

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Federal Railroad Administration****[Docket Number FRA–2020–0087]****Petition for Waiver of Compliance and Extension of Comment Period**

On July 25, 2022, the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) published notice¹ of its receipt of a petition dated June 28, 2022, from Illinois Central Railroad Company, for itself and on behalf of the U.S. railroad subsidiaries operating under the Canadian National Railway Company (CN), resubmitting a petition for a waiver of compliance from certain provisions of the Federal railroad safety regulations contained at 49 CFR part 232 (Brake System Safety Standards for Freight and Other Non-Passenger Trains and Equipment; End-Of-Train Devices). The relevant FRA docket number is FRA–2020–0087.

As noted in FRA's July 25, 2022, notice, CN requested to use software technology to implement a virtual three-dimensional simulation as an alternative to satisfy the "hands-on" portion of periodic refresher training required by 49 CFR 232.203(b)(8). Refresher training is required at intervals not to exceed 3 years, and must consist of classroom and hands-on training, as well as testing. CN cites FRA's January 10, 2022, denial² of its previous petition and states that its June 28, 2022, resubmission addresses the concerns raised in FRA's decision letter. In support of its petition, CN explains that the proposed "systematic, blended training curriculum" "exceeds the training objectives" required by the regulation "and is designed to increase user proficiency" and "reduc[e] air brake defects across the CN network." CN notes that it "only plans to use this requested waiver for refresher training of employees in train and engine service," and not for any other craft.

FRA's July 25, 2022, notice provided a 45-day public comment period (ending September 8, 2022) on CN's request for relief. Subsequent to publication of that notice, in a letter dated August 19, 2022, CN stated that it is seeking to assemble a meeting and demonstration of the subject software for FRA and union representatives in "the second half of September."³ Therefore, CN requests to extend the comment period by an additional 45

days to allow comments to be submitted following the software demonstration.

FRA understands that the demonstration of the subject software has been scheduled for the end of September. Accordingly, to ensure all interested parties have ample time to provide their comments subsequent to that demonstration, FRA is extending the comment period in this waiver proceeding for an additional 60 days.

A copy of CN's petition, as well as all written communications concerning the petition, is available for review online at www.regulations.gov.

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 party desires 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.

All communications concerning these proceedings should identify the appropriate docket number and may be submitted at <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

Communications received by November 7, 2022 will be considered by FRA before final action is taken. Comments received after that date will be considered if practicable.

Anyone can search the electronic form of any written communications and comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the document, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). Under 5 U.S.C. 553(c), the U.S. Department of Transportation (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/privacy-notice> for the privacy notice of www.regulations.gov.

Issued in Washington, DC.

John Karl Alexy,
Associate Administrator for Railroad Safety
Chief Safety Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Federal Railroad Administration****[Docket Number FRA–2022–0081]****Petition for Waiver of Compliance**

Under part 211 of title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), this document provides the public notice that on August 25, 2022, Virginia & Truckee Railroad Company (VT) petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) for a waiver of compliance from certain provisions of the Federal railroad safety regulations contained at 49 CFR 230.17, *One thousand four hundred seventy-two (1472) service day inspection*. FRA assigned the petition Docket Number FRA–2022–0081.

Specifically, VT requests relief for steam locomotive VTRR #29, which is used in public tourist excursions in Virginia City, Nevada. VT seeks to extend the period in which the locomotive's 1472 service day inspection is due from June 11, 2023, to December 31, 2023 (the end of the 2023 operating season). VT states that VTRR #29 will accumulate fewer than 1200 service days by December 31, 2023. In support of its request, VT explains that "a new dry pipe was installed" in VTRR #29 "in 2021 when the boiler interior was entered and rigorously inspected, besides at each internal annual inspection." VT also notes it exercises complete control of the operation, and the inspection, maintenance, and repairs of the locomotive.

A copy of the petition, as well as any written communications concerning the petition, is available for review online at www.regulations.gov.

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 party desires 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.

All communications concerning these proceedings should identify the appropriate docket number and may be submitted at <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

Communications received by October 24, 2022 will be considered by FRA before final action is taken. Comments received after that date will be considered if practicable. Anyone can

¹ See <https://www.regulations.gov/document/FRA-2020-0087-0009>.

² See <https://www.regulations.gov/document/FRA-2020-0087-0006>.

³ See <https://www.regulations.gov/document/FRA-2020-0087-0012>.

search the electronic form of any written communications and comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the document, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). Under 5 U.S.C. 553(c), the U.S. Department of Transportation (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/privacy-notice> for the privacy notice of www.regulations.gov.

Issued in Washington, DC.

John Karl Alexy,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket Number FRA-2017-0127]

Petition for Amendment of Waiver of Compliance

Under part 211 of title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), this document provides the public notice that on August 8, 2022, Dakota, Missouri Valley & Western Railroad (DMVW) petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) for an amendment of a waiver of compliance from certain provisions of the Federal railroad safety regulations contained at 49 CFR 229.47, *Emergency brake valve*. The relevant FRA Docket Number is FRA-2017-0127.

Specifically, DMVW requests to amend its existing relief from the requirement that an emergency brake pipe valve be installed adjacent to the rear door of a locomotive for three EMO SD60 locomotive units (Numbers 5504, 5523, and 5557). The three units are of the same car body type and are not equipped with the rear conductor brake valve. Each of the units have rear walkways and switch style steps, thus allowing the engineer to see the person riding on the back and are equipped with radio communication. These units will be used in road service and will always be paired together. The existing relief applies to eight locomotive units (five EMO SD50 locomotive units and

three EMO SD60 locomotive units).¹ DMVW requests that its waiver apply to three additional SD60 locomotive units, for a total of 11 locomotive units.

A copy of the petition, as well as any written communications concerning the petition, is available for review online at www.regulations.gov.

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 party desires 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.

All communications concerning these proceedings should identify the appropriate docket number and may be submitted at <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

Communications received by October 24, 2022 will be considered by FRA before final action is taken. Comments received after that date will be considered if practicable.

Anyone can search the electronic form of any written communications and comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the document, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). Under 5 U.S.C. 553(c), the U.S. Department of Transportation (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/privacy-notice> for the privacy notice of www.regulations.gov.

Issued in Washington, DC.

John Karl Alexy,

*Associate Administrator for Railroad Safety
Chief Safety Officer.*

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¹ <https://www.regulations.gov/document/FRA-2017-0127-0011>.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

[Docket No. PHMSA-2022-0073]

Pipeline Safety: Information Collection Activities

AGENCY: Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces that the information collection requests abstracted below are being forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. A **Federal Register** notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on the information collections was published on June 16, 2022.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before October 11, 2022.

ADDRESSES: The public is invited to submit comments regarding these information collection requests, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Attention: Desk Officer for the Office of the Secretary of Transportation, 725 17th Street NW, Washington, DC 20503. Comments can also be submitted electronically at www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Angela Hill by telephone at 202-680-2034, by email at angela.dow@dot.gov, or by mail at DOT, PHMSA, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, PHP-30, Washington, DC 20590-0001.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Title 5, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) section 1320.8(d), requires PHMSA to provide interested members of the public and affected agencies the opportunity to comment on information collection and recordkeeping requests before they are submitted to OMB for approval. In accordance with this regulation, on June 16, 2022, (87 FR 36373) PHMSA published a **Federal Register** notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on its plan to renew, without change, three information collections that are due to expire in 2023. PHMSA received no comments in response to the proposed renewal of these information collection requests. This notice announces that PHMSA will submit the information collection requests abstracted below to OMB for approval.