved by a general system railroad. To identify track owners subject to the requirements of part 237, Bridge Safety Standards, FRA relies on the railroad accident/incident reports that FRA regulations (49 CFR part 225, Railroad Accidents/Incidents: Reports Classification, and Investigations) require railroads to file monthly. However, plant railroads and insular tourist railroads are exempt from 49 CFR part 225 reporting requirements.

Under the ICR, FRA would request any railroad serving a plant and moving railroad equipment over bridges within the plant, or the plant itself, to advise FRA by email that there are railroad bridges within the installation potentially subject to FRA Bridge Safety Standards. FRA would also request insular tourist railroads, whose tracks are supported by one or more bridges, to advise FRA by email about these bridges. The email notifications should include the name of the installation or insular tourist railroad, address, including city and State, contact name, telephone number, and email address. This survey will be ongoing with initial approval requested for 3 years.

FRA desires to identify plant and insular tourist railroads that may be subject to part 237 requirements, but are exempt from part 225 reporting requirements, to analyze the risks these entities may pose to railroad bridge safety and to aid in planning bridge safety oversight activities and allocating resources.

Type of Request: Approval of a new information collection.

Affected Public: Freight railroads, industrial installations (plants), insular tourist railroads.

Form(s): N/A.


Total Estimated Annual Burden: 53 hours.

Addressee: Send comments regarding these information collections to the