

September 30, 2012, and at possible additional exhibitions or venues yet to be determined, is in the national interest. I have ordered that Public Notice of these Determinations be published in the **Federal Register**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information, including an art object list, contact Julie Simpson, Attorney-Adviser, Office of the Legal Adviser, U.S. Department of State (telephone: (202) 632-6467). The mailing address is U.S. Department of State, SA-5, L/PD, Fifth Floor (Suite 5H03), Washington, DC 20522-0505.

Dated: January 30, 2012.

J. Adam Ereli,

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Department of State.

[FR Doc. 2012-2903 Filed 2-7-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-05-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

Environmental Impact Statement: Caddo Parish, LA

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

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 Caddo Parish, Louisiana.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Carl M. Highsmith, Project Delivery Team Leader, Louisiana Division, Federal Highway Administration, 5304 Flanders Drive, Suite A, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, Telephone: (225) 757-7615; or online at www.I49shreveport.com.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FHWA, in cooperation with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) and the Northwest Louisiana Council of Governments (NLCOG), will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on a proposal to construct the I-49 Inner City Connector.

The proposed project is an approximate 3.8 mile new freeway designed to connect existing I-49 at its current junction with I-20 to future I-49 North at its proposed junction with I-220 in Shreveport, Louisiana. The proposed project will provide for improved connectivity and reduce the distance between existing I-49 and future I-49 North by approximately 7 miles. Alternatives under consideration include: (1) Taking no action; (2)

constructing an elevated freeway on new location; (3) constructing an at-grade freeway on new location; and (4) constructing a freeway that is partly elevated and partly at-grade on new location. Incorporated into and studied with the various build alternatives will be design variations of grade and alignment.

Letters describing the proposed project and soliciting comments were 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 Community Input Meetings were held at various locations in Shreveport in December 2011. In addition, a second round of Community Input Meetings are planned for spring 2012 followed by a Public Hearing late 2012. 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 formal scoping meeting was held at NLCOG on October 18, 2011, when the NLCOG approved the decision to move the project forward as an Environmental Assessment. On December 1, 2011, FHWA determined the required class of action to comply with the NEPA process as an Environmental Impact Statement. Additional public scoping was conducted during the Community Input Meetings held in December 2011.

To ensure that the full range of issues related to this proposed project are addressed and all significant issues identified, comments, and suggestions are invited from all interested parties. Comments or questions concerning this proposed project 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: January 12, 2012.

Charles W. Bolinger,

Division Administrator, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

[FR Doc. 2012-2772 Filed 2-7-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

Notice of Final Federal Agency Action on Proposed Bridge Replacement in Massachusetts

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of Limitations on Claims for Judicial Review of Action by FHWA.

SUMMARY: This notice announces action taken by the FHWA that is final within the meaning of 23 U.S.C. 139(l)(1). The action relates to the proposed Whittier Bridge (Interstate 95 over the Merrimack River) replacement/1-95 Improvement project in Newburyport, Amesbury and Salisbury, Massachusetts. The action grants an approval for the project under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

DATES: By this notice, the FHWA is advising the public of final agency actions subject to 23 U.S.C. Sec. 139(l)(1). A claim seeking judicial review of the Federal agency action on the highway project will be barred unless the claim is filed on or before August 6, 2012.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For FHWA: Damaris Santiago, Environmental Engineer, FHWA Massachusetts Division Office, 55 Broadway, 10th Floor, Cambridge, MA 02142, (617) 494-2419, dsantiago@dot.gov. For Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) Highway Division: James Cerbone, Project Manager, MassDOT Highway Division, 10 Park Plaza, Room 4260, Boston, MA 02116, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., (617) 973-7529, James.Cerbone@state.ma.us.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given that the FHWA has taken final agency action subject to 23 U.S.C. 139(l)(1) by issuing approval for the following bridge/highway improvement project in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The proposed project involves as its centerpiece the replacement of the John Greenleaf Whittier Bridge over the Merrimack River. It also includes the replacement or reconstruction of four bridges along 1-95 in Newburyport and Amesbury and the widening of 1-95 between Exit 57 in Newburyport and Exit 60 in Salisbury. When completed, there will be four travel lanes, a shoulder adjacent to the high speed lane and a breakdown lane in each direction. The Whittier Bridge/1-95 Improvement Project was recently selected by the Obama Administration for expedited permitting and environmental review. It is one of

