

Washington, DC 20590-0001. Communications received within 45 days of the date of this notice will be considered by FRA before final action is taken. Comments received after that date will be considered as far as practicable. All written communications concerning these proceedings are available for examination during regular business hours (9 a.m.–5 p.m.) at the above facility. All documents in the public docket are also available for inspection and copying on the Internet at the docket facility's Web site at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

Issued in Washington, DC on February 13, 2003.

Grady C. Cothen, Jr.,

Deputy Associate Administrator for Safety Standards and Program Development.

[FR Doc. 03-3986 Filed 2-18-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-06-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Maritime Administration

Reports, Forms and Recordkeeping Requirements; Agency Information Collection Activity Under OMB Review

AGENCY: Maritime Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this notice announces that the Information Collection abstracted below has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval. The nature of the information collection is described as well as its expected burden. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on the following collection of information was published on October 29, 2002. No comments were received.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before March 21, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rita C. Jackson, Maritime Administration, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590. Telephone: 202-366-5755; FAX: 202-493-2288, or E-MAIL: rita.jackson@marad.dot.gov. Copies of this collection can also be obtained from that office.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Maritime Administration (MARAD).

Title: Service Obligation Compliance Report.

OMB Control Number: 2133-0509.

Type of Request: Extension of currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Every student and graduate of the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy and every subsidized State maritime academy student.

Form(s): MA-930.

Abstract: The Maritime Education and Training Act of 1980, imposes a service obligation on every graduate of the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy and every subsidized State maritime academy graduate who received a student incentive payment. This mandatory service obligation is for the Federal financial assistance the graduate received as a student and requires the graduate to maintain a license as an officer in the merchant marine and to report on reserve status, training, and employment for applicable periods.

Annual Estimated Burden Hours: 1150 hours.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20503, Attention MARAD Desk Officer.

Comments Are Invited On: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

A comment to OMB is best assured of having its full effect if OMB receives it within 30 days of publication.

Issued in Washington, DC on February 10, 2003.

Joel C. Richard,

Secretary, Maritime Administration.

[FR Doc. 03-3918 Filed 2-18-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-81-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 34311]

United States Steel Corporation— Acquisition of Control Exemption— Delray Connecting Railroad Company

United States Steel Corporation (U.S. Steel), a noncarrier, has filed a notice of exemption to acquire control, through stock purchase, of Delray Connecting Railroad Company (Delray), a Class III

railroad and a wholly owned subsidiary of National Steel Corporation (National Steel).¹

U.S. Steel owns 100% of Transtar, Inc. (Transtar), a noncarrier holding company and, through that ownership, indirectly owns and controls one Class II and four Class III railroads.²

The transaction is expected to be consummated early in the second quarter of 2003.

U.S. Steel states that: (i) The railroads (Delray and the Transtar Railroads) do not connect; (ii) the transaction is not part of a series of anticipated transactions that would connect these railroads with each other or any railroad in their corporate family; and (iii) the transaction does not involve a Class I carrier. Therefore, the transaction is exempt from the prior approval requirements of 49 U.S.C. 11323. *See* 49 CFR 1180.2(d)(2).

Under 49 U.S.C. 10502(g), the Board may not use its exemption authority to relieve a rail carrier of its statutory obligation to protect the interests of its employees. Because U.S. Steel already controls one Class II and four Class III railroads by virtue of its control of Transtar, this grant will be made subject to the labor protection requirements of 49 U.S.C. 11326(b).

If the 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 transaction.

An original and 10 copies of all pleadings, referring to STB Finance Docket No. 34311, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on Richard J.

¹ On March 6, 2002, National Steel and several of its subsidiaries filed voluntary petitions for reorganization under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code in the United States Bankruptcy Court in the Northern District of Illinois (Case 02-08699). Delray did not file a bankruptcy petition and is not a party to the National Steel bankruptcy proceeding. On January 9, 2003, U.S. Steel announced execution of an Asset Purchase Agreement with National Steel and 12 subsidiaries involving U.S. Steel's acquisition of substantially all of their steelmaking and finishing assets.

² The "Transtar Railroads" are: Birmingham Southern Railroad Company, Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railway Company (the Class II railroad), The Lake Terminal Railroad Company, McKeesport Connecting Railroad Company, and Union Railroad Company. Common control of these railroads by U.S. Steel (formerly USX Corporation) was authorized by the Board in *USX Corporation—Control Exemption—Transtar, Inc.*, STB Finance Docket No. 33942 (STB served Nov. 30, 2000) and in *Transtar Holdings, L.P.—Corporate Family Exemption—Transtar, Inc.*, STB Finance Docket No. 32411 (STB served Dec. 29, 1993).