

Avenue SE., Room W21-203, Washington, DC 20590. Telephone 202-366-5979, Email Joann.Spittle@dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: As described by the applicant the intended service of the vessel STEPPIN UP is:

Intended Commercial Use of Vessel: "All Inclusive Chartering, up to 10 days, full and half day charters, pick up and discharge passengers at same ports."

Geographic Region: "New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana, and Texas."

The complete application is given in DOT docket MARAD-2012 0043 at <http://www.regulations.gov>. Interested parties may comment on the effect this action may have on U.S. vessel builders or businesses in the U.S. that use U.S.-flag vessels. If MARAD determines, in accordance with 46 U.S.C. 12121 and MARAD's regulations at 46 CFR part 388, that the issuance of the waiver will have an unduly adverse effect on a U.S.-vessel builder or a business that uses U.S.-flag vessels in that business, a waiver will not be granted. Comments should refer to the docket number of this notice and the vessel name in order for MARAD to properly consider the comments. Comments should also state the commenter's interest in the waiver application, and address the waiver criteria given in § 388.4 of MARAD's regulations at 46 CFR part 388.

Privacy Act

Anyone is able to search the electronic form of all comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the comment, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** published on April 11, 2000 (Volume 65, Number 70; Pages 19477-78).

By Order of the Maritime Administrator.
Dated: April 19, 2012

Julie P. Agarwal,

Secretary, Maritime Administration.

[FR Doc. 2012-9879 Filed 4-23-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-81-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Maritime Administration

[Docket No. MARAD 2012 0042]

Requested Administrative Waiver of the Coastwise Trade Laws: Vessel JOJO MARIA; Invitation for Public Comments

AGENCY: Maritime Administration, DOT.
ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: As authorized by 46 U.S.C. 12121, the Secretary of Transportation, as represented by the Maritime Administration (MARAD), is authorized to grant waivers of the U.S.-build requirement of the coastwise laws under certain circumstances. A request for such a waiver has been received by MARAD. The vessel, and a brief description of the proposed service, is listed below.

DATES: Submit comments on or before May 24, 2012.

ADDRESSES: Comments should refer to docket number MARAD-2012 0042. Written comments may be submitted by hand or by mail to the Docket Clerk, U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590. You may also send comments electronically via the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov>. All comments will become part of this docket and will be available for inspection and copying at the above address between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., E.T., Monday through Friday, except federal holidays. An electronic version of this document and all documents entered into this docket is available on the World Wide Web at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joann Spittle, U.S. Department of Transportation, Maritime Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Room W21-203, Washington, DC 20590. Telephone 202-366-5979, Email Joann.Spittle@dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: As described by the applicant the intended service of the vessel JOJO MARIA is:

Intended Commercial Use of Vessel: "Private Sailboat Charter Tours from City Island located in the Bronx, New York."

Geographic Region: "New York, Connecticut."

The complete application is given in DOT docket MARAD-2012 0042 at <http://www.regulations.gov>. Interested parties may comment on the effect this action may have on U.S. vessel builders

or businesses in the U.S. that use U.S.-flag vessels. If MARAD determines, in accordance with 46 U.S.C. 12121 and MARAD's regulations at 46 CFR part 388, that the issuance of the waiver will have an unduly adverse effect on a U.S.-vessel builder or a business that uses U.S.-flag vessels in that business, a waiver will not be granted. Comments should refer to the docket number of this notice and the vessel name in order for MARAD to properly consider the comments. Comments should also state the commenter's interest in the waiver application, and address the waiver criteria given in § 388.4 of MARAD's regulations at 46 CFR part 388.

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By Order of the Maritime Administrator.
Dated: April 19, 2012.

Julie P. Agarwal,

Secretary, Maritime Administration.

[FR Doc. 2012-9873 Filed 4-23-12; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Maritime Administration

Marine Transportation System National Advisory Council

ACTION: National Advisory Council public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Maritime Administration announces that the Marine Transportation System National Advisory Council (MTSNAC) will hold a meeting to discuss recommendations to the Secretary on the integration of marine highways into the national transportation system and the development of a steady and reliable funding mechanism for port infrastructure development. A public comment period will commence at 1:30 p.m. on May 8, 2012. To provide time for as many people to speak as possible, speaking time for each individual will be limited to three minutes. Members of the public who would like to speak are asked to contact Richard J. Lolich by May 1, 2012. Commenters will be placed on the agenda in the order in which notifications are received. If time

allows, additional comments will be permitted. Copies of oral comments must be submitted in writing at the meeting. Additional written comments are welcome and must be filed by May 11, 2012.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 8, 2012, from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held in the Media Center at the U.S. Department of Transportation Headquarters, 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE., Washington, DC 20590. To participate via teleconference, please contact Richard Lolich at the Maritime Administration as indicated below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Richard Lolich, (202) 366-0704; Maritime Administration, MAR-540, Room W21-310, 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE., Washington, DC 20590-0001; richard.lolich@dot.gov.

