

give the reason(s) for each comment. Please submit all comments and attachments in an unbound format no larger than 8½ by 11 inches, suitable for copying and electronic filing. Persons wanting acknowledgment of receipt of comments should enclose stamped, self-addressed postcards or envelopes.

#### Information Collection Requests

1. *Title:* Security of Passenger Vessels and Passenger Terminals.

*OMB Control Number:* 2115-0622.

*Summary:* The purpose of the rules on the security of passenger vessels and passenger terminals is to deter, or mitigate the results of, terrorism and other unlawful acts against such vessels and terminals. The rules should reduce the likelihood of such acts and should reduce the damage to property and injury to persons, if such acts occur.

*Need:* 33 U.S.C. 1231 authorizes the Coast Guard to issue rules for the program in ports and waters safety. 33 CFR, parts 120 and 128, contain the rules for the security for passenger vessels and passenger terminals regulations.

*Respondents:* Certain owners of passenger vessels and passenger terminals.

*Frequency:* On occasion.

*Burden:* The estimated burden is 1,811 hours annually.

2. *Title:* Plan/Drawing Approval and Records for Safety Valves—46 CFR part 162.

*OMB Control Number:* 2115-0525.

*Summary:* Requirements for submission of plans and drawings and test reports for safety equipment and materials are necessary so the Coast Guard can determine whether items meet minimum levels of safety and performance and whether they serve to identify the approved items.

*Need:* 46 U.S.C. 3306 authorizes the Coast Guard to promulgate rules for the safety of personnel and property on board vessels. Sections of 46 CFR part 162 contain rules on approval of plans and drawings for of safety valves.

*Respondents:* Equipment manufacturers.

*Frequency:* On occasion.

*Burden:* The estimated burden is 58 hours annually.

3. *Title:* Vital System Automation—46 CFR parts 52, 56, 58, 61, 62, 110, 111, and 113.

*OMB Control Number:* 2115-0548.

*Summary:* This collection pertains to the vital system automation on commercial vessels that is necessary to protect personnel and property on board U.S.-flag vessels.

*Need:* 46 U.S.C. 3306 authorizes the Coast Guard to promulgate rules for the

safety of personnel and property on board vessels. Sections of 46 CFR parts 52, 56, 58, 62, 110, 111, and 113 contain rules on the automation of vital systems.

*Respondents:* Vessel designers, shipyards, manufacturers, and vessel owners.

*Frequency:* On occasion.

*Burden:* The estimated burden is 57,375 hours annually.

4. *Title:* Marine Occupational Health and Safety Standards for Benzene—46 CFR part 197, subpart C.

*OMB Control Number:* 2115-0586.

*Summary:* To protect marine workers from exposure to toxic Benzene vapor, the Coast Guard implemented 46 CFR part 197, subpart C.

*Need:* This information collection is vital to verifying compliance.

*Respondents:* Vessel owners and operators.

*Frequency:* On occasion.

*Burden:* The estimated burden is 59,775 hours annually

Dated: February 1, 2000.

**G.N. Naccara,**

*Rear Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard, Director of Information and Technology.*

[FR Doc. 00-2895 Filed 2-8-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-15-P**

#### DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

##### Federal Aviation Administration

#### Notice of Submission Deadline for International Slots for the Winter 2000/2001 Scheduling Season

**AGENCY:** Department of Transportation, FAA.

**ACTION:** Notice of submission deadline.

**SUMMARY:** On October 1, 1999, the FAA amended the regulations governing takeoff and landing slots and slot allocation procedures at certain High Density Traffic Airports as a result of the "Open Transborder" Agreement between the Government of the United States and the Government of Canada. One element of this final rule established that the deadline for submission of requests for international slots will be published in a Federal Register notice for each scheduling season. The purpose of the amendment is for the FAA deadline for international slots requests to coincide with the International Air Transport Association deadline for submission of international requests. In accordance with this amendment, the FAA announces in this notice that the deadline for submitting requests for international slots for allocation under 14 CFR 93.217 is May 10, 2000.

