conveying false information to a motorist such that in the future, the motorist would not necessarily comply with the warning system indications. Appropriate use of jumper wires, or other safe means of bypassing the system, thus prevents the incorrect warning from being displayed, and safety is maintained as long as measures are taken to provide for the safety of motorists and train operations.

Although appropriately deactivating the crossing warning devices through the application of jumpers or other means is a safe practice when combined with protection measures addressed to motorists and train operations, if warning devices are allowed to remain deactivated after maintenance work is completed and workers leave the scene, the motorist may be left with a non-functioning warning system. Similarly, if this is done in a signal system, an incorrect false proceed indication may be displayed.

Because the application of jumper wires to vital control relays is the most widely accepted method for temporarily disabling a grade crossing warning device or wayside signal system, FRA found that the most effective safety procedures also mandate that only approved jumper wires may be used to bypass vital circuits. Furthermore, these procedures require documentation regarding the number of jumper wires applied to circuits, the specific location of the wires, and the circuitry designation to which the wires are applied. Also, when planned maintenance-of-way work is to be performed which could affect the operation of a warning system, the safety procedures insist that a thorough job briefing be conducted by the employee in charge of performing the work on the grade crossing warning devices or wayside signal systems. Again, in all of these cases, testing is required to ensure the proper operation of the warning system prior to returning the warning system to service and the most effective procedures require that a record be kept of the tests that were performed.

In order to mitigate the risks inherent with the circumvention of a system, FRA believes it is important that individual railroads have standard procedures in place before interfering with the normal operation of a system.

Recommended Action

In recognition of the need to assure safety, FRA strongly recommends that:

1. Each railroad having a highway-rail grade crossing warning system or wayside signal system establish specific railroad-wide instructions for the proper temporary deactivation of these systems. These instructions should address:

(a) The manner in which the deactivation is authorized;

(b) The personnel designated to authorize deactivation;

(c) The protocols for notifying designated persons, especially personnel responsible for the movement of trains, that a warning system has been deactivated;

(d) The appropriate methods of providing for the safety of train movements while the warning devices are deactivated;

(e) The requirements necessary to perform an operational test of the pertinent system components after the signal system or crossing warning device work has been completed and prior to restoring the apparatus to service; and

(f) The protocols for documenting and notifying designated persons that the warning devices have been properly tested and restored to service.

2. Each railroad should provide regular periodic training to all affected employees to ensure their understanding of instructions for the proper temporary deactivation of grade crossing warning or wayside signal system, including proper use of jumper wires.

Issued in Washington, DC on January 16, 2002.

George A. Gavalla,

Associate Administrator for Safety.

[FR Doc. 02–1638 Filed 1–22–02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–06–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms within the Department of the Treasury is soliciting comments concerning the Application for Basic Permit Under the Federal Alcohol Administration Act.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before March 25, 2002 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Linda Barnes, 650 Massachusetts Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20226, (202) 927–8930.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the form(s) and instructions should be directed to Kristy Colon, Regulations Division, 650 Massachusetts Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20226, (202) 927–8210.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Application for Basic Permit Under the Federal Alcohol Administration Act.

OMB Number: 1512–0089.

Form Number: ATF F 5100.24.

Abstract: ATF F 5100.24 is completed by persons intending to engage in a business involving beverage alcohol operations at a distilled spirits plant or bonded winery, or to wholesale or import beverage alcohol. The information allows ATF to identify the applicant and the location of the business and to determine whether the applicant qualifies for a basic permit under the Federal Alcohol Administration Act.

Current Actions: There are no changes to this information collection and it is being submitted for extension purposes only.

Type of Review: Extension.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1,600.

Estimated Time Per Respondent: 1 hour and 45 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 2,800.

Request for Comments

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record.

Comments are Invited on (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology;

and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Dated: January 9, 2002.

William T. Earle,

Assistant Director (Management) CFO.

[FR Doc. 02–1502 Filed 1–22–02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810–31–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms within the Department of the Treasury is soliciting comments concerning the Application for Amended Basic Permit Under the Federal Alcohol Administration Act.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before March 25, 2002 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Linda Barnes, 650 Massachusetts Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20226, (202) 927–8930.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the form(s) and instructions should be directed to Kristy Colon, Regulations Division, 650 Massachusetts Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20226, (202) 927–8210.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Application for Amended Basic Permit Under the Federal Alcohol Administration Act.

OMB Number: 1512–0090.

Form Number: ATF F 5100.18.

Abstract: ATF F 5100.18 is completed by permittees who have changes in their operations which require a new permit to be issued or notice to be received by ATF. The permittees are businesses involving beverage alcohol operations at distilled spirits plants, bonded wineries, wholesalers and importers. The information allows ATF to identify the permittee, the changes to the permit or business operations and to determine whether the applicant qualifies for an amended basic permit under the Federal Alcohol Administration Act.

Current Actions: There are no changes to this information collection and it is being submitted for extension purposes only.

Type of Review: Extension.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1,200.

Estimated Time Per Respondent: 30 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 600.

Request for Comments

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record.

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Dated: January 9, 2002.

William T. Earle,

Assistant Director (Management) CFO.

[FR Doc. 02–1503 Filed 1–22–02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810–31–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms within the Department of the Treasury is soliciting comments concerning the Federal Firearms and Ammunition Excise Tax.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before March 25, 2002 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Linda Barnes, 650 Massachusetts Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20226, (202) 927–8930.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the form(s) and instructions should be directed to Robert Ruhf, Regulations Division, 650 Massachusetts Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20226, (202) 927–8210.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Federal Firearms and Ammunition Excise Tax.

OMB Number: 1512–0507.

Form Number: ATF F 5300.26.

Abstract: A Federal excise tax is imposed by 26 U.S.C. 4181 on the sale of pistols and revolvers, other firearms, shells and cartridges (ammunition) sold by firearms manufacturers, producers, and importers. The information on the form is necessary to establish the taxpayer's identity, the amount and type of taxes due, and the amount of payments made.

Current Actions: There are no changes to this information collection and it is being submitted for extension purposes only.

Type of Review: Extension.

Affected Public: Individuals or households, business or other for-profit.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 965.

Estimated Time Per Respondent: 7 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 27,020.

Request for Comments

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record.

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to