

action was necessary to update the process for issuing operations specifications, and it established a regulatory basis for current practices, such as amending, terminating, and suspending operations specifications.

Respondents: Approximately 28 new applicants and 467 existing foreign air carriers and foreign persons annually.

Frequency: Information is collected on occasion.

Estimated Average Burden per Response: 10 Hours for new applicants. One to ten hours for existing applicants.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 280 hours for new applicants and 467 to 4670 hours for existing applicants.

Issued in Washington, DC, on October 7, 2019.

Robert C. Carty,

Deputy Executive Director, Flight Standards Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

Environmental Impact Statement: Chittenden County, Vermont

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice to rescind the 2010 Record of Decision.

SUMMARY: The FHWA is issuing this notice to advise the public that the 2010 Record of Decision issued for the proposed Southern Connector/ Champlain Parkway project is being rescinded.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kenneth R. Sikora, Jr., Environmental Program Manager, Federal Highway Administration, 87 State Street, Room 216, Montpelier, Vermont 05602. Telephone: (802) 828-4573.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FHWA, in cooperation with the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans), is rescinding the Record of Decision (ROD) for the Southern Connector/Champlain Parkway project issued on January 13, 2010.

The Notice of Intent to prepare the Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) was published in the **Federal Register** on December 31, 2003. The ROD was issued on January 13, 2010. The FHWA, in conjunction with the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans), has determined that the ROD shall be rescinded for the following reason: Although the 2005 Draft SEIS and the 2009 Final SEIS each considered disproportionately high and

adverse impacts on minority and low-income populations in accordance with Executive Order 12898, public outreach for that analysis was limited to the general public involvement associated with the NEPA process. Since the 2010 ROD, FHWA has become aware of new information about project impacts that may bear on the project decision.

In order to assess the relevance of this new information, FHWA and VTrans have decided to perform targeted public outreach to any minority and low-income populations in the project study area in order to determine whether the conclusions reached in the 2009 Final SEIS and 2010 ROD remain valid. FHWA and VTrans have also determined that the environmental justice analysis and conclusions in the NEPA review should be reassessed using the latest (2010) census data, and based on FHWA's December 16, 2011 Guidance on Environmental Justice and NEPA.

The reassessment of census data and public outreach will be performed as part of a written evaluation of the 2009 Final SEIS. The outcome of the written evaluation will assess all changes to the project as well as its setting in determining project impacts. The identified impacts will be compared to those disclosed in the 2009 FSEIS. FHWA and VTrans will assess whether or not all of the project's environmental impacts were adequately considered, and if any of the impacts may rise to the level of significance. Based on the identification of any new impacts, and to what extent they rise to the level of significance, the written evaluation will recommend whether or not the preparation of a new Supplemental EIS would be appropriate to issue a new or an amended ROD for the project to move forward.

FHWA and VTrans continue to recognize a strong need for this project. The written evaluation will provide a basis for determining the way forward to implement this project. Any future FHWA action within this project study area will comply with environmental review requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321), FHWA's environmental regulations (23 CFR 771) and related authorities, as appropriate. Comments and questions concerning this action should be directed to FHWA at the address provided above.

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

Issued on: October 7, 2019.

Matthew R. Hake,

Division Administrator, Montpelier, Vermont.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket Number FRA-2019-0064]

Petition for Waiver of Compliance

Under part 211 of title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), this document provides the public notice that on September 3, 2019, Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway (BNSF) petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) for a waiver of compliance from certain provisions of the Federal railroad safety regulations contained at 49 CFR 232.305(b)(2). FRA assigned the petition Docket Number FRA-2019-0064.

Specifically, BNSF requests the same regulatory relief provided to the Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP) in Docket Number FRA-2007-28454. Current regulations require railroad carriers to perform a single car air brake test (SCABT) when a car is on a shop or repair track, as defined in 49 CFR 232.303(a), for any reason and has not received a SCABT within the previous 12-month period. This also includes cars on an in-train wheel replacement track that do not require wheel replacement (if there are no FRA defects present), but may otherwise have an air date indicating it has not received a SCABT within the previous 12-month period and is in compliance with all other requirements of 49 CFR 232.305. BNSF requests relief through a change in repair track designation per 49 CFR 232.303. Specifically, BNSF requests that the in-train wheel replacement track not be designated a shop or repair track. However, BNSF proposes to continue performing a SCABT on any car undergoing an in-train wheelset replacement because of an FRA-condemnable wheel defect as defined in 49 CFR 232.305(b)(5).

BNSF states that this relief would serve safety and the public good by reducing the number of wheels in service which have elevated impact readings and will therefore have a long-term positive impact on rail integrity. BNSF has an extensive wayside detector network with over 4,000 detectors with varying technologies utilized to identify deteriorating component performance. Wheel Impact Load Detectors (WILD) are a part of this network that focus specifically on car and locomotive