**DATES:** Requests for international slots must be submitted no later than May 10, 2000.

**ADDRESSES:** Requests may be submitted by mail to Slot Administration Office, AGC-230, Office of the Chief Counsel, 800 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20591; facsimile: 202-267-7668; ARING: DCAYAXD; email address: 9-A WA-slotadmin@faa.gov.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Lorelei D. Peter, Airspace and Air Traffic Law Branch, Regulations Division, Office of the Chief Counsel, Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20591; telephone number: 202-267-3073.

Issued in Washington, DC on February 3, 2000.

**James W. Whitlow,**

*Deputy Chief Counsel.*

[FR Doc. 00-2957 Filed 2-8-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-13-M**

#### DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

##### Federal Railroad Administration

#### Proposed Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Federal Railroad Administration, DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 and its implementing regulations, the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) hereby announces that it is seeking renewal of the following currently approved information collection activities. Before submitting these information collection requirements for clearance by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), FRA is soliciting public comment on specific aspects of the activities identified below.

**DATES:** Comments must be received no later than April 10, 2000.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit written comments on any or all of the following proposed activities by mail to either: Mr. Robert Brogan, Office of Safety, Planning and Evaluation Division, RRS-21, Federal Railroad Administration, 1120 Vermont Ave., NW, Mail Stop 17, Washington, DC 20590, or Ms. Dian Deal, Office of Information Technology and Productivity Improvement, RAD-20, Federal Railroad Administration, 1120 Vermont Ave., NW, Mail Stop 35, Washington, DC 20590. Commenters requesting FRA to acknowledge receipt of their respective comments must

include a self-addressed stamped postcard stating, "Comments on OMB control number \_\_\_\_". Alternatively, comments may be transmitted via facsimile to (202) 493-6265 or (202) 493-6170, or E-mail to Mr. Brogan at robert.brogan@fra.dot.gov, or to Ms. Deal at dian.deal@fra.dot.gov. Please refer to the assigned OMB control number in any correspondence submitted. FRA will summarize comments received in response to this notice in a subsequent notice and include them in its information collection submission to OMB for approval.

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

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), Pub. L. No. 104-13, § 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 provide 60-days notice to the public for comment on information collection activities before seeking approval for reinstatement or renewal by OMB. 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A); 5 CFR 1320.8(d)(1), 1320.10(e)(1), 1320.12(a). Specifically, FRA invites interested respondents to comment on the following summary of proposed information collection activities regarding (i) whether the information collection activities are

necessary for FRA to properly execute its functions, including whether the activities will have practical utility; (ii) the accuracy of FRA's estimates of the burden of the information collection activities, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used to determine the estimates; (iii) ways for FRA to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information being collected; and (iv) ways for FRA to minimize the burden of information collection activities on the public by automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques (e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses). See 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)(i)-(iv); 5 CFR 1320.8(d)(1)(i)-(iv). FRA believes that soliciting public comment will promote its efforts to reduce the administrative and paperwork burdens associated with the collection of information mandated by Federal regulations. In summary, FRA reasons that comments received will advance three objectives: (i) reduce reporting burdens; (ii) ensure that it organizes information collection requirements in a "user friendly" format to improve the use of such information; and (iii) accurately assess the resources expended to retrieve and produce information requested. See 44 U.S.C. 3501.

Below are brief summaries of eight currently approved information collection activities that FRA will submit for clearance by OMB as required under the PRA:

*Title:* Filing of Dedicated Cars.

*OMB Control Number:* 2130-0502.

*Abstract:* Title 49, part 215 of the Code of Federal Regulations, prescribes certain conditions to be followed for the movement of freight cars that are not in compliance with this Part. These cars must be identified in a written report to FRA before they are assigned to

dedicated service, and the words "Dedicated Service" must be stenciled on each side of the freight car body. FRA uses the information to determine whether the equipment is safe to operate and that the operation qualifies for dedicated service. See 49 CFR 215.5 (c) (2), 215.5 (d).

*Form Number(s):* N/A.

*Affected Public:* Businesses.

*Respondent Universe:* 685 railroads.

*Frequency of Submission:* On occasion.

*Total Responses:* 6.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 6 hours.

*Status:* Regular Review.

*Title:* Remotely Controlled Railroad Switch Operations.

*OMB Control Number:* 2130-0516.