the largest projects to be undertaken by MassDOT under the Commonwealth's \$3 billion Accelerated Bridge Program. The project includes the Whittier Trail: the first shared-use path to be constructed along a Massachusetts interstate. The action by the Federal agency, and the law under which the action was taken, are described in the Environmental Assessment (EA), for which a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) was issued on January 20, 2012 and other documents in the FHWA project records. The EA, FONSI and other project records are available by contacting FHWA or MassDOT at the addresses above. The FHWA EA and FONSI can be viewed and downloaded from the project Web site at <http://whittierbridge.mhd.state.ma.us/> or viewed at public libraries in the municipalities of Amesbury, Newburyport, and Salisbury, Massachusetts.

This notice applies to all Federal agency decisions as of the issuance date of this notice and all laws under which such actions were taken, including but not limited to:

1. National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

Authority: 23 U.S.C. 139(l)(1).

Issued on: January 31, 2012.

Pamela S. Stephenson,

Division Administrator, Cambridge.

[FR Doc. 2012-2830 Filed 2-7-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-RY-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

Sunshine Act Meeting Notice

AGENCY: Unified Carrier Registration Plan Board of Directors, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), DOT.

TIME AND DATE: March 8, 2012, 12 noon to 3 p.m., Eastern Daylight Time.

PLACE: This meeting will take place telephonically. Any interested person may call (877) 820-7831, passcode, 908048 to participate in this meeting.

STATUS: Open to the public.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: The Unified Carrier Registration Plan Board of Directors (the Board) will continue its work in developing and implementing the Unified Carrier Registration Plan and Agreement and to that end, may consider matters properly before the Board.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Avelino Gutierrez, Chair, Unified

Carrier Registration Board of Directors at (505) 827-4565.

Issued on: February 2, 2012.

Larry W. Minor,

Associate Administrator for Policy.

[FR Doc. 2012-3061 Filed 2-6-12; 4:15 pm]

BILLING CODE 4910-EX-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket Number FRA-2010-0176]

Petition for Waiver of Compliance

In accordance with part 211 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), this document provides the public notice that by a document dated December 6, 2010, Nimishillen and Tuscarawas Railway (NTRY) of Canton, OH, has petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) for a waiver of compliance from certain provisions of the Federal railroad safety regulations contained at 49 CFR part 223. FRA has assigned the petition Docket Number FRA-2010-0176.

NTRY seeks renewal of relief from the requirements of the railroad safety glazing standards (49 CFR part 223). This relief was originally granted in 1992 per Docket Number RSGM-91-31. The relief was granted for seven locomotives. NTRY's current petition requests a permanent waiver of compliance for six locomotives (numbered NTRY 1221, 1228, 1285, and LTEX 1002, 1003, and 1004) from the requirements of 49 CFR part 223, which requires certified glazing in all windows.

These locomotives, equipped to operate as remote controlled locomotives (RCL), are primarily used to move freight cars in the Republic Engineered Products facility. Occasionally, the units leave the facility to move freight cars to separate interchange tracks with the Norfolk Southern or Wheeling & Lake Erie Railway. During these operations, the units do not cross any public road crossings. The maximum speed of these operations is 10 mph. Occupancy of the locomotive cabs is minimal during shift operations within the industrial facility. All existing glazing on these locomotives is equipped with clear safety glass. NTRY states that replacing the existing glazing with FRA-certified glazing will put a severe hardship and financial burden on the railroad.

A copy of the petition, as well as any written communications concerning the petition, is available for review online at <http://www.regulations.gov> and in

person at the U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) Docket Operations Facility, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., W12-140, Washington, DC 20590. The Docket Operations Facility is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

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 and may be submitted by any of the following methods:

- **Web site:** <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
- **Fax:** (202) 493-2251.
- **Mail:** Docket Operations Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., W12-140, Washington, DC 20590.
- **Hand Delivery:** 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

Communications received by March 26, 2012 will be considered by FRA before final action is taken. Comments received after that date will be considered as far as practicable.

Anyone is able to search the electronic form of any written communications and 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 online at <http://www.dot.gov/privacy.html>.

Issued in Washington, DC, on February 3, 2012.

Ron Hynes,

Acting Deputy Associate Administrator for Regulatory and Legislative Operations.

[FR Doc. 2012-2905 Filed 2-7-12; 8:45 am]

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