

Sfreddo, Director of Project Development, Missouri Department of Transportation, P.O. Box 270, Jefferson City, MO 65102, Telephone: (573) 751-4586.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FHWA, in cooperation with the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT), the National Park Service (NPS), and the Ozark National Scenic Riverways (ONSR) will prepare an EIS for a proposed project to improve Route 19 in south-central, Missouri. The proposed project extends from 2.0 miles south of Route EE south 3.0 miles to 1.0 mile south of Round Spring, Missouri. This proposal includes the replacement of three bridges over Spring Valley Creek, Sinking Creek, and the Current River. All three rivers are in Ozark National Scenic Riverways.

Improvements are considered necessary to: (1) Improve safety and capacity for local and through traffic, (2) replace three bridges which are structurally deficient and functionally obsolete and, (3) support local and regional economic development for Shannon County and the surrounding area.

The proposed project will provide a two-lane roadway with at-grade intersections at rural crossroads. Alternatives under consideration include (1) taking no action; (2) transportation management options; (3) constructing new bridges and roadways beside the existing alignment; and (4) constructing a two-lane roadway on new location.

The scoping process will involve all appropriate federal, state, and local agencies, and private organizations and citizens who have previously expressed or are known to have interest in this proposal. The scoping process was initiated at a September 23, 1999 meeting. Further public meetings will be held to engage the regional community in the decision making process and to obtain public comment. A public hearing will be held to present the findings of the draft EIS (DEIS). The DEIS will be available for public and agency review and comment prior to the public hearing.

To ensure that the full range of issues related to this 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 EIS should be directed to the FHWA or MoDOT at the address provided above.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number 20.205, Highway Planning and Construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 12373

regarding intergovernmental consultation on Federal programs and activities apply to this program.)

Issued on: March 3, 2000.

Donald L. Neumann,

Program Engineer, Jefferson City.

[FR Doc. 00-6058 Filed 3-10-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

Environment Impact Statement: Texas and Howell Counties, Missouri

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The FHWA is issuing this notice to advise the public that an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared for proposed improvements to the transportation system in Texas and Howell Counties, Missouri.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Donald Neumann, Programs Engineer, FHWA Division Office, 209 Adams Street, Jefferson City, MO 65101, Telephone: (573) 636-7104 or Mr. Bob Sfreddo, Director of Project Development, Missouri Department of Transportation, P.O. Box 270, Jefferson City, MO 65102, Telephone: (573) 751-4586.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FHWA, in cooperation with the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT), the National Park Service (NPS), and the Ozark National Scenic Riverways (ONSR) will prepare an EIS for a proposed project to improve Route 17 in south-central Missouri. The project extends from Route O in Texas County south 2.5 miles to 0.5 mile south of the Howell County Line. This proposal includes the replacement of a bridge over the Jacks Fork River, which is in the Ozark National Scenic Riverways. Improvements are considered necessary to: (1) improve safety and capacity for local and through traffic, (2) replace a bridge which is structurally deficient and functionally obsolete and, (3) support local and regional economic development for Texas and Howell Counties and the surrounding area.

The proposed project will provide a two-lane roadway with at-grade intersections at rural crossroads. Alternatives under consideration include: (1) Taking no action; (2) transportation management options; (3) constructing a bridge and roadway

beside the existing alignment; and (4) constructing a roadway on new location.

The scoping process will involve all appropriate federal, state, and local agencies, and private organizations and citizens who have previously expressed or are known to have interest in this proposal. The scoping process was initiated at a September 23, 1999 meeting. Further public meetings will be held to engage the regional community in the decision making process and to obtain public comment. A public hearing will be held to present the findings of the draft EIS (DEIS). The DEIS will be available for public and agency review and comment prior to the public hearing.

To ensure that the full range of issues related to this 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 EIS should be directed to the FHWA or MoDOT at the address provided above.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number 20.205, Highway Planning and Construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 12373 regarding intergovernmental consultation on Federal programs and activities apply to this program)

Issued on: March 3, 2000.

Donald L. Neumann,

Programs Engineer, Jefferson City.

[FR Doc. 00-6059 Filed 3-10-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-22-M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket Numbers LI-96-2 and FRA-1999-5894]

Canadian National Railroad, Canadian Pacific Railway; Public Hearing

The Canadian National Railroad and the Canadian Pacific Railway have independently petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) seeking a permanent waiver of compliance with the Locomotive Safety Standards, Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Parts 229.27(a) and 229.29(a) concerning the time interval requirements of the periodic cleaning, repairing and testing of locomotive air brake components for all of their locomotives operating in the United States equipped with 26L type brake equipment.

