

received a request for a waiver of compliance from certain requirements of its safety standards. The South Carolina Railroad Museum (SCRM) has petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) for a waiver of compliance from certain provisions of the Federal railroad safety regulations contained at 49 CFR Part 213. FRA assigned the petition Docket Number FRA–2012–0032.

In its waiver request, SCRM petitioned FRA for a waiver from 49 CFR Section 213.233(c), which requires twice-weekly track inspections with at least 1 calendar day interval between inspections if the track carries passenger trains or more than 10 million gross tons of traffic during the preceding calendar year.

The petitioner is a volunteer, nonprofit 501(c)(3) Class III railroad museum that is located in Fairfield County near Winnsboro, SC, and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. SCRM operates passenger trains on approximately 5 miles of the 11½-mile former Rockton and Rion Railroad. The passenger trains operate from the Norfolk Southern junction, generally westward from Rockton, SC, through the community of Rion, SC, to the Anderson Quarry. SCRM states that it schedules two passenger excursions each Saturday from Memorial Day through Labor Day; for a total of 30 roundtrips.

Additionally, SCRM states that it charters passenger trains on an as-needed basis; usually, no more than three passenger trains are operated overall per week. The petitioner seeks relief from the twice weekly track inspections and requests to conduct one track inspection each week. SCRM states, “* * * one track inspection each week would allow the museum to insure the safety of the track for the average of 3 trips or less that are operated during our summer and fall operating seasons.”

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 July 9, 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 May 21, 2012.

Ron Hynes,

Acting Deputy Associate Administrator for Regulatory and Legislative Operations.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket Number FRA–2012–0043]

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 April 13, 2012, the Massachusetts Bay Commuter Railroad (MBCR) and Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority (MBTA) jointly petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) for a temporary waiver of compliance from certain provisions of the Federal railroad safety regulations contained at 49 CFR part 236. FRA assigned the petition Docket Number FRA–2012–0043.

MBCR and MBTA seek relief from the requirements of 49 CFR 236.301, *Where signals shall be provided*. Relief is sought at two interlockings located on drawbridges on the Gloucester Branch. The Manchester Draw, Milepost (MP)

25.30 in Manchester-by-the-Sea; and the Gloucester Draw, MP 31.0, in Gloucester, Essex County, MA. The Gloucester Branch is a line of railroad owned by MBTA and operated and maintained by MBCR. There are two main tracks over both bridges, with the trackage through the subject area signaled with the current of traffic (in only one direction on either track). Currently, signals at both bridges that govern movements against the current of traffic are set to display “stop” aspects only. The signal control wires for those signals are disconnected. Only the light wires are active, keeping the subject signals displaying a red aspect and constantly lit. Relief is requested until such time as the signals at the Manchester Draw and Gloucester Draw are upgraded in conjunction with Positive Train Control (PTC) implementation pursuant to the *MBTA PTC Implementation Plan (Revision 3)* (September 2010), filed at FRA–2010–0030 as Document Number 0003 (filed on November 17, 2010).

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 Ave. 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.

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Communications received by July 9, 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 May 18, 2012.

Ron Hynes,

Acting Deputy Associate Administrator for Regulatory and Legislative Operations.

[FR Doc. 2012-12716 Filed 5-24-12; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket Number FRA-2000-7094]

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 April 19, 2012, Pioneer Valley Railroad (PVR) has petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) for an extension of its waiver of compliance from a provision of the Federal hours of service laws contained at 49 U.S.C. 21103(a), as authorized by 49 U.S.C. 21102(b). FRA assigned the petition docket number FRA-2000-7094.

In its petition, PVR seeks relief from 49 U.S.C. 21103(a)(2), which prohibits a train employee from remaining or going on duty for a period in excess of 12 consecutive hours. Title 49 U.S.C. 21102(b) allows railroads with 15 or fewer employees to petition for exemption from the restriction outlined at 49 U.S.C. 21103(a)(2), but the exemption may not authorize a carrier to require or allow its employees to be on duty more than a total of 16 hours in a 24-hour period. In support of the request, PVR explained that its safety record is excellent and that an allowance for a train employee to exceed 12 hours of time on duty would only be used during emergencies and not as part of normal operations.

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 Ave. 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 July 9, 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 May 18, 2012.

Ron Hynes,

Acting Deputy Associate Administrator for Regulatory and Legislative Operations.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket Number FRA-2012-0049]

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 May 4, 2012, Union Pacific Railroad (UP) has petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) for a waiver of compliance from certain provisions of the Federal railroad safety regulations contained at 49 CFR part 235. FRA assigned the petition Docket Number FRA-2012-0049.

UP seeks relief from the requirements of 49 CFR 235.5 to expedite successful installation of Positive Train Control (PTC), mandated by the Rail Safety Improvement Act of 2008. UP will be updating first-generation, nonmicroprocessor-based coded track circuitry; eliminating certain searchlight signal mechanisms; and relocating some signals or making other changes that may require submission of an application and that have not been previously addressed. In requesting this waiver, UP proposes to perform minimal modifications to existing signal systems, while maintaining compliance with 49 CFR part 236, in the same manner and process as provided for under 49 CFR 235.7(c)(24)(vi). This relief will allow for expedited beneficial modification of existing signal systems in preparation for the installation of PTC, and it would reduce the administrative workload for both FRA and UP. Additionally, this relief would reduce the approval delay, while still providing FRA review and oversight of the proposed changes in the same manner as pole line elimination projects.

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