

1995. It does not result in costs of \$100 million or more to either State, local, or tribal governments, in the aggregate, or to the private sector, and is the least burdensome alternative that achieves the objective of the rule.

Impact on Business Processes and Computer Systems

Many computers that use two digits to keep track of dates will, on January 1, 2000, recognize "double zero" not as 2000 but as 1900. This glitch, the Year 2000 problem, could cause computers to stop running or to start generating erroneous data. The Year 2000 problem poses a threat to the global economy in which Americans live and work. With the help of the President's Council on Year 2000 Conversion, Federal agencies are reaching out to increase awareness of the problem and to offer support. We do not want to impose new requirements that would mandate business process changes when the resources necessary to implement those requirements would otherwise be applied to the Year 2000 problem.

This NPRM does not impose business process changes or require modifications to computer systems. Because this NPRM does not affect organizations' ability to respond to the Year 2000 problem, we do not intend to delay the effectiveness of the proposed requirements in this NPRM.

List of Subjects in 49 CFR Part 171

Exports, Hazardous materials transportation, Hazardous waste, Imports, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

In consideration of the foregoing, 49 CFR Part 171 would be amended as follows:

PART 171—GENERAL INFORMATION, REGULATIONS, AND DEFINITIONS

1. The authority citation for Part 171 would continue to read as follows:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 5101–5127; 49 CFR 1.53.

§ 171.5 [Amended]

2. In § 171.5, in paragraph (a)(3), the date "March 1, 1999" would be revised to read "July 1, 1999".

Issued in Washington, DC, on January 6, 1999, under authority delegated in 49 CFR part 106.

Alan I. Roberts,

Associate Administrator for Hazardous Materials Safety.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

49 CFR Part 230

[FRA Docket No. RSSL–98–2, Notice No. 2]

Inspection and Maintenance Standards for Steam Locomotives; Proposed Revisions

AGENCY: Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Notice of public hearing.

SUMMARY: By notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) published on September 25, 1998 (63 FR 51404), FRA proposed revisions to the regulations governing steam locomotive inspections and maintenance. In that proposed rule, FRA announced that it did not intend to schedule a public hearing regarding this proposal absent a specific request to do so. During the period for written comments, FRA received several requests for a public hearing to address issues raised by this proposal. FRA now intends to hold a public hearing to provide interested parties the opportunity to comment on the proposed revisions contained in the NPRM. This document announces the public hearing.

DATES: A public hearing will be held at 9:00 a.m. February 4, 1999.

ADDRESSES: (1) *Public Hearing:* A hearing to provide interested parties the opportunity to comment on the proposed revisions contained in the NPRM will be held at the following location: The Omni Marina Hotel, 707 North Shoreline Boulevard, Corpus Christi, Texas 78401 (512) 882–1700

(2) *Docket Clerk:* Written notification should identify the docket number and be submitted in triplicate to the Docket Clerk, Office of Chief Counsel, Federal Railroad Administration, RCC–10, 400 Seventh Street, Stop 10, SW, Washington, DC 20590 (202) 493–6030.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John Megary, Regional Administrator, Federal Railroad Administration, 8701 Beford-Euleess Road, Suite 425, Hurst, TX 76053 (telephone 817–284–8142); George Scerbo, Motive Power & Equipment Specialist, Federal Railroad Administration, (telephone 202–493–6249); or Paul F. Byrnes, Trial Attorney, Office of the Chief Counsel, Federal Railroad Administration, 400 Seventh Street, SW, Stop 10, Washington, DC 20950 (telephone 202–493–6032).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Public Participation Procedures

Any person wishing to participate in the public hearing should notify the Docket Clerk by mail or telephone at least five working days prior to the date of the hearing or conference. The notification should identify the party the person represents, and the particular subject(s) the person plans to address. The notification should also provide the Docket Clerk with the participant's mailing address.

Issued in Washington, DC, on January 6, 1999.

Grady C. Cothen,

Deputy Associate Administrator For Safety And Program Development.

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