Specific limitations with respect to FAA’s approval of an airport noise compatibility program are delineated in FAR Part 150, section 150.5. Approval is not a determination concerning the acceptability of land uses under Federal, State, or local law. Approval does not by itself constitute an FAA implementing action. A request for Federal action or approval to implement specific noise compatibility measures may be required, and an FAA decision on the request may require an environmental assessment of the proposed action. Approval does not constitute a commitment by the FAA to financially assist in the implementation of the program nor a determination that all measures covered by the program are eligible for grant-in-aid funding from the FAA. Where Federal funding is sought, requests for project grants must be submitted to the FAA Chicago Airports District Office.

These determinations are set forth in detail in a Record of Approval signed by Susan Schalk on October 1, 2010. The Record of Approval, as well as other evaluation materials and the documents comprising the submittal, are available for review at the FAA office listed above and at the administrative offices of the Chicago Executive Airport. The Record of Approval also will be available online at: http://www.faa.gov/airports/environmental/airport_noise/part_150/states/.

Issued in Des Plaines, IL, October 6, 2010.

James G. Keefer, Manager, Chicago Airports District Office.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For legal questions, please contact Mr. Michael Harkins, FHWA Office of the Chief Counsel, (202) 366–4928, or via e-mail at michael.harkins@dot.gov. Office hours for the FHWA are from 7:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., est., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Electronic Access


Background

The FHWA’s Buy America policy in 23 CFR 635.410 requires a domestic manufacturing process for any steel or iron products (including protective coatings) that are permanently incorporated in a Federal-aid construction project. The regulation also provides for a waiver of the Buy America requirements when the application would be inconsistent with the public interest or when satisfactory quality domestic steel and iron products are not sufficiently available. This notice provides information regarding the FHWA’s finding that a Buy America waiver is appropriate to use non-domestic Steel Pipe; A53 Grade B, 26” OD, 0.375” wall for a portion of sign wall for construction of a Recovery Act project on SR 60 in Alleghany County, PA.

In accordance with Division A, section 123 of the “Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010” (Pub. L. 111–117), the FHWA published a notice of intent to issue a waiver on its Web site Steel Pipe; A53 Grade B, 26” OD, 0.375” wall (http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/construction/contracts/waivers.cfm?id=51) on July 16th. The FHWA received five comments in response to the publication. The five comments suggested different domestic manufacturers of Steel Pipe; A53 Grade B and opposed the approval of the waiver request. The PennDOT contacted the potential domestic manufactures Berg Steel Corporation, McJunkin Red Man Corporation, and Trinity Prod. Berg Steel corporation stated that they do not have inventory in the pipe size requested. McJunkin Red Man Corporation responded that their pipe size is only 24” OD and not up to 26” OD. Trinity Prod. indicated that it can make the pipe size up to 26” OD, but the required quantity is less than 600 tons which is not sufficient to establish a production run. During the 15-day comment period, the FHWA conducted an additional nationwide review to locate potential domestic manufacturers for a Steel Pipe; A53 Grade B, 26” OD, 0.375” wall. Based on all the information available to the agency, the FHWA concludes that there are no domestic manufacturers of Steel Pipe; A53 Grade B, 26” OD, 0.375” wall. Given the lack of current availability for domestic steel for this particular application, the FHWA has discussed the need for PennDOT to consider alternate designs using domestic steel on future Federal-aid projects.

In accordance with the provisions of section 117 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users Technical Corrections Act of 2008 (Pub. L. 110–244, 122 Stat. 1572), the FHWA is providing this notice as its finding that a waiver of Buy America requirements is appropriate. The FHWA invites public comment on this finding for an additional 15 days following the effective date of the finding. Comments may be submitted to the FHWA’s Web site via the link provided to the Pennsylvania waiver page noted above.


Issued on: October 7, 2010.

Vic M. Mendez, Federal Highway Administrator.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice provides information regarding the FHWA’s finding that a Buy America waiver is appropriate for the use of non-domestic Steel Pipe; A53 Grade B, 26” OD, 0.375” wall for construction of a Recovery Act project on SR 60, Section A40, in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania.