This proceeding is identified as Canadian National Railroad, Docket LI-96-2, and Canadian Pacific Railway, Docket FRA-1999-5894. FRA issued public notices seeking comments of

interested parties and conducted field investigations in this matter. After examining the carriers' proposals, letters of protest, and field reports, FRA has determined that a public hearing is necessary before a final decision is made on these proposals.

Accordingly, a public hearing is hereby set for 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, April 12, 2000, in Room 2230, Nassif building, 400 Seventh St. S.W., Washington, D.C. 20590. Interested parties are invited to present oral statements at this hearing. The hearing will be informal and will be conducted in accordance with Rule 25 of the FRA Rules of Practice (49 CFR Part 211.25) by a representative designated by FRA. The hearing will be a non-adversarial proceeding; therefore, there will be no cross-examination of persons presenting statements. The FRA representative will make an opening statement outlining the scope of the hearing. After all initial statements have been completed, those persons wishing to make a brief rebuttal will be given the opportunity to do so in the same order in which initial statements were made. Additional procedures, if necessary for the conduct of the hearing, will be announced at the hearing.

Issued in Washington, D.C. on March 8, 2000.

Grady C. Cothen, Jr.,

Deputy Associate Administrator for Safety Standards and Program Development.

[FR Doc. 00-6071 Filed 3-10-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

Notice of Application for Approval of Discontinuance or Modification of a Railroad Signal System or Relief From the Requirements of Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations Part 236

Pursuant to Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 235 and 49 U.S.C. 20502(a), the following railroads have petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) seeking approval for the discontinuance or modification of the signal system or relief from the requirements of 49 CFR Part 236 as detailed below.

Docket No. FRA-2000-6810.

Applicant: Gateway Western Railway Company, Mr. Charles D. Shaffer, Supervisor Communication and Signals, 200 South Main, Venice, Illinois 62090.

Gateway Western Railway Company seeks approval of the proposed modification of the Louisiana Movable

Bridge Interlocking, milepost 274.50, on Subdivision No. 2, near Louisiana, Missouri, consisting of the conversion of the manual controlled interlocking to automatic control operation.

The reason given for the proposed changes is to remove Bridge Tenders from the Hours of Service requirements.

Any interested party desiring to protest the granting of an application shall set forth specifically the grounds upon which the protest is made, and contain a concise statement of the interest of the Protester in the proceeding. Additionally, one copy of the protest shall be furnished to the applicant at the address listed above.

All communications concerning this proceeding should be identified by the docket number and must be submitted to the Docket Clerk, DOT Central Docket Management Facility, Room PI-401, Washington, D.C. 20590-0001.

Communications received within 45 days of the date of this notice will be considered by the 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.-5:00 p.m.) at DOT Central Docket Management Facility, Room PI-401 (Plaza Level), 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20590-0001. 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>.

FRA expects to be able to determine these matters without an oral hearing. However, if a specific request for an oral hearing is accompanied by a showing that the party is unable to adequately present his or her position by written statements, an application may be set for public hearing.

Issued in Washington, D.C. on March 8, 2000.

Grady C. Cothen, Jr.,

Deputy Associate Administrator for Safety Standards and Program Development.

[FR Doc. 00-6073 Filed 3-10-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-06-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

Notice of Application for Approval of Discontinuance or Modification of a Railroad Signal System or Relief From the Requirements of Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations Part 236

Pursuant to Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 235 and 49

U.S.C. 20502(a), the following railroads have petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) seeking approval for the discontinuance or modification of the signal system or relief from the requirements of 49 CFR Part 236 as detailed below.

Docket No. FRA-2000-6811.

Applicant: Gateway Western Railway Company, Mr. Charles D. Shaffer, Supervisor Communication and Signals, 200 South Main, Venice, Illinois 62090.

Gateway Western Railway Company seeks approval of the proposed modification of the Pearl Movable Bridge Interlocking, milepost 251.20, on Subdivision No. 2, near Pearl, Illinois, consisting of the conversion of the manual controlled interlocking to automatic control operation.

The reason given for the proposed changes is to remove Bridge Tenders from the Hours of Service requirements.

Any interested party desiring to protest the granting of an application shall set forth specifically the grounds upon which the protest is made, and contain a concise statement of the interest of the Protester in the proceeding. Additionally, one copy of the protest shall be furnished to the applicant at the address listed above.

All communications concerning this proceeding should be identified by the docket number and must be submitted to the Docket Clerk, DOT Central Docket Management Facility, Room PI-401, Washington, D.C. 20590-0001.

Communications received within 45 days of the date of this notice will be considered by the 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.-5:00 p.m.) at DOT Central Docket Management Facility, Room PI-401 (Plaza Level), 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20590-0001. 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>.

FRA expects to be able to determine these matters without an oral hearing. However, if a specific request for an oral hearing is accompanied by a showing that the party is unable to adequately present his or her position by written statements, an application may be set for public hearing.