

period soliciting comments on the following information collection was published on March 22, 1999 [64 FR 13843].

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted on or before July 29, 1999.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Robert Gorman, (202) 366-5001, Office of Intermodal and Statewide Planning, Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590. Office hours are from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title:* National Ferry Study.

*Type of Request:* Approval of a new information collection.

*Affected Public:* 250 ferry operators nationwide.

*Abstract:* The Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21), section 1207 (c), directs the Secretary of Transportation to conduct a study of ferry transportation in the United States and its possessions. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) will conduct the study which will be used to: (1) Inventory existing ferry operations; (2) determine the potential for new ferry routes; (3) determine the potential for alternative fuel ferries; and (4) determine the potential for high speed ferries. Information for the study will be collected from operators of existing ferry services and will include: (1) the points served; (2) the amount and source of Federal, State, and/or local funds used in the past three years; (3) the type of ownership; (4) the number of passengers and vehicles carried in the past year; (5) any new routes expected to be added within the next five years; and (6) the highways that are connected by the ferries.

*Frequency:* The survey will be conducted once.

*Estimated Burden:* The estimated total annual burden is 84 hours (20 minutes per respondent).

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20503, Attention: DOT Desk Officer. Comments are invited on: whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; the accuracy of the Department's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the collection of

information on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. A comment to OMB is most effective if OMB receives it within 30 days of publication of this Notice.

Issued on: June 22, 1999.

**Lawrence I. Neff,**

*Acting Director, Office of Information and Management Services.*

[FR Doc. 99-16414 Filed 6-28-99; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-22-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Railroad Administration

#### Petitions for Waivers of Compliance

In accordance with Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Sections 211.9 and 211.41, notice is hereby given that the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) has received a request for waiver of compliance with certain requirements of the Federal railroad safety regulations. The individual petition is described below, including the party seeking relief, the regulatory provisions involved, the nature of the relief being sought and the petitioner's arguments in favor of relief.

#### **Alaska Railroad Corporation; FRA Waiver Petition No. FRA-1999-5105**

Alaska Railroad Corporation (ARR) seeks a permanent waiver of compliance from certain provisions of the Roadway Worker Protection Standards, 49 CFR Part 214, Subpart C. ARR seeks a waiver of 49 CFR 214.327(c) which states:

(c) No operable locomotives or other or other items of on-track equipment, except those present or moving under the direction of the roadway worker in charge of the working limits, shall be located within working limits established by means of inaccessible track.

The ARR requests this waiver so it can use a procedure that will utilize a General Order or Special Instruction to assure that locomotives or other items of on track equipment located within working limits can not be operated until an advisory from the Anchorage Terminal Superintendent has been obtained. ARR desires to use this procedure during inclement weather to facilitate snow removal operations. Anchorage yard would be made into working limits by establishing a track warrant on the entrance to the yard in accordance with Sec. 214.327 (a) (4), inaccessible track. All movements within the yard would be under the control of the roadway worker that is in charge of the working limits.

ARR intends to create "zones" within Anchorage yard for the purpose of delineating specific groups of tracks that could be fouled during snow removal, and further define those groups of tracks (in zones) which would not be involved in the snow removal process.

Interested parties are invited to participate in this proceedings by submitting written views, data, or comments. FRA does not anticipate scheduling a public hearing in connection with this proceeding since the facts do not appear to warrant a hearing. If any interested party desires an opportunity for oral comment, they should notify FRA, in writing, before the end of the comment period and specify the basis for their request.

All communications concerning these proceedings should identify the appropriate docket number (e.g., Waiver Petition Docket Number FRA 1999-5105) and must be submitted to the DOT Docket Management Facility, Room PL-401 (Plaza level) 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20590. Communications received within 45 days of the date of this notice will be considered by FRA before final action is taken. Comments received after that date will be considered as far as practicable. All written communications concerning this proceeding are available for examination during regular business hours (9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.) at the above facility. All documents in the public docket are also available for inspection and copying on the internet at the docket facility's Web site at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

Issued in Washington, DC on June 23, 1999.

**Grady C. Cothen, Jr.,**

*Deputy Associate Administrator for Safety Standards and Program Development.*

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**BILLING CODE 4910-06-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Railroad Administration

#### Petition for Waiver of Compliance

In accordance with Part 211 of Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), notice is hereby given that the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) received a request for a waiver of compliance with certain requirements of its safety standards. The individual petition is described below, including the party seeking relief, the regulatory provisions involved, the nature of the relief being requested, and the petitioner's arguments in favor of relief.