DATES: The effective date of the waiver is October 20, 2010.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For questions about this notice, please contact Dr. Mary D. Gunnels, Director, Medical Programs, (202) 366–4001, fmcsamedical@dot.gov, FMCSA, Room W64–224, Department of
Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590–0001. Office hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Electronic Access

You may see all the comments online through the Federal Document Management System (FDMS) at: http://www.regulations.gov. Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents or comments, go to http://www.regulations.gov and/or Room W12–140 on the ground level of the West Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Privacy Act: Anyone may search the electronic form of all comments received into any of DOT’s dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or of the person signing the comment, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, or other entity). You may review DOT’s Privacy Act Statement for the Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) published in the Federal Register on January 17, 2008 (73 FR 3316), or you may visit http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2008/pdf/E8-785.pdf.

Background

On August 27, 2010, FMCSA published a notice of receipt of Federal diabetes exemption applications from thirty-five individuals and requested comments from the public (75 FR 52813). The public comment period closed on September 27, 2010 and no comments were received. FMCSA has evaluated the eligibility of the thirty-five applicants and determined that granting the exemptions to these individuals would achieve a level of safety equivalent to, or greater than, the level that would be achieved by complying with the current regulation 49 CFR 391.41(b)(3).

Diabetes Mellitus and Driving Experience of the Applicants

The Agency established the current standard for diabetes in 1970 because several risk studies indicated that drivers with diabetes had a higher rate of crash involvement than the general population. The diabetes rule provides that “A person is physically qualified to drive a commercial motor vehicle if that person has no established medical history of a condition from which a heart attack or cerebrovascular accident might occur during the course of driving.” 49 CFR 391.41(b)(3).

FMCSA established its diabetes exemption program, based on the Agency’s July 2000 study entitled “A Report to Congress on the Feasibility of a Program to Qualify Individuals with Insulin-Treated Diabetes Mellitus to Operate in Interstate Commerce as Directed by the Transportation Act for the 21st Century.” The report concluded that a safe and practicable protocol to allow some drivers with ITDM to operate CMVs is feasible. The September 3, 2003 (68 FR 52441) Federal Register notice in conjunction with the November 8, 2005 (70 FR 67777) Federal Register notice provides the current protocol for allowing such drivers to operate CMVs in interstate commerce.

These thirty-five applicants have had ITDM over a range of 1 to 32 years. These applicants report no severe hypoglycemic reactions resulting in loss of consciousness or seizure, requiring the assistance of another person, or resulting in impaired cognitive function that occurred without warning symptoms, in the past 12 months and no recurrent (2 or more) severe hypoglycemic episodes in the past 5 years. In each case, an endocrinologist verified that the driver has demonstrated a willingness to properly monitor and manage his/her diabetes mellitus, received education related to diabetes management, and is on a stable insulin regimen. These drivers report no other disqualifying conditions, including diabetes-related complications. Each meets the vision standard at 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10). The qualifications and medical condition of each applicant were stated and discussed in detail in the August 27, 2010, Federal Register notice and they will not be repeated in this notice.

Discussion of Comment

FMCSA did not receive any comments in this proceeding.

Basis for Exemption Determination

Under 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, FMCSA may grant an exemption from the diabetes standard in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(3) if the exemption is likely to achieve an equivalent or greater level of safety than would be achieved without the exemption. The exemption allows the applicants to operate CMVs in interstate commerce.

To evaluate the effect of these exemptions on safety, FMCSA considered medical reports about the applicants’ ITDM and vision, and reviewed the treating endocrinologists’ medical opinion related to the ability of the driver to safely operate a CMV while using insulin.

Consequently, FMCSA finds that in each case exempting these applicants from the diabetes standard in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(3) is likely to achieve a level of safety equal to that existing without the exemption.

Conditions and Requirements

The terms and conditions of the exemption will be provided to the applicants in the exemption document and they include the following: (1) That each individual submit a quarterly monitoring checklist completed by the treating endocrinologist as well as an annual checklist with a comprehensive medical evaluation; (2) that each individual reports within 2 business days of occurrence, all episodes of severe hypoglycemia, significant complications, or inability to manage diabetes; also, any involvement in an accident or any other adverse event in a CMV or personal vehicle, whether or not it is related to an episode of hypoglycemia; (3) that each individual provide a copy of the ophthalmologist’s or optometrist’s report to the medical examiner at the time of the annual medical examination; and (4) that each individual provide a copy of the annual medical certification to the employer for retention in the driver’s qualification file, or keep a copy in his/her driver’s qualification file if he/she is self-employed. The driver must also have a copy of the certification when driving, for presentation to a duly authorized Federal, State, or local enforcement official.

