DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Federal Highway Administration

Environmental Assessment: Jessamine County and Madison County, KY

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of Intent (NOI).

SUMMARY: The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is issuing this notice to advise the public that FHWA will prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) to determine the need for a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) or an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)/Record of Decision (ROD) for a new connector between US 27 in Jessamine County, KY and 1–75 in Madison County, KY. This project will adhere to the requirements of Section 6002 of SAFETEA–LU. The purpose of the 1–75 Connector project is to improve regional access and east-west connectivity. Comments on the scope of the EA for the proposed project should be forwarded no later than May 1, 2012.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Federal Highway Administration, Kentucky Division: Mr. Ian Chidister, Environmental Specialist, 330 West Broadway, Frankfort, KY 40601. Ian may be reached by phone at 502–223–6730, or by email at Ian.Chidister@dot.gov. For additional information, contact Ananias Calvin, P.E., Project Manager for the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, at (859) 246-2355 or via email at Ananias.Calvin@ky.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FHWA, in cooperation with the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC), will prepare an EA to determine the need for a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) or an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)/Record of Decision (ROD) for a new connector between US 27 in Jessamine County, KY and 1–75 in Madison County, KY. The study area extends from the proposed Eastern Nicholasville Bypass (US 27) to 1–75 near the KY 627 Interchange, including a new crossing at the Kentucky River. The nearest alternate connection between the two routes is Man O’ War Boulevard in Lexington, KY. KY 169 also provides a rural route between Nicholasville, KY and Richmond, KY; however, the only Kentucky River crossing on this route is provided by the Valley View Ferry, an automobile-only ferry service that provides cross river service during limited service hours.

The objective of this study is to identify alternative corridors for the 1–75 Jessamine County Connector while considering environmental, social, engineering, costs and other factors in the project vicinity. This study will conform to Kentucky’s environmental guidance and the SAFETEA–LU Section 6002 requirements.

Environmental Issues: Possible environmental issues include effects to historical properties or farmland; increased noise; viewsshed impacts; impacts to water resources, flood plains, prime farmland, sensitive biological species and their habitat; land use compatibility impacts; community impacts; and impacts to agricultural lands.

Alternatives: The EA will consider alternatives that include the No-Build (Do Nothing) Alternative as well as a range of build alternatives on new alignment.

Public and Agency Participation: FHWA encourages broad participation in the EA process and review of the resulting environmental documents. Comments, questions, and suggestions related to the project and potential socioeconomic and environmental concerns are invited from all interested agencies and the public at large to ensure that the full range of issues related to the proposed action and all reasonable alternatives are considered and all significant issues are identified. These comments, questions, and suggestions should be forwarded to either phone number or email address listed above.

Early Coordination Letters will be sent to the appropriate Federal, State and local agencies in the Spring of 2012 describing the project, following a project kick-off coordinated through a media news release. An invitation letter will be sent to potential Cooperating Agencies, Participating Agencies, and Section 106 Consulting Parties inviting the agencies to officially take part in the study and encouraging agency comments and suggestions concerning the proposed project, and further defining
the roles of Agencies. The draft purpose and need for the project will be developed and preliminary alternatives identified. The agencies, stakeholders, and public will have an opportunity to review and comment on this information. The purpose and need and preliminary alternatives will be available for public review during a Citizens’ Advisory Committee Meeting and Public Workshop. Public notice will be given as to the time and place of the meetings. Agencies and the public will also have an opportunity to comment on various study findings, including: (1) Definition of purpose and need; (2) establishment of screening criteria; (3) screening of initial alternatives; (4) selection of final alternatives; and (5) for the review of environmental documentation. Citizens’ Advisory Committee meetings and public meetings will be conducted regularly as the project moves forward to secure input from key stakeholders as decisions are made.

