SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
[Docket No. AB 1297X]

Indiana & Ohio Railway Company—Discontinuance of Service Exemption—in Warren County, Ohio

Indiana & Ohio Railway Company (IORY) has filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR part 1152 subpart F—Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuances of Service to discontinue service over a 5.6-mile rail line extending between milepost 1.10 near Lebanon and milepost 6.70 at Hageman Junction near Mason in Warren County, Ohio (the Line). The Line traverses U.S. Postal Service Zip Codes 45036 and 45040.

IORY has certified that: (1) No local traffic has moved over the Line for at least two years; (2) because the Line is stub-ended, it has not handled any overhead traffic in at least two years, and there is no potential overhead traffic that would need to be rerouted; (3) no formal complaint filed by a user of rail service on the Line (or by a state or local government entity acting on behalf of such user) regarding cessation of service over the Line is pending either with the Surface Transportation Board (Board) or with any U.S. District Court or has been decided in favor of complainant within the two-year period; and (4) the requirements at 49 CFR 1105.12 (newspaper publication) and 49 CFR 1152.50(d)(1) (notice to governmental agencies) have been met. As a condition to this exemption, any employee adversely affected by the discontinuance of service shall be protected under Oregon Short Line Railroad—Abandonment Portion Goshen Branch Between Firth & Ammon, in Bingham & Bonneville Counties, Idaho, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979). To address whether this condition adequately protects affected employees, a petition for partial revocation under 49 U.S.C. 10502(d) must be filed.

Provided no formal expression of intent to file an offer of financial assistance (OFA) to subsidize continued rail service has been received, this exemption will be effective on March 29, 2020, unless stayed pending reconsideration. Petitions to stay that do not involve environmental issues and formal expressions of intent to file an OFA to subsidize continued rail service under 49 CFR 1152.27(c)(2) must be filed by March 9, 2020. Petitions for reconsideration must be filed by March 19, 2020, with the Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20423–0001.

Board decisions and notices are available at www.stb.gov.


By the Board, Allison C. Davis, Director, Office of Proceedings.

Aretha Laws-Byrum,
Clearance Clerk.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration
[Docket No. FAA–2020–0137]

Airport Improvement Program (AIP) Grant Assurances

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Department of Transportation.

ACTION: Notice of modification of Airport Improvement Program grant assurances; opportunity to comment.

SUMMARY: The FAA has updated the AIP grant assurances to reflect recent legislative provisions in the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018 as well as recently issued executive orders.

DATES: The FAA is implementing these modified grant assurances upon publication of this notice to expedite processing Fiscal Year 2020 grants under the AIP. The FAA will accept public comments concerning these modified grant assurances for 30 days. Comments must be submitted on or before March 30, 2020. If necessary, in response to comments received, the FAA will consider appropriate revisions to these grant assurance modifications through publication of a subsequent notice in the Federal Register.

ADDRESSES: You may send comments [identified by Docket Number FAA–2020–0137] using any of the following methods:

• Government-wide Rulemaking Website: Go to http://www.regulations.gov and follow the instructions for sending your comments electronically.


• Fax: 1–202–493–2251.

• Hand Delivery: To Docket Operations, Room W12–140 on the ground floor of the West Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.


Authority for Grant Assurance Modifications

This notice is published under the authority described in Subtitle VII, Part B, Chapter 471, Sections 47107 and 47122 of Title 49 United States Code (U.S.C.). In addition, the statutory authorities delegated to the Federal Aviation Administration are enumerated in Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 1.83 (“Delegations to the Federal Aviation Administration”).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: A sponsor (applicant) seeking financial assistance in the form of an AIP grant for airport planning, airport development, noise compatibility planning, or noise mitigation under 49 U.S.C., as amended, must agree to comply with certain assurances. These grant assurances are incorporated in, and become part of a sponsor’s grant agreement for Federal assistance. As need dictates, the FAA modifies these assurances to reflect new Federal requirements. Notice of such modifications is published in the
Federal Register, and an opportunity for public comment is provided. The assurances that apply to a sponsor depend on the type of sponsor.

There are three types of AIP grant assurances:
- Airport Sponsor (applicable for airport development);
- Non-Airport Sponsors Undertaking Noise Compatibility Program Projects; and
- Planning Agency Sponsors.

