

ACTION: Notice of Order to Show Cause (Order 2003-4-6), Docket OST-2003-14871.

SUMMARY: The Department of Transportation is directing all interested persons to show cause why it should not issue an order that (1) finds that Samoa Aviation, Inc., has failed to demonstrate that it continues to meet the Department's fitness standards, and (2) revokes the company's commuter air carrier authority.

DATES: Persons wishing to file objections should do so no later than April 18, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Objections and answers to objections should be filed in Docket and addressed to the Department of Transportation Dockets (M-30, Room PL-401), U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590, and should be served upon the parties listed in Attachment A to the order.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Delores King, Air Carrier Fitness Division (X-56, Room 6401), U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590, (202) 366-2343.

Dated: April 4, 2003.

Read C. Van De Water,

Assistant Secretary for Aviation and International Affairs.

[FR Doc. 03-8812 Filed 4-9-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Transit Administration

Federal Highway Administration

Amendment to Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the South Corridor Portion of the South/North Transit Corridor Project in the Portland, OR Metropolitan Area (Affects the Downtown Portland Segment Only)

AGENCY: Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an Amended Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

SUMMARY: The FTA and the FHWA, in cooperation with Portland Metro and Tri-County Metropolitan Transportation District of Oregon (TriMet), (hereinafter "agencies") published a Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (hereinafter "SDEIS") in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (hereinafter "NEPA") in December

2002 for transit improvements in the South/North Transit Corridor (hereinafter the "South Corridor Project") of the Portland, Oregon metropolitan region. The North Corridor Interstate MAX FEIS was published and the project is under construction. Conditions have changed since the South/North DEIS and the South Corridor Project SDEIS were published. The agencies now intend to prepare an amendment to that SDEIS for transit improvements in the downtown Portland segment only.

The purpose of this new Notice of Intent is to re-notify interested parties of the intent to prepare an Amendment to the SDEIS (hereinafter referred to as "ASDEIS") and invite participation in the study. This study will focus on the impacts of adding the downtown Portland Transit Mall LRT alignment to the I-205 Light Rail Transit Project, a part of the South Corridor Project. The I-205 Light Rail Transit Project proposes to implement a major high capacity transit improvement in the South Corridor part of the South/North Corridor, that maintains livability in the metropolitan region, supports land use goals, optimizes the transportation system, is environmentally sensitive, reflects community values and is fiscally responsive. Three transit alternatives (described below) will be evaluated in the ASDEIS.

Meeting Dates: Agency Coordination Meeting: an agency coordination meeting will be held on April 22 at 1 pm, at the Portland Building Room C, 1120 SW Fifth Avenue, Portland, Oregon. **Public Information Meeting:** a public information meeting will be held on April 22 from 4 to 7 pm at the Portland Building Room C, 1120 SW Fifth Avenue, Portland, Oregon. The Portland Building is accessible to persons with disabilities. Any individual with a disability who requires special assistance, such as a sign language interpreter, should contact Kristin Hull at (503) 797-1864, at least 48-hours in advance of the meeting in order for Metro to make necessary arrangements.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: **Agency Coordination meeting:** contact Sharon Kelly, Metro EIS Manager at (503) 797-1753 or (e-mail) KellyS@Metro.dst.or.us, Rebecca Reyes-Alicea, FTA Community Planner at (206) 220-4464 or (e-mail) rebecca.reyes-alicea@fta.dot.gov, Elton Chang, FHWA Environmental Engineer at (503) 587-4710 or elton.chang@fhwa.dot.gov. **Public Information meeting:** contact Kristin Hull, Metro Public Involvement

Coordinator at (503) 797-1864 or (e-mail) Hull@Metro.dst.or.us. **Written Comments** should be sent to Sharon Kelly, South Corridor Project, Metro, 600 NE Grand Avenue, Portland, OR 97232. Additional information on the South Corridor Project can also be found on the Metro Web site at: <http://www.metro-region.org>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Notice of Intent

This new NOI to prepare an ASDEIS is being published at this time to re-notice interested parties due to the changes that have occurred since the initial NOI (October 1993), publication of the South/North DEIS (February 1998), publication of the North Corridor Interstate MAX Light Rail Project FEIS (October 1999), and publication of the South Corridor Project SDEIS (December 2002). The project proponents are re-examining the downtown Portland Mall Alignment in the downtown Portland segment of the South Corridor. The FHWA and the FTA are Federal Co-Lead agencies. Because the study is primarily a transit study, FTA regulations and guidance will be used for the analysis and preparation of the ASDEIS.

II. Study Area

The South Corridor generally encompasses the southeast quadrant of the Portland, Oregon metropolitan area, including downtown Portland, Southeast Portland neighborhoods, the City of Milwaukie, the City of Gladstone, the City of Oregon City and urban unincorporated Clackamas County (east of the Willamette River). The focus of this supplemental study will be in the downtown Portland area.

III. Alternatives

Three Alternatives will be evaluated in the SDEIS. The *No-Build Alternative* will provide the basis for comparison of the build alternative. The No-Build Alternative includes the existing transportation system plus multi-modal transportation improvements that would be constructed under the Regional Transportation Plan Financially Constrained Transportation Network. The *I-205 Light Rail Alternative with the Cross Mall* includes 6.5 miles of new light rail transit connecting to the existing light rail system at Gateway and extending south along I-205 to the Clackamas Town Center area and then continuing into downtown Portland using the existing Eastside MAX line called the Cross Mall. The *I-205 Light Rail Alternative with the Portland Mall* includes 6.5 miles of new light rail transit connecting to the existing light rail system at Gateway and extending

south along I-205 to the Clackamas Town Center area and, in the north, includes a section continuing into downtown Portland using the Portland Mall Alignment. There is a terminus option at SW Main Street and design option of using Island Stations with this alternative.

