

minutes per institution, for a total response time of 18.75 hours.

3. Right-of-way managers in the 50 state departments of transportation, selected city and county transportation agencies and selected private sector real estate services, engineering and consulting firms will be surveyed to assess market perception of the need for a Uniform Act focused right of way certification program. A brief survey form, with approximately 20 questions, will be utilized as an initial information gathering tool. A link to this survey form will be sent via e-mail to the respondent and the survey form will be completed on-line, with telephone follow-up only as required to obtain a clarification on information provided. In addition, as a follow-up and validation of the initial survey, a 90-minute focus group session will be held. Twenty individuals, selected from those who responded to the original survey, will meet in a focus group during, or in conjunction with a national or major regional meeting of right of way professionals, such as the American Association of State Transportation Officials (AASHTO) national right of way committee meeting.

- *Respondents:* 100 survey respondents (54 state or territory transportation agencies, and 46 selected other city and county and private sector respondents).

- *Frequency:* This will be a one-time survey and follow-up focus group meeting.

- *Estimated Total Annual Burden:* The average response time for the survey is estimated to be 30 minutes, for a total of 50 hours. In addition, it is estimated that survey follow-up by e-mail or telephone will be required of 25% of the respondents for a total of 25 respondents at an average of 10 minutes, for a total response time of 4.17 hours. Twenty individuals will attend the focus group for 90 minutes each for a total of 30 hours. The total response time for the survey, follow-up and focus group meeting will be approximately 84.2 hours. The total annual burden for the entire survey (all three groups) is estimated to be approximately 110 hours.

#### Regulatory Notices

*Privacy Act:* Anyone is able to search the electronic form of all comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the comment, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** published on April 11, 2000 (Volume

65, Number 70; Pages 19477-78), or you may visit <http://dms.dot.gov>.

**Authority:** The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995; 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended; and 49 CFR 1.48.

Issued on: April 20, 2004.

**James R. Kabel,**

*Chief, Management Programs and Analysis Division.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Highway Administration

#### Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for OMB Review

**AGENCY:** Federal Highway Administration, DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The FHWA has forwarded the information collection request described in this notice to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. We published a **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day public comment period on this information collection on March 21, 2003 (68 FR 13979). No comments were received. We are required to publish this notice in the **Federal Register** by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

**DATES:** Please submit comments by June 2, 2004.

**ADDRESSES:** You may 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. You are asked to comment on any aspect of this information collection, including: (1) Whether the proposed collection is necessary for the FHWA's performance; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways for the FHWA to enhance the quality, usefulness, and clarity of the collected information; and (4) ways that the burden could be minimized, including the use of electronic technology, without reducing the quality of the collected information.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Tim Penney, (202) 366-2698, Office of Planning, Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590. Office hours are from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title:* Information on Tribal Government Transportation Programs.

*Abstract:* FHWA proposes to fund a Synthesis project through the National Cooperative Highway Research Program. The project goal is to gather information on tribal governments' transportation programs. The information will include funding information, staffing, and administration of transportation projects and programs. Information will also be requested from tribal governments on cooperative projects with state and local governments. The information will be used to prepare a summary of how tribal transportation programs are funded and staffed, and how tribal governments administer programs with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, FHWA, and state and local governments. The information will be evaluated and best practices will be identified. The information will be shared with tribal governments and states for their use in developing and enhancing effective transportation programs for tribal governments.

*Affected Public:* 100 tribal government transportation staff.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* The estimated average burden is 2 hours per respondent. The FHWA goal is to get information from 100 tribal governments at a minimum. The estimated total annual burden is 200 hours.

**Authority:** The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995; 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended; and 49 CFR 1.48.

Issued on: April 20, 2004.

**James R. Kabel,**

*Chief, Management Programs and Analysis Division.*

[FR Doc. 04-9929 Filed 4-30-04; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Railroad Administration

#### Petition for Special Approval of Alternate Standard

In accordance with §238.21 of title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), notice is hereby given that the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) received a request for approval of an Alternate Standard 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.

**Long Island Rail Road and Metro-North Railroad Special Approval Petition  
Docket Number FRA-2004-17099**

Long Island Rail Road (LIRR) and Metro-North Railroad (MNCW), further identified herein as the railroads seek approval for use of an alternate standard required to be used in accordance with the *Passenger Equipment Safety Standards*, 49 CFR part 238. Section 309, periodic maintenance of MU locomotive equipment brakes. Section 309(b)(2) requires periodic brake equipment maintenance to be performed at an interval not to exceed every 1,104 days. The railroads are requesting an alternate standard for M7-MU locomotives that would require that periodic brake equipment maintenance be performed at an interval not to exceed every 1,840 days.

