

Name(s) shown on return		Identifying number	
1 Qualified railroad track maintenance expenditures paid or incurred (see instructions)	1		
2 Enter 50% (.50) of line 1		2	
3a Number of miles of railroad track owned or leased by you (see instructions).	3a		
b Less: number of miles of railroad track owned or leased by you and assigned to other eligible taxpayers for purposes of this credit. See instructions for more information, including required statement.	3b ()		
c Number of miles of railroad track assigned to you by the owner or lessee for purposes of this credit. See instructions for more information, including required statement	3c		
d Total. Combine lines 3a through 3c ▶		3d	
4 Multiply line 3d by \$3,500		4	
5 Enter the smaller of line 2 or line 4		5	
6 Qualified railroad track maintenance credit from partnerships and S corporations		6	
7 Add lines 5 and 6. Partnerships and S corporations, report this amount on Schedule K; all others, go to line 8		7	
8 Qualified railroad track maintenance credit included on line 7 from passive activities (see instructions)		8	
9 Subtract line 8 from line 7		9	
10 Qualified railroad track maintenance credit allowed for 2008 from passive activities (see instructions)		10	
11 Carryback of the qualified railroad track maintenance credit from 2009 (see instructions)		11	
12 Add lines 9 through 11. Report this amount on Form 3800, line 29g		12	

General Instructions

Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code unless otherwise noted.

What's New

The Tax Extenders and AMT Relief Act of 2008 made the following changes to the qualified railroad track maintenance credit.

- The credit has been extended to cover expenditures paid or incurred in tax years beginning after 2007 and before 2010.
- For tax years beginning after 2007, the credit is no longer limited by tentative minimum tax and cannot be reported on page 1 of Form 3800. Lines 8 through 11 are added to figure any passive activity limits and the carryback of any unused credit from 2009 that previously would have been reported on Form 3800. Report any carryforward of the credit from 2007 to 2008 on Form 3800, line 6. Report any carryback of the credit from 2008 to 2007 on the 2007 Form 6478, Credit for Alcohol Used as Fuel, line 10, and enter "RR" to the left of the entry space.

Who Must File

Eligible taxpayers use Form 8900 to claim the railroad track maintenance credit (RTMC) with respect to qualified railroad track maintenance expenditures (QRTME) paid or incurred during the tax year. If you are an assignor with respect to miles of eligible railroad track, you must file Form 8900 even if you do not claim any RTMC. See the instructions for line 3b for the additional information that must be provided by assignors.

Definitions

Eligible taxpayers include:

1. Any Class II or Class III railroad, as these terms are defined by the Surface Transportation Board (STB).

2. Any person (including a Class I railroad (see below)) who transports property using the rail facilities of a Class II or Class III railroad.

3. Any person (including a Class I railroad (see below)) who furnishes railroad-related services or property to a Class II or Class III railroad.

For purposes of 2 or 3 above, the taxpayer is only eligible to claim the credit with respect to miles of eligible railroad track assigned to it by a Class II or Class III railroad for purposes of the credit. See the instructions for line 3c.

Class I railroads include only the following seven entities:

- BNSF,
- CSX,
- Grand Trunk Corporation (a holding company for all of Canadian National's U.S. railroad operations),
- Kansas City Southern,
- Norfolk Southern,
- Soo Line (owned by Canadian Pacific), and
- Union Pacific.

Rail facilities of a Class II or Class III railroad are railroad yards, tracks, bridges, tunnels, wharves, docks, stations, and other related assets that are used in the transport of freight by a railroad and owned or leased by that railroad.

Railroad-related property is property that is provided directly to a Class II or Class III railroad and is unique to railroads. For a complete description, see Regulations section 1.45G-1(b)(7).

Railroad-related services are services that are provided directly to, and are unique to, a railroad and that relate to railroad shipping, loading and unloading of railroad freight, or repairs of rail facilities or railroad-related property. For examples of what are, and what are not, railroad-related services, see Regulations section 1.45G-1(b)(8).

Eligible railroad track is railroad track located within the United States that is owned or leased by a Class II or Class III railroad at the close of its tax year. The railroad is treated as owning the railroad track if it is subject to depreciation under section 167 by the railroad. Double track is treated as multiple lines of railroad track, rather than as a single line of railroad track. That is, one mile of single track is one mile, but one mile of double track is two miles.

Qualifying railroad structure is property located within the United States that includes, in part, tunnels, bridges, and railroad track. For a complete description, see Regulations section 1.45G-1(b)(4).

QRTME are expenditures (whether or not otherwise chargeable to a capital account) for maintaining, repairing, and improving a qualifying railroad structure that is owned or leased as of January 1, 2005, by a Class II or Class III railroad. If you paid or incurred QRTME during the tax year, you do not have to reduce that QRTME by any amount of direct or indirect reimbursement to which you are entitled from a Class II or Class III railroad which made an assignment of eligible railroad track to you.

Adjustments to Basis

Some or all of the QRTME paid or incurred by an eligible taxpayer may be required to be capitalized as a tangible asset or an intangible asset, if applicable. See Regulations section 1.45G-1(e)(1).

Use the amount of RTMC to reduce the basis of a qualifying railroad structure (including railroad track) asset or intangible asset, if applicable. The reduction is limited to the amount of QRTME capitalized with respect to the asset. For further details, see Regulations section 1.45G-1(e)(2).

Member of Controlled Group or Business Under Common Control

For purposes of figuring the credit, all members of a "controlled group of corporations" and all members of a "group of businesses under common control" are treated as a single taxpayer. See Regulations section 1.45G-1(f)(2) for a definition of these terms. As a member, compute your credit based on your proportionate share of QRTME giving rise to the group's RTMC. Enter your share of the credit on line 5. Attach a statement showing how your share of the credit was figured, and write "See Attached" next to the entry space for line 5.

Specific Instructions

Figure the current year credit from your trade or business on lines 1 through 5. Skip lines 1 through 5 if you are only claiming a credit that was allocated to you from an S corporation or partnership.

Line 1

Qualified railroad track maintenance expenditures must be paid or incurred by an eligible taxpayer during the tax year.

The payment by an eligible taxpayer, as an assignee, to a Class II or Class III railroad, as an assignor, in exchange for an assignment of miles of eligible railroad track for purposes of the credit computation is treated as QRTME paid or incurred by the assignee and not the assignor.

Line 3a (This line only applies to you if you are a Class II or Class III railroad.)

Enter the number of eligible railroad track miles (see *Eligible railroad track* above) owned or leased by you.

Line 3b (This line only applies to you if you are a Class II or Class III railroad.)

You must reduce on line 3b the number of miles of eligible railroad track entered on line 3a that you assigned to another eligible taxpayer for purposes of the credit computation. You can only assign each mile of railroad track once during your tax year. Each mile of railroad track that you assign is treated as being assigned on the last day of your tax year.

An assigned mile of eligible railroad track need not correspond to any specific mile of eligible railroad track with respect to which the eligible taxpayer actually pays or incurs the QRTME. Further, an assignment requires no transfer of legal title or other indicia of ownership of the eligible railroad track, and need not specify the location of any assigned mile of eligible railroad track. However, the following information must be provided with respect to the assignment in the form of a statement attached to the tax return for the tax year for which the assignment is made.

- The name and taxpayer identification number of each assignee.
- The total number of miles of the assignor's eligible railroad track.

- The number of miles of eligible railroad track assigned by the assignor for the tax year to the assignee.
- The total number of miles of eligible railroad track assigned by the assignor for the tax year to all assignees.

Line 3c

The following information must be provided with respect to the assignment in the form of a statement attached to the tax return for the tax year for which the assignment is made.

- The total number of miles of eligible railroad track assigned to the assignee for the assignee's tax year.
- Attestation that the assignee has in writing, and has retained as part of the assignee's records for purposes of Regulations section 1.6001-1(a), the following information from each assignor:
 - a. The name and taxpayer identification number of each assignor;
 - b. The effective date of each assignment (treated as being made by the assignor at the end of its tax year) to the assignee; and
 - c. The number of miles of eligible railroad track assigned by each assignor to the assignee for the tax year of the assignee.

Notes. 1. The assignee cannot reassign miles.

- 2. If the assignor, in its required statement (see the instructions for line 3b above), assigns more miles than it has at the end of its tax year, the excess will be used to reduce each assignee's allocation in the same proportion as the assignee's original allocation of miles bears in relation to the total miles originally assigned.

Line 8

Enter the amount included on line 7 that is from a passive activity. Generally, a passive activity is a trade or business in which you did not materially participate. Rental activities are generally considered passive activities, whether or not you materially participate. For details, see Form 8582-CR, Passive Activity Credit Limitations (for individuals, estates, and trusts), or Form 8810, Corporate Passive Activity Loss and Credit Limitations (for corporations).

Line 10

Enter the passive activity qualified railroad track maintenance credit allowed for 2008 from Form 8582-CR or Form 8810.

Line 11

Enter any carryback if you amend your 2008 return to carry back an unused qualified railroad track maintenance credit from 2009. Report any carryback of the credit from 2008 to 2007 on the 2007 Form 6478, Credit for Alcohol Used as Fuel, line 10, and enter "RR" to the left of the entry space. Report any carryforward of the credit from 2007 to 2008 on Form 3800, line 6.

Paperwork Reduction Act Notice. We ask for the information on this form to carry out the Internal Revenue laws of the United States. You are required to give us the information. We need it to ensure that you are complying with these laws and to allow us to figure and collect the right amount of tax.

You are not required to provide the information requested on a form that is subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act unless the form displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a form or its instructions must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any Internal Revenue law. Generally, tax returns and return information are confidential, as required by section 6103.

The time needed to complete and file this form will vary depending on individual circumstances. The estimated burden for individual taxpayers filing this form is approved under OMB control number 1545-0074 and is included in the estimates shown in the instructions for their individual income tax return. The estimated burden for all other taxpayers who file this form is shown below.

- Recordkeeping** 4 hr., 4 min.
- Learning about the law or the form** 53 min.
- Preparing, copying, assembling, and sending the form to the IRS** 1 hr.

If you have comments concerning the accuracy of these time estimates or suggestions for making this form simpler, we would be happy to hear from you. See the instructions for the tax return with which this form is filed.