

ACTION: Cancellation of notice of intent, FR document 91-15994.

SUMMARY: The FHWA is issuing this notice to rescind the previous Notice of Intent issued on June 21, 1991, to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) for the proposed highway project in Skagit County, Washington.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Gene K. Fong, Federal Highway Administration, Evergreen Plaza Building, Suite 501, 711 South Capitol Way, Olympia, Washington, 98501-1284, Telephone: (360) 753-9413; Brian Ziegler, State Design Engineer, Washington State Department of Transportation, Transportation Administration Building, Olympia, Washington, 98204, Telephone: (360) 705-7231; or, John Okamoto, WSDOT Northwest Region Administrator, 15700 Dayton Avenue North, PO Box 330310, Seattle, Washington 98133-9710, Telephone: (206) 440-4691.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FHWA, in cooperation with the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), issued a Notice of Intent on June 21, 1991 to prepare an EIS on a proposal to improve or construct a 4-1/2 mile section of SR 20 from two lanes to four lanes. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) was originally circulated on May 30, 1995, and was followed by an EIS/Design Hearing on June 28, 1995. Since then, as the project elements have been refined, impacts have been more specifically identified, and public and agency comments have been evaluated, the FHWA and WSDOT have jointly decided that the project will not result in significant impacts to the environment and that an Environmental Assessment (EA) is the most appropriate environmental document under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) rather than an EIS. The EA is available through the above contacts. Because a previous hearing was held for this project, another hearing is not planned for the current EA. However, any person with questions about the project or wishing to request a hearing may write to Bill James at 15700 Dayton Avenue North, MS 11, PO. Box 330310, Seattle, WA. 98133-9710, or call (206) 440-4139.

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

Issued on: April 12, 1999.

Donald A Petersen,

Transportation and Environmental Engineer, Olympia, Washington.

[FR Doc. 99-10110 Filed 4-21-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

Environmental Impact Statement; Will, DuPage, and Cook Counties, IL

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The FHWA is issuing this notice to advise the public that a Supplement to a Final Environmental Impact Statement will be prepared for a proposed highway project in Cook, Will, and DuPage, Counties, Illinois.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Jon-Paul Kohler, Environmental Engineer, Federal Highway Administration, 3250 Executive Park Drive, Springfield, Illinois 62703, Telephone: (217) 492-4988
Patrick Pechnick, Bureau Chief of Programming, Illinois Department of Transportation, 201 West Center Court, Schaumburg, Illinois 61096-1096, Telephone: (847) 705-4393

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FHWA, in cooperation with the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), will prepare a Supplement to the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on a proposal for a new highway. The proposed highway facility would begin at the interchange of Interstate Routes 55 and 355 east of Bolingbrook, Illinois and extend southerly approximately 12 miles to Interstate Route 80 northwest of New Lenox, Illinois. The proposed highway generally follows the previously recorded centerline for the Lake-Will Freeway (FA Route 61) in Will, DuPage, and Cook Counties and is designated FAP Route 340. The original EIS for the proposed project (FHWA-IL-EIS-93-03-F/4(f)) was approved on February 21, 1996. The Record of Decision (ROD) was approved on April 15, 1996. The approved EIS and ROD indicate that the Illinois State Toll Highway Authority would construct and operate the new highway. The Supplement to the Final EIS will allow traffic projections to be updated to the current planning year horizon, 2020. No-Action Alternative land use forecasts will be modified based on revisions to the Year 2020 transportation network. Various transportation alternatives including No-Action, No-Action with

Transportation System Management, Mass Transit, and Build Alternates will be reexamined with regards to the new traffic. The Build Alternates include Further Improvements to the Existing Highway Network, Expressway, and Freeway/Tollway Alternates. Coordination meetings, three public meetings, and a public hearing were conducted as part of the previous EIS. Coordination with Federal, State, regional, county, and local agencies, community organizations, private industry, and the public was performed. Additional coordination will include coordination meetings and a public hearing. No formal scoping meeting will be held. If new information indicates a need to define issues attendant to the proposed action, scoping activities will be conducted with specific resource agencies. To ensure that the full range of issues related to the proposed action are addressed and all significant issues identified, comments and suggestions are invited from all interested parties. Comments or questions concerning this proposed action and the Supplement to the Final EIS should be directed to FHWA or IDOT at the addresses provided above.

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

Issued on: April 15, 1999.

Jon-Paul Kohler,

Environmental Engineer, Springfield, Illinois.

