

All communications concerning these proceedings should identify the appropriate docket number (e.g., Waiver Petition Docket Number FRA-2012-0011) and may be submitted by any of the following methods:

- *Web site:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
- *Fax:* 202-493-2251.
- *Mail:* Docket Operations Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., W12-140, Washington, DC 20590.
- *Hand Delivery:* 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

Communications received within 30 days of the date 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.–5 p.m.) at the above facility. 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://www.regulations.gov>.

Anyone is able to search the electronic form of any written communications and comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the document (or signing the document, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review the U.S. Department of Transportation's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** published on April 11, 2000 (65 FR 19477), or at <http://www.dot.gov/privacy.html>.

Dated: Issued in Washington, DC, on March 26, 2012.

Ron Hynes,

Acting Deputy Associate Administrator for Regulatory and Legislative Operations.

[FR Doc. 2012-7618 Filed 3-29-12; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket Number FRA-2012-0021]

Petition for Waiver of Compliance

In accordance with part 211 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), this document provides the public notice that by a document dated February 14, 2012, Columbia Business Center Railroad (CBCX) has petitioned

the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) for a waiver of compliance from certain provisions of the Federal hours of service laws contained at 49 U.S.C. 21103(a)(4). FRA assigned the petition docket number FRA-2012-0021.

In its petition, CBCX seeks relief from 49 U.S.C. 21103(a)(4), which, in part, requires a train employee to receive 48 hours off duty after initiating an on-duty period for 6 consecutive days. Specifically, CBCX seeks a waiver to allow a train employee to initiate an on-duty period for 6 consecutive days followed by 24 hours off-duty. In support of its request, CBCX submitted documents demonstrating employee support and a description of employee work schedules.

A copy of the petition, as well as any written communications concerning the petition, is available for review online at www.regulations.gov and in person at the U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) Docket Operations Facility, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., W12-140, Washington, DC 20590. The Docket Operations Facility is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

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 identify the appropriate docket number and may be submitted by any of the following methods:

- *Web site:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
- *Fax:* 202-493-2251.
- *Mail:* Docket Operations Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., W12-140, Washington, DC 20590.
- *Hand Delivery:* 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

Communications received by May 14, 2012 will be considered by FRA before final action is taken. Comments received after that date will be considered as far as practicable.

Anyone is able to search the electronic form of any written communications and comments received into any of our dockets by the

name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the comment, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** published on April 11, 2000 (Volume 65, Number 70; Pages 19477-78) or online at <http://www.dot.gov/privacy.html>.

Dated: Issued in Washington, DC, on March 26, 2012.

Ron Hynes,

Acting Deputy Associate Administrator for Regulatory and Legislative Operations.

[FR Doc. 2012-7611 Filed 3-29-12; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket Number FRA-2012-0023]

Petition for Waiver of Compliance

In accordance with Part 211 of Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), this document provides the public notice that by a document dated January 25, 2012, Union Pacific Railroad (UP) has petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) for a permanent waiver of compliance from certain provisions of the *Locomotive Safety Standards*, found at 49 CFR 229.129(b) and (c), and which pertain to railroad locomotive horn testing. FRA assigned the petition Docket Number FRA-2012-0023.

UP seeks to use an automated sound measurement system (ASMS) to test locomotive horns as required in 49 CFR 229.129(b). The ASMS uses a Class 1 sound-level measuring instrument that is permanently mounted in a fixed test site and uses the same technology that is used to measure noise at airports nationwide. Due to the proven accuracy and reliability of the ASMS and the tight procedural control and concise documentation they provide (plus the fact that the frequency and duration of horn blasts and the resulting impact on the surrounding community and personnel is reduced), UP strongly believes that the ASMS is an improvement from the current testing scheme permitted under 49 CFR 229.129.

In addition, UP requests a waiver to extend the duration between acoustic calibrations (49 CFR 229.129(c)(9)) from immediately before and after each session of compliance tests, or no later than 8 hours, as clarified in 71 FR 47626, to a period of no more than 6 months.

UP also requests FRA approval of all locomotive horn test data acquired by any of UP's ASMS that meet the requirements of SAE ARP-4 721, and have been calibrated in accordance with this waiver.

