

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.

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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 July 17, 2014 will be considered by FRA before final action is taken. Comments received after that date will be considered as far as practicable.

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Issued in Washington, DC, on May 27, 2014.

Robert C. Lauby,

Associate Administrator for Railroad Safety, Chief Safety Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket Number FRA-2013-0057]

Petition for Modification to Waiver of Compliance

In accordance with Part 211 of Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), this document provides the public notice that by two letters dated April 2, 2014, Steam Into History (Steam) has petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) for a modification to its existing waiver of compliance from certain provisions of the Federal railroad safety regulations contained at

49 CFR Part 215, Railroad Freight Car Safety Standards. FRA assigned the petition Docket Number FRA-2013-0057.

Specifically, Steam seeks additional relief from 49 CFR 215.303, *Stenciling of restricted cars*, which requires that restricted railroad freight cars be stenciled or marked in clearly legible letters with the letter "R" and a series of designated terms to indicate the basis for the restricted operation of the car.

The petition requests the addition of two freight cars, numbered NCR 630 and 127, to relief already granted for similar equipment. NCR 127 is a railroad flatcar being converted to a passenger car for tourist and excursion railroad service by the addition of seating, superstructures, and steps. NCR 630 is a caboos. Each of the Steam freight cars in the petition is more than 50 years of age, measured from the date of original construction, and these freight cars are also the subject of a parallel petition for Special Approval for continued operation under 49 CFR 215.203(c). Therefore, Steam seeks a waiver of the requirement for stenciling contained in 49 CFR 215.303, as the railroad states that the stenciling would detract from both the aesthetic and historical nature of the reproduction vintage railcar equipment. As Steam's passenger equipment will operate in a limited area, Steam requests permission to keep documentation related to the restricted status of the equipment at its business office, similar to the conditions granted to other tourist and excursion railroads. Additionally, Steam petitions for relief from all of the requirements of 49 CFR Part 224, ReflectORIZATION of Rail Freight Rolling Stock, as the railroad states that reflectORIZATION would detract from both the aesthetic and historical nature of its reproduction vintage equipment.

A copy of the petition, as well as any written communications concerning the petition, is available for review online at 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.

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Issued in Washington, DC, on May 27, 2014.

Robert C. Lauby,

Associate Administrator for Railroad Safety, Chief Safety Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket Number FRA-2003-15340]

Petition for Waiver of Compliance

In accordance with Part 211 of Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), this document provides the public notice that by a letter dated November 28, 2013, the American Association of Private Railroad Car Owners (AAPRCO) petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) for a renewal of its waiver of compliance from certain provisions of the Federal railroad safety regulations contained at 49 CFR Part 238, Passenger Equipment Safety Standards. FRA assigned the petition Docket Number FRA-2003-15340.

AAPRCO seeks renewal of its relief from 49 CFR 238.321(m)(2), *Brake system*. This section specifies that “up to two cars may be operated in direct release mode when the rest of the cars in the train are operated in graduated release mode, provided that the cars operated in direct release mode are hauled at the rear of the train consist.” The present relief provides that “up to two cars may be operated in direct release mode when the rest of the cars in the train are operated in graduated release mode,” thereby eliminating the placement restrictions of the direct release cars to the rear of the train. AAPRCO was granted its original relief in 2003; this relief was renewed for 5 years in 2008.

A copy of the petition, as well as any written communications concerning the petition, is available for review online at 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.

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Issued in Washington, DC, on May 27, 2014.

Robert C. Lauby,

*Associate Administrator for Railroad Safety,
Chief Safety Officer.*

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket Number FRA–2014–0013]

Petition for Waiver of Compliance

In accordance with Part 211 of Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), this document provides the public notice that by a document dated June 6, 2013, Montana Rail Link (MRL) 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 232, Brake System Safety Standards for Freight and Other Non-Passenger Trains and Equipment; End-of-Train Devices. FRA assigned the petition Docket Number FRA–2014–0013.

MRL seeks a waiver of compliance from 49 CFR 232.219, *Double heading and helper service*. This section states that “a Class III brake test pursuant to [Section] 232.211 shall be made to ensure that the brakes are operative from the automatic brake valve of the locomotive taking control of the train.” MRL petitions FRA for a modified Class 3 brake test for the use of the Helper-Link® equipped helper locomotive when pushing trains with one or more distributed power (DP) locomotives on the rear of the train. Most of MRL’s traffic is bridge traffic for BNSF Railway (BNSF), which uses a waiver for Helper-Link® (Docket Number FRA–2006–26435). MRL seeks the use of identical conditions to BNSF’s relief for its operation of Helper-Link®-equipped trains. MRL’s evaluation of benefits includes increased safety due to the reduced need for train service employees to couple and uncouple from trains twice for each train assisted and operational benefits by reducing turnaround time for helper consists,

improving velocity and increasing fuel savings.

A copy of the petition, as well as any written communications concerning the petition, is available for review online at 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.

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Issued in Washington, DC, on May 27, 2014.

Robert C. Lauby,

*Associate Administrator for Railroad Safety,
Chief Safety Officer.*

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