

relating to the above-named entity's activities in the United States.

Rebecca E. Gonzales,

*Director, Office of Foreign Missions,
Department of State.*

[FR Doc. 2024–20518 Filed 9–10–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4711–11–P

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice: 12528; No. 2024–03]

Determination Pursuant to the Foreign Missions Act

Pursuant to the authority vested in the Secretary of State under the Foreign Missions Act, 22 U.S.C. 4301, *et seq.* (“the Act”), and delegated pursuant to Department of State Delegation of Authority No. 214, dated September 20, 1994, I hereby determine that the representative offices and operations in the United States of Rossiya Segodnya, including their real property and personnel, are a foreign mission within the meaning of 22 U.S.C. 4302(a)(3).

Furthermore, I hereby determine it to be reasonably necessary to protect the interests of the United States to require the representative offices and operations in the United States of Rossiya Segodnya and its agents or employees acting on its behalf, to comply with the terms and conditions specified by the Department of State's Office of Foreign Missions relating to the above-named entity's activities in the United States.

Rebecca E. Gonzales,

*Director, Office of Foreign Missions,
Department of State.*

[FR Doc. 2024–20515 Filed 9–10–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4711–11–P

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

[Docket No. MCF 21121]

Student Transportation of America, Inc. et al.—Acquisition of Control—West Point Tours, Inc.

AGENCY: Surface Transportation Board.

ACTION: Notice tentatively approving and authorizing finance transaction.

SUMMARY: On August 12, 2024, Student Transportation of America, Inc. (STA), a noncarrier, and its parent entities (collectively, Applicants) filed an application seeking authority for STA to acquire all voting securities of West Point Tours, Inc. (WPT), a passenger motor carrier that holds operating authority issued by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA). The Board is tentatively approving and

authorizing the transaction, and, if no opposing comments are timely filed, this notice will be the final Board action.

DATES: Comments must be filed by October 28, 2024. If any comments are filed, Applicants may file a reply by November 12, 2024. If no opposing comments are filed by October 28, 2024, this notice shall be effective on October 29, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Comments, referring to Docket No. MCF 21121, may be filed with the Board either via e-filing on the Board's website or in writing addressed to: Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20423–0001. In addition, send one copy of comments to STA's representative: Mark J. Andrews, Clark Hill PLC, 1001 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Suite 1300 South, Washington, DC 20004.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brian O'Boyle at (202) 245–0364. If you require an accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act, please call (202) 245–0245.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: According to the application, STA is a New Jersey-based noncarrier that controls multiple passenger motor carriers that hold operating authorities issued by the FMCSA.¹ STA is a subsidiary of Student Transportation of America Holdings, Inc. (STA Holdings), a Delaware corporation and noncarrier. STA Holdings, in turn, is a subsidiary of Spinner US Acquireco, Inc. (Spinner),² also a Delaware corporation and noncarrier, which will remain under the majority ownership of Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec, a pension fund based in the Canadian province of Quebec. (Appl. 5.) Applicants state that the carriers STA controls primarily provide school bus transportation under contract with local school districts, a service that they state is covered by broad exemptions from FMCSA regulation. (*Id.* at 2.)³ According to Applicants, STA and its subsidiaries currently have approximately 23,000 employees, utilize an estimated 22,000 vehicles, and transport approximately 1.25 million students per day based on a 180-day school year. (Appl. 4.) Applicants state that while exempt

¹ Additional information about the carriers controlled by STA, including U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) numbers, motor carrier numbers, and USDOT safety fitness ratings, can be found in Exhibit B of the application.

² Further information about Spinner's corporate structure and ownership can be found in Exhibit A of the application.

³ See 49 U.S.C. 13506(a)(1) (exempting from both Department of Transportation and Board jurisdiction “a motor vehicle transporting only school children and teachers to or from school”).

school transportation accounts for approximately 97% of STA's approximately \$1.3 billion in annual revenues, remaining revenues are generated from use of its vehicles for charter and special operations not involving the transportation of students to and from schools. (*Id.* at 2, 4.)

According to the application, WPT is a New York state-based carrier that holds FMCSA operating authority as well as intrastate operating authorities in New York state and Pennsylvania. (*Id.* at 3.) Like STA's carrier subsidiaries, WPT primarily provides school bus transportation under contracts with local school districts. (*Id.* at 2–3.) WPT transports approximately 9,640 students per day during the school year, employs approximately 200 drivers, and has a fleet of 220 vehicles, consisting primarily of school buses but also approximately 15 motor coaches. (*Id.* at 4.) The application states that WPT generates annual revenues of approximately \$21 million, about 75% of which are derived from school-related transportation, with the remainder being derived from charter and special operations centered on the West Point Military Academy and nearby areas of the Hudson River Valley in New York state. (*Id.*) WPT's interstate motorcoach operations carry approximately 24,000 passengers annually. (*Id.*)

Pursuant to an agreement executed on July 17, 2024, STA will acquire all voting securities of WPT. (*Id.* at 2, 4.) Upon closing of the proposed transaction, WPT will become a direct subsidiary of STA. (*Id.* at 5.) STA and WPT expect to close the proposed acquisition in the fourth quarter of 2024. (*Id.* at 4.)