A copy of the petition, as well as any written communications concerning the petition, is available for review online at <http://www.regulations.gov> and in person at the U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) Docket Operations Facility, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., W12-140, Washington, DC 20590. The Docket Operations Facility is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

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 identify the appropriate docket number (e.g., Waiver Petition Docket Number FRA-2012-0023) and may be submitted by any of the following methods:

- *Web site:* <http://www.regulations.gov>.

Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

- *Fax:* 202-493-2251.
- *Mail:* Docket Operations Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., W12-140, Washington, DC 20590.
- *Hand Delivery:* 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

Communications received by May 14, 2012 will be considered by FRA before final action is taken. Comments received after that date will be considered as far as practicable.

Anyone is able to search the electronic form of any written communications and comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the comment, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** published on April 11, 2000 (Volume 65, Number 70; Pages 19477-78), or online at <http://www.dot.gov/privacy.html>.

Issued in Washington, DC, on March 26, 2012.

Ron Hynes,

Acting Deputy Associate Administrator for Regulatory and Legislative Operations.

[FR Doc. 2012-7614 Filed 3-29-12; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

[Docket ID PHMSA-2012-0021]

Pipeline Safety: Public Comment on Leak and Valve Studies Mandated by the Pipeline Safety, Regulatory Certainty, and Job Creation Act of 2011

AGENCY: Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of Public Comment.

SUMMARY: The Department of Transportation (DOT), Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) is providing an important opportunity through this notice for all stakeholders to publically comment on the scope of recently commissioned studies involving leak detection systems and valves. This action and others described within this notice will support the comprehensive investigation of topics and issues Congress has charged to PHMSA.

DATES: PHMSA must have all comments submitted by close of business April 30, 2012.

ADDRESSES: Comments should reference Docket No. PHMSA-2012-0021 and may be submitted in the following ways:

- *E-Gov Web Site:* <http://www.Regulations.gov>. This site allows the public to enter comments on any **Federal Register** notice issued by any agency.
- *Fax:* 1-202-493-2251.
- *Mail:* DOT Docket Management System: U.S. DOT, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590-0001.
- *Hand Delivery:* U.S. DOT Docket Management System; West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590-0001 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Instructions: You should identify the Docket No. PHMSA-2012-0021 at the beginning of your comments. If you submit your comments by mail, submit two copies. To receive confirmation that PHMSA received your comments,

include a self-addressed stamped postcard. Internet users may submit comments at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

Note: Comments are posted without changes or edits to <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided. There is a privacy statement published on <http://www.regulations.gov>.

Any technically substantive comments received after the comment closing date will be considered to the extent practicable.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Contact Max Kieba at 202-493-0595 or Email: max.kieba@dot.gov for questions regarding the leak detection study. Contact Patrick Landon at 202-695-0798 or Email: patrick.landon@dot.gov for questions regarding the valve study.

Background: The recent passage of the Pipeline Safety, Regulatory Certainty, and Job Creation Act of 2011 has called for several commissioned studies and reports to Congress that PHMSA must address and complete. Further, PHMSA is also evaluating how to address several concerns raised by recent National Transportation Safety Board recommendations.

PHMSA has commissioned two studies to gather facts and perform technical, operational, and economical analyses about the constraints and implications for expanding the uses of leak detection systems and automatic and remote controlled valves. PHMSA believes that the scope of these studies should have a wide stakeholder review and input and seeks public input through two venues.

First is the public workshop on Improving Pipeline Leak Detection System Effectiveness and Understanding the Application of Automatic/Remote Control Valves on March 27-28, 2012. This workshop will examine how to encourage operators to expand usage of leak detection systems (LDS) and improve system effectiveness on the Nation's pipeline infrastructure and how remote control and automatic control valves can be installed to lessen the volume of natural gas and hazardous liquid released during catastrophic pipeline events. These public meetings are designed to provide an open forum for exchanging information on the challenges associated with LDS and automatic/remote control valves.

Second is the opportunity for all stakeholders to publically comment on the scope of these two studies. This notice was designed to do just that. The following sections identify what Congress has mandated in these studies