

20423–0001, or to PRA@stb.gov. When submitting comments, please refer to “Paperwork Reduction Act Comments, Report of Fuel Cost, Consumption, and Surcharge Revenue.” For further information regarding this collection, contact Mike Higgins at (866) 254–1792 (toll-free) or 202–245–0238, or by emailing rcpa@stb.gov. Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1–800–877–8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Comments are requested concerning: (1) the accuracy of the Board’s burden estimates; (2) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; (3) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology, when appropriate; and (4) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Board, including whether the collection has practical utility. Submitted comments will be summarized and included in the Board’s request for OMB approval.

Description of Collection

Title: Report of Fuel Cost, Consumption, and Surcharge Revenue.

OMB Control Number: 2140–0014.

STB Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Extension without change.

Respondents: Class I [large] railroads.

Number of Respondents: Six.

Estimated Time per Response: One hour.

Frequency: Quarterly.

Total Burden Hours (annually including all respondents): 24.

Total “Non-Hour Burden” Cost: None identified. Filings are submitted electronically to the Board.

Needs and Uses: Under 49 U.S.C. 10702, the Board has the authority to address the reasonableness of a rail carrier’s practices. This information collection permits the Board to monitor the current fuel surcharge practices of the Class I carriers. Failure to collect this information would impede the Board’s ability to fulfill its statutory responsibilities. The Board has authority to collect information about rail costs and revenues under 49 U.S.C. 11144 and 11145.

The Board makes this submission because, under the PRA, a federal agency that conducts or sponsors a collection of information must display a currently valid OMB control number. A collection of information, which is defined in 44 U.S.C. 3502(3) and 5 CFR

1320.3(c), includes agency requirements that persons submit reports, keep records, or provide information to the agency, third parties, or the public. Under 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A), federal agencies are required to provide, prior to an agency’s submitting a collection to OMB for approval, a 60-day notice and comment period through publication in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of an existing collection of information.

Dated: June 10, 2026.

Regena Smith-Bernard,

Clearance Clerk.

[FR Doc. 2026–11894 Filed 6–11–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915–01–P

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

60-Day Notice of Intent To Seek Extension of Approval of Collection: Rail Depreciation Studies

AGENCY: Surface Transportation Board.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: As required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), the Surface Transportation Board (STB or Board) gives notice of its intent to seek approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for an extension of the collection of Rail Depreciation Studies, described below.

DATES: Comments on this information collection should be submitted by August 11, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Direct all comments to Chris Oehrle, PRA Officer, Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20423–0001, or to PRA@stb.gov. When submitting comments, please refer to “Paperwork Reduction Act Comments, Rail Depreciation Studies.” For further information regarding this collection, contact Pedro Ramirez at (202) 245–0333 or pedro.ramirez@stb.gov. Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877–8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Comments are requested concerning each collection as to (1) whether the particular collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Board, including whether the collection has practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the Board’s burden estimates; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on the respondents,

including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology, when appropriate. Submitted comments will be included and summarized in the Board’s request for OMB approval.

Subjects: In this notice, the Board is requesting comments on the extension of the following information collection:

Description of Collection

Title: Rail Depreciation Studies.

OMB Control Number: 2140–0028.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Extension without change.

Respondents: Class I railroads.

Number of Respondents: Six.

Estimated Time per Response:

Approximately 250 hours per study (estimating that studies will require between 125 hours and 375 hours depending on the extent to which the carrier provides assistance to outside consultants performing the study for them.)

Frequency of Response: Bi-annual. (Under 49 CFR part 1201, §§ 4–1 to 4–4, the Board requires all Class I (large) carriers to submit depreciation studies no less than every three years for equipment property and every six years for road property. That means that for any given six-year period, the Class I railroads must submit no less than three depreciation reports, or the equivalent of 0.5 depreciation reports per year.)

Total Annual Hour Burden: 750 hours (250 hours × 0.5 studies/year × 6 Class I railroads).

Total Annual “Non-Hour Burden”

Cost: Approximately \$180,000 per year. Board staff estimates that each study will cost between \$20,000 and \$100,000, which equals a cost of approximately \$10,000–\$50,000 per year. Using an average cost (\$30,000 per year × 6 Class I railroads), the non-hour burden cost is estimated to be approximately \$180,000 per year.

Needs and Uses: Under 49 CFR part 1201, §§ 4–1 to 4–4, the Board is required to identify those classes of property for which rail carriers may include depreciation charges under operating expenses, and the Board must also prescribe a rate of depreciation that may be charged to those classes of property. Under 49 U.S.C. 11145, Class I rail carriers are required to submit Depreciation Studies to the Board. Information in these studies is not available from any other source. The Board uses the information in these studies to prescribe depreciation rates. These depreciation rate prescriptions state the period for which the depreciation rates therein are applicable. Class I railroads apply the

prescribed depreciation rates to their investment base to determine monthly and annual depreciation expense. This expense is included in the railroads' operating expenses, which are reported in their R-1 reports (OMB Control Number 2140-0009). Operating expenses are used to develop operating costs for application in various proceedings before the Board, such as in rate reasonableness cases and in the determination of railroad "revenue adequacy."

