

name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the document, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). Under 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its processes. 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 <https://www.transportation.gov/privacy>. See also <https://www.regulations.gov/privacyNotice> for the privacy notice of www.regulations.gov.

Issued in Washington, DC.

John Karl Alexy,

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

[FR Doc. 2021-03078 Filed 2-16-21; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket Number FRA-2021-0014]

Notice of Application for Approval of Discontinuance or Modification of a Railroad Signal System

Under part 235 of title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) and 49 U.S.C. 20502(a), this document provides the public notice that on January 19, 2021, Norfolk Southern Corporation (NS) petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) seeking approval to discontinue or modify a signal system. FRA assigned the petition Docket Number FRA-2021-0014.

Applicant: Norfolk Southern Corporation, Tommy A. Phillips, Senior Director—C&S Operations, 1200 Peachtree Street NE, Atlanta, GA 30309.

Specifically, NS requests permission to discontinue a traffic control system (TCS) on the Dry Fork Branch of the Blue Ridge Division, from milepost (MP) 10.3 to MP 144.4. This segment includes control points (CPs) Kelly, Mile Branch, Garland, Lester, Atwell, Yukon, Lomax, Rift, Jacobs Fork, Alpha, Dawson, Beech Fork, Asbury, and ten automatic signals. The main track between MP 10.3 and MP 144.4 will be converted to NS Rule 171 operation. Operable approach signals will be placed at MP 112.4 and MP 142.8 in approach to CPs Auville and Dry Fork Branch. The signaled sidings within the application limits will be made non-controlled, other than main track. All slide fences within the application limits will be retired.

NS states the reason for the proposed discontinuance is that operations no longer require TCS.

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

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 parties desire an opportunity for oral comment and a public hearing, they should notify FRA, in writing, before the end of the comment period and specify the basis for their request.

All communications concerning these proceedings should identify the appropriate docket number and may be submitted by any of the following methods:

- *Website:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
- *Fax:* 202-493-2251.
- *Mail:* Docket Operations Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE, W12-140, Washington, DC 20590.
- *Hand Delivery:* 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE, Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

Communications received by April 5, 2021 will be considered by FRA before final action is taken. Comments received after that date will be considered if practicable.

Anyone can search the electronic form of any written communications and comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the document, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). Under 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its processes. 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 <https://www.transportation.gov/privacy>. See also <https://www.regulations.gov/privacyNotice> for the privacy notice of www.regulations.gov.

Issued in Washington, DC.

John Karl Alexy,

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

[FR Doc. 2021-03077 Filed 2-16-21; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket Number FRA-2021-0013]

Notice of Application for Approval of Discontinuance or Modification of a Railroad Signal System

Under part 235 of title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) and 49 U.S.C. 20502(a), this document provides the public notice that on January 18, 2021, Norfolk Southern Corporation (NS) petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) seeking approval to discontinue or modify a signal system. FRA assigned the petition Docket Number FRA-2021-0013.

Applicant: Norfolk Southern Corporation, Tommy A. Phillips, Senior Director—C&S Operations, 1200 Peachtree Street NE, Atlanta, GA 30309.

Specifically, NS requests permission to discontinue a traffic control system (TCS) on the Bloomington District of the Midwest Division, from milepost (MP) C113.3 to MP C153.0. This segment includes control points Goembel, Osman, Mansfield, Lodge, Mills, and eight automatic signals. The main track between MP C113.3 and MP C153.0 will be converted to NS Rule 171 operation. Two automatic signals at C116.0 and C149.4 will be converted to operable approach signals.

NS states the reason for the proposed discontinuance is that operations no longer require TCS.

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

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 parties desire an opportunity for oral comment and a public hearing, they should notify FRA, in writing, before the end of the comment period and specify the basis for their request.

All communications concerning these proceedings should identify the appropriate docket number and may be submitted by any of the following methods:

- *Website:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
- *Fax:* 202-493-2251.
- *Mail:* Docket Operations Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE, W12-140, Washington, DC 20590.

• *Hand Delivery*: 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE, Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

Communications received by April 5, 2021 will be considered by FRA before final action is taken. Comments received after that date will be considered if practicable.

Anyone can search the electronic form of any written communications and comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the document, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). Under 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its processes. 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 <https://www.transportation.gov/privacy>. See also <https://www.regulations.gov/privacyNotice> for the privacy notice of www.regulations.gov.

Issued in Washington, DC.

John Karl Alexy,

Associate Administrator for Railroad Safety, Chief Safety Officer.

[FR Doc. 2021-03076 Filed 2-16-21; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket Number FRA-2020-0038]

Petition for Waiver of Compliance

Under part 211 of title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), this document provides the public notice that on December 11, 2020, the City of San Clemente, California, (the City) and Southern California Regional Rail Authority (Metrolink) 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 222, Use of Locomotive Horns at Public Highway-Rail Grade Crossings. FRA assigned the petition Docket Number FRA-2020-0038.

Specifically, the City and Metrolink jointly seek relief from the requirements of 49 CFR 222.59(a)(1), to allow use of a Pedestrian Audible Warning System (PAWS), which is similar to a wayside horn, when approaching seven highway-rail grade crossings, instead of a locomotive horn. The City also

requests a waiver of certain provisions found in appendix E to 49 CFR part 222, Paragraphs 4 and 6, to allow a minimum sound level of 80 dB(A) and direction of the PAWS. The seven crossings that are the subject of this waiver are:

- Dije Court—US DOT Number 922847D—MP 203.95—pedestrian—3 PAWS
- El Portal—US DOT Number 922848K—MP 204.04—pedestrian—2 PAWS
- Corto Lane—US DOT Number 026977D—MP 204.56—pedestrian—3 PAWS
- Pier Service Road—US DOT Number 026997P—MP 204.73—private—4 PAWS
- T Street—US DOT Number 922849S—MP 205.16—pedestrian—3 PAWS
- Lost Winds—US DOT Number 922850L—MP 205.56—pedestrian—2 PAWS
- Calafia—US DOT Number 026637S—MP 206.00—pedestrian—2 PAWS

On April 14, 2015, FRA granted the City and Metrolink regulatory relief from the requirements of § 222.59(a)(1), and part 222, appendix E, as described above, for a five-year period. See Docket Number FRA-2014-0081. By letter dated April 27, 2020, the City sought a five-year extension of the previously granted relief, which FRA denied in a letter dated November 24, 2020. FRA's letter noted the City's late request, the lack of a joint request with Metrolink as required by 49 CFR 222.15, and concerns regarding the operation of the PAWS, the condition of the pedestrian swing gates, and sediment buildup at nearby fencing. See FRA-2020-0038-0004.

The current joint petition seeks a five-year extension of relief from the above-stated requirements, and the City and Metrolink have provided maintenance and communication plans to support their petition.

A copy of the petition, as well as any written communications concerning the petition, is available for review online at www.regulations.gov. 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 parties desire an opportunity for oral comment and a public hearing, they should notify FRA, in writing, before the end of the comment period and specify the basis for their request.

All communications concerning these proceedings should identify the appropriate docket number and may be submitted by any of the following methods:

- *Website*: <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
- *Fax*: 202-493-2251.
- *Mail*: Docket Operations Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE, W12-140, Washington, DC 20590.

- *Hand Delivery*: 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE, Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

Communications received by March 19, 2021 will be considered by FRA before final action is taken. Comments received after that date will be considered if practicable.

Anyone can search the electronic form of any written communications and comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the document, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). Under 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its processes. 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 <https://www.transportation.gov/privacy>. See also <https://www.regulations.gov/privacyNotice> for the privacy notice of www.regulations.gov.

Issued in Washington, DC.

John Karl Alexy,

Associate Administrator for Railroad Safety, Chief Safety Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket Number FRA-2021-0018]

Petition for Waiver of Compliance

Under part 211 of title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), this document provides the public notice that on January 26, 2021, Norfolk Southern Corporation (NS), 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 236, Rules, Standards, and