

“Public Participation and Request for Comments” portion of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for instructions on submitting comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. José R. Cestero, Vehicle and Roadside Operations Division, Office of Carrier, Driver, and Vehicle Safety, MC-PSV, (202) 366-5541, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590-0001. If you have questions on viewing or submitting material to the docket, call Docket Operations at (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 2020-0191), indicate the specific section of this document to which the comment applies, and provide a reason for each suggestion or recommendation. 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 FMCSA can contact you if there are questions regarding your submission.

To submit your comment online, go to www.regulations.gov/#!docketDetail;D=FMCSA-2020-0191, click on the “Comment Now!” button and type your comment into the text box on 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.

Viewing Comments and Documents

To view comments, as well as any documents mentioned in this preamble as being available in the docket, go to <http://www.regulations.gov/#!docketDetail;D=FMCSA-20xx-00xx> and choose the document to review. If you do not have access to the internet, you may

view the docket online by visiting Dockets Operations in Room W12-140 on the ground floor of the DOT West Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590-0001, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. To be sure someone is there to help you, please call (202) 366-9317 or (202) 366-9826 before visiting Docket Operations.

Privacy Act

DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its rulemaking process, in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 553(c). 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—Federal Docket Management System), which can be reviewed at www.transportation.gov/privacy.

II. Legal Basis

FMCSA has authority under 49 U.S.C. 31315(b) to grant exemptions from certain parts of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs). 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)). If the Agency denies the request, it must state the reason for doing so. If the decision is to grant the exemption, the notice must specify the person or class of persons receiving the exemption and the regulatory provision or provisions from which an exemption is granted. The notice must 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 381.315(c) and 49 CFR 381.300(b)).

Loomis’ Application for Exemption

The FMCSRs require that (1) cab compartment doors or door parts used as an entrance or exits shall not be missing or broken; (2) doors shall not sag so that they cannot be properly opened or closed; and (3) no door shall

be wired shut or otherwise secured in the closed position so that it cannot be readily opened. *Exception: When the vehicle is loaded with pipe or bar stock that blocks the door and the cab has a roof exit.* Loomis has applied for an exemption from 49 CFR 393.203(a) to allow the cab doors on its specialized armored vehicles to be welded shut, given the addition of new doors behind the cab. A copy of the application is included in the docket for this notice.

Request for Comments

In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31315(b)(6), FMCSA requests public comment from all interested persons on Loomis’ application for an exemption from 49 CFR 393.203(a). All comments received before the close of business on the comment closing date indicated at the beginning of this notice will be considered and will be available for examination in the docket at the location listed under the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice. Comments received after the comment closing date will be filed in the public docket and will be considered to the extent practicable. In addition to late comments, FMCSA will also continue to file, in the public docket, relevant information that becomes available after the comment closing date. Interested persons should continue to examine the public docket for new material.

Larry W. Minor,

Associate Administrator for Policy.

[FR Doc. 2021-07102 Filed 4-6-21; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-EX-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket No. FRA-2020-0027-N-40]

Proposed Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request

AGENCY: Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Notice of information collection; request for comment.

SUMMARY: Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) and its implementing regulations, this notice announces that FRA is forwarding the Information Collection Request (ICR) abstracted below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The ICR describes the information collection and its expected burden. On December 1, 2020, FRA published a notice providing a 60-

day period for public comment on the ICR.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before May 7, 2021.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed ICR should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find the particular ICR by selecting “Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Hodan Wells, Information Collection Clearance Officer, Office of Railroad Safety, Regulatory Analysis Division, Federal Railroad Administration, telephone: (202) 493-0440, email: Hodan.wells@dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The PRA, 44 U.S.C. 3501–3520, and its implementing regulations, 5 CFR part 1320, require Federal agencies to issue two notices seeking public comment on information collection activities before OMB may approve paperwork packages. See 44 U.S.C. 3506, 3507; 5 CFR 1320.8 through 1320.12. On December 1, 2020, FRA published a 60-day notice in the **Federal Register** soliciting comment on the ICR for which it is now seeking OMB approval. See 85 FR 77337.

On February 1, 2021, the Transportation Trades Department, AFL-CIO (TTD) commented on this ICR. On February 25, 2021, FRA staff met with TTD to discuss its comment. A summary of the discussion is available in the above listed docket. TTD explained its concerns with FRA’s proposed revisions to form FRA F 6180.151, namely that the revised form would allow users to voluntarily self-identify as railroad employees. TTD noted that full consideration, and investigation if needed, of the alleged violation should be given to each report regardless of the user’s affiliation. TTD questioned the benefits that FRA would receive from having this information and stated that users may not realize that this self-identification is optional. TTD expressed that railroad employees could potentially face employer retaliation by self-identifying as railroad employees when submitting information to FRA through this form. TTD requested that FRA add language to this form, clarifying that this field is voluntary.

On the proposed form, FRA makes clear that members of the public and rail employees are not required to identify themselves or their place or type of employment to report an alleged violation or other safety concern to FRA.

Indeed, the form definitively states this at the top and reiterates that no identifying information is required to report, but that identifying information is helpful in assisting FRA staff in assessing the matter and then, if necessary, taking appropriate action. The proposed form provides the following instructions:

Your submission is voluntary and anonymous unless you choose to provide us with your contact information. Choosing not to provide your contact information may affect FRA’s ability to follow up with you on the status of the investigation and may prevent FRA from adequately investigating the alleged violation, complaint, or inquiry.

On the proposed form, the optional field for the respondent to identify as a “Public Citizen” or “Railroad Employee” falls under these instructions that clearly state the following:

AVF Collection Questions

* Anonymous submissions are allowed, but FRA strongly encourages at least one type of contact information for follow-up communications.

The optional identifying fields are included to assist FRA in determining if, where, and when an alleged violation may have occurred and what appropriate follow-up actions are necessary to assess and investigate the matter. Further, this optional identifying information is helpful to FRA in assessing trends and patterns of safety violations or concerns over time. The information is not shared outside the agency and is protected to the extent allowed under Federal law. The form can be submitted if any or all the identifying information fields are left blank, so respondents can share as much or as little information as they deem necessary.

FRA determined that its form and the data collection and management process afterward required improvement to assist FRA staff in assessing and then, if necessary, taking appropriate action on alleged violations and other safety inquiries. Further, FRA has reviewed its processes and determined that this form and its revisions would improve FRA’s service to the public and assessment of alleged violations and other safety inquiries.

In response to internal feedback that it would be helpful if “Hours of Service” were a standalone category in the “Category of Alleged Violation, Complaint, or Inquiry” drop down menu, FRA has made this change to the form to allow FRA staff to better keep track of Hours of Service violations, complaints, or inquiries. Before OMB decides whether to approve the

proposed collection of information, it must provide 30 days for public comment. Federal law requires OMB to approve or disapprove paperwork packages between 30 and 60 days after the 30-day notice is published. 44 U.S.C. 3507(b)–(c); 5 CFR 1320.10(b); see also 60 FR 44978, 44983 (Aug. 29, 1995). OMB believes the 30-day notice informs the regulated community to file relevant comments and affords the agency adequate time to digest public comments before it renders a decision. 60 FR 44983 (Aug. 29, 1995). Therefore, respondents should submit their respective comments to OMB within 30 days of publication to best ensure having their full effect.

Comments are invited on the following ICR regarding: (1) Whether the information collection activities are necessary for FRA to properly execute its functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of FRA’s estimates of the burden of the information collection activities, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used to determine the estimates; (3) ways for FRA to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information being collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of information collection activities on the public, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

The summary below describes the ICR that FRA will submit for OMB clearance as the PRA requires:

Title: Federal Railroad Administration Alleged Violation and Inquiry Form.¹

OMB Control Number: 2130–0590.

Abstract: The FRA Alleged Violation and Inquiry Form is a response to section 307(b) of the Rail Safety Improvement Act of 2008, which requires FRA to “provide a mechanism for the public to submit written reports of potential violations of Federal railroad safety and hazardous materials transportation laws, regulations, and orders to the Federal Railroad Administration.” The FRA Alleged Violation and Inquiry Form allows the public to submit alleged violations, complaints, or inquiries directly to FRA. The form allows FRA to collect information necessary to investigate the alleged violation, complaint, or inquiry, and to follow up with the submitting party. FRA may share the information collected with partnering States under its State Rail Safety Participation

¹ FRA is revising the title of OMB Control Number 2130–0590 (formerly titled “Alleged Violation Reporting Form”).

Program and with law enforcement agencies.

FRA will use the information collected under the form to identify problem areas and take necessary action to prevent potential accidents of the type indicated by the information submitted from occurring.

