

Intended effective date: October 1, 1996.

Paulette V. Twine,
Chief, Documentary Services Division.
[FR Doc. 96-18953 Filed 7-24-96; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4910-62-P

Federal Highway Administration

Environmental Impact Statement: Imperial County, California

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The FHWA is issuing this notice to advise the public that an environmental impact statement will be prepared for a proposed highway project in Imperial County, California.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Glenn C. Clinton, District Engineer,
Federal Highway Administration, 980
9th Street, Suite 400, Sacramento,
California 95814-2724; telephone: (916)
498-5037. Internet address:
CClinton@INTERGATE.DOT.GOV

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FHWA, in cooperation with the California Department of Transportation will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) on a proposal to construct approximately 5.5 miles (8.9 km) of State Route 7 on new location between the existing junction of State Route 7 and State Route 98 to Interstate 8 in Imperial County, California.

Improvements to the corridor are considered necessary to provide for intraregional/international access between the United States/Mexico border crossing at the Calexico East Border Station and Interstate 8. Alternatives under consideration include (1) taking no action; (2) constructing a divided four-lane, controlled access expressway (ultimately to freeway standards) on new location; (3) alignment variations as appropriate to minimize environmental effects of the project.

Letters describing the proposed action and soliciting comments will be sent to appropriate Federal, State, and local agencies, and to private organizations and citizens who have previously expressed or are known to have interest in this proposal. A series of public meetings will be held in Imperial County between July and August, 1996. In addition, a public hearing will be held. Public notice will be given of the time and place of the meetings and hearing. The draft EIS will be available for public and agency review and comment prior to the public hearing. No

formal scoping meeting is planned at this time.

To ensure that the full range of issues related to this proposed action are addressed and all significant issues identified, comments, and suggestions are invited from all interested parties. Comments or questions concerning this proposed action and the EIS should be directed to the FHWA at the address provided above. The views of agencies having knowledge about historic resources potentially affected by the proposal or interested in the effects of the project on historic properties are solicited.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number 20.205, Highway Planning and Construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 12372 regarding intergovernmental consultation on Federal programs and activities apply to this program).

Issued on: July 19, 1996.
C. Glenn Clinton,
District Engineer, Sacramento, California.
[FR Doc. 96-18889 Filed 7-24-96; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4910-22-M

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

[Docket No. 96-40; Notice 2]

Decision That Nonconforming 1994 Mercedes-Benz E500 Passenger Cars Are Eligible for Importation

AGENCY: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of decision by NHTSA that nonconforming 1994 Mercedes-Benz E500 passenger cars are eligible for importation.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the decision by NHTSA that 1994 Mercedes-Benz E500 passenger cars not originally manufactured to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards are eligible for importation into the United States because they are substantially similar to a vehicle originally manufactured for importation into and sale in the United States and certified by its manufacturer as complying with the safety standards (the U.S.-certified version of the 1994 Mercedes-Benz E500), and they are capable of being readily altered to conform to the standards.

DATES: This decision is effective July 25, 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: George Entwistle, Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance, NHTSA (202-366-5306).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Under 49 U.S.C. 30141(a)(1)(A) (formerly section 108(c)(3)(A)(i) of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act (the Act)), a motor vehicle that was not originally manufactured to conform to all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards shall be refused admission into the United States unless NHTSA has decided that the motor vehicle is substantially similar to a motor vehicle originally manufactured for importation into and sale in the United States, certified under 49 U.S.C. 30115 (formerly section 114 of the Act), and of the same model year as the model of the motor vehicle to be compared, and is capable of being readily altered to conform to all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

Petitions for eligibility decisions may be submitted by either manufacturers or importers who have registered with NHTSA pursuant to 49 CFR Part 592. As specified in 49 CFR 593.7, NHTSA publishes notice in the Federal Register of each petition that it receives, and affords interested persons an opportunity to comment on the petition. At the close of the comment period, NHTSA decides, on the basis of the petition and any comments that it has received, whether the vehicle is eligible for importation. The agency then publishes this decision in the Federal Register.

Champagne Imports, Inc. of Lansdale, Pennsylvania petitioned NHTSA to decide whether 1994 Mercedes-Benz E500 passenger cars are eligible for importation into the United States. NHTSA published notice of the petition on April 24, 1996 (61 FR 18188) to afford an opportunity for public comment. The reader is referred to that notice for a thorough description of the petition. No comments were received in response to the notice. Based on its review of the information submitted by the petitioner, NHTSA has decided to grant the petition.

Vehicle Eligibility Number for Subject Vehicles

The importer of a vehicle admissible under any final decision must indicate on the form HS-7 accompanying entry the appropriate vehicle eligibility number indicating that the vehicle is eligible for entry. VSP-163 is the vehicle eligibility number assigned to vehicles admissible under this decision.

Final Decision

Accordingly, on the basis of the foregoing, NHTSA hereby decides that a