Exemption Decision

This notice addresses 33 individuals who have requested renewal of their exemptions in accordance with FMCSA procedures. FMCSA has evaluated these 33 applications for renewal on their merits and decided to extend each exemption for a renewable two-year period. They are:

- Charles H. Akers, Jr. (VA)
- David B. Albers, Sr. (UT)
- Kurtis A. Anderson (SD)
- Terry L. Anderson (PA)
- Sammy J. Barada (NE)
- Timothy Bradford (TN)
- Cody W. Cook (OK)
- Marvin R. Daly (SC)
- Douglas K. Esp (MT)
- Roger C. Evans, II (WI)
- Jeffont D. Fells (AL)
- Steven C. Fox (NC)
- Gary A. Golson (AL)
- Donald L. Hamrick (KS)
- Eugene W. Harnisch (WI)
- William E. Jacobs (TX)
- Matthew C. Kalebaugh (KS)
- Timothy R. McCullough (FL)
- Marcus L. McMillin (FL)
- George C. Milks (NY)
- Daniel R. Murphy (WI)
- Thomas L. Oglesby (GA)
- Garrick Pitts (AR)
- Jonathan C. Rollings (IA)
- Preston S. Salisbury (MT)
- Victor M. Santana (CA)
- Kevin W. Schaffer (IL)
- Gerald E. Sklitzerzy (WI)
- Allen W. Smith (KS)
- George A. Teti (FL)
- David W. Ward (NC)
- Patricia A. White (IL)
- Ralph W. York (NM)

The exemptions are extended subject to the following conditions: (1) That each individual has a physical examination every (a) by an ophthalmologist or optometrist who attests that the vision in the better eye continues to meet the requirements 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 Each exemption will be valid for two years unless rescinded earlier by FMCSA. The exemption will be rescinded if: (1) the person fails to comply with the terms and conditions of the exemption; (2) the exemption has resulted in a lower level of safety than was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.

Basis for Renewing Exemptions

Under 49 U.S.C. 31315(b)(1), an exemption may be granted for no longer than two years from its approval date and may be renewed upon application for additional two year periods. In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, each of the 33 applicants has satisfied the entry conditions for obtaining an exemption from the vision requirements (69 FR 53493; 69 FR 64742; 71 FR 62148; 73 FR 61922; 73 FR 61925; 73 FR 74563; 75 FR 59327; 75 FR 69757; 75 FR 72863; 75 FR 77949; 76 FR 1499; 76 FR 2190). Each of these applicants has requested renewal of the exemption and has submitted evidence showing that the vision in the better eye continues to meet the requirement specified at 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10) and that the vision impairment is stable. In addition, a review of each record of safety while driving with the respective vision deficiencies over the past two years indicates each applicant continues to meet the vision exemption requirements.

These factors provide an adequate basis for predicting each driver’s ability to continue to drive safely in interstate commerce. Therefore, FMCSA concludes that extending the exemption for each renewal applicant for a period of two years is likely to achieve a level of safety equal to that existing without the exemption.

Request for Comments

FMCSA will review comments received at any time concerning a particular driver’s safety record and determine if the continuation of the exemption is consistent with the requirements at 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315. However, FMCSA requests that interested parties with specific data concerning the safety records of these drivers submit comments by January 14, 2013.

FMCSA believes that the requirements for a renewal of an exemption under 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315 can be satisfied by initially granting the renewal and then requesting and evaluating, if needed, subsequent comments submitted by interested parties. As indicated above, the Agency previously published notices of final disposition announcing its decision to exempt these 33 individuals from the vision requirement in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10). The final decision to grant an exemption to each of these individuals was made on the merits of each case and made only after careful consideration of the comments received to its notices of applications. The notices of applications stated in detail the qualifications, experience, and medical condition of each applicant for an exemption from the vision requirements. That information is available by consulting the above cited Federal Register publications.

Interested parties or organizations possessing information that would otherwise show that any, or all, of these drivers are not currently achieving the statutory level of safety should immediately notify FMCSA. The agency will evaluate any adverse evidence submitted and, if safety is being compromised or if continuation of the exemption would not be consistent with the goals and objectives of 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, FMCSA will take immediate steps to revoke the exemption of a driver.

Issued on: December 3, 2012.

Larry W. Minor,
Associate Administrator for Policy.
hand or by mail to the Docket Clerk, U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M–30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590. You may also send comments electronically via the Internet at http://www.regulations.gov. All comments will become part of this docket and will be available for inspection and copying at the above address between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., E.T., Monday through Friday, except federal holidays. An electronic version of this document and all documents entered into this docket is available on the World Wide Web at http://www.regulations.gov.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: As described by the applicant the intended service of the vessel MELLO MOON is: "Six pack passenger charters." Geographic Region: South Carolina, Georgia, Florida. The complete application is given in DOT docket MARAD–2012–0110 at http://www.regulations.gov. Interested parties may comment on the effect this action may have on U.S. vessel builders or businesses in the U.S. that use U.S.-flag vessels. If MARAD determines, in accordance with 46 U.S.C. 12121 and MARAD’s regulations at 46 CFR Part 388, that the issuance of the waiver will have an unduly adverse effect on a U.S.-vessel builder or a business that uses U.S.-flag vessels in that business, a waiver will not be granted. Comments should refer to the docket number of this notice and the vessel name in order for MARAD to properly consider the comments. Comments should also state the commenter’s interest in the waiver application, and address the waiver criteria given in § 388.4 of MARAD’s regulations at 46 CFR Part 388.

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). By Order of the Maritime Administrator. Dated: December 6, 2012.

Julie P. Agarwal, Secretary, Maritime Administration.

[FR Doc. 2012–29939 Filed 12–12–12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–81–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

[Docket No. PHMSA–2012–0215]

Pipeline Safety: Information Collection Activities

AGENCY: Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments of a previously approved information collection.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.), this notice announces that the Information Collection Requests abstracted below are being forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comments. A Federal Register notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on the following information collections was published on August 27, 2012, (77 FR 51848) under docket number PHMSA–2012–0094. No comments were received. The purpose of this notice is to allow the public an additional 30 days to send comments to OMB on the information collections described below.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before January 14, 2013.

ADDRESSES: Send comments regarding the burden estimate, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to OMB, Attention: Desk Officer for the Office of the Secretary of Transportation, 725 17th Street NW., Washington, DC 20503.

Comments are invited on: Wether 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.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Pipeline Safety: Control Room Management/Human Factors. OMB Control Number: 2137–0624. Type of Request: Renewal of a Previously Approved Information Collection.

Current Expiration Date: 1/31/2013. Abstract: 49 CFR 192.631 and 195.446 address human factors and other components of control room management. These regulations require operators of hazardous liquid pipelines and gas pipelines to develop and implement a human factors management plan designed to reduce risk associated with human factors in each control room.

Affected Public: Operators of both natural gas and hazardous liquid pipeline systems.

Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping Burden:

Total Annual Responses: 2,702.

Total Annual Burden Hours: 127,328.

Frequency of Collection: On occasion.

Title: Integrity Management Program for Gas Distribution Pipelines. OMB Control Number: 2137–0625. Type of Request: Renewal of a Previously Approved Information Collection.

Current Expiration Date: 1/31/2013. Abstract: The Federal Pipeline Safety Regulations in 49 CFR, Part 192, Subpart P require operators of gas distribution pipelines to develop and implement integrity management (IM) programs. The purpose of these programs is to enhance safety by identifying and reducing pipeline integrity risks. PHMSA requires that operators maintain records demonstrating compliance with these requirements for 10 years and that these records must include superseded IM plans.

Affected Public: Operators of gas distribution pipeline systems.

Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping Burden:

Total Annual Responses: 9,343.

Total Annual Burden Hours: 865,178.

Frequency of Collection: On occasion.