FRA's proposed revisions to the form include: (1) Adding several dropdown menus for form elements (*e.g.*, type, title, preferred method of contact, position, category of submission, date, time, city, State, and entity involved) so that users can quickly provide complete contact and incident information while having to hand-enter less information; (2) adding a question requesting the users identify if they are members of the public, a railroad employee, or other; and (3) informing users that they will receive an automated response from FRA after the form is submitted. The revisions are designed to make the existing form easier to use and more understandable, and to simplify the collection of information. If users elect to provide any identifying information, it will be protected to the extent allowed under Federal law and FRA will only use this identifying information to follow up with users regarding their submissions. The revised form will ensure that users provide the necessary information so that FRA staff can review and respond more quickly. The revised form also will facilitate FRA's ability to maintain the data collected in a more useful and uniform manner, as the new dropdown boxes will assist FRA in receiving more standardized responses.

Type of Request: Revision of a currently approved information collection.

Affected Public: Public.

Form(s): FRA F 6180.151.

Respondent Universe: Public.

Frequency of Submission: On occasion.

Total Estimated Annual Responses: 600.

Total Estimated Annual Burden: 70 hours.

Total Estimated Annual Burden Hour Dollar Cost Equivalent: \$1,890.

Under 44 U.S.C. 3507(a) and 5 CFR 1320.5(b) and 1320.8(b)(3)(vi), FRA informs all interested parties that a respondent is not required to respond to, conduct, or sponsor a collection of information that does not display a currently valid OMB control number.

Authority: 44 U.S.C. 3501–3520.

Brett A. Jortland,

Acting Chief Counsel.

[FR Doc. 2021–07182 Filed 4–6–21; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Maritime Administration

[Docket No. DOT–MARAD–2021–0017]

Request for Comments on the Renewal of a Previously Approved Information Collection: Application for Construction Reserve Fund and Annual Statements (CRF)

AGENCY: Maritime Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Maritime Administration (MARAD) invites public comments on our intention to request the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval to renew an information collection. The information collected is required in order for MARAD to determine whether the applicant is qualified for the benefits of the CRF program. We are required to publish this notice in the **Federal Register** by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before June 7, 2021.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments [identified by Docket No. DOT–MARAD–2021–0017] through one of the following methods:

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

Instructions: All submissions must include the agency name and docket number for this rulemaking.

Note: All comments received will be posted without change to www.regulations.gov including any personal information provided.

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the Department's performance; (b) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (c) ways for the Department to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information collection; and (d) ways that the burden could be minimized without reducing the quality of the collected information. The agency will summarize and/or include your comments in the request for OMB's clearance of this information collection.

Electronic Access and Filing

A copy of the notice may be viewed online at www.regulations.gov using the docket number listed above. A copy of this notice will be placed in the docket. Electronic retrieval help and guidelines are available on the website. It is available 24 hours each day, 365 days each year. An electronic copy of this document may also be downloaded from the Office of the Federal Register's website at www.FederalRegister.gov and the Government Publishing Office's website at www.GovInfo.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Daniel Ladd, 202–366–1859, Office of Financial Approvals, Maritime Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC, 20590.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Application for Construction Reserve Fund (CRF) and Annual Statements.

OMB Control Number: 2133–0032.

Type of Request: Renewal of a Previously Approved Information Collection.

Abstract: The Construction Reserve Fund (CRF), authorized by 46 U.S.C. chapter 533, is a financial assistance program which provides tax deferral benefits to U.S.-flag operators. Eligible parties can defer the gain attributable to the sale or loss of a vessel, provided the proceeds are used to expand or modernize the U.S. merchant fleet. The primary purpose of the CRF is to promote the construction, reconstruction, reconditioning, or acquisition of merchant vessels which are necessary for national defense and to the development of U.S. commerce.

Respondents: Citizens who own or operate vessels in the U.S. foreign or domestic commerce who desire tax benefits under the CRF program must respond.

Affected Public: Owners or operators of vessels in the domestic or foreign commerce.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 17.

Estimated Number of Responses: 17.

Estimated Hours per Response: 9.

Annual Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 153.

Frequency of Response: Annually.

Authority: The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995; 44 U.S.C. chapter 35, as amended; and 49 CFR 1.93.

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By Order of the Acting Maritime Administrator.

T. Mitchell Hudson, Jr.,

Secretary, Maritime Administration.

[FR Doc. 2021–07141 Filed 4–6–21; 8:45 am]

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