Under the PRA, a federal agency that conducts or sponsors a collection of information must display a currently valid OMB control number. A collection of information, which is defined in 44 U.S.C. 3502(3) and 5 CFR 1320.3(c), includes agency requirements that persons submit reports, keep records, or provide information to the agency, third parties, or the public. Under 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A), federal agencies are required to provide, prior to an agency's submitting a collection to OMB for approval, a 60-day notice and comment period through publication in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of an existing collection of information.

Information from certain schedules contained in these reports is available at the Board's website at www.stb.gov by navigating to "Reports & Data" and clicking on "Economic Data." Information in these reports is not available from any other source.

Dated: June 10, 2026.

Jeffrey Herzig,
Clearance Clerk.

[FR Doc. 2026-11903 Filed 6-11-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-01-P

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

[Docket No. FD 36938]

Delaware and South Branch Railroad, LLC—Lease and Change of Operator Exemption—Black River & Western Corp. d/b/a Black River & Western Railroad, and Belvidere & Delaware River Railway Company, Inc.

Delaware and South Branch Railroad, LLC (DSBR), a noncarrier, has filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1150.31 to lease from Black River & Western Corp. d/b/a Black River & Western Railroad (BRW), and Belvidere & Delaware River Railway Company, Inc. (BDR), and operate approximately 31.91 miles of rail line: (1) a 16.2-mile BRW rail line from milepost 0.0 at Lambertville, N.J., to milepost 16.2 at the connection with Norfolk Southern

Railway Company at Three Bridges, N.J.; and (2) an approximately 15.71-mile BDR rail line from milepost 50.6 at Philippsburg, N.J., to milepost 34.89 at Alexandria Creek, N.J. (the Line).¹

BDR currently leases and operates an approximately 10-mile portion of the Line from milepost 6.2 at Ringoes, N.J., to milepost 16.2 at Three Bridges (the Three Bridges Segment). According to the verified notice, DSBR, BRW and BDR have reached an agreement pursuant to which DSBR will lease and operate the Line, including replacing BDR as the lessee and operator on the Three Bridges Segment. The verified notice states that BDR will cease all common carrier operations on the Line upon DSBR's assumption of the leasehold operations. This transaction is related to a concurrently filed verified notice of exemption in Kean Burenga & Chesapeake & Delaware, LLC—Continuance in Control Exemption—Delaware & South Branch Railroad, LLC, Docket No. FD 36939, in which Kean Burenga and Chesapeake and Delaware, LLC, seek to continue in control of DSBR upon DSBR's becoming a Class III rail carrier.

DSBR certifies that its projected annual revenues from this transaction will not result in its becoming a Class I or Class II rail carrier and are not expected to exceed \$5 million. DSBR also certifies that the transaction does not involve any provision or agreement that may limit future interchange with a third-party connecting carrier.

Under 49 CFR 1150.32(b), a change in operator requires that notice be given to shippers. DSBR certifies that it has notified all customers on the Three Bridges Segment of the proposed change in operator.

The transaction may be consummated on or after June 28, 2026, 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 by June 18, 2026 (at least seven days before the exemption becomes effective).

All pleadings, referring to Docket No. FD 36938, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board either via e-filing on the Board's website or in writing addressed to 395 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, a copy of each pleading must

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be served on DSBR's representative, Robert A. Wimbish, Fletcher & Sippel LLC, 29 North Wacker Drive, Suite 800, Chicago, IL 60606-3208.

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

Board decisions and notices are available at www.stb.gov.

Decided: June 9, 2026.

By the Board, Anika S. Cooper, Chief Counsel, Office of Chief Counsel.

Stefan Rice,
Clearance Clerk.

[FR Doc. 2026-11833 Filed 6-11-26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-01-P

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

60-Day Notice of Intent To Seek Extension of Approval of Collection: Arbitration "Opt-In" Notices

AGENCY: Surface Transportation Board.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: As required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), the Surface Transportation Board (STB or Board) gives notice of its intent to seek approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for an extension of the collection of Arbitration "Opt-in" Notices, described below.

DATES: Comments on this information collection should be submitted by August 11, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Direct all comments to Chris Oehrle, PRA Officer, Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20423-0001, or to PRA@stb.gov. When submitting comments, please refer to "Paperwork Reduction Act Comments, Arbitration 'Opt-In' Notices." For further information regarding this collection, contact Mike Higgins at (866) 254-1792 (toll-free) or 202-245-0238, or by emailing rcpa@stb.gov. Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Comments are requested concerning each collection as to (1) whether the particular collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Board, including whether the collection has practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the Board's burden estimates; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and (4) ways to