Conclusion

Based upon its evaluation of the thirty-five exemption applications, FMCSA exempts, Eric A. Anderson, Leslie R. Auger, Charlie L. Beach, James R. Beals, Craig G. Benson, Gary G. Bland, Juan E. Boyd, Stanley A. Brown, Bradley R. Burns, Leo G. Dinero, Matthew A. Donaldson, Francisco Espinoza, Terry W. Ferguson, Thomas G. Flanagan, Stacey W. Fortner, Donald K. Fraase, David W. Fraunberger, Jason W. Geier, Howard W. Girvin, Scott R. Grange, John A. Hayes, Bradley D. Heagel, Richard P. Holmen, Richard A. Homstad, John R. Johnson, Johnny O. Laws, Sr., Harold A. Meeker, Jr., Ronald D. Olson, Maria C. Paraschivescu, Paul S. Perry, Michael Pittman, Israel Ramos, Todd E. Rowley, Daniel E. Velasco and Joshua R. Wiery from the ITDM standard in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(3), subject to the conditions listed under “Conditions and Requirements” above. In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315 each exemption will be valid for two years unless revoked earlier by FMCSA. The exemption will be revoked.
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration


Qualification of Drivers; Exemption Applications; Vision

AGENCY: Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of renewal of exemptions; request for comments.

SUMMARY: FMCSA announces its decision to renew the exemptions from the vision requirement in the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations for 17 individuals. FMCSA has statutory authority to exempt individuals from the vision requirement if the exemptions granted will not compromise safety. The Agency has concluded that granting these exemption renewals will provide a level of safety that is equivalent to, or greater than, the level of safety maintained without the exemptions for these commercial motor vehicle (CMV) drivers.

DATES: This decision is effective October 22, 2010. Comments must be received on or before November 18, 2010.


• Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to http://www.regulations.gov. Follow the on-line instructions for submitting comments.

• Mail: Docket Management Facility; U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Room W64–140, Washington, DC 20590–0001.

Under 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, FMCSA may renew an exemption from the vision requirements in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10), which applies to drivers of CMVs in interstate commerce, for a two-year period if it finds “such exemption would likely achieve a level of safety that is equivalent to, or greater than, the level that would be achieved absent such exemption.” The procedures for requesting an exemption (including renewals) are set out in 49 CFR part 381.

Exemption Decision

This notice addresses 17 individuals who have requested renewal of their exemptions in accordance with FMCSA procedures. FMCSA has evaluated these 17 applications for renewal on their merits and decided to extend each exemption for a renewable two-year period. They are:

Rick A. Benevides
Allen S. Bush
Delone W. Dudley
Irvin L. Eaddy
James W. Lappan
Jeremy W. Leatherman
Ernest B. Martin
Mark L. McWhorter
Raymond C. Miller
James G. Mitchell
Dennis E. Palmer, Jr.
John E. Rains
Sylvester Silver
James D. St. Peter
Kenneth C. Steele
Michael Sutton
Brian W. Whitmer

The exemptions are extended subject to the following conditions: (1) That each individual has a physical examination every year (a) by an ophthalmologist or optometrist who attests that the vision in the better eye continues to meet the standard in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10), and (b) by a medical examiner who attests that the individual is otherwise physically qualified under 49 CFR 391.41; (2) that each individual provides a copy of the ophthalmologist’s or optometrist’s report to the medical examiner at the time of the annual medical examination; and (3) that each individual provide a copy of the annual medical certification to the employer for retention in the driver’s qualification file and retains a copy of the certification on his/her person while driving for presentation to a duly authorized Federal, State, or local enforcement official. Each exemption will be valid for two years unless rescinded earlier by FMCSA. The exemption will be rescinded if: (1) The person fails to comply with the terms and conditions of the exemption; (2) the exemption has resulted in a lower level of safety than was maintained before it was granted; or (3) continuation of the exemption would not be consistent with the goals and objectives of 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315.