

Section 401 Permits may be required from the Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet and the Indiana Department of Environmental Management. Other State and local permits may also be required.

Comments or questions concerning this Notice should be directed to the FHWA and to the Project Sponsors at the addresses provided above.

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

Issued on: February 9, 2011.

**Jose Sepulveda,**

*Division Administrator, Federal Highway Administration, Frankfort, Kentucky.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[Docket No. FMCSA-2000-7006; FMCSA-2001-10578; FMCSA-2002-12423; FMCSA-2002-12844; FMCSA-2004-17984; FMCSA-2004-19477; FMCSA-2006-26066; FMCSA-2008-0106; FMCSA-2008-0231; FMCSA-2008-0340; FMCSA-2008-0266]

### Qualification of Drivers; Exemption Applications; Vision

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

**ACTION:** Notice of renewal of exemptions; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** FMCSA announces its decision to renew the exemptions from the vision requirement in the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations for 14 individuals. FMCSA has statutory authority to exempt individuals from the vision requirement if the exemptions granted will not compromise safety. The Agency has concluded that granting these exemption renewals will provide a level of safety that is equivalent to, or greater than, the level of safety maintained without the exemptions for these commercial motor vehicle (CMV) drivers.

**DATES:** This decision is effective February 25, 2011. Comments must be received on or before March 17, 2011.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments bearing the Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) numbers: FMCSA-2000-7006; FMCSA-2001-10578; FMCSA-2002-12423; FMCSA-2002-12844; FMCSA-2004-17984; FMCSA-

2004-19477; FMCSA-2006-26066; FMCSA-2008-0106; FMCSA-2008-0231; FMCSA-2008-0340; FMCSA-2008-0266] using any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the on-line instructions for submitting comments.

- *Mail:* Docket Management Facility; U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590-0001.

- *Hand Delivery or Courier:* West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

- *Fax:* 1-202-493-2251.

**Instructions:** Each submission must include the Agency name and the docket number for this notice. Note that DOT posts all comments received without change to <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information included in a comment. Please see the Privacy Act heading below.

**Docket:** For access to the docket to read background documents or comments, go to <http://www.regulations.gov> at any time or Room W12-140 on the ground level of the West Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) is available 24 hours each day, 365 days each year. If you want acknowledgment that we received your comments, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope or postcard or print the acknowledgement page that appears after submitting comments on-line.

**Privacy Act:** Anyone may search the electronic form of all comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or of the person signing the comment, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review DOT's Privacy Act Statement for the FDMS published in the **Federal Register** on January 17, 2008 (73 FR 3316), or you may visit <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2008/pdf/E8-785.pdf>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Mary D. Gunnels, Director, Medical Programs, (202) 366-4001, [fmcamedical@dot.gov](mailto:fmcamedical@dot.gov), FMCSA, Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Room W64-224, Washington, DC 20590-0001.

Office hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Background

Under 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, FMCSA may renew an exemption from the vision requirements in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10), which applies to drivers of CMVs in interstate commerce, for a two-year period if it finds "such exemption would likely achieve a level of safety that is equivalent to, or greater than, the level that would be achieved absent such exemption." The procedures for requesting an exemption (including renewals) are set out in 49 CFR part 381.

#### Exemption Decision

This notice addresses 14 individuals who have requested renewal of their exemptions in accordance with FMCSA procedures. FMCSA has evaluated these 14 applications for renewal on their merits and decided to extend each exemption for a renewable two-year period. They are:

Jose S. Azuara  
Benny J. Burke  
Timothy A. DeFrance  
Brian F. Denning  
Wilfred J. Gagnon  
Grady P. Gilliland  
Lester G. Kelley, II.  
Dennis R. O'Dell, Jr.  
Jerry W. Parker  
Robert L. Person  
Virgil A. Potts  
Henry A. Shelton  
William R. Thomas  
Stephen D. Vice

The exemptions are extended subject to the following conditions: (1) That each individual has a physical examination every year (a) by an ophthalmologist or optometrist who attests that the vision in the better eye continues to meet the standard in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10), and (b) by a medical examiner who attests that the individual is otherwise physically qualified under 49 CFR 391.41; (2) that each individual provides a copy of the ophthalmologist's or optometrist's report to the medical examiner at the time of the annual medical examination; and (3) that each individual provide a copy of the annual medical certification to the employer for retention in the driver's qualification file and retains a copy of the certification on his/her person while driving for presentation to a duly authorized Federal, State, or local enforcement official. Each exemption will be valid for two years unless rescinded earlier by FMCSA. The exemption will be rescinded if: (1) The

person fails to comply with the terms and conditions of the exemption; (2) the exemption has resulted in a lower level of safety than was maintained before it was granted; or (3) continuation of the exemption would not be consistent with the goals and objectives of 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315.

### Basis for Renewing Exemptions

Under 49 U.S.C. 31315(b)(1), an exemption may be granted for no longer than two years from its approval date and may be renewed upon application for additional two year periods. In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, each of the 14 applicants has satisfied the entry conditions for obtaining an exemption from the vision requirements (57 FR 57266; 65 FR 57230; 66 FR 58326; 66 FR 66966; 67 FR 68719; 68 FR 2629; 68 FR 8794; 69 FR 17267; 69 FR 33997; 69 FR 71100; 69 FR 61292; 69 FR 62741; 69 FR 64806; 70 FR 2705; 70 FR 8659; 71 FR 63379; 71 FR 62147; 71 FR 43556; 72 FR 5489; 72 FR 1050; 72 FR 184; 73 FR 35194; 73 FR 20245; 73 FR 46973; 73 FR 54888; 73 FR 75803; 73 FR 75806; 73 FR 51689; 73 FR 63047; 73 FR 48273; 74 FR 980; 74 FR 6207; 74 FR 6209). Each of these 14 applicants has requested renewal of the exemption and has submitted evidence showing that the vision in the better eye continues to meet the standard specified at 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10) and that the vision impairment is stable. In addition, a review of each record of safety while driving with the respective vision deficiencies over the past two years indicates each applicant continues to meet the vision exemption standards. These factors provide an adequate basis for predicting each driver's ability to continue to drive safely in interstate commerce. Therefore, FMCSA concludes that extending the exemption for each renewal applicant for a period of two years is likely to achieve a level of safety equal to that existing without the exemption.

### Request for Comments

FMCSA will review comments received at any time concerning a particular driver's safety record and determine if the continuation of the exemption is consistent with the requirements at 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315. However, FMCSA requests that interested parties with specific data concerning the safety records of these drivers submit comments by March 17, 2011.

FMCSA believes that the requirements for a renewal of an exemption under 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315 can be satisfied by initially granting the renewal and then

requesting and evaluating, if needed, subsequent comments submitted by interested parties. As indicated above, the Agency previously published notices of final disposition announcing its decision to exempt these 14 individuals from the vision requirement in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10). The final decision to grant an exemption to each of these individuals was made on the merits of each case and made only after careful consideration of the comments received to its notices of applications. The notices of applications stated in detail the qualifications, experience, and medical condition of each applicant for an exemption from the vision requirements. That information is available by consulting the above cited **Federal Register** publications.

Interested parties or organizations possessing information that would otherwise show that any, or all, of these drivers are not currently achieving the statutory level of safety should immediately notify FMCSA. The Agency will evaluate any adverse evidence submitted and, if safety is being compromised or if continuation of the exemption would not be consistent with the goals and objectives of 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, FMCSA will take immediate steps to revoke the exemption of a driver.

Issued on: February 7, 2011.

**Larry W. Minor,**

*Associate Administrator, Office of Policy.*

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**BILLING CODE 4910-EX-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Railroad Administration

#### Petition for Waiver of Compliance

In accordance with Part 211 of Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), notice is hereby given that the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) has received a request for a waiver of compliance from certain requirements of its safety standards. The individual petition is described below, including the party seeking relief, the regulatory provisions involved, the nature of the relief being requested, and the petitioner's arguments in favor of relief.

#### San Diego Trolley Incorporated

[Waiver Petition Docket Number FRA-2000-7137]

The San Diego Trolley Incorporated (SDTI) seeks a 5-year extension of its current waiver of compliance from certain provisions of 49 CFR for certain portions of its light-rail transit operations, employing temporal

separation in order to safely share track with the general railroad system's San Diego and Imperial Valley Railroad (SDIV). SDTI seeks relief from certain requirements of 49 CFR part 217, Railroad Operating Rules (except for § 217.9(d)); Part 218, Railroad Operating Practices (§ 218.27(a)); Part 219, Control of Drug and Alcohol Abuse; Part 220, Railroad Communications; Part 221, Rear End Marking Device Passenger, Commuter and Freight Trains; Part 223, Safety Glazing Standards-Locomotives, Passenger Cars, and Caboose (§§ 223.99(c), 223.17, 223.15(c)); Part 225, Accident Reporting and Investigation; Part 229, Railroad Locomotive Safety Standards (§§ 229.46-229.59, 229.61, 229.65, 229.71, 229.77, 229.125, 229.135); Part 231, Railroad Safety Appliance Standards (§ 231.14); Part 238, Passenger Equipment Safety Standards (§§ 238.1135, 238.114, 238.115, 238.203, 238.205, 238.207, 238.211, 238.213, 238.15, 238.17, 238.19, 238.231, 238.233, 238.235, 238.237, Subpart D (§§ 238.301-238.319)); Part 239, Passenger Train Emergency Preparedness; and Part 240, Locomotive Engineer Certification.

SDTI submits that this request is consistent with the waiver process for shared use. *See Statement of Agency Policy Concerning Jurisdiction Over the Safety of Railroad Passenger Operations and Waivers Related to Shared Use of the Tracks of the General Railroad System by Light Rail and Conventional Equipment, 65 FR 42529 (July 10, 2000); see also Joint Statement of Agency Policy Concerning Shared Use of the Tracks of the General Railroad System by Conventional Railroads and Light Rail Transit Systems, 65 FR 42626 (July 10, 2000).* SDTI received its initial waiver and permission from FRA in January 2001. In August 2004, SDTI received permission from FRA to modify the terms and conditions of the original 2001 waiver to include limited joint nighttime operations on the light-rail Blue Line with westbound SDIV freight trains. SDTI was granted a 5-year extension of the terms and conditions of the original waiver, with modifications approved in 2004 and 2006. SDTI states in this waiver renewal that nothing has changed since the 2006 decision letter was rendered by FRA.

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 party desires an opportunity for oral comment, they