Authority: 5 U.S.C. App 2, Sec. 9(a)(2); 41 CFR 101-6. 1005; DOT Order 1120.3B.

Dated: April 19, 2012.

By order of the Maritime Administrator.

Julie P. Agarwal,

Secretary, Maritime Administration.

[FR Doc. 2012-9835 Filed 4-23-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-81-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Electric Vehicle Safety Technical Symposium

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

ACTION: Announcement of public symposium.

SUMMARY: The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is announcing a technical symposium that will be held in Washington, DC on May 18, 2012 to discuss safety considerations for electric vehicles powered by lithium-ion (Li-ion) batteries. The symposium will include brief NHTSA presentations outlining current agency research and activities related to Li-ion batteries and Li-ion battery-powered vehicles, as well as presentations by the Department of Energy, voluntary standards bodies, and automotive and battery manufacturers. Information on the date, time, location, and framework for this public event is included in this notice. Because of space limitations, registration by May 11, 2012 is highly recommended. There are no fees to register or to attend this event.

DATES: The symposium will be held on May 18, 2012, at the location indicated

in the **ADDRESSES** section below. The symposium will start at 8:30 a.m. and is scheduled to continue until 4:30 p.m., local time. However, the symposium will continue beyond 4:30 p.m. if the presiding official believes that allowing the discussion to extend beyond that time would be beneficial. If you plan to attend the technical symposium, please follow the registration process described under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** by May 11, 2012. Depending on the available space, registration may be accepted after that date.

ADDRESSES: The May 18, 2012 symposium will be held in the West Atrium of the U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590. Registration. The meeting will be open to the public and will be physically accessible to people with disabilities. Due to space limitations, pre-registration is highly recommended. If you would like to attend the symposium, please register by the date specified under the **DATES** section above, by visiting <http://www.nhtsa.gov/nhtsa/events/register.cfm> and filling out the on-line form provided. To register, you will be required to provide your first and last name and an email address, and indicate whether you are a U.S. citizen. Please specify any requests for sign language interpretation, other auxiliary aids, or other reasonable accommodation by contacting Mr. Chris Morris, whose contact information is listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**, no later than May 11, 2012. Last minute requests will be accepted, but may be impossible to fulfill.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For technical issues: Mr. Charlie Case, NHTSA Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance, telephone (202) 366-5319, email address: charlie.case@dot.gov.

For logistical issues: Mr. Chris Morris, NHTSA Office of Vehicle Safety, telephone (202) 493-2218; email address: christopher.morris@dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is hosting a public technical symposium to discuss regulatory and safety considerations for lithium-ion (Li-ion) battery-powered vehicles.

Electric vehicles show great promise as an innovative and fuel-efficient option for American drivers. Significant research and other activities related to the safety of these vehicles are ongoing by NHTSA, the Department of Energy (DOE), vehicle and battery manufacturers, standards organizations, and others. The purpose of this symposium is to bring together relevant

stakeholders to share information on the status of safety activities related to the use of Li-ion batteries in vehicles designed for on-road use.

In recognition of the growth in the vehicle segment, NHTSA has been focusing increased attention on Li-ion battery safety. For example, the agency has been working with vehicle manufacturers to ensure they have appropriate post-crash protocols. Earlier this year, with the assistance of the National Fire Protection Association, DOE, and others, NHTSA issued interim guidance for consumers, emergency responders, and tow truck operators. This guidance was aimed at increasing awareness about the specific attributes related to Li-ion battery-powered vehicles and at identifying appropriate safety measures to be used in the event of a crash involving such a vehicle.

At the same time, NHTSA is actively involved in developing a body of research regarding electric vehicle safety. The agency is assessing the performance and functional requirements of battery storage systems. NHTSA is conducting a detailed Failure Analysis approach to help the agency to identify the problems that can occur in Li-ion batteries and the severity of their occurrence. This will help NHTSA prioritize its research and potential rulemaking in this area.

Technical Symposium Agenda. NHTSA expects that the following topics will be part of the symposium: NHTSA's ongoing research on Li-ion battery safety; DOE's perspective on Li-ion battery safety; an overview of industry voluntary standards applicable to Li-ion battery-powered vehicles; emergency response procedures relevant to Li-ion battery-powered vehicles; and other safety issues, including those related to battery management systems, battery design parameters, and safety testing.

Technical Symposium Procedures and Logistics. NHTSA will conduct the symposium informally. The symposium will include brief presentations from NHTSA, DOE, voluntary standards bodies, and automotive and battery manufacturers. There will be opportunities for attendees to ask questions of NHTSA and of the technical presenters.

To attend this symposium, please follow the registration process described under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** by the date specified under the **DATES** section. Pre-registration is highly recommended because of security and space limitation reasons. Depending on the available space, late registration may be accepted. After registration, NHTSA will send attendees follow-up