

**DATES:** Interested parties are invited to submit written comments relative to this application on or before July 27, 2007 to Daniel D. Darrach, Coordinator, U.S.-Mexico Border Affairs, WHA/MEX, HST Room 4258, Department of State, 2201 C St., NW., Washington, DC 20520.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Daniel D. Darrach, Coordinator, U.S.-Mexico Border Affairs, WHA/MEX, HST Room 4258, Department of State, 2201 C St., NW., Washington, DC 20520. Telephone: (202) 647-8529, fax: (202) 647-5752.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The application and related documents that are a part of the record to be considered by the Department of State in connection with this application are available for review in the Office of Mexican Affairs, Border Affairs Unit, Department of State, during normal business hours throughout the comment period. Any questions related to this notice may be addressed to Mr. Darrach using the contact information above.

Dated: June 29, 2007.

**Richard M. Sanders,**  
Acting Director, Office of Mexican Affairs,  
Department of State.

[FR Doc. E7-13212 Filed 7-6-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-29-P

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### Notice of Intent To Request Approval From the Office of Management and Budget of a New Information Collection Activity, Request for Comments; 2008 Newly Certificated Airframe and/or Powerplant Mechanics: Assessment of the Mechanic's Practical Test Program

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The FAA invites public comments about our intention to request the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to approve a new information collection. This project involves collecting data from individual applicants who have recently taken, for the first time, and passed an oral and/or practical Airframe and/or Powerplant (A and/or P) Mechanic Certification test.

**DATES:** Please submit comments by September 7, 2007.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Carla Mauney on (202) 267-9895, or by e-mail at: [Carla.Mauney@faa.gov](mailto:Carla.Mauney@faa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

### Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)

**Title:** 2008 Newly Certificated Airframe and/or Powerplant Mechanics: Assessment of the Mechanic's Practical Test Program.

**Type of Request:** New collection.

**OMB Control Number:** 2121-XXXX.

**Form(s):** There are no FAA forms associated with this collection.

**Affected Public:** A total of 2,200 Respondents.

**Frequency:** The information is collected on occasion.

**Estimated Average Burden per Response:** Approximately 1 hour per response.

**Estimated Annual Burden Hours:** An estimated 2,200 hours annually.

**Abstract:** This project involves collecting data from individual applicants who have recently taken, for the first time, and passed an oral and/or practical Airframe and/or Powerplant (A and/or P) Mechanic Certification test. The goal of this effort is "to reduce the number of fatal accidents in general aviation" by identifying areas of concern so that the FAA may affect corrections in FAA policy, guidance material, and FAA-sponsored programs in order to improve the overall quality of the designated mechanic examiner oral and/or practical test program.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments to the FAA at the following address: Ms. Carla Mauney, Room 712, Federal Aviation Administration, IT Enterprises Business Services Division, AES-200, 800 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20591.

**Comments Are Invited on:** Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; the accuracy of the Department's estimates of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Issued in Washington, DC, on July 3, 2007.

**Carla Mauney,**

FAA Information Collection Clearance Officer, IT Enterprises Business Services Division, AES-200.

[FR Doc. 07-3314 Filed 7-6-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-M

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Highway Administration

#### Announcement of Solicitation and Application Procedure for State Participation in the Surface Transportation Project Delivery Pilot Program

**AGENCY:** Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice; solicitation of applications.

**SUMMARY:** Section 6005 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) provided FHWA the authority to allow up to five States to assume the Secretary's responsibilities for the environmental review, consultation, and other actions pertaining to the review or approval of highway projects. In selecting States for the five available slots in the pilot program, Congress gave priority to the selection of the States of Alaska, California, Ohio, Oklahoma, and Texas. However, at this time, two States, Ohio and Texas, have declined to participate in the pilot program. Accordingly, this notice solicits applications from all other States for participation in this pilot program.

**DATES:** Letters that indicate interest by the State to be considered for participation in the pilot program should be sent to the FHWA Division Office no later than September 7, 2007.

**ADDRESSES:** The FHWA Division Office locations can be found at the following URL: <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/field.html#fieldsites>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Ruth Rentch, Office of Project Delivery and Environmental Review, (202)-366-2034, [Ruth.Rentch@dot.gov](mailto:Ruth.Rentch@dot.gov), or Mr. Michael Harkins, Office of the Chief Counsel, (202) 366-4928, [Michael.Harkins@dot.gov](mailto:Michael.Harkins@dot.gov), Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590. Office hours are from 7:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Electronic Access

An electronic copy of this notice may be downloaded from the Office of the Federal Register's home page at <http://www.archives.gov> and the Government Printing Office's Web site at <http://www.access.gpo.gov>.

