

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Federal Aviation Administration**

[Summary Notice No. PE-97-61]

Petitions for Exemption; Summary of Petitions Received; Dispositions of Petitions Issued**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.**ACTION:** Notice of petitions for exemption received and of dispositions of prior petitions.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to FAA's rulemaking provisions governing the application, processing, and disposition of petitions for exemption (14 CFR Part 11), this notice contains a summary of certain petitions seeking relief from specified requirements of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR Chapter I), dispositions of certain petitions previously received, and corrections. The purpose of this notice is to improve the public's awareness of, and participation in, this aspect of FAA's regulatory activities. Neither publication of this notice nor the inclusion or omission of information in the summary is intended to affect the legal status of any petition or its final disposition.

DATES: Comments on petitions received must identify the petition docket number involved and must be received on or before January 5, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Send comments on any petition in triplicate to: Federal Aviation Administration, Office of the Chief Counsel, Attn: Rule Docket (AGC-200), Petition Docket No. 29012, 800 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, D.C. 20591.

Comments may also be sent electronically to the following internet address: 9-NPRM-CMNTS@faa.dot.gov.

The petition, any comments received, and a copy of any final disposition are filed in the assigned regulatory docket and are available for examination in the Rules Docket (AGC-200), Room 915G, FAA Headquarters Building (FOB 10A), 800 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, D.C. 20591; telephone (202) 267-3132.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Angela Anderson (202) 267-9681 or Tawana Matthews (202) 267-9783, Office of Rulemaking (ARM-1), Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20591.

This notice is published pursuant to paragraphs (c), (e), and (g) of § 11.27 of Part 11 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR Part 11).

Issued in Washington, D.C., on December 8, 1997.

Donald P. Byrne,*Assistant Chief Counsel for Regulations.***Petitions for Exemption***Docket No.:* 29012.*Petitioner:* Contential Airlines, Inc.*Sections of the FAR Affected:* 14 CFR 212.434(c)(1)(ii).

Description of Relief Sought: To permit Continental to substitute a qualified and authorized check airman for a Federal Aviation Administration inspector to observe a qualifying pilot in command (PIC) while that PIC is performing prescribed duties during at least one flight leg that includes a takeoff and landing when completing initial or upgrade training as specified in 14 CFR 121.424.

[FR Doc. 97-32577 Filed 12-11-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Federal Highway Administration****Environmental Impact Statement: Wapello and Mahaska Counties, Iowa****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 Wapello and Mahaska Counties, Iowa.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dean Majzoub, Transportation Engineer, Federal Highway Administration, 105 6th Street, Ames, Iowa 50010, Telephone: (515) 233-7300.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FHWA, in cooperation with the Iowa Department of Transportation, will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) on a proposal to improve U.S. Highway 63 (formerly Iowa 137) in Wapello and Mahaska Counties. The proposed improvement would involve the construction of a four-lane bypass of the town of Eddyville.

Improvements to the corridor are considered necessary to provide for the existing and projected traffic demand. Alternatives to be considered include (1) taking no action; (2) a near east bypass; (3) a far east bypass; and (4) a westerly bypass.

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 public information meeting will be held in Eddyville on December 17, 1997. In addition, a public hearing will be held after the draft EIS is made available. Public notice will be given of the time and place of the hearing. The draft EIS will be available for public and agency review and comment prior to the public hearing.

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.

(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: December 2, 1997.

Robert L. Lee,*Division Administrator, Ames, Iowa.*

[FR Doc. 97-32481 Filed 12-11-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-22-M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Surface Transportation Board**

[STB Finance Docket No. 33513]

CMC Railroad, Inc.—Operation Exemption—GWI Switching Services, L.P.

CMC Railroad, Inc. (CMC RR), a noncarrier, has filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1150.31 to operate a railcar storage yard (the Yard) that has been operated by GWI Switching Services, L.P. (GWISS).¹

¹ The real estate on which the Yard is located is owned by CMC Railroad I Ltd. (CMC I), which leases all improvements thereto from NCC Charlie Company, an unrelated noncarrier.

GWISS has been operating the Yard and has been operating over incidental trackage rights pursuant to the class exemption at 49 CFR 1150.31. See *GWISS Switching Services, L.P.—Operation Exemption—Rail Lines of Southern Pacific Transportation Company*, Finance Docket No. 32481 (ICC served May 3, 1994). The continuance in control of GWISS by Genesee and Wyoming Industries, Inc., is also exempt under the class exemption. See *Genesee and Wyoming Industries, Inc.—Continuance in Control Exemption—GWI Switching Services, L.P.*, Finance Docket No. 32482 (ICC served May 3, 1997). The Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and the United Transportation Union filed petitions to revoke these exemptions, which are pending before the Board. The publication of this notice of exemption does not reflect any assessment of the merits of the petitions to revoke. Should the Board

Continued