

No comments were received on the application.

The performance of seat belts in saving lives and reducing of injuries of vehicle occupants in crashes of all severities has been adequately demonstrated for years. The purpose of requiring both a visual and audible warning system is to remind vehicle occupants to fasten their seat belts. Studies reviewed by NHTSA indicate that a sequential logic system which incorporates a visible reminder light of continuous duration and a 4 to 8 second audible reminder could produce higher seat belt usage rates. In cases in which the audible signal does not operate properly or at all, drivers may not be adequately reminded to fasten their seat belts.

NHTSA will not attempt to evaluate GM's claim that a visual seat belt warning displaying a continuous warning light for 75 seconds is more effective than the 4 to 8 second audio requirement. GM has not referenced any studies that examine whether extension of the time in which the warning light operates results in a more effective reminder. In any event, if GM believes that to be the case, it can request the agency to amend FMVSS No. 208.

In consideration of the foregoing, it is hereby found that the applicant has failed to meet its burden of persuasion

that the noncompliance herein described is inconsequential to safety, and its application is denied.

(49 U.S.C. 30118, 30120; delegations of authority at 49 CFR 1.50 and 49 CFR 501.8)

Issued on: April 3, 2001.

Stephen R. Kratzke,

Associate Administrator for Safety Performance Standards.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Environmental Assessment for Expansion of The Bureau of Engraving and Printing's Western Currency Facility; and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact

AGENCY: Bureau of Engraving and Printing, Department of the Treasury.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury is issuing this notice to inform the public of the availability of the Environmental Assessment for the proposed expansion of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing's Western Currency Facility, and a draft Finding of No Significant Impact. The Environmental Assessment (EA) has been prepared to address the

environmental impacts of the proposed expansion of the Western Currency Facility. This EA was prepared under the authority of 40 CFR parts 1500 *et seq.*, the Council on Environmental Quality's National Environmental Policy Act implementing regulations.

DATES: Comments must be postmarked no later than May 9, 2001. Comments should be sent to the address given under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For a copy of the EA or for further information contact Ms. Colleen McKinney, Supervisory Chemical Engineer, Technical Support Division, Bureau of Engraving and Printing, 9000 Blue Mound Road, Fort Worth, Texas 76131-3304; telephone (817) 847-3820; fax (817) 847-3651. The EA is also available on the Bureau of Engraving and Printing's web site at <http://www.moneyfactory.com/ftworth.pdf>. Additionally, copies have been placed in the Fort Worth Central Library, 300 Taylor Street, Fort Worth, Texas, and the Saginaw Library, 333 West McLeroy Boulevard, Saginaw, Texas.

James J. Flyzik,

Acting Assistant Secretary for Management and Chief Information Officer.

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