

The existing automatic train control and Advanced Civil Speed Enforcement System (ACSES) designs will be modified to support the modifications to the block design with the addition of the new Liberty interlocking. ACSES will enforce a positive stop at each interlocking and a stop to a train with failed cab signal equipment unless the "C" signal is displayed allowing the failed train to enter the block.

The reason for removal of the signals is to eliminate maintenance and operation of unnecessary hardware no longer needed, and to reduce delays to trains caused by failures of the signals.

A copy of the petition, as well as any written communications concerning the petition, is available for review online at www.regulations.gov and in person at the U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) Docket Operations Facility, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., W12-140, Washington, DC 20590. The Docket Operations Facility is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

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 parties desire an opportunity for oral comment and a public hearing, they should notify FRA, in writing, before the end of the comment period and specify the basis for their request.

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Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

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Communications received by May 25, 2017 will be considered by FRA before final action is taken. Comments received after that date will be considered if practicable.

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association, business, labor union, etc.). Under 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its processes. DOT posts these comments, without edit, including any personal information the commenter provides, to www.regulations.gov, as described in the system of records notice (DOT/ALL-14 FDMS), which can be reviewed at <https://www.transportation.gov/privacy>. See also <https://www.regulations.gov/privacyNotice> for the privacy notice of www.regulations.gov.

Issued in Washington, DC.

Robert C. Lauby,

*Associate Administrator for Railroad Safety,
Chief Safety Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2017-07018 Filed 4-7-17; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket Number FRA-2016-0126]

Petition for Waiver of Compliance

In accordance with part 211 of Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), this document provides the public notice that by a document dated December 19, 2016, the Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority (CMTA) has petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) for a waiver of compliance from certain provisions of the Federal railroad safety regulations for the purchase of four new railcars from Stadler Bussnang AG. Specifically, CMTA is requesting relief from 49 CFR part 229, Railroad Locomotive Safety Standards (229.47, 229.71, 229.135(b)(4)(xviii) and (xix)); 49 CFR part 231, Railroad Safety Appliance Standards (231.14(a)(2), (b)-(d), (f), (g)); and 49 CFR part 238, Passenger Equipment Safety Standards (238.305, 238.229, 238.230(d), and 238.309(b)). FRA assigned the petition Docket Number FRA-2016-0028.

The Capital Metro commuter rail system consists of a single rail line, known as the Red Line, running from downtown Austin, TX, to Austin's northern suburbs, a distance of 32 miles. The Red Line service began in March 2010. The current operation serves nine stations with a fleet of six diesel multiple unit (DMU) rail vehicles designated as model G1 GTWs, manufactured by Stadler Bussnag AG. Due to steadily increasing ridership and a desire to enhance service, Capital Metro will be adding four additional DMUs, manufactured by Stadler and designated model G4 GTW.

The Stadler G4 GTW DMUs are based on the G2 GTW DMUs, which are currently operating at the Denton County Transportation Authority in Denton, TX. The new vehicles are designed and built to current European design and regulatory standards, which differ in several areas from current U.S. design standards and regulations. Capital Metro believes that the design characteristics of the Stadler G4 GTW vehicles provide an equivalent or higher level of safety and security to the passengers and crew.

Capital Metro has organized its regulatory compliance efforts into two distinct but related parts: Part 1 represents the "base" compliance assessment effort (this petition) and Part 2 represents a separate petition to utilize Alternative Vehicle Technology crashworthiness technology as outlined in "Technical Criteria and Procedures for Evaluating the Crashworthiness and Occupant Protection Performance of Alternatively-Designed Passenger Rail Equipment for Use in Tier I Service" and the recent notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) on Passenger Equipment Safety Standards; Standards for Alternative Compliance and High-Speed Trainsets NPRM (81 FR 88006, December 6, 2016).

Noting that certain provisions in 49 CFR part 231 pertaining to safety appliances are statutorily required, and therefore not subject to FRA's waiver authority, CMTA also requested that FRA exercise its authority under 49 U.S.C. 20306 to exempt CMTA from certain provisions of Chapter 203, Title 49 of the United States Code because the G4 GTW DMU vehicles will be equipped with their own array of safety devices resulting in equivalent safety.

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Robert C. Lauby,

Associate Administrator for Railroad Safety, Chief Safety Officer.

[FR Doc. 2017-07015 Filed 4-7-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-06-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket Number FRA-2015-0004]

Notice of Application for Approval of Discontinuance or Modification of a Railroad Signal System

Under part 235 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) and 49 U.S.C. 20502(a), this document provides the public notice that on February 10, 2017, CSX Transportation, Inc. (CSX) petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) seeking approval for the discontinuance or modification

of a signal system. FRA assigned the petition Docket Number FRA-2015-0004.

Applicant: CSX Transportation, Inc., Mr. Jody Cox, Chief Engineer Communications & Signals, 500 Water Street, Speed Code J-350, Jacksonville, FL 32202.

On August 10, 2015, FRA granted conditional approval to CSX's block signal application under Docket Number FRA-2015-0004, which sought approval of the proposed discontinuance of an automatic block signal (ABS) system between control point (CP) Mitchell, milepost (MP) OOO 256.0 and CP NE Vernia, MP OOO 314.6, on the Hoosier Subdivision, Louisville Division, at Mitchell, IN. The conditions of approval were:

1. CSX may retire the signal system in place for a time period not to exceed 2 years from August 10, 2015.

2. Traffic levels are to be tracked to identify any change.

3. Distant approach signals to CP Mitchell and NE Vernia are to be installed.

4. CSX must notify FRA's regional office when the signal system is retired in place.

5. CSX may request permanent discontinuance of the signal system 6 months prior to the expiration of the 2-year period.

In the February 10, 2017, letter CSX requests permanent discontinuance of the signal system as defined in Condition 5 of FRA's August 10, 2015, conditional approval. CSX will comply with Conditions 3 and 4 upon approval of a permanent discontinuance.

The reason for the proposed discontinuance is that ABS is no longer needed due to traffic level reductions. The subdivision is being used for storage only. The Hoosier Subdivision has been out of service since the Surface Transportation Board approved the discontinuance of service, in April 2010. There has been no traffic in 2015 or 2016 over this segment. The ABS will be discontinued and replaced with track warrant control D-505 rules.

A copy of the petition, as well as any written communications concerning the petition, is available for review online at www.regulations.gov and in person at the U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) Docket Operations Facility, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., W12-140, Washington, DC 20590. The Docket Operations Facility is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

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Robert C. Lauby,

Associate Administrator for Railroad Safety Chief Safety Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket Number FRA-2017-0007]

Petition for Waiver of Compliance

In accordance with part 211 of Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR),