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Decided: November 12, 1998.

By the Board, David M. Konschnik, Director, Office of Proceedings.

Vernon A. Williams,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-30983 Filed 11-18-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 129X)]

Union Pacific Railroad Company— Abandonment Exemption—in Dallas and Guthrie Counties, IA (Perry Branch and Yale Spur)

On October 30, 1998, Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP) filed with the Surface Transportation Board (Board) a petition under 49 U.S.C. 10502 for exemption from the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 10903 to abandon 11.4 miles of continuous lines of railroad known as the Perry Branch and the Yale Spur, extending: (1) from milepost 369.0 near Dawson to the end of the line at milepost 374.2 near Herndon (the Perry Branch); and (2) from milepost 54.3 at Herndon to the end of the line at milepost 48.1 at Yale (the Yale Spur) (collectively, the Line), in Dallas and Guthrie Counties, IA. The Line traverses U. S. Postal Service Zip Codes 50066 (Dawson), 50128 (Jamaica and Herndon), and 50277 (Yale), and includes the rail stations of Herndon at mileposts 374.2 and 54.3 and Yale at milepost 49.0.

The Line does not contain federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in UP's possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it.

The interest of railroad employees will be protected by the conditions set forth in *Oregon Short Line R. Co.—Abandonment—Goshen*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979).

By issuance of this notice, the Board is instituting an exemption proceeding pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 10502(b). A final decision will be issued by February 17, 1999.

Any offer of financial assistance (OFA) under 49 CFR 1152.27(b)(2) will be due no later than 10 days after service of a decision granting the petition for exemption. Each offer must be accompanied by a \$1,000 filing fee. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).

All interested persons should be aware that, following abandonment of rail service and salvage of the Line, the Line may be suitable for other public use, including interim trail use. Any request for a public use condition under 49 CFR 1152.28 or for trail use/rail banking under 49 CFR 1152.29 will be due no later than December 9, 1998. Each trail use request must be accompanied by a \$150 filing fee. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(27).

All filings in response to this notice must refer to STB Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 129X) and must be sent to: (1) Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20423-0001, and (2) Joseph D. Anthofer, Union Pacific Railroad Company, 1416 Dodge Street, Room 830, Omaha, NE 68179-0830. Replies to the UP petition are due on or before December 9, 1998.

Persons seeking further information concerning abandonment procedures may contact the Board's Office of Public Services at (202) 565-1592 or refer to the full abandonment or discontinuance regulations at 49 CFR part 1152. Questions concerning environmental issues may be directed to the Board's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) at (202) 565-1545. [TDD for the hearing impaired is available at (202) 565-1695.]

An environmental assessment (EA) (or environmental impact statement (EIS), if necessary) prepared by SEA will be served upon all parties of record and upon any agencies or other persons who commented during its preparation. Other interested persons may contact SEA to obtain a copy of the EA (or EIS). EAs in these abandonment proceedings normally will be made available within 60 days of the filing of the petition. The deadline for submission of comments on the EA will generally be within 30 days of its service.

Board decisions and notices are available on our website at "WWW.STB.DOT.GOV."

Decided: November 10, 1998.

By the Board, David M. Konschnik, Director, Office of Proceedings.

Vernon A. Williams,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-30653 Filed 11-18-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

November 13, 1998.

The Department of the Treasury has submitted the following public information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Pub. L. 104-13. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling the Treasury Bureau Clearance Officer listed. Comments regarding this information collection should be addressed to the OMB reviewer listed and to the Treasury Department Clearance Officer, Department of the Treasury, Room 2110, 1425 New York Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20220.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before December 21, 1998 to be assured of consideration.

Financial Management Service (FMS)

OMB Number: 1510-0004.

Form Number: FMS 285-A.

Type of Review: Extension.

Title: Schedule of Excess Risks.

Description: Listing of Excess Risks written or assumed by Treasury certified companies showing compliance with Treasury Regulations to assist Treasury in determining solvency of certified companies for the benefit of writing Federal surety bonds.

Respondents: Business or other for-profit.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 357.

Estimated Burden Hours Per Respondent: 20 hours.

Frequency of Response: Quarterly, Annually (applications when filed by company).

Estimated Total Reporting Burden: 7,140 hours.

OMB Number: 1510-0047.

Form Number: TFS 2211.

Type of Review: Extension.

Title: List of Data.

Description: Information is collected from insurance companies to provide Treasury with a basis for determining acceptability of insurance companies applying for a Certificate of Authority to write or reinsure Federal surety bonds.

Respondents: Business or other for-profit.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 25.

Estimated Burden Hours Per Respondent: 18 hours.

Frequency of Response: On occasion (applications when filed by company).

Estimated Total Reporting Burden: 450 hours.

OMB Number: 1510-0052.

Form Number: FMS 458 and FMS 459.

Type of Review: Extension.

Title: Financial Institution Agreement and Application Forms for Designation as a Treasury Tax and Loan Depository (FMS 458); and Resolution Authorizing the Financial Institution Agreement and Application for Designation as a Treasury Tax and Loan Depository (FMS 459).

Description: Financial institutions are required to complete an Agreement and Application to participate in the Federal Tax Deposit/Treasury Tax and Loan Programs. The approved application designates the depository as an authorized recipient of taxpayers' deposits for Federal taxes.

Respondents: Business or other for-profit.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 450.

Estimated Burden Hours Per Respondent: 30 minutes.

Frequency of Response: Other (once for duration of the authorization).

Estimated Total Reporting Burden: 225 hours.

Clearance Officer: Jacqueline R. Perry (301) 344-8577, Financial Management Service, 3361-L 75th Avenue, Landover, MD 20785.

OMB Reviewer: Alexander T. Hunt (202) 395-7860, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10202, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

Lois K. Holland,

Departmental Reports Management Officer.
[FR Doc. 98-30885 Filed 11-18-98; 8:45 am]
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Program Information

Overview

This program is part of a collaborative effort to support curriculum and faculty development at the American University in Kyrgyzstan (AUK). The program will award up to \$1,950,000 for a three year period for faculty development and administrative training for the American University in Kyrgyzstan. Approximately \$300,000 of the total program budget should be devoted to the administrative training component, and the rest should be devoted to the faculty development component and administrative costs. The grantee organization or organizations will be expected to assist AUK to develop its faculty and administrative capacity through a comprehensive program of exchange and support activities.

Objectives

The overall objective of this effort is to support the American University in Kyrgyzstan in adapting U.S. educational curricula and practices to meet educational needs in Kyrgyzstan, and in fostering respect for principles of academic integrity and excellence. This assistance program will be divided into two parts: a faculty development component and an administrative training component. The objective of the faculty development component is to carry out a comprehensive program of faculty and curriculum development for the American University in Kyrgyzstan, including collaboration on the general education program and support in the following targeted fields: Journalism/Communications, Economic, Psychology, Sociology, American Studies, International Relations/Political Sciences, and other fields as needed. Applicants should describe a program of support for the targeted disciplines as well as an overall view of support for AUK. Applicants are encouraged to undertake exchange activities within each discipline in cooperation with one U.S. college or university department in that discipline in order to ensure program continuity and to enhance the mutual understanding of the participants. The faculty development program may take the shape of a series of exchanges between a U.S. and an AUK department in each targeted field. The exchanges in the several targeted fields may all be concentrated in one U.S. college or university; they may be concentrated in institutions in the same U.S. region; or they may involve several individual departments in colleges and universities across the U.S. These exchanges should

provide participating AUK junior faculty with the possibility of earning the master's degree at a U.S. institution. Faculty exchange in a given discipline with a college department which does not offer the master's degree is allowable as long as appropriate arrangements can be made with another U.S. institution for study towards the master's degree where required. One small to medium sized institution of higher education may be designated as a model institution for AUK participants to consider as they adapt to the educational needs of Kyrgyzstan what they are learning in the U.S. The model institution should also participate in faculty development in one or more of the targeted disciplines and/or in administrative training for AUK. Site visits to the model institution by all AUK exchange participants in the U.S. are encouraged where feasible.

The objective of the administrative training component is to carry out a comprehensive program of administrative support and training for AUK. Proposals should plan for training and support in the following priority areas: admissions, registrar's office (including registration, records and scheduling), financial aid, finance, accounting and budgeting, and library collections. Proposals may also plan for support in the areas of academic advising, student services, public relations, institutional development, and other services as needed. The goal of the administrative training exchanges is to facilitate a mentoring program for AUK administrators with U.S. counterparts through a series of exchange visits that should include visits to Kyrgyzstan by U.S. administrators with practical experience in these activities. Proposals may coordinate the administrative training components with a program of research on international educational development.

USIA encourages applications from consortia of colleges and universities or from U.S. partnerships developed for the purposes of this grant, as well as from any single organization with the capacity to administer this program. If a lead U.S. institution in a consortium is responsible for submitting an application on behalf of a consortium, the application must document the lead school's stated authority to represent the consortium.

Guidelines

Participants

The project is designed for the following participants: faculty, administrators, staff and students at

UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY

Faculty Development and Administrative Training for the American University in Kyrgyzstan Program; Request for Proposals

SUMMARY: The Office of Academic Programs of the United States Information Agency's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs announces an open competition for an assistance award program. Public and private non-profit organizations meeting the provisions described in IRS regulation 26 CFR 1.501(c) may submit proposals to assist the American University in Kyrgyzstan (AUK) with faculty development and administrative training.