

increasing the capacity and independence of the judiciary and the Office of the Attorney General;

- Implement a policy to ensure that local communities, civil society organizations (including indigenous and other marginalized groups), private sector, faith-based organizations, and local governments are consulted in the design and participate in the implementation and evaluation of activities of the Plan that affect such communities, organizations, and governments;

- Counter the activities of criminal gangs, drug traffickers, and organized crime;

- Investigate and prosecute in the civilian justice system government personnel, including military and police personnel, who are credibly alleged to have violated human rights and to ensure that such personnel are cooperating in such cases;

- Cooperate with commissions against corruption and impunity and with regional human rights entities;

- Support programs to reduce poverty, expand education and vocational training for at-risk youth, create jobs, and promote equitable economic growth particularly in areas contributing to large numbers of migrants;

- Implement a plan that includes goals, benchmarks, and timelines to create a professional, accountable civilian police force and end the role of the military in internal policing, and to make such plan available to the Department of State;

- Protect the rights of all citizens, including protection of freedom of the press;

- Increase government efficiencies, including implementing tax reforms and strengthening customs agencies to promote a more stable economy and job creation;

- Resolve commercial disputes, including the confiscation of real property, between U.S. entities and such government.

This certification shall be published in the **Federal Register** and, along with the accompanying Memorandum of Justification, shall be reported to Congress.

Dated: June 28, 2018.

Michael R. Pompeo,
Secretary of State.

[FR Doc. 2018-14614 Filed 7-5-18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-29-P

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

[Docket No. FD 36204]

Cairo Public Utility Company— Acquisition and Operation Exemption—Rail Line of Alabama Railroad Co., Inc., d/b/a Shawnee Terminal Railroad Co.

Cairo Public Utility Company (CPUC), a non-carrier, has filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1150.31 to acquire and operate 2.5 miles of rail lines owned by Alabama Railroad Co., Inc. d/b/a Shawnee Terminal Railway Co. (STR), between milepost 256.9 and milepost 259.4 in or near Cairo, in Alexander County, Ill. (the Line).

CPUC states that it has reached an agreement with STR for CPUC to acquire the Line. CPUC further states that the acquisition is part of a long-term goal of creating a transload facility along the Mississippi River. According to CPUC, the proposed acquisition and operation of the Line does not involve a provision or agreement that would limit future interchange with a third-party connecting carrier.

CPUC certifies that the proposed transaction will not result in CPUC becoming a Class II or Class I rail carrier and that the projected annual revenue of CPUC will not exceed \$5 million.

CPUC states that the transaction is scheduled to be consummated on or before September 15, 2018. The earliest this transaction may be consummated is July 20, 2018, the effective date of the exemption (30 days after the verified notice was filed).

If the verified 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 no later than July 13, 2018 (at least seven days before the exemption becomes effective).

An original and 10 copies of all pleadings, referring to Docket No. 36204, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, one copy of each pleading must be served on Richard H. Streeter, Law Office of Richard H. Streeter, 5255 Partridge Lane NW, Washington, DC 20016.

According to CPUC, this action is categorically excluded from environmental review under 49 CFR 1105.6(c) and from historic reporting requirements under 49 CFR 1105.8(b).

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Decided: June 29, 2018.

By the Board, Scott M. Zimmerman,
Acting Director, Office of Proceedings.

Brendetta Jones,
Clearance Clerk.

[FR Doc. 2018-14470 Filed 7-5-18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-01-P

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

[Docket Number USTR-2018-0022]

Annual Review of Country Eligibility for Benefits Under the African Growth and Opportunity Act

AGENCY: Office of the United States Trade Representative.

ACTION: Notice of initiation of review, public hearing, and request for comments.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the initiation of the annual review of the eligibility of the sub-Saharan African countries to receive the benefits of the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA). The AGOA Implementation Subcommittee of the Trade Policy Staff Committee (Subcommittee) is developing recommendations for the President on AGOA country eligibility for calendar year 2019. The Subcommittee is requesting written public comments for this review and will conduct a public hearing on this matter. The Subcommittee will consider the written comments, written testimony, and oral testimony in developing recommendations for the President. Comments received related to the child labor criteria also may be considered by the Secretary of Labor in the preparation of the U.S. Department of Labor's report on child labor as required under the Trade Act of 1974. This notice identifies the eligibility criteria that must be considered under AGOA, and lists those sub-Saharan African countries that are currently eligible for the benefits of AGOA and those that were ineligible for such benefits in 2018.

DATES:

August 1, 2018: Deadline for filing requests to appear at the August 16, 2018 public hearing, and for filing pre-hearing briefs, statements, or comments on sub-Saharan African countries' AGOA eligibility.

August 16, 2018: The Subcommittee will convene a public hearing on AGOA country eligibility.