DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Environmental Impact Statement: Mobile County, Alabama

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administrative (FHWA), DoT.

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 Mobile County, Alabama.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Joe Wilkerson, Division Administrator, Federal Highway Administration, 500 Eastern Boulevard, Suite 200, Montgomery, Alabama 36117–2018. Telephone: (334) 223–7370.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FHWA, in cooperation with the Alabama Department of Transportation will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) for a proposal to construct a ''loop'' around the western side of Mobile from I–10 southwest of the City of Mobile to I–65 north of Mobile. The project would involve the construction of a new multi-lane facility built to ''interstate'' standards and specifications.

The project is considered necessary to provide for the existing and projected traffic demand. Alternatives under consideration include (1) taking no action (2) using alternative travel modes (3) alternative alignments and (4) various design alternatives. 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 series of public meetings will be held throughout the planning process. In addition, a public hearing will be held. Public notice will be given of the time and place of the meetings and hearing. The Draft EIS will be available for public and agency review and comment prior to the public hearing. A scoping meeting will be held with agencies interested in the project. 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: August 2, 2002.

Joe Wilkerson,

Division Administrator, Montgomery, Alabama.

[FR Doc. 02–21962 Filed 8–27–02; 8:45 am]

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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.

Hampton & Branchville Railroad Company

[Docket Number FRA–2002–12938]

The Hampton & Branchville Railroad Company (H&B), located in Hampton, North Carolina, seeks a waiver of compliance, docket number FRA–2002–12938, with the requirements of the Locomotive Safety Standards, 49 CFR part 229. Section 229.125(d) of the standards requires each lead locomotive operated at a speed greater then 20 miles per hour over one or more public highway-rail crossings be equipped with operative auxiliary lights in addition to the required headlight. The Hampton & Branchville Railroad states that the speed over their entire line is 20 mph. If the waiver is granted H&B would operate over one crossing at a speed not greater then 25 mph on class II track from mile post 8.75 to mile post 9.25 where ruling grade slows trains speed, without equipping their locomotives with auxiliary lights. H&B states that the crossing is always flagged by a crew member.

Interested parties are invited to participate in these proceedings by submitting written views, data, or comments. FRA does not anticipate scheduling a public hearing in connection with these proceedings 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–2002–12938) and must be submitted to the Docket Clerk, DOT Central Docket Management Facility, Room PL–401, 400—7th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590–0001. 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 these proceedings are available for examination during regular business hours (9 a.m.–5 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 August 23, 2002.

Grady C. Cothen, Jr.,

Deputy Associate Administrator for Safety Standards and Program Development.

[FR Doc. 02–21976 Filed 8–27–02; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

Notice of Application for Approval of Discontinuance or Modification of a Railroad Signal System or Relief From the Requirements of Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations Part 236

Pursuant to Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) parts 235 and 49 U.S.C. App. 26, the following railroads have petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) seeking approval for the discontinuance or modification of the signal system or relief from the requirements of 49 CFR Part 236 as detailed below.

[Docket Number FRA–2002–12509]

Applicant: Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway, Mr. William G. Peterson, Director Signal Engineering, 4515 Kansas Avenue, Kansas City, Kansas 66106.

Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway (BNSF) seeks approval of the proposed discontinuance and removal of the traffic control system, on the main tracks, between milepost 430.5, near Sapulpa, Oklahoma and milepost 644.1, South Joe Texas, on the Texas Division, Creek and Madill Subdivision, a distance of approximately 213.6 miles, and govern train movements by Track Warrant Control.

The reason given for the proposed changes is that the signal infrastructure on this line is in need of large amounts of replacement capital to fund major rehabilitation. BNSF believes that this