

consequences of the change. Because of the setting in which C³RS is being implemented, that data must come from the railroad employees (labor and management) who may be affected. Critical data include beliefs about safety and issues related to safety, and opinions/observations about the operation of C³RS.

The ongoing study is a five-year demonstration project to improve rail safety, and is designed to identify safety issues and propose corrective action based on voluntary reports of close calls submitted to the Bureau of Transportation Statistics. Because of the innovative nature of this program, FRA is implementing an evaluation to determine whether the program is succeeding, how it can be improved and, if successful, what is needed to spread the program throughout the railroad industry. Interviews to evaluate the close call reporting system will be conducted with two groups: (1) Key stakeholders to the process (e.g., FRA officials, industry labor, and carrier management within participating railroads); and (2) Employees in participating railroads who are eligible to submit close call reports to the Confidential Close Call Reporting System. Different questions will be addressed to each of these two groups. Interviews will be semi-structured, with follow-up questions asked as appropriate depending on the respondent's initial answer.

The confidentiality of the interview data is protected by the Privacy Act of 1974. FRA fully complies with all laws pertaining to confidentiality, including the Privacy Act. Thus, information obtained by or acquired by FRA's contractor, the Volpe Center, from key stakeholders and railroad employees will be used strictly for evaluation purposes. None of the information that might be identifying will be disseminated or disclosed in any way. In addition, the participating railroad sites involved will require Volpe to establish a non-disclosure agreement that prohibits disclosure of company confidential information without the carrier's authorization. Also, the information is protected under the Department of Transportation regulation Title 49 CFR Part 9, which is in part concerned with the Department involvement in proceedings between private litigants. According to this statute, if data are subpoenaed, Volpe and Volpe contractors can not "provide testimony or produce any material contained in the files of the Department, or disclose any information or produce any material acquired as part of the performance of that employee's official

duties or because of that employee's official duty status" unless authorized by agency counsel after determining that, in legal proceedings between private litigants, such testimony would be in the best interests of the Department or that of the United States Government if disclosed. Finally, the name of those interviewed will not be requested.

Annual Estimated Burden Hours: 242 hours

Addressee: Send comments regarding this information collection to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, 725 Seventeenth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20503, Attention: FRA Desk Officer. Comments may also be sent electronically via e-mail to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) at the following address: oira_submissions@omb.eop.gov.

Comments are invited on the following: Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; the accuracy of the Department's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and 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.

A comment to OMB is best assured of having its full effect if OMB receives it within 30 days of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**.

Authority: 44 U.S.C. 3501-3520.

Issued in Washington, DC, on September 15, 2010.

Kimberly Coronel,

Director, Office of Financial Management.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

Environmental Impact Statement: U.S. 64/Corridor K. The Project Begins on U.S. 64 From West of the Ocoee River to State Route 68 Near Ducktown in Polk County, TN

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of Intent (NOI).

SUMMARY: The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is issuing this notice to advise the public that an

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be prepared for a proposed highway project in Polk County, Tennessee.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Charles J. O'Neill, Planning and Program Management Team Leader, Federal Highway Administration, Tennessee Division Office, Address: 404 BNA Drive, Suite 508, Nashville, Tennessee 37217, Telephone: (615) 781-5770, E-mail: Charles.ONeill@dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FHWA, in cooperation with the Tennessee Department of Transportation, will prepare an EIS for the proposed U.S. 64/Appalachian Development Corridor K project from west of the Ocoee River to State Route 68 near Ducktown, a distance of approximately 20 miles. The southern boundary of the Corridor K project study area is along the Tennessee-Georgia state line. The northern boundary, in general, is along the Hiwassee River and Ocoee River watershed boundary. A NOI for the same project corridor was previously published on August 28, 1999 and then rescinded on May 21, 2008 due to the decision that a new EIS was needed to include and evaluate new information and a new economic development study.

Alternatives to be considered include: (1) No-build; (2) a Transportation System Management (TSM) alternative; (3) a transit alternative; (4) one or more build alternatives that could include constructing a roadway on a new location, upgrading existing U.S. 64, or a combination of both, and (5) other alternatives that may arise from public input. Public scoping meetings will be held for the project corridor. As part of the scoping process, federal, state, and local agencies and officials; private organizations; citizens; and interest groups will have an opportunity to identify issues of concern and provide input on the purpose and need for the project, range of alternatives, methodology, and the development of the EIS. A Coordination Plan has been developed to include the public in the project development process. This plan utilizes the following outreach efforts to provide information and solicit input: Coordination through a Citizens Resource Team, newsletters, an Internet Web site, e-mail and direct mail, informational meetings and briefings, public hearings, and other efforts as necessary and appropriate. A public hearing will be held upon completion of the Draft EIS and public notice will be given of the time and place of the hearing. The Draft EIS will be available

for public and agency review and comment prior to the public hearings.

To ensure that the full range of issues related to this proposed action are identified and taken into account, comments and suggestions are invited from all interested parties. Comments and questions concerning the proposed action should be directed to the FHWA contact person identified above at the address provided above.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number 20.205, Highway Planning and Construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 12372 regarding intergovernmental consultation on Federal programs and activities apply to this proposed program).

Charles J. O'Neill,

*Planning & Program Mgmt. Team Leader,
Nashville, TN.*

[FR Doc. 2010-23527 Filed 9-20-10; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

Notice To Rescind a Notice of Intent To Prepare a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS): Route 475 (Knoxville Parkway), From Interstate 75 South of Knoxville to Interstate 75 North of Knoxville, Loudon, Knox, and Anderson Counties, TN

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is issuing this notice to advise the public that the Notice of Intent published on November 4, 2005 to prepare a SEIS for the proposed Route 475 (Knoxville Parkway) from Interstate 75 south of Knoxville to Interstate 75 north of Knoxville, Loudon, Knox, and Anderson Counties, Tennessee, is being rescinded.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Charles J. O'Neill, Planning and Program Management Team Leader, Federal Highway Administration—Tennessee Division Office, 404 BNA Drive, Suite 508, Nashville, TN 37217. 615-781-5770.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FHWA, in cooperation with the Tennessee Department of Transportation, is rescinding the notice of intent to prepare a SEIS for the proposed Route 475 (Knoxville Parkway) from Interstate 75 south of Knoxville to Interstate 75 north of Knoxville, Loudon, Knox, and Anderson Counties, Tennessee. The proposed

project was approximately 36 miles in length.

The project as described in the December 18, 2001 Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) was proposed to improve the regional transportation system in the area.

Since the original Draft Environmental Impact was approved, the alternative development and screening process for the project has continued through a Context Sensitive Solution Process (CSS). This CSS process identified new alternatives to follow the general alignment of the Orange alternative, but had been shifted at various locations based on input from the CSS process. In addition, the number and type of access points along the route have been modified. The purpose of the SDEIS was to study and develop the new alternatives. The No-Build and three Build Alternatives were proposed to be studied in the SDEIS.

Revised traffic projections show a much lower level of traffic using the new proposed Route 475 (Knoxville Parkway) and a smaller diversion of traffic from Interstate 40 and Interstate 75 than was originally projected. In addition, the estimated cost of approximately one billion dollars was determined to be prohibitive.

To ensure that the full range of issues related to this proposed action are identified and taken into account, comments and suggestions are invited from all interested parties. Comments and questions concerning the proposed action should be directed to the FHWA contact person identified above at the address provided above.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number 20.205, Highway Planning and Construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 12372 regarding intergovernmental consultation on Federal programs and activities apply to this proposed program.)

Charles J. O'Neill,

*Planning and Program Mgmt., Team Leader,
Nashville, TN.*

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

[Docket No. NHTSA-2010-0069]

Fisker Automotive; Grant of Application for Temporary Exemption From Advanced Air Bag Requirements of FMVSS No. 208

AGENCY: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Notice of grant of petition for temporary exemption from certain provisions of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) No. 208, *Occupant Crash Protection*.

SUMMARY: This notice grants the petition of Fisker Automotive Corporation (Fisker) from certain advanced air bag requirements of FMVSS No. 208, for the Karma model. The basis for the application is that compliance would cause substantial economic hardship to a manufacturer that has tried in good faith to comply with the standard. This action follows our publication in the **Federal Register** of a document announcing receipt of Fisker's petition and soliciting public comments.

DATES: The exemption is effective immediately and remains in effect until September 21, 2011.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Edward Glancy, Office of the Chief Counsel, NCC-112, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., West Building 4th Floor, Room W41-326, Washington, DC 20590. Telephone: (202) 366-2992; Fax: (202) 366-3820.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Advanced Air Bag Requirements and Small Volume Manufacturers

In 2000, NHTSA upgraded the requirements for air bags in passenger cars and light trucks, requiring what are commonly known as "advanced air bags."¹ The upgrade was designed to meet the goals of improving protection for occupants of all sizes, belted and unbelted, in moderate-to-high-speed crashes, and of minimizing the risks posed by air bags to infants, children, and other occupants, especially in low-speed crashes.

The advanced air bag requirements were a culmination of a comprehensive plan that the agency announced in 1996 to address the adverse effects of air bags. This plan also included an extensive consumer education program to

¹ See 65 FR 30680 (May 12, 2000).