

related to the marine transportation system.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 12, 2018 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Thursday, September 13, 2018 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time (EDT).

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held at the DOT Conference Center at the U.S. Department of Transportation Headquarters, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Amanda Rutherford, Designated Federal Officer, at MTSNAC@dot.gov or at (202) 366-1332. Please visit the MTSNAC website at <http://www.marad.dot.gov/ports/marine-transportation-system-mts/marine-transportation-system-national-advisory-committee-mtsnac/>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The MTSNAC is a Federal advisory committee that advises the U.S. Secretary of Transportation and the Maritime Administrator on issues related to the marine transportation system. The MTSNAC was originally established in 1999 and mandated in 2007 by the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007. The MTSNAC operates in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA).

Agenda

The agenda will include: (1) Welcome, opening remarks, and introductions; (2) brief remarks by the Maritime Administrator or Deputy Maritime Administrator; (3) administrative items; (4) updates to the Committee on subcommittee work; (5) development of work plans and proposed recommendations; and (6) public comments.

Public Participation

The meeting will be open to the public. Members of the public who wish to attend in person must RSVP to MTSNAC@dot.gov with your name and affiliation no later than 5:00 p.m. EST on August 27, 2018, in order to facilitate entry. Seating will be limited and available on a first-come-first-serve basis.

Services for Individuals with Disabilities: The public meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Individuals requiring accommodations, such as sign language interpretation or other ancillary aids are asked to notify Amanda Rutherford at (202) 366-1332 or MTSNAC@dot.gov at least five (5) business days before the meeting.

Public Comments: A public comment period will commence at approximately

4:00 p.m. on September 12 and 11:45 a.m. on September 13, 2018. 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 the Designated Federal Officer via email: MTSNAC@dot.gov. 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 or preferably emailed to MTSNAC@dot.gov. Additional written comments are welcome and must be filed as indicated below.

Written comments: Persons who wish to submit written comments for consideration by the Committee must email MTSNAC@dot.gov, or send them to MTSNAC Designated Federal Officers via email: MTSNAC@dot.gov, Maritime Transportation System National Advisory Committee, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, W21-307, Washington, DC 20590 no later than August 27, 2018, to provide sufficient time for review.

Authority: 49 CFR part 1.93(a); 5 U.S.C. 552b; 41 CFR parts 102-3; 5 U.S.C. app. Sections 1-16

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Dated: August 22, 2018.

By Order of the Maritime Administrator.

T. Mitchell Hudson, Jr.,

Secretary, Maritime Administration.

[FR Doc. 2018-18491 Filed 8-24-18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-81-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

[Docket No. NHTSA-2017-0080; Notice 2]

Reports, Forms and Record Keeping Requirements Agency Information Collection Activity Under OMB Review

AGENCY: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, DOT

ACTION: Request for public comment on proposed collection of information.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces that the Information Collection Request (ICR) abstracted below has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The ICR describes the nature of the information collections and their expected burden.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before September 26, 2018.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Coleman Sachs, Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance (NEF-230), National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, West Building, 4th Floor, Room W45-205, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Title: Importation of Vehicles and Equipment Subject to the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety, Bumper, and Theft Prevention Standards.

OMB Number: 2127-0002.

Type of Request: Reinstatement of an Expired Collection.

Publication of 60-Day Notice: The Federal Register Notice with a 60-day comment period was published on March 2, 2018 (83 FR 9074).

Abstract: The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) has requested that OMB reinstate the agency's approval of the information collection that is incident to NHTSA's administration of the regulations at 49 CFR parts 591, 592, and 593 that govern the importation of motor vehicles and motor vehicle equipment. The information collection includes declarations that are filed (on the HS-7 Declaration form) with U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) upon the importation of motor vehicles or motor vehicle equipment that is subject to Federal motor vehicle safety, bumper, and theft prevention standards administered by NHTSA. The information collection also includes the Department of Transportation (DOT) conformance bond that is furnished to CBP (on form HS-474) for each motor vehicle offered for importation that does not conform to all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards (FMVSS). The bond ensures that such vehicles are brought into conformity with those standards within 120 days from the date of entry or are exported from, or abandoned to, the United States. The information collection also includes paperwork that must be submitted to NHTSA and in some instances retained by registered importers (RIs) of motor vehicles that were not originally manufactured to comply with all applicable FMVSS. These items include information that a person or business entity must submit to NHTSA to be registered as an RI and to retain that status. The paperwork also includes the statement of conformity that an RI must submit to NHTSA following the completion of conformance modifications on an imported nonconforming vehicle to obtain release of the DOT conformance bond furnished for the vehicle at the

time of entry. Also included is the petition that an RI or manufacturer may submit to NHTSA for the agency to decide that a vehicle that was not originally manufactured to comply with all applicable FMVSS is capable of being modified to conform to those standards and is therefore eligible for importation under 49 U.S.C. 30141. The information collection also includes applications that are filed with NHTSA for permission to import nonconforming vehicles for purposes of research, investigations, demonstrations, training, competitive racing events, and show or display, as well as applications requesting that the agency recognize vehicles manufactured for racing purposes as being qualified to be imported as vehicles that were not primarily manufactured for use on public roads, precluding the need for those vehicles to comply with the FMVSS. This information collection is necessary to ensure that motor vehicles and motor vehicle equipment subject to the Federal motor vehicle safety, bumper, and theft prevention standards are lawfully imported into the United States and that RIs and applicants for RI status are capable of meeting their obligations under the statutes and regulations governing the importation of nonconforming vehicles.

Affected Public: Individuals and commercial entities that import motor vehicles or motor vehicle equipment subject to the FMVSS and vehicles that are not primarily manufactured for use on public roads, as well as applicants for RI status and existing RIs.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 252,622 hours; \$9,880,590.

ADDRESS: Send comments, within 30 days, to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street NW, Washington, DC 20503, Attention NHTSA Desk Officer.

Comments are invited on: 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 most effective if OMB receives it within 30 days of publication.

Michael A. Cole,

Acting Director, Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance.

[FR Doc. 2018-18423 Filed 8-24-18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-59-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

[Docket No. NHTSA-2018-0062]

Denial of Motor Vehicle Defect Petition

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

ACTION: Denial of petition for a defect investigation.

SUMMARY: This is a notice of denial of a petition submitted to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) under 49 U.S.C. 30162, requesting that the Agency commence a proceeding to determine the existence of a defect related to motor vehicle safety in Michelin Model XZU-3, size 305/85/R22.5 Load Range J transit bus tires. After a review of the petition and other information, NHTSA has concluded that a defects investigation is unlikely to result in a finding that a defect related to motor vehicle safety exists, or a NHTSA order for the notification and remedy of a safety related defect as alleged, at the conclusion of the requested investigation.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Bruce York, Medium & Heavy Duty Vehicle Division, Office of Defects Investigation, NHTSA, 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE, Washington, DC 20590. Email: Bruce.York@dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: By letter dated July 14, 2016, Paul Koleber from Intercity Transit wrote to NHTSA requesting that the Agency investigate the existence of a defect related to motor vehicle safety in Michelin Model XZU-3, size 305/85/R22.5 Load Range J transit bus tires. Mr. Koleber alleges the tires are structurally unsound and that this defect can result in sidewall blowouts at any time whether the tires are new or re-tread. Mr. Koleber stated that Michelin had previously recalled similar tires (12T-009) and the Intercity Transit fleet experienced failures with the same characteristics as those specified in the recall. Mr. Koleber submitted a forensics lab report from CASE Forensics to support his allegation.

NHTSA has reviewed the material provided by the petitioner and other information. The results of this review and NHTSA's analysis of the petition are set forth in the DP17-001 Evaluation Report, published in its entirety as an appendix to this notice.

For the reasons presented in the DP17-001 Evaluation Report, it is unlikely that a defects investigation will result in a finding that a defect related to motor vehicle safety exists. It is also unlikely that an order for the notification and remedy of a safety-related defect would be issued as a result of granting Mr. Koleber's request. Therefore, the petition is denied. This action does not constitute a finding by NHTSA that a safety related defect does not exist. The Agency will take further action if warranted by future circumstances.

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 30162(d); delegations of authority at CFR 1.50 and 501.8.

Jeffrey M. Giuseppe,

Associate Administrator for Enforcement.

Nate Seymour
Safety Defects Engineer
NEF-106ns
DP17-001

BASIS:

Paul Koleber, from Intercity Transit petitioned the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) by letter dated July 14, 2016, requesting that a defect investigation be conducted concerning motor vehicle safety in Michelin Model XZU-3, size 305/85/R22.5 Load Range J transit bus tires. The facts described in this report are based on the Office of Defect Investigations' (ODI) assessment of the information provided by the petitioner and information gathered by ODI from relevant sources.

The petitioner alleged that a defect exists involving the design of tires used in commercial bus operations which have resulted in rapid air loss. The petitioner claimed that failures identical to those described in recall 12T-009 have happened on the subject post recall tires. The petitioner stated that failures occurred on steer and drive wheel positions of both new and retread tires. The petitioner hired a forensics lab to perform scientific failure analysis of failed tires. The lab concluded the tires were of similar design and construction to those in recall 12T-009 and that the failures were caused by corrosion induced degradation of the ply strands.

DESCRIPTION OF TIRE:

The subject tires are Michelin XZU-3, size 305/85/R22.5 Load Range J transit bus tires. They are designed to be