

themselves, however, will be manufactured in the United States.

LIRR states that these turnouts are essential throughout its system for the following operational reasons: (1) the turnouts withstand the frequent and heavy use by passenger and freight trains traveling along LIRR's right of way; (2) the turnouts accommodate an increased amount of rush hour trains and allow them to travel at higher speeds, ultimately providing more throughput during LIRR's busiest hours; (3) the foreign-made components reduce impact loading to the turnouts; and (4) the turnouts provide for less wear and tear, thereby requiring less maintenance, extending the useful lives of the turnouts, and requiring less outages and negative impacts on LIRR's operations.

In support of its requests, LIRR points to a non-availability waiver that FRA issued to the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (also referred to as "Amtrak") for the same turnout components on April 23, 2013. FRA's waiver was based on a December 2012 Supplier Scouting Report (Report) developed by the Manufacturing Extension Partnership of the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). NIST's Report identified several potential U.S. manufacturers of the turnout components, but after extensive outreach, FRA determined that no domestic manufacturers were willing and capable of producing the components. To support the waiver requests that are the subject of this notice, LIRR utilized the NIST Report and conducted individualized outreach with each of the manufacturers identified in it. LIRR also conducted its own independent outreach. Based on these efforts, LIRR has determined that there are no U.S. manufacturers that are willing and capable of producing the turnout components that are needed for its system.

Since that initial waiver, FRA published a second notice on September 19, 2014, requesting comments on a subsequent request for turnout components from LIRR for the Harold Interlocking Project that would not meet FRA's Buy America requirements. See, <http://www.fra.dot.gov/Page/P0719>. FRA's comment period closed on October 6, 2014, and interested parties can view FRA's determination via the Buy America web link in the preceding sentence.

The purpose of this Notice is to inform potential interested vendors of LIRR's requests and to seek public comment from all interested parties in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 5323(j)(3)(A). Comments will help FTA understand

completely the facts surrounding the request, including the effects of a potential waiver and the merits of the request. Full copies of LIRR's requests will be posted in docket number FTA-2014-0025, along with any public comments.

**Dana Nifosi,**

*Acting Chief Counsel.*

[FR Doc. 2014-29730 Filed 12-18-14; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-57-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Maritime Administration

[Docket No. MARAD-2014 0155]

#### Requested Administrative Waiver of the Coastwise Trade Laws: Vessel BELLAROMA; Invitation for Public Comments

**AGENCY:** Maritime Administration, Department of Transportation.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** As authorized by 46 U.S.C. 12121, the Secretary of Transportation, as represented by the Maritime Administration (MARAD), is authorized to grant waivers of the U.S.-build requirement of the coastwise laws under certain circumstances. A request for such a waiver has been received by MARAD. The vessel, and a brief description of the proposed service, is listed below.

**DATES:** Submit comments on or before January 20, 2015.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should refer to docket number MARAD-2014-0155. Written comments may be submitted by 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>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Linda Williams, U.S. Department of Transportation, Maritime Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Room W23-453, Washington, DC 20590. Telephone 202-

366-0903, Email [Linda.Williams@dot.gov](mailto:Linda.Williams@dot.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** As described by the applicant the intended service of the vessel BELLAROMA is:

*Intended Commercial Use Of Vessel:* "Passenger charter use only. Primarily day charters but some overnights as well."

*Geographic Region:* "Florida, South Carolina and Georgia" The complete application is given in DOT docket MARAD-2014-0155 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 11, 2014.

**Julie P. Agarwal,**

*Secretary, Maritime Administration.*

[FR Doc. 2014-29718 Filed 12-18-14; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-81-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Maritime Administration

[Docket No. MARAD-2014 0154]

#### Requested Administrative Waiver of the Coastwise Trade Laws: Vessel MIS MOONDANCE; Invitation for Public Comments

**AGENCY:** Maritime Administration, Department of Transportation.

**ACTION:** Notice.