

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION****Federal Highway Administration**

[DOT Docket No. FHWA-99-5693]

**Notice of Request for Renewal of a Currently Approved Information Collection: A Guide to Reporting Highway Statistics****AGENCY:** Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the requirements in section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the intention of the FHWA to request the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to renew its clearance of the currently approved information collection identified below under Supplementary Information.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted on or before July 19, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** All signed, written comments should refer to the docket number that appears in the heading of this document and must be submitted to the Docket Clerk, U.S. DOT Dockets, Room PL-401, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001. All comments received will be available for examination at the above address between 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. Those desiring notification of receipt of comments must include a self-addressed, stamped envelope or postcard.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Tom Howard, (202) 366-2833, Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, 400 7th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001. Office hours are from 7:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title:* A Guide to Reporting Highway Statistics.

*OMB Number:* 2125-0032.

*Background:* The data described in the Guide are collected under the authority of 23 U.S.C. 307, 23 CFR 1.5, and 23 CFR 420.105(b). The data are used by the Federal, State, and local levels of government for transportation policy decision making. The data are published annually in FHWA's Highway Statistics and Our Nation's Highways. In addition, the FHWA is required to provide a biennial report to Congress, The Status of the Nation's Surface Transportation System: Conditions and Performance, Biennial

Report to Congress, to determine future highway needs (23 U.S.C. 307(h)). The Transportation Equity Act for the 21st century (Pub. L. 105-178, as amended by Public Law 105-206) significantly increased the amount of Federal funds that rely on State-reported motor fuel as an apportionment factor in distributing Federal funds to the States. The Guide provides for the collection of information by describing policies and procedures for assembling statistical data from the existing files of State agencies on motor-vehicle registration and fees, motor-fuel use and taxation, driver licensing, highway taxation and finance, and other related subjects, and the reporting of these data to the FHWA.

*Respondents:* State and local governments of the 50 United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the four territories (American Samoa, Guam, Northern Marianas, and Virgin Islands).

*Estimated Average Burden Per Response:* The estimated average annual reporting burden per response is 825.6 hours for the States and the District of Columbia; and 20 hours for the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and each of the four territories.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden:* The estimated total annual burden is 42,206 hours.

*Frequency:* The respondents are required to report on an annual basis.

*Public Comments Invited:* Interested parties are invited to send comments regarding any aspect of this information collection, including, but not limited to: (1) the necessity and utility of the information collection for the proper performance of the functions of the FHWA as FHWA will continue to reassess its reporting requirements in terms of need and burden; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the collected information; (4) ways to minimize the collection burden without reducing the quality of the collected information; and (5) developing an interactive software to make future data reporting more user friendly. Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB's clearance of this information collection.

*Electronic Availability:* An electronic copy of this document may be downloaded using a modem and suitable communications software from the Federal Register electronic bulletin board service (telephone number: 202-512-1661). Internet users may reach the Federal Register's WWW site at [http://www.access.gpo.gov/su\\_docs](http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs).

**Authority:** 23 U.S.C. 307; 23 CFR 1.5; 23 CFR 420.105(b); and 49 CFR 1.48.

Issued on: May 17, 1999.

**Michael J. Vecchiotti,**

*Director, Office of Information and Management Services.*

[FR Doc. 99-12790 Filed 5-19-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-22-U

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION****Federal Highway Administration**

[Docket No. FHWA-99-5692]

**Notice of Request for Renewal of a Currently Approved Information Collection: Highway Performance Monitoring System (HPMS)—Field Manual****AGENCY:** Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the requirement of Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the intention of FHWA to request the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to renew its clearance of the currently approved information collection identified below under Supplementary Information.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted on or before July 19, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** All signed, written comments should refer to the docket number that appears in the heading of this document and must be submitted to the Docket Clerk, U.S. DOT Dockets, Room PL-401, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001. All comments received will be available for examination at the above address between 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. Those desiring notification of receipt of comments must include a self-addressed, stamped envelope or postcard.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. James Getzewich, (202) 366-0175, Highway Systems Performance, Office of Highway Policy Information, Federal Highway Administration, 400 7th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001. Office hours are from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title:* Highway Performance Monitoring System (HPMS)—Field Manual.

*OMB Number:* 2125-0028.

*Background:* The data for the HPMS are collected under authority of 23

U.S.C. 307 and 23 U.S.C. 315, which place the responsibility on the Secretary of Transportation for management decisions that affect transportation. 23 CFR 1.5 and 49 CFR 1.48 provide the Federal Highway Administrator with authority to request information to administer the Federal-Aid Highway Program. Estimates of future highway needs of the Nation are mandated by Congress on a biennial basis (23 U.S.C. 307(h)). Data are used for assessing highway system performance under FHWA's strategic planning and performance reporting process developed in accordance with requirements of the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA, Sec 3 and Sec 4) and for apportioning Federal-aid highway funds under the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21, Sec 1103). The HPMS data collected are essential to FHWA and Congress in evaluating effectiveness of the Federal-aid highway program providing miles, lane-miles, and travel components of apportionment formulae. The information is used by FHWA to develop and implement legislation and by State and Federal transportation officials to adequately plan, design, and administer effective, safe, and efficient transportation systems. A recently completed reassessment of the HPMS resulted in the elimination and/or streamlining of approximately 20 percent of the required data. Therefore, a reduction in burden hours for this currently-approved information collection is anticipated.