*Abstract:* Title 49, Section 218.30 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), ensures that remotely controlled switches are lined to protect workers who are vulnerable to being struck by moving cars as they inspect or service equipment on a particular track or, alternatively, occupy camp cars. FRA believes that production of notification requests promotes safety by minimizing mental lapses of workers who are simultaneously handling several tasks. Sections 218.30 and 218.67 require the operator of remotely controlled switches to maintain a record of each notification requesting blue signal protection for fifteen days. Operators of remotely controlled switches use the information as a record documenting blue signal protection of workers or camp cars. This record also serves as a valuable resource for railroad supervisors and FRA inspectors monitoring regulatory compliance.

*Form Number(s):* N/A.

*Affected Public:* Businesses.

*Frequency of Submission:* On occasion.

*Reporting Burden:*

| CFR section                  | Respondent universe (railroads) | Total annual responses | Average time per response (minutes) | Total annual burden hours | Total annual burden cost |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Blue Signal Protection ..... | 350                             | 3,600,000 records      | 4                                   | 240,000                   | \$6,240,000              |
| Camp cars .....              | 600                             | 4,000 notifications    | 4                                   | 267                       | 6,942                    |

*Total Estimated Annual Burden:* 240,267 hours.

*Status:* Regular Review.

*Title:* Bad Order and Home Shop Card.

*OMB Control Number:* 2130-0519.

*Abstract:* Under 49 CFR part 215, each railroad is required to inspect freight cars placed in service and take the necessary remedial action when defects are identified. Part 215 defects are

specific in nature and relate to items that have or could have caused accidents or incidents. Section 215.9 sets forth specific procedures that railroads must follow when it is necessary to move defective cars for repair purposes. For example, railroads must affix a "bad order" tag describing each defect to each side of the freight car. It is imperative that a defective freight car be tagged "bad order" so that

it may be readily identified and moved to another location for repair purposes only. At the repair point, the "bad order" tag serves as a repair record. Railroads must retain each tag for 90 days to verify that proper repairs were made at the designated location. FRA and State inspectors review all pertinent records to determine whether defective cars presenting an immediate hazard are being moved in transportation.

*Form Number(s):* N/A.  
*Affected Public:* Businesses.  
*Frequency of Submission:* On occasion.  
*Respondent Universe:* 685 railroads.  
*Total Responses:* 50,000 tags.  
*Average Time per Response:* 10 minutes.  
*Estimated Total Annual Burden:* 8,333 hours.  
*Status:* Regular Review.  
*Title:* Stenciling Reporting Mark on Freight Cars.  
*OMB Control Number:* 2130-0520.  
*Abstract:* Title 49, Section 215.301 of the Code of Federal Regulations, sets forth certain requirements that must be followed by railroad carriers and private car owners relative to identification marks on railroad equipment. FRA, railroads, and the public refer to the stenciling to identify freight cars.  
*Form Number(s):* N/A.  
*Affected Public:* Businesses.  
*Frequency of Submission:* On occasion.  
*Respondent Universe:* 685 railroads.

*Total Responses:* 35,000 cars stencilled.  
*Average Time per Response:* 45 minutes.  
*Estimated Total Annual Burden:* 26,250 hours.  
*Status:* Regular Review.  
*Title:* Disqualification Proceedings.  
*OMB Control Number:* 2130-0529.  
*Abstract:* Under 49 U.S.C. 20111(c), FRA is authorized to issue orders disqualifying railroad employees, including supervisors, managers, and other agents, from performing safety-sensitive service in the rail industry for violations of safety rules, regulations, standards, orders, or laws evidencing unfitness. FRA's regulations, 49 CFR part 209, Subpart D, implement the statutory provision by requiring (i) a railroad employing or formerly employing a disqualified individual to disclose the terms and conditions of a disqualification order to the individual's new or prospective employing railroad; (ii) a railroad considering employing an individual in a safety-sensitive position to ask the individual's previous