Prior to the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018 (Pub. L. 115–254), the assurances were published on:
- February 3, 1988, at 53 FR 3104 and amended on September 6, 1988, at 53 FR 34361;
- August 29, 1989, at 54 FR 35748;
- June 10, 1994, at 59 FR 30076;
- January 4, 1995, at 60 FR 521;
- June 2, 1997, at 36 FR 29761;
- August 18, 1999, at 64 FR 45008;
- March 29, 2005, at 70 FR 15980;
- March 18, 2011, at 76 FR 15028;
- April 13, 2012, at 72 FR 22376; and

A complete list of the current grant assurances may be viewed at: https://www.faa.gov/airports/aip/grant_assurances/.

Discussion of AIP Grant Assurance Modifications

The FAA is making several changes to the AIP grant assurances. These changes will be in effect for grants issued on or after the date of publication of this notice. The changes to the AIP grant assurances are listed below. The grant assurance numbers referenced relate to the assurance (airport development grants):

Technical Non-Substantive Changes To Correct Minor Typographical Errors

Because these have no change on the substance of the assurances, these changes, including minor edits to Grant Assurance 37, have not been specifically called out.

Addition of Buy American and Hire American Executive Orders

The FAA has added Executive Order 13788 ("Buy American and Hire American") and Executive Order 13858 ("Strengthening Buy-American Preferences for Infrastructure Projects") to the list of executive orders applicable in Grant Assurance C.

Updates Pursuant to Section 131 of the Act

Section 131 of the Act requires the FAA to change Sponsor Assurance #32 ("Engineering and Design Services"). Sponsor Assurance #32 now applies to a sponsor if "any phase of such project has received funds under this subchapter."

Updates Pursuant to Section 135 of the Act

Section 135 of the Act expands the statutory grant assurance regarding veteran’s preference to include veterans of "Operation New Dawn, Operation Inherent Resolve, Operation Freedom's Sentinel, or any successor contingency operation to such operations;" and small business concerns owned and controlled by disabled veterans. FAA has revised Sponsor Assurance #15, Veteran’s Preference, to include these changes.

Updates Pursuant to Section 163 of the Act

Section 163 of the Act modified the FAA’s authorities and responsibilities regarding changes in airport land use under certain circumstances. Sponsor Assurances #5(b) and #29 have been amended to reflect this provision.

In consideration of the above, the FAA makes the following changes to the existing published Airport Sponsor Assurances.

C. Sponsor Certification. The sponsor hereby assures and certifies that it will comply with all applicable Federal laws, regulations, executive orders, policies, guidelines, and requirements as they relate to the application, acceptance and use of Federal funds for this project including but not limited to the following updated provisions.

Executive Orders

Executive Order 13858—Buy American and Hire American.

Executive Order 13858—Strengthening Buy-American Preferences for Infrastructure Projects


b. Subject to the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018, Public Law 115–254, Section 163, if a change or alteration in the airport or the facilities is made which the Secretary determines adversely affects the safety, utility, or efficiency of any federally owned, leased, or funded property on or off the airport and which is not in conformity with the airport layout plan as approved by the Secretary and which might, in the opinion of the Secretary, adversely affect the safety, utility, or efficiency of the airport.

b. Subject to the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018, Public Law 115–254, Section 163, if a change or alteration in the airport or the facilities is made which the Secretary determines adversely affects the safety, utility, or efficiency of any federally owned, leased, or funded property on or off the airport and which is not in conformity with the airport layout plan as approved by the Secretary and which might, in the opinion of the Secretary, adversely affect the safety, utility, or efficiency of the airport.
Secretary’s design standards beyond the control of the airport sponsor.

32. Engineering and Design Services.

If any phase of such project has received Federal funds under Chapter 471 subchapter 1 of Title 49 U.S.C., it will award each contract, or sub-contract for program management, construction management, planning studies, feasibility studies, architectural services, preliminary engineering, design, engineering, surveying, mapping or related services in the same manner as a contract for architectural and engineering services is negotiated under Chapter 11 of Title 40 U.S.C., or an equivalent qualifications-based requirement prescribed for or by the sponsor of the airport.

As noted previously, all other grant assurances remain in full force and effect except as shown above.