IV. Probable Effects

FTA, FHWA, Metro and TriMet will evaluate all significant transportation, environmental, social and economic impacts of the alternatives. Primary issues include: support of state, regional and local land use and transportation plans and policies, cost effective expansion of the transit system, preservation of capacity enhancement options of I-205, neighborhood impacts and environmental sensitivity. The impacts will be evaluated for both the construction period and for the long-term period of operation. Measures to mitigate any significant impact will be developed.

Issued on: March 31, 2003.

Richard Krochalis,

Regional Administrator, Region X, Federal Transit Administration.

Elton Chang,

Environmental Engineer, Oregon Division, Federal Highway Administration.

[FR Doc. 03-8692 Filed 4-9-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Research and Special Programs Administration

[Docket No. RSPA-03-14448: Notice 3]

Pipeline Safety: Qualification of Pipeline Personnel

AGENCY: Office of Pipeline Safety, Research and Special Programs Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Research and Special Programs Administration's (RSPA) Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS) will conduct a public meeting to discuss progress in implementing the operator qualification (OQ) rule for gas and hazardous liquid pipelines. OPS will continue to develop the protocols and supplementary guidance materials, and provide continued opportunities for public comment. A record of previous public meetings on Qualification of Pipeline Personnel that were held in San Antonio, TX; Houston, TX; and Phoenix, AZ, are available in this docket (RSPA-03-14448).

DATES: The public meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 23, 2003, beginning at 8:30 a.m., ending at 4 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The public meeting will be held at the Double Tree Hotel Atlanta-Buckhead, 3342 Peachtree Road, Atlanta, GA 30326 (telephone: 404/231-1234, fax: 404/231-5236, Web: <http://www.doubletreebuckhead.com>). The deadline for making a hotel reservation is April 11, 2003, (refer to the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) (Operation Qualification Group block for government rates).

This meeting is free and open to the public. You may register electronically for this meeting at: <http://primis.rspa.dot.gov/meetings>. The program will continue to address the 13 issues generated by the first public meeting held in January 2003, and will be open for technical input. Discussion will include protocols and explanation of changes, supplementary guidance, definitions of terms, and development of a national consensus standard. Persons wishing to make a presentation or statement at the meeting should notify Janice Morgan, (202) 366-2392, no later than April 14, 2003.

Although we encourage persons wishing to comment on operator qualification and inspection protocols to participate in the public meeting, written comments will be accepted. You may submit written comments on operator qualification and inspection issues by mail or delivery to the Dockets Facility, DOT, Room PL-401, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001. The Dockets Facility is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on Federal holidays. You should submit the original and one copy. Anyone who wants confirmation of receipt of their comments must include a stamped, self-addressed postcard. You may also submit comments to the docket electronically. To do so, log on to the Internet Web address at <http://dms.dot.gov> and select "Help" for instructions on electronic filing of comments. All written comments should identify the Docket Number RSPA-03-14448; Notice 3.

Anyone is able to search the electronic form of all comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comments (or signing the comments, 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 9477-78), or you may visit <http://dms.dot.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: You may contact Richard Sanders at (405) 954-7214 or (405) 954-7219, regarding the agenda of this public meeting. General information about OPS programs may be obtained by accessing OPS's Internet home page at <http://ops.dot.gov>.

Information on Services for Individuals with Disabilities: For information on facilities or services for individuals with disabilities or to request special assistance, contact Janice Morgan at (202) 366-2392.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The operator qualification rule at 49 CFR 192.801 (for gas pipelines) and at 49 CFR 195.501 (for hazardous liquid pipelines) requires every pipeline operator to have and follow a written qualification program that includes provisions to identify covered tasks and to ensure that all persons performing these tasks are qualified. By October 28, 2002, all gas and hazardous liquid pipeline operators should have completed the qualification of all individuals performing covered tasks on pipeline facilities.

On April 23, 2003, OPS will conduct a public meeting to continue discussions on the progress in implementing the operator qualification rule for gas and hazardous liquid pipelines. The meeting will focus on development of the 13 OQ issues identified at previous public meetings on February 25, 2003, in Houston, TX, and March 25, 2003, in Mesa, AZ, and are as follows:

1. Scope of Operator Qualification.
2. Evaluation of Knowledge, Skills, and Physical Ability.
3. Re-evaluation Intervals.
4. Maintenance versus New Construction.
5. Treatment of Emergency Response.
6. Additional Covered Tasks.
7. Extent of Documentation.
8. Abnormal Operating Conditions.
9. Treatment of Training.
10. Criteria for Small Operators.
11. Direction of Observation of Non-qualified People.
12. Noteworthy Practices.
13. Persons Contributing to an Incident or Accident.

All persons attending the meeting will have an opportunity to comment on operator qualification compliance issues and to question the expert panel on the new operator qualification compliance protocols.

Issued in Washington, DC on April 7, 2003.

Stacey L. Gerard,

Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety.

[FR Doc. 03-8815 Filed 4-9-03; 8:45 am]

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