Under 49 U.S.C. 14303(b), the Board must approve and authorize a transaction that it finds consistent with the public interest, taking into consideration at least (1) the effect of the proposed transaction on the adequacy of transportation to the public, (2) the total fixed charges that result from the proposed transaction, and (3) the interest of affected carrier employees. Applicants have submitted the information required by 49 CFR 1182.2, including information to demonstrate that the proposed transaction is consistent with the public interest under 49 U.S.C. 14303(b), see 49 CFR 1182.2(a)(7), and a jurisdictional statement under 49 U.S.C. 14303(g) that the aggregate gross operating revenues of STA and WPT exceeded \$2 million during the 12-month period immediately preceding the filing of the application, see 49 CFR 1182.2(a)(5). (See Appl. 6–7.)

Applicants assert that the transaction is consistent with the public interest. Applicants state that STA's operating subsidiaries and WPT have contractual obligations to provide outsourced transportation services and a competitive incentive to maintain and improve existing services because doing so enhances their chances of success when new outsourcing opportunities arise or when existing contracts are re-competed. (*Id.*) According to Applicants, contract renewals in the school transportation sector often involve highly visible and intense negotiation processes between multiple bidders, governmental bodies, unions, political activists and other interested parties. (*Id.* at 6.) Thus, Applicants claim that STA will have "strong incentives to maintain high service levels in order to fend off competitive bids" from other bus transportation providers. (*Id.*) Applicants also note that STA's operating subsidiaries will face competition from school districts and local government entities that can provide bus transportation "in-house." (*Id.*)

With respect to fixed charges, Applicants state that there are no current plans to finance the proposed acquisition in a manner that would affect fixed charges payable by STA or its affiliates. (*Id.*) Applicants further note that funding for the transaction "will be drawn from STA's current credit facility, and WPT (like other STA subsidiaries) will become a co-obligor under that facility." (*Id.*)

Regarding the effect of the acquisition on current employees, Applicants state that it is highly unlikely that any employees of WPT would be adversely affected to any significant degree by the proposed transaction. (*Id.* at 7.) They again emphasize STA and WPT's contractual obligations and competitive incentives to maintain and improve existing services, and claim that STA and WPT "do not have, and rationally could not have, any intention of significantly reducing employment levels involving drivers, dispatchers or vehicle maintenance personnel" as a result of the acquisition. (*Id.*) Applicants further state that there is a "longstanding shortage of qualified drivers and maintenance personnel," and assert that STA continues to actively recruit additional employees. (*Id.*)

Based on Applicants' representations, the Board finds that the acquisition as proposed in the application is consistent with the public interest and should be tentatively approved and authorized. If any opposing comments are timely filed, these findings will be

deemed vacated, and, unless a final decision can be made on the record as developed, a procedural schedule will be adopted to reconsider the application. See 49 CFR 1182.6. If no opposing comments are filed by expiration of the comment period, this notice will take effect automatically and will be the final Board action.

This action is categorically excluded from environmental review under 49 CFR 1105.6(c).

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

It is ordered:

1. The proposed transaction is approved and authorized, subject to the filing of opposing comments.

2. If opposing comments are timely filed, the findings made in this notice will be deemed vacated.

3. This notice will be effective October 29, 2024, unless opposing comments are filed by October 28, 2024. If any comments are filed, Applicants may file a reply by November 12, 2024.

4. A copy of this notice will be served on: (1) the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590; (2) the U.S. Department of Justice, Antitrust Division, 10th Street & Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20530; and (3) the U.S. Department of Transportation, Office of the General Counsel, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590.

Decided: September 5, 2024.

By the Board, Board Members Fuchs, Hedlund, Primus, and Schultz.

Regena Smith-Bernard,

Clearance Clerk.

[FR Doc. 2024-20421 Filed 9-10-24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-01-P

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

Release of Waybill Data

The Surface Transportation Board has received a request from Page, Scrantom, Sprouse, Tucker & Ford, P.C on behalf of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia (WB24-45—9/4/24) for permission to use select data from the Board's 2022 unmasked Carload Waybill Samples. A copy of this request may be obtained from the Board's website under docket no. WB24-45.

The waybill sample contains confidential railroad and shipper data; therefore, if any parties object to these requests, they should file their objections with the Director of the Board's Office of Economics within 14 calendar days of the date of this notice.

The rules for release of waybill data are codified at 49 CFR 1244.9.

Contact: Alexander Dusenberry, (202) 245-0319.

Eden Besera,

Clearance Clerk.

[FR Doc. 2024-20424 Filed 9-10-24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-01-P

SUSQUEHANNA RIVER BASIN COMMISSION

Minor Modification Notice

AGENCY: Susquehanna River Basin Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice lists the minor modifications approved for previously approved projects by the Susquehanna River Basin Commission during the period set forth in **DATES**.

DATES: August 1-31, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Susquehanna River Basin Commission, 4423 North Front Street, Harrisburg, PA 17110-1788.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jason E. Oyler, General Counsel and Secretary to the Commission, telephone: (717) 238-0423, ext. 1312; fax (717) 238-2436; email: joyler@srbc.gov. Regular mail inquiries may be sent to the above address.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice lists previously approved projects, receiving approval of minor modification, described below, pursuant to 18 CFR 806.18 or to Commission Resolution Nos. 2013-11 and 2015-06, for the time period specified above.

1. Department of the Army—Carlisle Barracks Golf Course, Docket No. 20240622, North Middleton and Middlesex Townships, Cumberland County, Pa.; modification approval to adjust the approval term to align with another docket approval by the Commission; Approval Date: August 6, 2024.

Authority: Public Law 91-575, 84 Stat. 1509 *et seq.*, 18 CFR parts 806 and 808.

Dated: September 6, 2024.

Jason E. Oyler,

General Counsel and Secretary to the Commission.

[FR Doc. 2024-20579 Filed 9-10-24; 8:45 am]

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