## Background

Section 6005 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) (codified at 23 U.S.C. 327) established a pilot program to allow up to five States to assume the Secretary of Transportation's responsibilities for environmental review, consultation, or other actions under any Federal environmental law pertaining to the review or approval of highway projects. In order to be selected for the pilot program, a State must submit an application to the Secretary. In selecting States for the five available slots in the pilot program, Congress gave priority to the selection of the States of Alaska, California, Ohio, Oklahoma, and Texas.

On February 12, 2007, the FHWA published a final rule at 72 FR 6464 establishing requirements concerning the information required to be contained in an application by the State for the pilot program. These regulations, contained in 23 CFR Part 773, required the States of Alaska, California, Ohio, Oklahoma, and Texas to submit a statement of interest to the FHWA by May 14, 2007, in order to retain their priority status. If any of these States failed to submit a statement of interest to the FHWA by May 14, or decline to participate, another State may be selected. In response to this requirement, the FHWA has received statements of interest from California, Oklahoma, and Alaska indicating that they wish to participate in the pilot program. FHWA received letters from Ohio and Texas declining the opportunity to participate in the pilot program. Accordingly, the FHWA currently has two open slots for other State departments of transportation (State DOT). These slots will be awarded on a competitive basis based on such factors as legislative authority to waive the State's sovereign immunity, financial and personnel capabilities to assume responsibilities, and description of plan and processes for carrying out assumed roles and responsibilities. If any State DOT has an interest in applying for this program, that State DOT should contact the FHWA Division Administrator in that State and should begin working with the FHWA in developing its application in accordance with the regulations found at 23 CFR Part 773.

**Authority:** Section 6005 of Pub. L. 109-59; 23 U.S.C. 315 and 327; 49 CFR 1.48

Issued on: June 28, 2007.

**J. Richard Capka,**

*Federal Highway Administrator.*

[FR Doc. E7-13149 Filed 7-6-07; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-22-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[Docket No. FMCSA-2007-28479]

#### Definition of Commercial Motor Vehicle: The EI Group, Inc., Application for Exemption

**AGENCY:** Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of application for exemption; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The FMCSA announces that it has received an application from The EI Group, Inc. (EI) seeking an exemption from classifying a specific motor vehicle as a commercial motor vehicle (CMV), for purposes of driver licensing requirements. Under the exemption, EI employees would not be required to comply with commercial driver's license requirements when operating a specifically-listed truck and trailer in combination, in interstate commerce. EI is requesting the exemption on behalf of all EI employees, and those contracted by EI, who operate its CMVs. EI states that approximately three EI drivers will be allowed to operate the subject equipment under the requested exemption. FMCSA requests public comment on EI's application for exemption.

**DATES:** Comments must be received on or before August 8, 2007.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments identified by DOT DMS Docket No. FMCSA-2007-28479 using any of the following methods:

- **Web Site:** Go to <http://dmses.dot.gov/submit>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments on the DOT electronic docket site.
- **Fax:** 1-202-493-2251.
- **Mail:** Docket Management Facility; U.S. Department of Transportation, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Ave., SE., Washington, DC 20590.
- **Hand Delivery:** Room W12-140, Ground Floor of West Building, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Ave., SE., Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

**Docket:** For access to the docket to read background documents or comments received, go to <http://dmses.dot.gov>

at any time or Room W12-140, Ground Floor of West Building, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Ave., SE., Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The DMS is available 24 hours each day, 365 days each year. If you want us to notify you that we received your comments, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope or postcard or print the acknowledgement page that appears after submitting comments on-line.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Thomas Yager, Chief, FMCSA Driver and Carrier Operations Division, Office of Bus and Truck Standards and Operations; Telephone: 202-366-4009. E-mail: [MCPSPD@dot.gov](mailto:MCPSPD@dot.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

Section 4007 of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (Pub. L. 105-178, 112 Stat. 107, June 9, 1998) amended 49 U.S.C. 31315 and 31136(e) to provide authority to grant exemptions from the motor carrier safety regulations. On August 20, 2004, FMCSA published a final rule (69 FR 51589) on section 4007. Under the regulations, FMCSA must publish a notice of each exemption request in the **Federal Register** (49 CFR 381.315(a)). FMCSA must provide the public with an opportunity to inspect the information relevant to the application, including any safety analyses that have been conducted, and it must provide an opportunity for public comment on the request.

FMCSA reviews the safety analyses and the public comments and determines whether granting the exemption would achieve a level of safety equivalent to or greater than the level that would be achieved absent the exemption (49 CFR 381.305). FMCSA's decision must be published in the **Federal Register** (49 CFR 381.315(b)). If FMCSA denies the request, it must state the reason for doing so. If FMCSA grants the exemption, the notice must specify the person or class of persons receiving the exemption and the regulatory provision or provisions from which exemption is being granted. The notice must also specify the effective period of the exemption (up to 2 years) and explain the terms and conditions of the exemption. The exemption may be renewed (49 CFR 381.300(b)).

##### Request for Exemption

EI is requesting an exemption from the definition of a commercial motor vehicle (CMV) in 49 CFR 383.5: