

Volkswagen Beetle Convertibles and 1972–1977 Volkswagen Beetle Sedans are identical to their U.S. certified counterparts with respect to compliance with Standard Nos. 102 *Transmission Shift Lever Sequence* \* \* \*, 103 *Defrosting and Defogging Systems*, 104 *Windshield Wiping and Washing Systems*, 105 *Hydraulic Brake Systems*, 106 *Brake Hoses*, 109 *New Pneumatic Tires*, 113 *Hood Latch Systems*, 116 *Brake Fluid*, 124 *Accelerator Control Systems*, 201 *Occupant Protection in Interior Impact*, 202 *Head Restraints*, 203 *Impact Protection for the Driver from the Steering Control System*, 204 *Steering Control Rearward Displacement*, 205 *Glazing Materials*, 206 *Door Locks and Door Retention Components*, 207 *Seating Systems*, 209 *Seat Belt Assemblies*, 210 *Seat Belt Assembly Anchorages*, 212 *Windshield Retention*, 216 *Roof Crush Resistance*, 219 *Windshield Zone Intrusion*, and 302 *Flammability of Interior Materials*.

Petitioner also contends that non-U.S. certified 1972–1979 Volkswagen Beetle Convertibles and 1972–1977 Volkswagen Beetle Sedans are capable of being readily altered to meet the following standards, in the manner indicated:

Standard No. 101 *Controls and Displays*: (a) Substitution of a lens marked "Brake" for a lens with a noncomplying symbol on the brake failure indicator lamp; (b) installation of a seat belt warning lamp that displays the appropriate symbol; (c) recalibration of the speedometer/odometer from kilometers to miles per hour.

Standard No. 108 *Lamps, Reflective Devices and Associated Equipment*: (a) Installation of U.S.-model headlamp assemblies; (b) installation of U.S.-model front and rear sidemarker/reflector assemblies; (c) installation of U.S.-model taillamp assemblies.

Standard No. 110 *Tire Selection and Rims*: installation of a tire information placard.

Standard No. 111 *Rearview Mirror*: replacement of the passenger side rearview mirror with a U.S.-model component.

Standard No. 114 *Theft Protection*: installation of a warning buzzer microswitch and a warning buzzer in the steering lock assembly.

Standard No. 208 *Occupant Crash Protection*: (a) Installation of a U.S.-model seat belt in the driver's seating position, or a belt webbing actuated microswitch inside the driver's seat belt retractor; (b) installation of an ignition switch actuated seat belt warning lamp and buzzer. The petitioner also states that the vehicles are equipped with

combination lap and shoulder restraints that adjust by means of an automatic retractor and release by means of a single push button in the front designated seating positions, and with combination lap and shoulder restraints that release by means of a single push button in the rear outboard designated seating positions.

Standard No. 214 *Side Impact Protection*: installation of reinforcing beams.

Standard No. 301 *Fuel System Integrity*: installation of a rollover valve in the fuel tank vent line between the fuel tank and the evaporative emissions collection canister.

Additionally, the petitioner states that the bumpers on non-U.S. certified 1972–1979 Volkswagen Beetle Convertibles and 1972–1977 Volkswagen Beetle Sedans must be reinforced, or U.S.-model bumper components must be installed, to comply with the Bumper Standard found in 49 CFR Part 581.

Additionally, the petitioner states that a vehicle identification number plate must be affixed to non-U.S. certified 1972–1979 Volkswagen Beetle Convertibles and 1972–1977 Volkswagen Sedans to comply with the requirements of 49 CFR Part 565.

Interested persons are invited to submit comments on the petition described above. Comments should refer to the docket number and be submitted to: Docket Section, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Room 5109, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20590. It is requested but not required that 10 copies be submitted.

All comments received before the close of business on the closing date indicated above will be considered, and will be available for examination in the docket at the above address both before and after that date. To the extent possible, comments filed after the closing date will also be considered. Notice of final action on the petition will be published in the **Federal Register** pursuant to the authority indicated below.

**Authority**: 49 U.S.C. 30141(a)(1)(A) and (b)(1); 49 CFR 593.8; delegations of authority at 49 CFR 1.50 and 501.8.

Issued on: September 24, 1997.

**Marilynne Jacobs**,

*Director, Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance.*  
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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Surface Transportation Board

#### Release of Waybill Data

The Surface Transportation Board has received requests from Canadian National Railway Company (WB525—9/22/97), and from the Alliance for Rail Competition (WB527—9/19/97) for permission to use certain data from the Board's Carload Waybill Samples. A copy of these requests may be obtained from the Office of Economics, Environmental Analysis, and Administration.

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, Environmental Analysis, and Administration within 14 calendar days of the date of this notice. The rules for release of waybill data are codified at 49 CFR 1244.8.

Contact: James A. Nash, (202) 565–1542.

**Vernon A. Williams**,

*Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Surface Transportation Board

[STB Docket No. AB–290 (Sub-No. 190X)]

#### Norfolk Southern Railway Company— Abandonment Exemption—in Fayette County, AL

On September 10, 1997, Norfolk Southern Railway Company (NSR) 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 a line of railroad known as the Berry-Belk Line, extending from railroad milepost 862.8 at Berry, AL to railroad milepost 884.9 at or near Belk, (Covin), AL, a distance of 22.1 miles in Fayette County, AL. The line traverses U.S. Postal Service ZIP Code 35545 and includes the stations of Berry (milepost 862.8), Fayette (milepost 878.6), and Covin (Belk) (milepost 884.9).

The line does not contain federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in the railroad'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.*—