(military or civilian) that is not actively involved in the research, development, acquisition, test, and evaluation (RDAT&E) activities within the RA when activated. Itinerant (non-local) or other aircraft not familiar with DON RDAT&E activities would now be made aware of the military flight activity more formally, by the existence of the RA on the FAA Sectional Aeronautical Chart. The RA would be mapped on the FAA Los Angeles Sectional Chart and knowledge of its activation would prompt all pilots to take notice of existing military flight activity, resulting in better awareness and coordination. Non-participating aircraft would not be allowed in the RA when activated.

Implementation

After evaluating the aeronautical study and the EA, the FAA has issued a FONSI/ROD to establish R–2511. The RA would improve flight safety for all pilots (civilian, commercial and military) while improving the capability of the DON to conduct RDAT&E and training activities. The R–2511 would create a linkage between existing R–2505 and R–2524, covering an area of approximately 87 square miles. The designated altitudes are at 6,000 feet (ft) mean sea level (MSL) to, but not including, flight level (FL) 200 (20,000 ft MSL). The times of use are between 0700–1700 pacific time, Monday through Friday. Activation of the RA is by Notice to Air Missions (NOTAM) at least seven days in advance. Operations would be scheduled for two-hour blocks, with a maximum of two blocks authorized per day. Annual operations would be conducted within the R–2511 up to 36 days per year.

In accordance with Section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), the Council on Environmental Quality’s (CEQ) regulations for implementing NEPA (40 CFR parts 1500–1508), and other applicable authorities (including FAA Order 1050.1F, Environmental Impacts: Policies and Procedures, paragraph 8–2–3), the FAA has conducted an independent review and evaluation of the DON’s EA. As a cooperating agency with responsibility for approving SUA under 49 U.S.C. 40103(b)(3)(A), the FAA provided subject matter expertise and coordinated with the DON during the environmental review process.

The FONSI/ROD and EA are available on the FAA website at: https://www.faa.gov/air_traffic/environmental_issues/.

Issued in Des Moines, WA, on July 12, 2022.

Ryan Wade Weller,
Environmental Protection Specialist,
Operation Support Group, Western Service Area.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[Docket No. FMCSA–2019–0278]

Hours of Service of Drivers:
Application for Exemption; Harris Companies, Inc. (Harris)

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

ACTION: Notice of final disposition; denial of exemption.

SUMMARY: FMCSA announces its decision to deny the Harris Companies, Inc. (Harris) application for exemption from the electronic logging device (ELD) rule for all its employees who are required to prepare records of duty status (RODS). This includes elevator technicians, electricians, other general laborers, and welders who operate commercial motor vehicles (CMVs) in interstate commerce. FMCSA has analyzed the exemption application and the public comments and determined that the applicant has not demonstrated that it would likely achieve a level of safety that is equivalent to, or greater than, the level that would be achieved by the current regulation (49 CFR 381.305).

The Agency’s decision 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 five years) and explain the terms and conditions of the exemption. The exemption may be renewed (49 CFR 381.300(b)).

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).

III. Request for Exemption

Harris, a family-owned and operated company comprised of an elevator division and an electric division, applied for an exemption from the use of ELDs required under 49 CFR 395.8. The exemption would cover the company’s 14 elevator technicians and electricians and seven general laborers and welders who operate CMVs. The company currently uses electronic devices to document hours of service (HOS). However, given internet connectivity issues affecting operation of its ELDs, Harris requested the exemption to allow it to resume the use of paper RODS.

IV. Public Comments

On December 13, 2019, FMCSA published notice of the Harris application for exemption and requested public comment (84 FR 68287). The Agency received three comments, two opposing and one supporting the exemption request. The Commercial
Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA) opposed this exemption, describing it as “both unjustified and impractical.” The CVSA noted that, “if granted, this exemption would negatively impact safety and place an excessive burden on the enforcement community. The Federal HOS requirements exist to help prevent and manage driver fatigue.” Mr. Michael Millard also opposed the request, stating that “[the] Harris Companies application for an exception from ELDs is most likely based on its small size and its thoughts on an added expense for installing ELDs.” In response to an opposing commenter, Harris filed a comment in favor of its own application. Harris’ comment emphasized the inability of its current ELDs to operate properly in rural areas with little to no internet connection.

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

To ensure an equivalent level of safety, Harris offered company safety policies and procedures. Harris referenced several ongoing company training programs to ensure compliance with the various Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations. These training programs include general safety and compliance policies, vehicle operating policies, HOS training and compliance, drug and alcohol testing procedures, and risk management services. In addition, Harris offered the continuous use of paper RODS for recording and tracking their drivers’ HOS compliance.

VI. FMCSA Response and Decision

FMCSA has evaluated the Harris application for exemption and the public comments submitted. When the Agency adopted the ELD rule in 2015, as mandated by Congress, it determined that ELDs would improve CMV safety and reduce the overall paperwork burden for both motor carriers and drivers. ELDs have led to improved compliance with the applicable HOS rules. Harris has failed to provide a sufficient analysis of the safety impacts of the requested exemption or adequate countermeasures to ensure that the exemption would likely achieve a level of safety equivalent to, or greater than, the level that would be achieved by the current regulations. For these reasons, FMCSA denies the request for exemption.

Robin Hutcheson,
Deputy Administrator.

[FR Doc. 2022–15224 Filed 7–15–22; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–EX–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

[Docket No. PHMSA–2022–0052 (Notice No. 2022–11)]

Hazardous Materials: Information Collection Activities

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

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, PHMSA invites comments on information collections pertaining to hazardous materials transportation for which PHMSA intends to request renewal and extension from the Office of Management and Budget. Additionally, we note that on May 3, 2022, a notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on these information collections was published in the Federal Register, and PHMSA did not receive any comments on it.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before August 17, 2022.

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

We invite comments on: (1) whether the collections of information are necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the Department’s estimate of the burden of the information collections; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Docket: For access to the Dockets to read background documents or comments received, go to http://www.regulations.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Steven Andrews or T. Glenn Foster, Standards and Rulemaking Division, (202) 366–8553, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590–0001

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 1320.8 (d), title 5, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) requires PHMSA to provide interested members of the public and affected agencies an opportunity to comment on information collection and recordkeeping requests. This notice identifies information collection requests PHMSA previously published in a 60-day notice seeking comments and is now submitting to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for renewal and extension. These information collections are contained in 49 CFR 171.6 of the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR; 49 CFR parts 171 through 180). PHMSA has revised burden estimates, where appropriate, to reflect current reporting levels or adjustments based on changes in proposed or final rules published since the information collection was last approved. The following information is provided for each information collection: (1) title of the information collection, including former title if a change is being made; (2) OMB control number; (3) summary of the information collection activity; (4) description of affected public; (5) estimate of total annual reporting and recordkeeping burden; and (6) frequency of collection.

PHMSA will request a 3-year term of approval for the information collection activity and will publish a notice in the Federal Register alerting the public to OMB’s approval.

PHMSA requests comments on the following information collection: Title: Radioactive (RAM) Transportation Requirements.

OMB Control Number: 2137–0510.

Summary: This information collection consolidates and describes the information collection provisions in the HMR involving the transportation of radioactive materials in commerce. Information collection requirements for RAM include: documenting testing and engineering evaluations for packages, documenting DOT 7A packages, revalidating foreign competent authority certifications, providing specific written instruction of exclusive use shipment controls, providing written instructions for exclusive use shipment controls, obtaining U.S. competent authority for package design, registering with U.S. competent authority as user of a package, and requesting a U.S.