[FR Doc. 99-10056 Filed 4-21-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[FRA Docket No. FRA-1999-5103; Old Docket No. RST-93-3]

Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Co.; Petition for an Extension and Modification of a Waiver of Compliance with Certain Provisions of 49 CFR 213.113(a)(2), Notes C and D

In accordance with 49 CFR 211.41, notice is hereby given that The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company (BNSF) has petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) under date of December 2, 1998, for extension and modification of a waiver of compliance with certain requirements of Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 213: Track Safety Standards. This proceeding

was previously identified with FRA Docket Number RST-93-3.

The present waiver was granted by FRA to BNSF in August 1990 to permit the use on certain BNSF tracks of a device known as a Bulldog Clamp®. The purpose of the device is to provide additional security between detection and removal of certain types of transverse defects internal to a rail head. The device achieves this purpose by functioning as a boltless track joint centered on a rail at the location of a flaw and being attached to the rail by two "C" clamps. It is claimed that avoidance of bolting the joint saves times, but more important, eliminates drilled bolt holes in the rail web which can serve later as sources of equally unwanted defects of a different type. FRA has granted extensions to that original waiver up to the present time.

BNSF specifically requests of the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) that the subject waiver be extended for an indefinite period unless modified or revoked by FRA, that BNSF be relieved from monthly reporting as presently required in the terms of the waiver, and that the waiver be made applicable on additional tracks owned by BNSF beyond the ten line segments presently encompassed in the waiver.

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, 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 be identified with docket number FRA-1999-5103 and must be submitted to the Docket Clerk, DOT Central Docket Management Facility, Room PL-401, Washington, DC 20590-0001. Communications received within 30 days of publication of this notice will be considered by FRA before final action is taken. Comments received after that date will be considered as far as practicable. All written communications concerning these proceedings are available for examination during regular business hours (9 a.m. to 5 p.m.) at DOT Central Docket Management Facility, Room PL-401 (Plaza Level), 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC. All documents in the public docket are also available for inspection and copying on the Internet at the docket facility's Web site at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

Issued in Washington, DC on April 7, 1999.

Edward R. English,

Director, Office of Safety Assurance and Compliance.

[FR Doc. 99-10047 Filed 4-21-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[FRA Docket No. FRA-1999-5102]

Petition for Waiver of Compliance With Certain Provisions of 49 CFR 213.233(c) Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority

In accordance with 49 CFR 211.41, notice is hereby given that the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA) has petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) under date of January 7, 1999, for a waiver of compliance with certain requirements of Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 213: TRACK SAFETY STANDARDS.

The purpose of the petition is to request of the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) relief from compliance with the provisions of 49 CFR 213.233(c) of the Federal Track Safety Standards. The petitioner requests approval to reduce the frequency of visual track inspections required by this section for certain tracks which carry passenger traffic, specifically only those tracks that are constructed with continuous welded rail. Petitioner proposes to conduct one visual track inspection per week, instead of the two inspections per week presently required, and to supplement its visual inspections with the operation of an automated track geometry measuring vehicle over the affected main track and sidings four times per year. SEPTA has owned and operated such a measuring vehicle since 1990.

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, 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 be identified with docket number FRA-1999-5102 and must be submitted to the Docket Clerk, DOT Central Docket Management Facility, Room PL-401, Washington, DC

20590-0001. Communications received within 30 days of publication of this notice will be considered by FRA before final action is taken. Comments received after that date will be considered as far as practicable. All written communications concerning these proceedings are available for examination during regular business hours (9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) at DOT Central Docket Management Facility, Room PL-401 (Plaza Level), 400 Seventh Street, S.W. Washington, DC. All documents in the public docket at also available for inspection and copying on the internet at the docket facility Web site at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

Issued in Washington, DC on April 7, 1999.

Edward R. English,

Director, Office of Safety Assurance and Compliance.

[FR Doc. 99-10046 Filed 4-21-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket No. RSAC-96-1, Notice No. 17]

Railroad Safety Advisory Committee ("RSAC"); Working Group Activity Update

AGENCY: Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Announcement of Railroad Safety Advisory Committee (RSAC) Working Group Activities.

SUMMARY: FRA is updating its announcement of RSAC's working group activities to reflect the current status of working group activities.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Vicky McCully, RSAC Coordinator, FRA, 400 7th Street, S.W. Washington, DC. 20590, (202) 493-6305 or Grady Cothen, Deputy Associate Administrator for Safety Standards Program Development, FRA, 400 7th Street, SW., Stop 25, Washington, D.C. 20590, (202) 493-6302.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice serves to update FRA's last announcement of working group activities and status reports on December 29, 1998 (63 FR 71668). The tenth full Committee meeting was held January 28, 1999. The next meeting of the full Committee is scheduled for April 15, 1999, at the Wyndham Hotel in Washington, DC.

Since its first meeting in April of 1996, the RSAC has accepted fifteen tasks. Status for each of the tasks is provided below: