

and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20503, Attention: FTA 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.

Dated: January 30, 2004.

Ann M. Linnertz,

Special Projects Officer.

[FR Doc. 04-2451 Filed 2-4-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-57-M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Transit Administration

[FTA Docket No. FTA-2004-17004]

Agency Information Collection Activity Under OMB Review

AGENCY: Federal Transit Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*) this notice announces the intention the Information Collection Request (ICR) for extension of the currently approved information collection. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments was published on September 9, 2003.

DATES: Comments must be submitted before March 8, 2004. A comment to OMB is most effective if OMB receives it within 30 days of publication.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sylvia L. Marion, Office of Administration, Office of Management Planning, (202) 366-6680.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Metropolitan and Statewide Transportation Planning (OMB Number: 2132-0529).

Abstract: The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) jointly carry out the federal mandate to improve urban and rural transportation. 49 U.S.C. 5303 and 23 U.S.C. 134 and 135 authorize the use of federal funds to assist Metropolitan Planning

Organizations (MPOs), states, and local public bodies in developing transportation plans and programs to serve the transportation needs of urbanized areas over 50,000 in population. The information collection activities involved in developing the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), the Metropolitan Transportation Plan, the Statewide Transportation Plan, the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) are necessary to identify and evaluate the transportation issues and needs in each urbanized area and throughout every state. These products of the transportation planning process are essential elements in the reasonable planning and programming of federally funded transportation investments.

In addition to serving as a management tool for MPOs and state DOTs, the UPWP is used by both FTA and FHWA to monitor the transportation planning activities of those agencies. It is also needed to establish national outyear budgets and regional program plans, develop policy on using funds, monitor state and local compliance with national technical emphasis areas, respond to Congressional inquiries, prepare congressional testimony, and ensure efficiency in the use and expenditure of federal funds by determining that planning proposals are both reasonable and cost-effective. 49 U.S.C. 5303 and 23 U.S.C. 134(h) require the development of TIPs for urbanized, STIPs are mandated by 23 U.S.C. 235(f). After approval by the Governor and MPO, metropolitan TIPs in attainment areas are to be incorporated directly into the STIP. For nonattainment areas, FTA/FHWA must make a conformity finding on the TIPs before including them into the STIP. The complete STIP is then jointly reviewed and approved or disapproved by FTA and FHWA. These conformity findings and approval actions constitute the determination that states are complying with the requirement of 23 U.S.C. 235 and 49 U.S.C. section 5303 as a condition of eligibility for federal-aid funding. Without these documents, approvals and findings, capital and/or operating assistance cannot be provided.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 314,900 hours.

ADDRESSES: All written comments must refer to the docket number that appears at the top of this document and be submitted to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20503, Attention: FTA 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.

Issued: January 30, 2004.

Ann M. Linnertz,

Special Projects Officer.

[FR Doc. 04-2452 Filed 2-4-04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

[Docket No. NHTSA 2003-17015]

Nissan North America, Inc.; Petition for Exemption From Two-Fleet Rule Affecting Compliance With the Passenger Car Fuel Economy Standard

AGENCY: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), Department of Transportation.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of petition and request for comments.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the receipt of a petition from Nissan North America, Inc. (Nissan) for exemption from the statutory requirement that a manufacturer's fleet of domestically-manufactured passenger automobiles must comply with the passenger automobile corporate average fuel economy (CAFE) standards separately from the manufacturer's fleet of non-domestically manufactured passenger automobiles. The statute requires the agency to grant this petition unless it determines that doing so would result in reduced employment in the U.S. related to motor vehicle manufacturing during the period of exemption.

DATES: Comments on this petition must be received by the agency by March 8, 2004.

ADDRESSES: The petition is available for public inspection in the docket whose number appears in the heading at the beginning of this notice. You may call the Docket Management System at (202) 366-0271 or you may visit the Docket Management System in Room PL-401, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington,