

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**.

Bayway Auto, Inc. of Elizabeth, New Jersey ("Bayway") (Registered Importer 99-166) has petitioned NHTSA to decide whether non-U.S. certified 1998-2001 BMW R1200C motorcycles are eligible for importation into the United States. The vehicles which Bayway believes are substantially similar are 1998-2001 BMW R1200C motorcycles that were manufactured for importation into, and sale in, the United States and certified by their manufacturer as conforming to all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

The petitioner claims that it carefully compared non-U.S. certified 1998-2001 BMW R1200C motorcycles to their U.S. certified counterparts, and found the vehicles to be substantially similar with respect to compliance with most Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

Bayway submitted information with its petition intended to demonstrate that non-U.S. certified 1998-2001 BMW R1200C motorcycles, as originally manufactured, conform to many Federal motor vehicle safety standards in the same manner as their U.S. certified counterparts, or are capable of being readily altered to conform to those standards.

Specifically, the petitioner claims that non-U.S. certified 1998-2001 BMW R1200C motorcycles are identical to their U.S. certified counterparts with respect to compliance with Standard Nos. 106 *Brake Hoses*, 116 *Brake Fluid*, 119 *New Pneumatic Tires for Vehicles other than Passenger Cars*, 122 *Motorcycle Brake Systems*, and 205 *Glazing Materials*.

Petitioner additionally contends that the vehicles are capable of being readily altered to meet the following standard, in the manner indicated:

Standard No. 108 *Lamps, Reflective Devices and Associated Equipment*: installation of U.S. model headlamps, stop lamps, tail light lenses, amber front reflectors, rear red reflectors, and white license plate lamps and lenses on vehicles that are not already so equipped.

Standard No. 111 Rearview Mirrors: installation of U.S. model rearview mirrors.

Standard No. 120 *Tire Selection and Rims for Vehicles other than Passenger Cars*: installation of a tire information placard.

Standard No. 123 *Motorcycle Controls and Displays*: (a) Installation of an illuminated speedometer calibrated in miles per hour; (b) inscription of conforming symbols for the supplemental engine stop control, turn signals, headlamp, and horn on vehicles that are not already so equipped.

The petitioner also states that a vehicle identification number (VIN) plate and VIN reference label must be affixed to non-U.S. certified 1998-2001 BMW R1200C motorcycles to meet the requirements of 49 CFR Part 565.

Comments should refer to the docket number and be submitted to: Docket Management, Room PL-401, 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: December 5, 2000.

Marilynne Jacobs,

Director, Office of Vehicle Safety, Compliance.

[FR Doc. 00-31639 Filed 12-11-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

[Docket No. NHTSA-2000-8281]

Notice of Receipt of Petition for Decision that Nonconforming 2000 Yamaha R1 Motorcycles Are Eligible for Importation

AGENCY: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of petition for decision that nonconforming 2000 Yamaha R1 motorcycles are eligible for importation.

SUMMARY: This document announces receipt by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a petition for a decision that 2000 Yamaha R1 motorcycles that were not originally manufactured to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards are eligible for importation into the United States because (1) they are substantially similar to vehicles that were originally manufactured for importation into and sale in the United States and that were certified by their manufacturer as complying with the safety standards, and (2) they are capable of being readily altered to conform to the standards.

DATES: The closing date for comments on the petition is January 11, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Comments should refer to the docket number and notice number, and be submitted to: Docket Management, Room PL-401, 400 Seventh St., SW, Washington, DC 20590. [Docket hours are from 10 am to 5 pm]

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), 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, 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.

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Northern California Diagnostic Laboratories, Inc. of Napa, California ("NCDL") (Registered Importer 92-011)

has petitioned NHTSA to decide whether non-U.S. certified 2000 Yamaha R1 motorcycles are eligible for importation into the United States. The vehicles which NCDL believes are substantially similar are 2000 Yamaha R1 motorcycles that were manufactured for importation into, and sale in, the United States and certified by their manufacturer as conforming to all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

The petitioner claims that it carefully compared non-U.S. certified 2000 Yamaha R1 motorcycles to their U.S. certified counterparts, and found the vehicles to be substantially similar with respect to compliance with most Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

NCDL submitted information with its petition intended to demonstrate that non-U.S. certified 2000 Yamaha R1 motorcycles, as originally manufactured, conform to many Federal motor vehicle safety standards in the same manner as their U.S. certified counterparts, or are capable of being readily altered to conform to those standards.

Specifically, the petitioner claims that non-U.S. certified 2000 Yamaha R1 motorcycles are identical to their U.S. certified counterparts with respect to compliance with Standard Nos. 106 *Brake Hoses*, 111 *Rearview Mirrors*, 116 *Brake Fluid*, 119 *New Pneumatic Tires for Vehicles other than Passenger Cars*, and 122 *Motorcycle Brake Systems*.

The petitioner also states that vehicle identification number plates that meet the requirements of 49 CFR Part 565 are already affixed to non-U.S. certified 2000 Yamaha R1 motorcycles.

Petitioner additionally contends that the vehicles are capable of being readily altered to meet the following standard, in the manner indicated:

Standard No. 108 *Lamps, Reflective Devices and Associated Equipment*: (a) Installation of a red reflector on each side of vehicle at its rear end; (b) installation of an amber reflector on each side of the vehicle at its front end. The petitioner states that the vehicle is equipped with a headlamp system, a tail lamp system, a stop lamp system, a white license plate lamp, a red rear reflector, and turn signals that are in conformity with the standard.

Standard No. 120 *Tire Selection and Rims for Vehicles other than Passenger Cars*: Installation of a tire information label.

Standard No. 123 *Motorcycle Controls and Displays*: Modification of the speedometer to conform to the standard. The petitioner states that all other controls and displays on the vehicle,

including the supplemental engine stop control, conform to the standard.

Comments should refer to the docket number and be submitted to: Docket Management, Room PL-401, 400 Seventh Street, SW., 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: December 5, 2000.

Marilynne Jacobs,

Director, Office of Vehicle Safety, Compliance.

[FR Doc. 00-31640 Filed 12-11-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 33952]

Norfolk Southern Railway Co.— Corporate Family Transaction Exemption—High Point, Randleman, Asheboro and Southern Railroad Co.

Norfolk Southern Railway Company (NSR), a Class I rail carrier, has filed a notice of exemption to renew its lease¹ and to operate approximately 28 miles of rail line owned by High Point, Randleman, Asheboro and Southern Railroad Company (High Point), a Class III carrier and a subsidiary of NSR, located in the State of North Carolina.

The transaction is scheduled to be consummated prior to December 31, 2000. The earliest the transaction can be consummated is December 7, 2000, the effective date of the exemption (7 days after the exemption was filed).

NSR has filed its notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1180.2(d)(3) as the proposed renewal of its lease with High Point is exempt because it is within the

¹ NSR notes that the lease of the rail line by the Carolina and Northwestern Railway Company, a predecessor of NSR, was previously approved in *Carolina & Northwestern Railway Company, Control, Etc.*, 282 I.C.C. 802 (1951). NSR further notes that the extension of the lease contemplated by the transaction in STB Finance Docket No. 33952 extends the term of the lease arrangement until 2025 with an optional 25-year extension thereafter.

NSR corporate family and will not result in adverse changes in service levels, operational changes, or a change in the competitive balance with carriers outside the NSR corporate family.

As a condition to this exemption, any employee affected by the transaction will be protected by the conditions imposed in *Mendocino Coast Ry., Inc.—Lease and Operate*, 354 I.C.C. 732 (1978), as modified in *Mendocino Coast Ry., Inc.—Lease and Operate*, 360 I.C.C. 653 (1980), *aff'd sub nom. RLEA v. ICC*, 675 F.2d 1248 (D.C. Cir. 1982).

If the notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void *ab initio*. Petitions to revoke the exemption under 49 U.S.C. 10502(d) may be filed at any time. The filing of a petition to revoke will not automatically stay the transaction.

An original and 10 copies of all pleadings, referring to STB Finance Docket No. 33952, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on Maquiling B. Parkerson, Esq., Norfolk Southern Corporation, Three Commercial Place, Norfolk, VA 23510-2191.

Decided: December 5, 2000.

By the Board, David M. Konschnik, Director, Office of Proceedings.

Vernon A. Williams,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-31470 Filed 12-11-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 33951]

Norfolk Southern Railway Co.— Corporate Family Transaction Exemption—Yadkin Railroad Co.

Norfolk Southern Railway Company (NSR), a Class I rail carrier, has filed a notice of exemption to renew its lease¹ and to operate approximately 30 miles of rail line owned by Yadkin Railroad Company (Yadkin), a Class III carrier and a subsidiary of NSR, located in the State of North Carolina.

The transaction is scheduled to be consummated prior to December 31,

¹ NSR notes that the lease of the rail line by the Carolina and Northwestern Railway Company, a predecessor of NSR, was previously approved in *Carolina & Northwestern Railway Company, Control, Etc.*, 282 I.C.C. 802 (1951). NSR further notes that the extension of the lease contemplated by the transaction in STB Finance Docket No. 33951 extends the term of the lease arrangement until 2025 with an optional 25-year extension thereafter.