Robert John Craven,
Director, Office of Airport Panning and Programming.

[FR Doc. 2020–04139 Filed 2–27–20; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–13–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[Docket No. FMCSA–2018–0278]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Approval of a New Information Collection Request: Crime Prevention for Truckers

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

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, FMCSA announces its plan to submit the Information Collection Request (ICR) described below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval. This request, titled “Crime Prevention for Truckers,” will allow for a study to understand the prevalence, seriousness, and nature of the problem of harassment and assaults against minority and female truckers.

DATES: Please send your comments by March 30, 2020. OMB must receive your comments by this date in order to act quickly on the ICR.

ADDRESSES: All comments should reference Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) Docket Number FMCSA–2018–0278. Interested persons are invited to submit written comments on the proposed information collection to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget. Comments should be addressed to the attention of the Desk Officer, Department of Transportation/Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, and sent via electronic mail to oira_submission@omb.eop.gov, or faxed to (202) 395–6974, or mailed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Docket Library, Room 10102, 725 17th Street NW, Washington, DC 20503.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Chris Flanigan, General Engineer, Technology Division, Department of Transportation, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, 6th Floor, West Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590–0001. Telephone: 202–385–2384; Email Address: chris.flanigan@dot.gov. Office hours are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:
Title: Crime Prevention for Truckers. OMB Control Number: 2126–00XX.

Type of Request: New information collection.

Respondents: Female and minority male commercial motor vehicle drivers.

Estimated Number of Respondents: Maximum of 880 truck drivers [80 respondents reporting no incidents of harassment or crime + 800 respondents reporting one or more incidents of harassment or crime].

Estimated Time per Response: Varies. [8 minutes for respondents not reporting incidents of harassment or crime; 20 minutes for respondents reporting an incident of harassment or crime].

Expiration Date: This is a new information collection.

Frequency of Response: Once.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 277.3 hours [80 respondents reporting no incidents x (8 minutes + 60 minutes per hour) + 800 respondents reporting one or more incidents x (20 minutes + 60 minutes per hour)].

Background: FMCSA has accumulated evidence, both documentary and anecdotal, for a serious pattern of harassment- and assault-related crimes against female and minority male truckers. For example, Security Journal, in a 2006 article titled “Workplace Violence against Female Long-haul Truckers,” reported that 42 percent of female longhaul truckers reported experiencing one or more acts of violence. USA Today, in a 2017 article titled “Rigged,” gave accounts of repeated harassment of minority male truckers. Currently, FMCSA does not provide materials or training to truckers, including minority and female truckers, on how to protect themselves from being stalked, harassed, assaulted, or robbed. Before effective solutions for preventing or reducing these crimes against female and minority truckers can be developed and implemented, FMCSA must understand the prevalence, seriousness, and nature of the problem of harassment and assaults against truckers. Currently, there is insufficient data. The frequency and number of harassment- and assault-related crimes occurring, the portion that are unreported, and reasons for underreporting are unknown.

The purpose of this research study is to gather information to answer these questions, to understand how serious the problem is, and to report it to FMCSA so the Agency can decide on further options for evaluation and action. FMCSA needs to explore and validate the problem of harassment- and assault-related crimes, especially against female and minority male truckers for two reasons. First, there seems to be a perception among these subpopulations of truckers that they are more vulnerable than others. Second, there is a critical shortage of truckers, and helping these subpopulations of truckers protect themselves from crimes could draw more truckers from these subpopulations, while stemming turnover, to alleviate the shortage.

FMCSA has contracted with Battelle to create and execute a survey of truck drivers to gather this information. This exploratory survey will be limited in scale and scope. Quantitative and qualitative analysis of the data will help the Agency to understand the nature and extent of the problem and begin to formulate an approach to reducing it. The results will not be used for rulemaking.

The survey of professional truck drivers will be limited to female and minority male drivers. The survey will ask whether the drivers have experienced race- or gender-related harassment or crimes on the job. If the driver has had such an experience, the survey will ask follow-up questions on where and when the incidents occurred, any information the respondent knows about the perpetrator, and whether the respondent reported the incident. The survey will be anonymous. None of the questions ask for information that could personally identify the respondent or any perpetrators involved. Some respondents will take the survey online, and others will take it in the form of an in-person interview. Identical questions