

Lancaster County, South Carolina. An earlier notice had been published in 1992 but the EIS was not completed due to insufficient project funding.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kenneth R. Myers, Planning & Environmental Engineer, Federal Highway Administration, 1835 Assembly Street, Suite 1270, Strom Thurmond Federal Building, Columbia, South Carolina 29201, Telephone: (803) 253-3881.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FHWA, in cooperation with the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT), will prepare an environmental impact statement on the proposed extension of Dave Lyle Boulevard (S.C. route 122) from the S.C. route 161 Extension east of Rock Hill in York County to U.S. route 521 in Lancaster County, South Carolina. The proposed route would be approximately 10 miles in length and would consist of two travel lanes for each direction of traffic with an earth median. Alternatives under consideration include: (1) taking no action (no-build); (2) Transportation System Management (improvement of existing routes); and (3) several alternative corridor alignment build alternatives.

The FHWA and SCDOT are seeking input as a part of the scoping process to assist in determining and clarifying issues relative to this project. Letters describing the proposed action and soliciting comments have been sent by the SCDOT to appropriate Federal, State, and local agencies, and to private organizations and citizens who have previously expressed or are known to have interest in this proposal. No formal scoping meeting is planned at this time. Early coordination with State and Federal permit and resource agencies will be completed in the development of the draft EIS. The U.S. Corps of Engineers is being requested to be a cooperating agency due to the likely involvement of the proposal with wetlands in the Catawba River flood plain area. Two public informational meetings have been held to inform the public and solicit their input. At least one location public hearing will be held for which public notice will be given of the time and place of the hearings. The draft EIS 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 at the address provided above.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number 20.205, Highway Planning and Construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 12372 regarding intergovernmental consultation on Federal programs and activities apply to this program.)

Issued on: March 7, 2000.

Robert L. Lee,

Division Administrator, Columbia, South Carolina.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket No. FRA-2000-7054]

Petition for Grandfathering of Non-Compliant Equipment, Maryland Mass Transit Administration

In accordance with 49 CFR 238.203(f), notice is hereby given that the Maryland Mass Transit Administration (MTA) has petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) for grandfathering of non-compliant equipment for use on MTA's Central Light Rail Line.

Section 238.203 of title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations addresses static end strength requirements for passenger rail equipment. Paragraph (a)(1) provides that all passenger equipment (subject to limited exceptions) shall resist a minimum static end load of 800,000 pounds applied on the line of draft without permanent deformation of the body structure. Paragraph (d)(2) provides that "[a]ny passenger equipment placed in service on a rail line or lines before November 8, 1999 that does not comply with the requirements of paragraph (a)(1) may continue to be operated on that particular line or (those particular lines) if the operator of the equipment files a petition seeking grandfathering approval under paragraph (d)(3) before November 8, 1999. Such usage may continue while the petition is being processed, but in no event later than May 8, 2000, unless the petition is approved."

MTA requests that all conventional light rail vehicles operating on the Central Light Rail Line (extending from Baltimore, Maryland, north to Timonium, south to Cromwell, southwest to BWI Airport, east to Penn Station and north to Hunt Valley) be grandfathered to permit usage pursuant to 49 CFR 238.203(d).

Interested parties are invited to participate in this proceeding by submitting written views, data or

comments. FRA does not anticipate scheduling a public hearing in connection with this proceeding, however, 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 this proceeding should be identified with Docket Number FRA-2000-7054 and must be submitted to the Docket Clerk, DOT Central Docket Management Facility, Room PL-401, 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC 20590-0001. Communications received within 30 days of publication of this notice will be considered by FRA before final action is taken. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent possible. MTA's petition and all written communications concerning this proceeding are available for examination during regular business hours (9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) at DOT Central Docket Management Facility, Room PL-401 (Plaza Level), 400 Seventh, SW, Washington, DC 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>.

Issued in Washington, DC on March 10, 2000.

Grady C. Cothen, Jr.,

Deputy Associate Administrator for Safety Standards and Program Development.

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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].