Notices of availability for the purpose and need and identification of preliminary alternatives, evaluation and screening of preliminary alternatives, and identification of final alternatives will be provided through direct mail, email, the project Web site available at www.I–75connector.com, and other media. Notification also will be sent to Federal, State, local agencies, persons and organizations that submit comments or questions. Precise schedules and locations for public meetings will be announced in the local news media and the project Web site. Interested individuals and organizations may request to be included on the mailing list for distribution of meeting announcements and associated information.

Other Approvals for Federal Permits: The following approvals for federal permits are anticipated to be required: the Navigational Permit Application from the US Coast Guard and the Section 404 Permit from the Army Corps of Engineers. Additionally, a Section 401 Permit may be required from the Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program No. 20.205, Highway Planning and Construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 12372 regarding intergovernmental consultation on Federal programs and activities apply to the program)


Jose Sepulveda, Division Administrator, Federal Highway Administration, Frankfort, Kentucky.

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SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

[DOCKET NO. FD 35571]

Amtrak’s Petition for Determination of PRIIA Section 209 Cost Methodology

AGENCY: Surface Transportation Board.

ACTION: Adoption of methodology to establish and allocate costs for state-supported Amtrak routes.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of the adoption of a methodology to establish and allocate costs for state-supported Amtrak routes. Amtrak developed this methodology in consultation with affected states, pursuant to Section 209 of the Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act of 2008 (PRIIA). Following consultations, the affected states agreed to adoption of the methodology, with the exception of Indiana. Indiana advised Amtrak that it did not accept the proposed methodology, but did not offer any explanation for its decision. In light of Indiana’s decision, Amtrak subsequently filed its petition with the Board, seeking adoption of the methodology.

By decision served on March 15, 2012, the Board finds that the methodology meets the requirements of PRIIA Section 209(a) and should be implemented by Amtrak in accordance with PRIIA Section 209(c). The methodology is a single, nationwide standardized methodology for establishing and allocating the operating and capital costs among the states and Amtrak, associated with the trains operated on the routes subject to PRIIA Section 209(a). Upon review of the methodology and the facts and circumstances surrounding its development, the Board concludes that the methodology will: (1) Ensure equal treatment in the provision of like services of all states and groups of states; and (2) allocate to each route the costs incurred only for the benefit of that route and a proportionate share, based upon factors that reasonably reflect relative use, of costs incurred for the common benefit of more than one route. The decision will become effective on April 14, 2012. The entire Board decision is available on the Board’s Web site at www.stb.dot.gov.

This decision will not significantly affect either the human environment or the conservation of energy resources.


By the Board, Chairman Elliott, Vice Chairman Mulvey, and Commissioner Begeman.

Jeffrey Herzog, Clearance Clerk.

[FR Doc. 2012–6604 Filed 3–19–12; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Financial Crimes Enforcement Network

Proposed Renewal; Comment Request; Anti-Money Laundering Programs for Various Financial Institutions

AGENCY: Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, Department of the Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: As part of our continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, we invite comment on a proposed renewal, without change, to information collections found in existing regulations requiring money services businesses, mutual funds, operators of credit card systems, dealers in precious metals, stones, or jewels, and certain insurance companies to develop and implement written anti-money laundering programs reasonably designed to prevent those financial institutions from being used to facilitate money laundering and the financing of terrorist activities. This request for comments is being made pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. Pub. L. 104–13, 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A).

DATES: Written comments are welcome and must be received on or before May 21, 2012.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be submitted to: Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, P.O. Box 39, Vienna, VA 22183, Attention: Anti-Money Laundering Program Comments. Comments also may be submitted by electronic mail to the following Internet address: regcomments@fincen.gov, again with a caption, in the body of the text, “Attention: Anti-Money Laundering Program Comments.”

Inspection of comments. Comments may be inspected, between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., in the FinCEN reading room in Vienna, VA. Persons wishing to inspect the comments submitted must request an appointment with the Disclosure Officer by telephoning (703) 905–5034 (Not a toll free call).