

Determination pursuant to 40 CFR part 93, subpart B, which establishes the process for complying with the general conformity requirements of the Clean Air Act. Consistent with those regulations, FRA published a notice in the **Federal Register** on April 20, 2012 advising the public of the availability of the Draft Conformity Determination for a 30-day review and comment period. Copies of the Draft Conformity Determination were made available with the Final EIR/EIS at various locations in the Project area and were also posted to the Authority and FRA's Web sites. The comment period on the Draft Conformity Determination closed on May 29, 2012. FRA received one comment from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), a response to which was included in the Final General Conformity Determination published on September 18, 2012.

The Final General Conformity Determination was developed after extensive consultation with the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SJVAPCD), the Authority, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The analysis found that the Project's potential emissions during the Project construction period would exceed the General Conformity *de minimis* threshold for two precursor criteria pollutants, nitrogen oxides (NOx) and volatile organic compounds (VOC), a precursor for ozone. However, operation of the Project (*i.e.*, operation of the high-speed train, once the infrastructure was constructed) would result in an overall reduction of regional emissions of all applicable air pollutants and would not cause a localized exceedence of an air quality standard. Since the Project will result in the exceedence of the *de minimis* thresholds for the precursor criteria pollutants listed above during the construction phase, Project conformity will be accomplished through a combination of efforts to use cleaner-than-average construction equipment and a Voluntary Emissions Reduction Agreement (VERA) between the Authority and the SJVAPCD. The VERA will offset the NOx and VOC emissions, consistent with applicable regulatory requirements, by funding (by the Project) local emissions reductions projects such as replacement and/or retrofit of existing diesel agricultural pumps, farm tractors, heavy trucks, etc. The Final General Conformity Determination is available for public review on FRA's Web site at [http://www.fra.dot.gov/rpd/freight/fp\\_](http://www.fra.dot.gov/rpd/freight/fp_)

*California\_HST\_%20Merced\_to\_Fresno.shtml*.

Issued in Washington, DC, on October 15, 2012.

**Karen J. Hedlund,**  
Deputy Administrator.

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Maritime Administration

[Docket No. MARAD 2012 0096]

#### Requested Administrative Waiver of the Coastwise Trade Laws: Vessel FINALLY ENOUGH; Invitation for Public Comments

**AGENCY:** Maritime Administration, Department of Transportation.

**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.-built 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 November 19, 2012.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should refer to docket number MARAD-2012 0096. 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:** Linda Williams, U.S. Department of Transportation, Maritime Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Room W23-453, Washington, DC 20590. Telephone 202-366-0903, Email [Linda.Williams@dot.gov](mailto:Linda.Williams@dot.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** As described by the applicant the intended

service of the vessel FINALLY ENOUGH is:

*Intended Commercial Use of Vessel:* Charter operations for sightseeing, wildlife viewing, entertainment and sport fishing.

*Geographic Region:* "California, Oregon and Washington." The complete application is given in DOT docket MARAD-2012-0096 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: October 9, 2012.

**Julie P. Agarwal,**

Secretary, Maritime Administration.

[FR Doc. 2012-25626 Filed 10-17-12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-81-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Maritime Administration

[Docket No. MARAD 2012 0097]

#### Requested Administrative Waiver of the Coastwise Trade Laws: Vessel FIRE BELLE; Invitation for Public Comments

**AGENCY:** Maritime Administration, Department of Transportation.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** As authorized by 46 U.S.C. 12121, the Secretary of Transportation, as represented by the Maritime