

addressed postcard or envelope. FMCSA will consider all comments and material received during the comment period.

II. Legal Basis

FMCSA has authority under 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315 to grant exemptions from certain Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations. FMCSA must publish a notice of each exemption request in the **Federal Register** (49 CFR 381.315(a)). The Agency must provide the public an opportunity to inspect the information relevant to the application, including any safety analyses that have been conducted. The Agency must also provide an opportunity for public comment on the request.

The Agency reviews safety analyses and public comments submitted, and determines whether granting the exemption would likely achieve a level of safety equivalent to, or greater than, the level that would be achieved by the current regulation (49 CFR 381.305). The decision of the Agency must be published in the **Federal Register** (49 CFR 381.315(b)) with the reasons for denying or granting the application and, if granted, the name of the person or class of persons receiving the exemption, and the regulatory provision from which the exemption is granted. The notice must also specify the effective period (up to 5 years) and explain the terms and conditions of the exemption. The exemption may be renewed (49 CFR 381.300(b)).

III. Request for Exemption

The Association of American Railroads and American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association (AAR/ASLRRA) contend that the HOS prohibitions on driving after a 14-hour period on duty, and after 60 or 70 hours on duty in a 7- or 8-day week without the required off-duty period, inhibit a railroad's ability to respond expeditiously to certain types of emergency situations. For this reason AAR/ASLRRA is requesting that a railroad employee responding to an unplanned event that affects interstate commerce, service or the safety of railway operations, including passenger rail operations, and that occurs outside of or extends beyond the employee's normal shift, be exempt from the provisions in 49 CFR part 395.3(a) and (b). Unplanned events include some of the following: A derailment; a rail failure or other report of dangerous track condition; a disruption to the electric propulsion system; a bridge-strike; a disabled vehicle on the track; a train collision; weather and storm-related events; a matter of national security; or a matter concerning public safety; a

blocked grade crossing, etc. The applicants request the exemption be granted for five years. If the exemption is granted it would cover 21,000 drivers and 11,000 commercial motor vehicles (CMVs).

In their application, AAR/ASLRRA compare the work of railroad employees responding to an emergency situation to that of utility employees responding to an emergency situation. The HOS rules do not apply to a driver of a utility service vehicle as defined in 49 CFR 395.2. In the same respect that utility employees use any CMV to repair and maintain pertinent services, railroad employees use vehicles as mobile supply facilities, transporting personnel, equipment and material needed for the driver to use at worksites within a region. Like utility employees, railroad employees will have unpredictable work hours when needed to address operational emergencies.

AAR/ASLRRA contend that the work done by these employees supports the railroad's effort to restore essential interstate commerce passenger rail operations and, in the event of a grade crossing incident, restore road and pedestrian access to the public. The applicants assert that there is no principled distinction between railroad employees responding to an unplanned event and those who operate utility service vehicles.

According to AAR/ASLRRA railroads work with local officials who have authority to declare an emergency in the case of unplanned events. However, the process is not well-defined and there are no assurances that a request made during off-hours would be reviewed in a timely manner. For example, one of AAR's member railroads has an internal process that often involves coordination among multiple jurisdictions due to the nature of the interstate railroad system. Despite the railroad's best efforts, a delay in response from a designated official outside of the normal work day can reportedly cause up to a five to seven-hour delay in the railroad's efforts to resolve the unplanned event. According to the applicants, this type of delay can have a crippling impact on the rail network, especially in congested areas of the country like the Northeast Corridor and Chicago.

IV. Method To Ensure an Equivalent or Greater Level of Safety

AAR/ASLRRA explained that "the requested exemption will allow railroad employees to respond timelier to unplanned events to restore rail service without incurring extended blocked crossings, cascading effects to traffic on the rail network, delays to passenger rail

operations, and delayed customer service. Additionally, railroads will be able to improve public safety to motorists and pedestrians, if they are able to expeditiously clear blocked grade crossings."

The applicants propose to provide any employee required to drive within the terms of the requested exemption additional time off-duty in excess of the 10 consecutive hours required by 395.3(a)(1). For ease of recordkeeping, the applicants propose that:

- Any employee responding to an unplanned event that exceeds his/her 14 hours of duty time for 5 hours or less be given 5 additional consecutive hours off-duty for a total of 15 consecutive hours off-duty before driving again;
- Any employee responding to an unplanned event that exceeds his/her 14 hours of duty time for 5 hours up to a maximum of 10 hours be given 10 additional consecutive hours off-duty for a total of 20 consecutive hours off-duty before driving again; and
- Any employee who exceeds 60 or 70 hours on duty in a 7- or 8-day week due to responding to an unplanned event be given 34 hours of rest as prescribed in section 395.3 (c) prior to driving again.

A copy of the application for exemption is available for review in the docket for this notice.

Issued on: December 7, 2018.

Larry W. Minor,

Associate Administrator for Policy.

[FR Doc. 2018-27341 Filed 12-17-18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-EX-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[Docket No. FMCSA-2018-0347]

Commercial Driver's License Standards: Application for Exemption; Navistar, Inc. (Navistar)

AGENCY: Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of application for exemption; request for comments.