**Respondents:** State governments of the 50 United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the four territories (American Samoa, Guam, Northern Marianas, and Virgin Islands).

**Estimated Average Burden Per Response:** The estimated average burden per response for the annual collection and processing of the HPMS data is 1,440 hours for the States, the District of Columbia and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico; and 20 hours for each of the four territories.

**Estimated Total Annual Burden:** The estimated total annual burden is 74,960 hours.

**Frequency:** The data is compiled by the respondents and submitted to FHWA annually.

**Public Comments Invited:** Interested parties are invited to send comments regarding any aspect of this information collection, including, but not limited to: (1) the necessity and utility of the information collection for the proper performance of the functions of the FHWA; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways to enhance the quality,

utility, and clarity of the collected information; and (4) ways to minimize the collection burden without reducing the quality of the collected information. Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB's clearance of this information collection.

**Electronic Availability:** An electronic copy of this document may be downloaded using a modem and suitable communications software from the Federal Register electronic bulletin board service (telephone number: 202-512-1661). Internet users may reach the Federal Register's WWW site at [http://www.access.gpo.gov/su\\_docs](http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs).

**Authority:** 23 U.S.C. 307; 23 U.S.C. 315; 23 CFR 1.5; and 49 CFR 1.48.

Issued on: May 17, 1999.

**Michael J. Vecchietti,**

*Director, Office of Information and Management Services.*

[FR Doc. 99-12791 Filed 5-19-99; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Railroad Administration

#### Notice and Request for Comments

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this notice announces that the Information Collection Requirement (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 collection and its expected burden. The **Federal Register** notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on the following collection of information was published on March 18, 1999 (64 FR 13465).

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted on or before June 21, 1999.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Robert Brogan, Office of Safety, Planning and Evaluation Division, RRS-21, Federal Railroad Administration, 1120 Vermont Ave., N.W., Mail Stop 17, Washington, D.C. 20590 (telephone: (202) 493-6292), or Ms. Dian Deal, Office of Information Technology and Productivity Improvement, RAD-20, Federal Railroad Administration, 1120 Vermont Ave., N.W., Mail Stop 35, Washington, D.C. 20590 (telephone: (202) 493-6133). (These telephone numbers are not toll-free.)

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), Pub. L. 104-13, Section 2, 109 Stat. 163 (1995) (codified as revised at

44 U.S.C. 3501-3520), and its implementing regulations, 5 CFR Part 1320, require Federal agencies to issue two notices seeking public comment on information collection activities before OMB may approve paperwork packages. 44 U.S.C. 3506, 3507; 5 CFR 1320.5, 1320.8(d)(1), 1320.12. FRA received no comments after issuing the 60-day notice referenced earlier. Accordingly, DOT announces that these information collection activities have been reevaluated and certified under 5 CFR 1320.5(a) and forwarded to OMB for review and approval pursuant to 5 CFR 1320.12(c).

Before OMB decides whether to approve these proposed collections of information, it must provide 30 days for public comment. 44 U.S.C. 3507(b); 5 CFR 1320.12(d). Federal law requires OMB to approve or disapprove paperwork packages between 30 and 60 days after the 30 day notice is published. 44 U.S.C. 3507 (b)-(c); 5 CFR 1320.12(d); see also 60 FR 44978, 44983, Aug. 29, 1995. OMB believes that the 30 day notice informs the regulated community to file relevant comments and affords the agency adequate time to digest public comments before it renders a decision. 60 FR 44983, Aug. 29, 1995. Therefore, respondents should submit their respective comments to OMB within 30 days of publication to best ensure having their full effect. 5 CFR 1320.12(c); see also 60 FR 44983, Aug. 29, 1995.

The summaries below describe the nature of the information collection requirements (ICRs) and the expected burden. The revised requirements and one additional requirement are being submitted for clearance by OMB as required by the PRA.

**Title:** Railroad Worker Protection (49 CFR 214).

**OMB Control Number:** 2130-0539.

**Type of Request:** Extension of a currently approved collection.

**Affected Public:** Railroads.

**Abstract:** This rule establishes regulations governing the protection of railroad employees working on or near railroad tracks. The regulation requires that each railroad devise and adopt a program of on-track safety to provide employees working along the railroad with protection from the hazards of being struck by a train or other on-track equipment. Elements of this on-track safety program include an on-track safety manual; a clear delineation of employers' responsibilities, as well as employees' rights and responsibilities thereto; well-defined procedures for communication and protection; and annual on-track safety training. The