employing railroad whether the individual is currently serving under a disqualification order; and (iii) a disqualified individual to inform his new or prospective employer of the disqualification order and provide a copy of the same. Additionally, the regulations prohibit a railroad from employing a person serving under a disqualification order to work in a safety-sensitive position. This information serves to inform a railroad whether an employee or prospective employee is currently disqualified from performing safety-sensitive service based on the issuance of a disqualification order by FRA. Furthermore, it prevents an individual currently serving under a disqualification order from retaining and obtaining employment in a safety-sensitive position in the rail industry.  
*Form Number(s):* N/A.  
*Affected Public:* Businesses.  
*Frequency of Submission:* On occasion/recordkeeping.  
*Reporting Burden:*

| CFR section  | Respondent universe (railroads) | Total annual responses         | Average time per response (minutes) | Total annual burden hours | Total annual burden cost |
|--|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Provide copy of disqualification order to new or prospective employer. | 685                             | 3 orders .....                 | 30                                  | 1.5                       | \$23                     |
| Provide copy of disqualification order to prospective employer.        | 685                             | 1 notification .....           | 30                                  | .5                        | 8                        |
| Request copy of disqualification order from previous employer.         | 685                             | Usual and customary procedure. | N/A                                 | N/A                       | N/A                      |

*Total Estimated Burden:* 2 hours.  
*Status:* Regular Review.  
*Title:* Grade Crossing Signal System Safety Regulations.  
*OMB Control Number:* 2130-0534.  
*Abstract:* FRA believes that highway-rail grade crossing (grade crossing) accidents resulting from warning system failures can be reduced. Motorists lose faith in warning systems that constantly warn of an oncoming train when none is present. Therefore, the fail-safe feature of a warning system loses its effectiveness if the system is not repaired within a reasonable period of time. A greater risk of an accident is

present when a warning system fails to activate as a train approaches a grade crossing. FRA's regulations require railroads to take specific responses in the event of an activation failure. FRA uses the information to develop better solutions to the problems of grade crossing device malfunctions. With this information, FRA is able to correlate accident data and equipment malfunctions with the types of circuits and age of equipment. FRA can then identify the causes of grade crossing system failures and investigate them to determine whether periodic

maintenance, inspection, and testing standards are effective. FRA also uses the information collected to alert railroad employees and appropriate highway traffic authorities of warning system malfunctions so that they can take the necessary measures to protect motorists and railroad workers at the grade crossing until repairs have been made.  
*Form Number(s):* FRA-F-6180.83.  
*Affected Public:* Businesses.  
*Frequency of Submission:* On occasion; recordkeeping.  
*Reporting Burden:*

| CFR section   | Respondent universe (railroads) | Total annual responses  | Average time per response (minutes) | Total annual burden hours | Total annual burden cost |
|---|---------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 234.7—Telephone notification .....                                      | 685                             | 4 phone calls .....     | 15                                  | 1                         | \$35                     |
| 234.9—Grade crossing signal system failure rpts .....                   | 685                             | 800 reports .....       | 15                                  | 200                       | 7,000                    |
| 234.9—Notification to train crew and highway traffic control authority. | 685                             | 800 notifications ..... | 15                                  | 200                       | 7,000                    |
| 234.9—Recordkeeping .....   | 685                             | 800 records .....       | 15                                  | 200                       | 7,000                    |

*Total Estimated Burden:* 601 hours.  
*Status:* Regular Review.  
*Title:* Bridge Worker Safety Rules.  
*OMB Control Number:* 2130-0535.  
*Abstract:* Section 20139 of Title 49 of the United States Code required FRA to issue rules, regulations, orders, and standards for the safety of maintenance-of-way employees on railroad bridges, including for "bridge safety equipment" such as nets, walkways, handrails, and safety lines, and requirements for the use of vessels when work is performed on bridges located over bodies of water. FRA has added 49 CFR part 214 to establish minimum workplace safety standards for railroad employees as they apply to railroad bridges. Specifically, section 214.15(c) establishes standards and practices for safety net systems. Safety nets and net installations are to be drop-tested at the job site after initial installation and before being used as a fall-protection system; after major repairs; and at six-month intervals if left at one site. If a drop-test is not feasible and is not performed, then a written certification must be made by the railroad or railroad contractor, or a designated certified

person, that the net does comply with the safety standards of this section. FRA and State inspectors use the information to enforce the Federal regulations. The information that is maintained at the job site also promotes safe bridge worker practices.  
*Form Number(s):* N/A.  
*Affected Public:* Businesses.  
*Frequency of Submission:* On occasion.  
*Respondent Universe:* 685 railroads.  
*Total Responses:* 6 certifications.  
*Average Time per Response:* 20 minutes.  
*Estimated Total Annual Burden:* 2 hours.  
*Status:* Regular Review.  
*Title:* Two-Way End-of-Train Devices.  
*OMB Control Number:* 2130-0540.  
*Abstract:* Section 20141 of the United States Code amended the Federal Rail Safety laws by adding certain statutory mandates related to power brake safety, specifically regarding two-way end-of-train telemetry devices (two-way EOTs). This Section required two-way-end-of-train devices (or devices able to perform the same function) on road trains other than locals, road switchers, or work trains to enable the initiation of

emergency braking from the rear of the train. The information collected enhances rail safety by ensuring that the locomotive engineer is notified if someone other than a train crew member tests the two-way end-of-train devices at the initial terminal or other point of installation to confirm that the device is capable of initiating an emergency power brake application from the rear of the train. The information collected is also used by FRA to verify that the end-of-train telemetry equipment is properly calibrated for accuracy according to the manufacturer's specifications at least every 365 days. Additionally, the information collected verifies that two-way-end-of-train device standards—such as the front unit having a manually operated switch that is labeled "Emergency" which can initiate an emergency brake transmission command to the rear unit (when activated)—are met.  
*Form Number(s):* N/A.  
*Affected Public:* Businesses.  
*Frequency of Submission:* On occasion.  
*Reporting Burden:*

| CFR section  | Respondent universe (railroads) | Total annual responses | Average time per response | Total annual burden hours | Total annual burden cost |
|--|---------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 232.25(C)—Notification that test was performed ..... | 245                             | 450,000 tests .....    | 30 seconds .....          | 3,750                     | \$168,750                |
| 232.25(d)—End-of-train Telemetry Equip. ....         | 245                             | 35,000 stickers .....  | 1 minute .....            | 583                       | 168,750                  |
| 232.25(d)—Two-way end-of-train device Stds. ....     | 245                             | 17,571 stencils .....  | 5 minutes .....           | 1,464                     | 68,880                   |

*Total Estimated Burden:* 5,797 hours.  
*Status:* Regular Review.  
 Pursuant to 44 U.S.C. 3507(a) and 5 CFR 1320.5(b), 1320.8(b)(3)(vi), FRA informs all interested parties that it may not conduct or sponsor, and a respondent is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

**Authority:** 44 U.S.C. 3501-3520.  
 Issued in Washington, DC on February 1, 2000.  
**Margaret B. Reid,**  
*Acting Director, Office of Information Technology and Support Systems, Federal Railroad Administration.*  
 [FR Doc. 00-2836 Filed 2-8-00; 8:45 am]  
**BILLING CODE 4910-62-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
**National Highway Traffic Safety Administration**  
**Reports, Forms and Record Keeping Requirements Agency Information Collection Activity Under OMB Review**

**AGENCY:** National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, DOT.  
**ACTION:** Notice.  
**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.), this notice announces that the Information Collection Request (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 collections and their expected burden. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period was published on October 27, 1999 (64 FR 57924-57925).  
**DATES:** Comments must be submitted on or before March 10, 2000.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Henrietta Spinner at the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Office of Safety Performance Standards (NPS-32), 202-366-4802. 400 Seventh Street, SW, Room 5320E, Washington, DC 20590.  
**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**  
**National Highway Traffic Safety Administration**  
*Title:* 49 CFR part 575 Consumer Information Regulations (Sections 103 and 105).  
*OMB Number:* 2127-0049.  
*Type of Request:* Extension of a currently approved collection.  
*Abstract:* NHTSA must ensure that motor vehicle manufacturers comply with 49 CFR Part 575, Consumer Information Regulation Part 575.103—Truck-camper loading and Part 575.105—Utility Vehicles. Part 575.103, requires that manufacturers of light trucks that are capable of accommodating slide-in campers to provide information on the cargo weight rating and the longitudinal limits within