SUMMARY: FMCSA announces that Navistar, Inc. (Navistar) has requested an exemption for one commercial motor vehicle (CMV) driver from the Federal requirement to hold a U.S. commercial driver's license (CDL). Navistar requests an exemption for Mr. Jerome Douay, a Product Engineer Senior Manager with MAN Truck & Bus AG (MAN) in Munich, Germany, who holds a valid German commercial license. MAN is

partnering with Navistar to help develop technology advancements in fuel economy and emissions reductions. Mr. Douay wants to test drive Navistar vehicles on U.S. roads to better understand product requirements in “real world” environments, and verify results. Navistar believes the requirements for a German commercial license ensure that operation under the exemption will likely achieve a level of safety equivalent to or greater than the level that would be obtained in the absence of the exemption. FMCSA requests public comments on Navistar’s application for exemption.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before January 17, 2019.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments bearing the Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) Docket ID FMCSA–2018–0347 using any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* www.regulations.gov. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
- *Mail:* Docket Management Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590–0001.
- *Hand Delivery or Courier:* West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.
- *Fax:* 1–202–493–2251.

Each submission must include the Agency name and the docket number for this notice. Note that DOT posts all comments received without change to www.regulations.gov, including any personal information included in a comment. Please see the *Privacy Act* heading below.

Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents or comments, go to www.regulations.gov at any time or visit Room W12–140 on the ground level of the West Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., ET, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The on-line FDMS is available 24 hours each day, 365 days each year.

Privacy Act: In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its rulemaking process. DOT posts these comments, without edit, including any personal information the commenter provides, to www.regulations.gov, as described in the system of records notice (DOT/ALL–14 FDMS), which can be reviewed at www.dot.gov/privacy.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Pearl Robinson, FMCSA Driver and Carrier Operations Division; Office of

Carrier, Driver and Vehicle Safety Standards; Telephone: 202–366–4225. Email: MCPSPD@dot.gov. If you have questions on viewing or submitting material to the docket, contact Docket Services, telephone (202) 366–9826.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Public Participation and Request for Comments

FMCSA encourages you to participate by submitting comments and related materials.

Submitting Comments

If you submit a comment, please include the docket number for this notice (FMCSA–2018–0347), indicate the specific section of this document to which the comment applies, and provide a reason for suggestions or recommendations. You may submit your comments and material online or by fax, mail, or hand delivery, but please use only one of these means. FMCSA recommends that you include your name and a mailing address, an email address, or a phone number in the body of your document so the Agency can contact you if it has questions regarding your submission.

To submit your comment online, go to www.regulations.gov and put the docket number, “FMCSA–2018–0347” in the “Keyword” box, and click “Search.” When the new screen appears, click on “Comment Now!” button and type your comment into the text box in the following screen. Choose whether you are submitting your comment as an individual or on behalf of a third party and then submit. If you submit your comments by mail or hand delivery, submit them in an unbound format, no larger than 8½ by 11 inches, suitable for copying and electronic filing. If you submit comments by mail and would like to know that they reached the facility, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed postcard or envelope. FMCSA will consider all comments and material received during the comment period and may grant or not grant this application based on your comments.

II. Legal Basis

FMCSA has authority under 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315 to grant exemptions from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations. FMCSA must publish a notice of each exemption request in the **Federal Register** (49 CFR 381.315(a)). The Agency must provide the public an opportunity to inspect the information relevant to the application, including any safety analyses that have been conducted. The Agency must also provide an opportunity for public comment on the request.

The Agency reviews the safety analyses and the public comments, and determines whether granting the exemption would likely achieve a level of safety equivalent to, or greater than, the level that would be achieved by the current regulation (49 CFR 381.305). The decision of the Agency must be published in the **Federal Register** (49 CFR 381.315(b)) with the reason for the grant or denial, and, if granted, the specific person or class of persons receiving the exemption, and the regulatory provision or provisions from which exemption is granted. The notice must also specify the effective period of the exemption (up to 5 years), and explain the terms and conditions of the exemption. The exemption may be renewed (49 CFR 381.300(b)).

III. Request for Exemption

Navistar has applied for an exemption for Jerome Douay from 49 CFR 383.23, which prescribes licensing requirements for drivers operating CMVs in interstate or intrastate commerce. Mr. Douay is unable to obtain a CDL in any of the U.S. States due to his lack of residency in the United States. A copy of the application is in Docket No. FMCSA–2018–0347.

The exemption would allow Mr. Douay to operate CMVs in interstate or intrastate commerce to support Navistar field tests designed to meet future vehicle safety and environmental requirements and to promote technological advancements in vehicle safety systems and emissions reductions. Mr. Douay needs to drive Navistar vehicles on public roads to better understand “real world” environments in the U.S. market. According to Navistar, Mr. Douay will typically drive for no more than 6 hours per day for 2 consecutive days, and that 50 percent of the test driving will be on two-lane State highways, while 50 percent will be on Interstate highways. The driving will consist of no more than 250 miles per day, for a total of 500 miles during a two-day period on a quarterly basis. He will in all cases be accompanied by a holder of a U.S. CDL who is familiar with the routes to be traveled.

Mr. Douay holds a valid German commercial license, and as explained by Navistar in its exemption request, the requirements for that license ensure that, operating under the exemption, he would likely achieve a level of safety equivalent to, or greater than, the level that would be achieved by the current regulation. Furthermore, according to Navistar, Mr. Douay is familiar with the operation of CMVs worldwide. Navistar

requests that the exemption cover the maximum allowable duration of 5 years.

A copy of Navistar's application for exemption is available for review in the docket for this notice.

Issued on: December 7, 2018.

Larry W. Minor,

Associate Administrator for Policy.

[FR Doc. 2018-27339 Filed 12-17-18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-EX-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Transit Administration

Limitation on Claims Against Proposed Public Transportation Projects

AGENCY: Federal Transit Administration (FTA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces final environmental action taken by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for a project in Milwaukee County, Wisconsin. The purpose of this notice is to announce publicly the environmental decision by FTA on the subject project and to activate the limitation on any claims that may challenge this final environmental action.

DATES: By this notice, FTA is advising the public of final agency actions subject to 23 U.S.C. 139(l). A claim seeking judicial review of FTA actions announced herein for the listed public transportation project will be barred unless the claim is filed on or before May 17, 2019.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nancy-Ellen Zusman, Assistant Chief Counsel, Office of Chief Counsel, (312) 353-2577 or Juliet Bochicchio, Environmental Protection Specialist, Office of Environmental Programs, (202) 366-9348. FTA is located at 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590. Office hours are from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given that FTA has taken final agency action by issuing certain approvals for the public transportation project listed below. The action on the project, as well as the laws under which such action was taken, are described in the documentation issued in connection with the project to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and in other documents in the FTA environmental project file for the project. Interested parties may contact either the project sponsor or the relevant FTA Regional Office for more information. Contact information for

FTA's Regional Offices may be found at <https://www.fta.dot.gov>.

This notice applies to all FTA decisions on the listed project as of the issuance date of this notice and all laws under which such action was taken, including, but not limited to, NEPA [42 U.S.C. 4321-4375], Section 4(f) requirements [23 U.S.C. 138, 49 U.S.C. 303], Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act [54 U.S.C. 306108], and the Clean Air Act [42 U.S.C. 7401-7671q]. This notice does not, however, alter or extend the limitation period for challenges of project decisions subject to previous notices published in the **Federal Register**. The project and action that is the subject of this notice follow:

Project name and location: East-West Bus Rapid Transit Project, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin. *Project sponsor:* Milwaukee County, WI. *Project description:* The Milwaukee County East-West Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Project will implement a new transit corridor along a 9-mile-long alignment to provide bus transit service from downtown Milwaukee to the City of Wauwatosa. The BRT Project will use existing transportation infrastructure to improve accessibility, mobility, transit travel times, reliability, and passenger amenities within the project area. The BRT Project will operate on existing roads in dedicated transit lanes for approximately 5 miles and otherwise in mixed traffic lanes, and will be implementing transit signal priority or other signal treatments at 33 intersections to reduce travel times in the corridor. The alignment will involve complete roadway reconstruction along portions of 92nd Street and 94th Street through the Milwaukee Regional Medical Center campus between Wisconsin Avenue and Watertown Plank Road and will involve the construction of 19 BRT stations. This notice only applies to the discrete actions taken by FTA at this time, as described below. Nothing in this notice affects FTA's previous decisions, or notice thereof, for this project.

Final agency actions: Section 4(f) determination, dated August 22, 2018; Section 106 finding of no adverse effect on historic properties, dated July 2, 2018; project-level air quality conformity; and Finding of No Significant Impact for the Milwaukee East-West Bus Rapid Transit Project, Milwaukee County, WI, dated November 29, 2018.

Supporting documentation: Milwaukee East-West Bus Rapid Transit Project, Milwaukee County, WI,

Environmental Assessment, dated August 22, 2018.

Elizabeth S. Riklin,

Deputy Associate Administrator for Planning and Environment.

[FR Doc. 2018-27327 Filed 12-17-18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-57-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

[Docket No. PHMSA-2018-0078]

Pipeline Safety: Information Collection Activities, Revision to OPID Assignment Request and National Registry Notification

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

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces that the information collection request abstracted below is being forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. PHMSA proposes revising certain parts of the forms and instructions for the Operator Assignment Request (PHMSA F 1000.1) and National Registry Notification (PHMSA F 1000.2) currently approved under OMB control number 2137-0627. A **Federal Register** notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on the information collection was published on August 9, 2018.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before January 17, 2019.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Angela Dow by telephone at 202-366-1246, by email at angela.dow@dot.gov, or by mail at DOT, PHMSA, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, PHP-30, Washington, DC 20590-0001.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 1320.8(d), Title 5, Code of Federal Regulations, requires PHMSA to provide interested members of the public and affected agencies an opportunity to comment on information collection and recordkeeping requests. In accordance with this regulation, on August 9, 2018, (83 FR 39508) PHMSA published a