The railroads state that the new M7 locomotive air brake equipment is supplied by Knorr Brake Corporation. The air brake system is integrated with the propulsion system, and a full pneumatic back up of the emergency brake application function is available through the emergency brake valve and conductors valve. The M7 utilizes various systems to monitor, diagnose, and report brake equipment functions to a centralized diagnostic system on board the equipment. The railroads submitted required technical documentation, a Preliminary Hazard Analysis, Failure Modes and Effect Analysis, and Maintainability Analysis, and has served a copy of the petition on designated representatives of its employees together with a list of the names and addresses of the persons served. This information is available at the DOT docket site contained in this notice.

Interested parties are invited to participate in these proceedings by submitting written views, data, or comments. Each comment shall set forth specifically the basis upon which it is made and contain a concise statement of the interest of the commenter in the proceeding. 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 (FRA-2004-17099) and must be submitted to the Docket Clerk, DOT Docket Management Facility, Room PL-401 (Plaza Level), 400 7th Street, SW., Washington, DC

20590. Communications received within 30 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>.

Anyone is able to search the electronic form of all comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the comment, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** published on April 11, 2000 (Volume 65, Number 70; Pages 19477-78). The statement may also be found at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

Issued in Washington, DC, on April 27, 2004.

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

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

[FR Doc. 04-9951 Filed 4-30-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-06-P

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Federal Railroad Administration**

[Docket No. FRA-2000-7257; Notice No. 32]

**Railroad Safety Advisory Committee ("RSAC"); Working Group Activity Update**

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

**ACTION:** Announcement of Railroad Safety Advisory Committee (RSAC) Working Group Activities.

**SUMMARY:** FRA is updating its announcement of RSAC's working group activities to reflect their current status. For additional details on completed activities see prior working group activity notices (68 FR 25677).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Patricia Butera, RSAC Coordinator, FRA, 1120 Vermont Avenue, NW., Mailstop 25, Washington, DC 20590, (202) 493-6212 or Grady Cothen, Deputy Associate Administrator for Safety Standards and Program Development, FRA, 1120 Vermont Avenue, NW., Mailstop 25, Washington, DC 20590, (202) 493-6302.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This notice serves to update FRA's last announcement of working group activities and status reports of December 1, 2003, (68 FR 54777). The twenty-second full Committee meeting was held December 2, 2003. The twenty-third meeting is scheduled for April 27, 2004, at the Washington Plaza Hotel.

Since its first meeting in April of 1996, the RSAC has accepted eighteen tasks. Status for each of the tasks is provided below:

**Open Tasks**

**Task 96-4**—Reviewing the appropriateness of the agency's current policy regarding the applicability of existing and proposed regulations to tourist, excursion, scenic, and historic railroads. This Task was accepted on April 2, 1996, and a Working Group was established. The Working Group monitored the steam locomotive regulations task. Planned future activities involve the review of other regulations for possible adaptation to the safety needs of tourist and historic railroads. Contact: Grady Cothen (202) 493-6302.

**Task 97-1**—Developing crashworthiness specifications to promote the integrity of the locomotive cab in accidents resulting from collisions. This Task was accepted on June 24, 1997. On April 14, 2004, RSAC reached consensus on the NPRM. FRA is finalizing the accompanying regulatory analysis so it can be forwarded for review and clearance within the Executive Branch. The NPRM is a new standard to increase the crashworthiness of conventional wide- and narrow-nose locomotives and codifies requirements for monocoque locomotives. Contact: Charles Bielitz (202) 493-6314.

**Task 97-2**—Evaluating the extent to which environmental, sanitary, and other working conditions in locomotive cabs affect the crew's health and the safe operation of locomotives, proposing standards where appropriate. This Task was accepted June 24, 1997.

(Sanitation) (Completed)  
(Noise exposure) The Cab Working Conditions Working Group met most recently in Chicago, November 12-14, 2002. A tentative consensus was reached on the draft rule text. The Working Group approved the NPRM. On June 27, 2003, the full RSAC gave consensus by ballot on NPRM. The NPRM is in review at the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

(Cab Temperature) (Completed)

**Note:** Additional related topics may be further considered by the Working Group in the future, including effect of vibrations and