

the Postal Service contends that each contract is in accordance with Order No. 86. The term of each contract is one year from the date the Postal Service notifies the customer that all necessary regulatory approvals have been received. Notice at 3.

In support of its Notice, the Postal Service filed four attachments as follows:

- Attachments 1A through 1F—redacted copies of the six contracts and applicable annexes;
- Attachments 2A through 2F—certified statements required by 39 CFR 3015.5(c)(2) for each contract;
- Attachment 3—a redacted copy of Governors' Decision No. 08-7 which establishes prices and classifications for GEPS contracts, a description of applicable GEPS contracts, formulas for prices, an analysis of the formulas, and certification of the Governors' vote; and
- Attachment 4—an application for non-public treatment of materials to maintain redacted portions of the contracts and supporting documents under seal.

The Notice advances reasons why the instant GEPS 3 contracts fit within the Mail Classification Schedule language for the GEPS 3 product. The Postal Service identifies customer-specific information and general contract terms that distinguish the instant contracts from the baseline GEPS 3 agreement. *Id.* at 4-5. It states that the differences, which include price variations based on updated costing information and volume commitments, do not alter the contracts' functional equivalency. *Id.* at 3-4. The Postal Service asserts that "[b]ecause the agreements incorporate the same cost attributes and methodology, the relevant characteristics of these six GEPS contracts are similar, if not the same, as the relevant characteristics of previously filed contracts." *Id.* at 4.

The Postal Service concludes that its filings demonstrate that each of the new GEPS 3 contracts complies with the requirements of 39 U.S.C. 3633 and is functionally equivalent to the baseline GEPS 3 contract. Therefore, it requests that the instant contracts be included within the GEPS 3 product. *Id.* at 5.

II. Notice of Filing

The Commission establishes Docket Nos. CP2011-20 through CP2011-25 for consideration of matters related to the contracts identified in the Postal Service's Notice.

These dockets are addressed on a consolidated basis for purposes of this order. Filings with respect to a particular contract should be filed in that docket.

Interested persons may submit comments on whether the Postal Service's contracts are consistent with the policies of 39 U.S.C. 3632, 3633, or 3642. Comments are due no later than October 28, 2010. The public portions of these filings can be accessed via the Commission's Web site (<http://www.prc.gov>).

The Commission appoints Paul L. Harrington to serve as Public Representative in the captioned proceedings.

III. Ordering Paragraphs

It is ordered:

1. The Commission establishes Docket Nos. CP2011-20 through CP2011-25 for consideration of matters raised by the Postal Service's Notice.

2. Comments by interested persons in these proceedings are due no later than October 28, 2010.

3. Pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 505, Paul L. Harrington is appointed to serve as the officer of the Commission (Public Representative) to represent the interests of the general public in these proceedings.

4. The Secretary shall arrange for publication of this Order in the **Federal Register**.

By the Commission.

Shoshana M. Grove,
Secretary.

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POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. RM2010-14; Order No. 550]

Periodic Reporting Rules

AGENCY: Postal Regulatory Commission.
ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice addresses the Postal Service request for semi-permanent exceptions to certain recently-adopted service performance measurement reporting requirements.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments electronically via the Commission's Filing Online system. Commenters who cannot submit filings electronically should contact the person identified in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section for advice on alternatives.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stephen L. Sharfman, General Counsel, stephen.sharfman@prc.gov or 202-789-6820.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On September 30, 2010, the Postal Service filed a request for a semi-permanent exception from periodic reporting of service performance measurement for

Applications and Mailing Permits, pursuant to Commission Order No. 465 and 39 CFR 3055.3.¹

Rule 3055.3 provides the Postal Service an opportunity to request that a product, or component of a product, be excluded from service performance measurement reporting upon demonstration that:

1. The cost of implementing a measurement system would be prohibitive in relation to the revenue generated by the product, or component of a product;
2. The product, or component of a product, defies meaningful measurement; or
3. The product, or component of a product, is in the form of a negotiated service agreement with substantially all components of the agreement included in the measurement of other products.

The Postal Service explains that Applications and Mailing Permits comprise nothing more than a transaction intended to establish or renew permission to enter bulk mailings. The Postal Service contends that this service defies meaningful measurement and falls within the 39 CFR 3055(a)(2) exception from reporting of service performance measurements. Request at 3.

The Commission establishes Docket No. RM2010-14 for consideration of matters related to the proposed semi-permanent exception from periodic reporting of service performance measurement identified in the Postal Service's Request.

Interested persons may submit comments on whether the Postal Service's Request is consistent with the policies of 39 U.S.C. 3652(a)(2) and 39 CFR 3055.3.² Comments are due no later than October 15, 2010. The Postal Service's Request can be accessed via the Commission's Web site (<http://www.prc.gov>).

The Commission appoints Katrina Martinez to serve as Public Representative in the captioned proceedings.

It is ordered:

1. The Commission establishes Docket No. RM2010-14 for consideration of matters raised by the Postal Service's Request.

2. Comments by interested persons in these proceedings are due no later than October 15, 2010.

¹ United States Postal Service Request for Semi-Permanent Exception from Periodic Reporting of Service Performance Measurement, September 30, 2010 (Request); *see also* Docket No. RM2009-11, Order Establishing Final Rules Concerning Periodic Reporting of Service Performance Measurements and Customer Satisfaction, May 25, 2010, at 22 (Order No. 465).

² Those who cannot submit comments by the filing deadline should contact Mr. Sharfman.

3. Pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 505, Katrina Martinez is appointed to serve as the officer of the Commission (Public Representative) to represent the interests of the general public in these proceedings.

4. The Secretary shall arrange for publication of this order in the **Federal Register**.

By the Commission.

Shoshana M. Grove,
Secretary.

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RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

Agency Forms Submitted for OMB Review, Request for Comments

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) is forwarding five (5) Information Collection Requests (ICR) to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA), Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Our ICR(s) describe the information we seek to collect from the public. Review and approval by OIRA ensures that we impose appropriate paperwork burdens.

The RRB invites comments on the proposed collections of information to determine (1) The practical utility of the collections; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden of the collections; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information that is the subject of collection; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of collections on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments to RRB or OIRA must contain the OMB control number of the ICR. For proper consideration of your comments, it is best if RRB and OIRA receive them within 30 days of publication date.

1. *Title and purpose of information collection:* 3220-0136, Public Service Pension Questionnaires.

Public Law 95-216 amended the Social Security Act of 1977 by providing, in part, that spouse or survivor benefits may be reduced when the beneficiary is in receipt of a pension based on employment with a Federal, State, or local governmental unit. Initially, the reduction was equal to the full amount of the government pension.

Public Law 98-21 changed the reduction to two-thirds of the amount of the government pension. Public Law 108-203 amended the Social Security Act by changing the requirement for exemption to public service offset, that

Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) taxes be deducted from the public service wages for the last 60 months of public service employment, rather than just the last day of public service employment.

Sections 4(a)(1) and 4(f)(1) of the Railroad Retirement Act (RRA) provides that a spouse or survivor annuity should be equal in amount to what the annuitant would receive if entitled to a like benefit from the Social Security Administration. Therefore, the public service pension (PSP) provisions apply to RRA annuities. RRB Regulations pertaining to the collection of evidence relating to public service pensions or worker's compensation paid to spouse or survivor applicants or annuitants are found in 20 CFR 219.64c.

The RRB utilizes Form G-208, Public Service Pension Questionnaire, and Form G-212, Public Service Monitoring Questionnaire, to obtain information used to determine whether an annuity reduction is in order. The RRB proposes a non-burden impacting editorial change to G-208 and no changes to Form G-212. The RRB estimates the completion time for Form G-208 at 16 minutes and G-212 at 15 minutes. If a respondent fails to complete the form(s), the RRB may be unable to pay them benefits. One response is required from a respondent.

Previous Requests for Comments: The RRB has already published the initial 60-day notice (75 FR 51117 on August 18, 2010) required by 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2). That request elicited no comments.

Information Collection Request (ICR)

Title: Public Service Pension Questionnaires.

OMB Control Number: 3220-0136.

Form(s) submitted: G-208, Public Service Pension Questionnaire; G-212, Public Service Monitoring Questionnaire.

Type of request: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Affected public: Individuals or households.

Abstract: A spouse or survivor annuity under the Railroad Retirement Act may be subjected to a reduction for a public service pension. The questionnaires obtain information needed to determine if the reduction applies and the amount of such reduction.

The burden estimate for the ICR is as follows:

Estimated annual number of respondents: 1,170.

Total annual responses: 1,170.

Total annual reporting hours: 294.

2. *Title and Purpose of Information Collection:* 3220-0138, Self-Employment and Substantial Service Questionnaire. Section 2 of the Railroad Retirement Act (RRA) provides for payment of annuities to qualified employees and their spouses. In order to receive an age and service annuity, Section 2(e)(3) states that an applicant must stop all railroad work and give up any rights to return to such work. However, applicants are not required to stop non-railroad work or self-employment. The RRB considers some work claimed as "self-employment" to actually be employment for an employer. Whether the RRB classifies a particular activity as self-employment or as work for an employer depends upon the circumstances of each case. These circumstances are prescribed in 20 CFR 216.

Under the 1988 amendments to the RRA, an applicant is no longer required to stop work for a "Last Pre-Retirement Nonrailroad Employer" (LPE). However, section 2(f)(6) of the RRA requires that a portion of the employee's Tier II benefit and supplemental annuity be deducted for earnings from a "LPE" employer.

"LPE" is defined as the last person, company or institution with whom the employee or spouse applicant was employed concurrently with, or after, the applicant's last railroad employment and before their annuity beginning date. If a spouse never worked for a railroad, the LPE employer is the last person for whom he or she worked.

The RRB utilizes Form AA-4, *Self-Employment and Substantial Service Questionnaire*, when an applicant claims to be self-employed to obtain information needed to determine if the applicant's work is LPE, railroad service or self-employment. If the work is self-employment, the questionnaire identifies any months in which the applicant did not perform substantial service. The RRB proposes no changes to Form AA-4. Completion time is estimated at between 40 and 70 minutes. If a respondent fails to complete Form AA-4, the RRB may be unable to pay them benefits. One response is received from each respondent.

Previous Requests for Comments: The RRB has already published the initial 60-day notice (75 FR 51117 on August 18, 2010) required by 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2). That request elicited no comments.

Information Collection Request (ICR)

Title: Self-Employment and Substantial Service Questionnaire.

OMB Control Number: 3220-0138.