

requested, and the petitioner's arguments in favour of relief.

**Metro-North Commuter Railroad & Connecticut Department of Transportation**

[Docket Number FRA-2000-6778]

Metro-North Commuter Railroad (MNCW) and the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CDOT) seek an extension of time for a previously approved temporary waiver of compliance with the *Passenger Equipment Safety Standards*, 49 CFR part 238.235, which requires that by December 31, 1999, each power operated door that is partitioned from the passenger compartment shall be equipped with a manual override adjacent to that door. They request that the waiver be granted for 159 passenger coaches equipped with power operated side doors outside the passenger compartment. This request is for 59 cars not yet completed and, if granted, would allow an extension of time until December 31, 2002, for the installation of the manual overrides.

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-2000-6778) and must be submitted to the Docket Clerk, DOT Central Docket Management Facility, Room PL-401, Washington, DC 20590.

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 (9:00 a.m.—5:00 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://dms.dot.gov>.

Issued in Washington, DC, on April 11, 2002.

**Grady C. Cothen, Jr.,**

*Deputy Associate Administrator for Safety Standards and Program Development.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Federal Railroad Administration**

[Docket No. FRA-2002-11533]

**Petition for Waiver of Compliance**

In 1996, the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) received from the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) a request for a waiver of compliance from certain requirements of FRA rail safety regulations in order to allow them to develop, implement, and test technology designed to prevent train collisions and overspeed violations. The pilot program was for the development, testing, installation, and demonstration of Incremental Train Control System (ITCS), a communications-based train control system, along Amtrak's Detroit to Chicago corridor. See 61 FR 41199 (August 7, 1996). That petition was docketed as Waiver Petition Docket No. H-96-1. Amtrak requested permission to operate under specified conditions, non-revenue test trains at speeds in excess of 79 mph, not to exceed 110 mph.

On September 24, 1999, the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) modified certain conditions imposed in approval of Docket No. H-96-1. See 64 FR 25114 (May 19, 1999). FRA approved a phased test program. Phase One included operation of non-revenue test trains at speeds in excess of 79 mph, not to exceed 110 mph. In Phase Two ITCS would be implemented in revenue service with enforcement at speeds not to exceed 79 mph for a period not less than 90 days. Phase Three included implementation of ITCS in revenue service with enforcement at 2 speeds not to exceed 90 mph for a period of not more than 300 days. At the conclusion of the 300 day period, the waiver terminates.

Amtrak is now conducting tests as part of Phase three and as such, is operating non-revenue test trains at speeds up to 110 mph. Permission to operate this test train at that speed was granted in FRA's original approval of H-96-1.

The purpose of this notice is to provide an update of the status of this test program and to clarify the extent of the 1999 waiver modifications.

Additionally, this waiver is being re-docketed in the Department of Transportation's Docket Management System to provide the public with electronic access to docketed materials. This public docket, Docket No. FRA-2002-11533 is available for inspection and downloading on the Internet at the docket facility's web site at <http://dms.dot.gov>. The docket is also available for inspection at DOT Central Docket Management Facility, Room PL-401 (Plaza Level) 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC.

Issued in Washington, DC on April 11, 2002.

**Grady C. Cothen, Jr.,**

*Deputy Associate Administrator for Safety Standards and Program Development.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Research and Special Programs Administration**

[Docket Number: RSPA-4957 Notice]

**Pipeline Safety: Renewal of Information Collection: Comment Request**

**AGENCY:** Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for public comments.

**SUMMARY:** This notice requests public participation in the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval process regarding the renewal of an existing RSPA collection of information for Operator Qualification of Pipeline Personnel. RSPA intends to request OMB approval for renewal of this information collection under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The public is invited to submit comments on ways to minimize the burden associated with collection of information related to the operator qualification requirements in the pipeline safety regulations, as well as other factors listed in the body of this notice.

**DATES:** Comments on this notice must be received on or before June 17, 2002 to be assured of consideration.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested persons are invited to send comments in duplicate to the U.S. Department of Transportation, Dockets Facility, Plaza 401, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001 or e-mail to [dms.dot.gov](mailto:dms.dot.gov). Comments can be reviewed at the dockets facility which is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on Federal