

(MN), Glenn F. Gorsuch (OH), Keith N. Hall (UT), Steven E. Hayes (IN), Francisco Hernandez, Jr. (NM), Mervin M. Hershberger (WI), Dean M. Hobson (IL), Timmy R. Holley (PA), David E. Hopson (TX), Amos S. Hostetter, Jr. (OH), Isadore Johnson, Jr. (NY), William J. Kelly (CT), Stephen C. Linardos (FL), Daniel C. Linares (CA), Ray J. Liner (LA), Robert E. Mayers (MN), Kraig P. Middleton (MI), James G. Miles (TN), Rogelio Rocha Monjaraz (MD), Pablo R. Murillo (TX), Wayne Nicolaisen (PA), John R. Ogno (NJ), Richard A. Parker II (KS), Vincent E. Perkins (MA), John R. Price (AR), Francis D. Reginald, Jr. (NJ), Juan A. Rodriguez (CT), Roger D. Rogers (PA), Robert E. Rohrer (PA), David L. Roth (SD), James O. Russell, Jr. (OH), Ronald B. Salter (MS), Michael J. Schmelzle (KS), Ralph J. Schmitt (CO), Charles D. Theademan (WA), Dwight Tullis (IL), Arnulfo J. Valenzuela (TX), Danny L. Watson (TN), Lorenzo A. Williams (DE), William E. Zezulka (MN).

In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, each exemption will be valid for 2 years unless revoked earlier by FMCSA. The exemption will be revoked if: (1) The person fails to comply with the terms and conditions of the exemption; (2) the exemption has resulted in a lower level of safety than was maintained before it was granted; or (3) continuation of the exemption would not be consistent with the goals and objectives of 49 U.S.C. 31136 and 31315.

If the exemption is still effective at the end of the 2-year period, the person may apply to FMCSA for a renewal under procedures in effect at that time.

Issued on: December 30, 2015.

**Larry W. Minor,**

*Associate Administrator for Policy.*

[FR Doc. 2016-00294 Filed 1-8-16; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-EX-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket Number FRA-2015-0139]

#### 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 September 22, 2015, the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) 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 238, Passenger Equipment Safety

Standards. FRA assigned the petition Docket Number FRA-2015-0139.

Amtrak seeks a temporary waiver of compliance from the requirements of 49 CFR 238.115(b)(1)(2), which covers "marking and instructions for emergency egress and rescue access," and references APTA PR-E-S 013-99, Rev. 1, "Standard for Emergency Lighting System Design for Passenger Cars," for a period of 12 months until December 31, 2016. Amtrak is seeking this temporary relief as it works to bring 70 percent of its passenger rolling stock fleet that was ordered prior to September 8, 2000, and placed in service prior to September 9, 2002, into compliance with the emergency lighting requirements. Amtrak justifies the need for this deadline extension because it will need to test between 201 and 408 cars across its fleets located at multiple locations spanning geographic areas from the East Coast to the West Coast as outlined in its petition. Amtrak indicates that this 70-percent modification goal may require modification to as many as 1,200 of the passenger cars listed in its petition (the comprehensive listing of equipment includes Acela, TALGO, Surfliners, Comets, Heritage, Superliner 1, Superliner 2, Amfleet 1, Amfleet 2, Viewliner, Horizon, Metroliner, LDSL, and various inspection cars).

A copy of the petition, as well as any written communications concerning the petition, is available for review online at [www.regulations.gov](http://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 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 FRA-2015-0139 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 February 25, 2016 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 document, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its processes. DOT posts these comments, without edit, including any personal information the commenter provides, to [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), as described in the system of records notice (DOT/ALL-14 FDMS), which can be reviewed at [www.dot.gov/privacy](http://www.dot.gov/privacy). See also <http://www.regulations.gov/#!privacyNotice> for the privacy notice of regulations.gov.

**Robert C. Lauby,**

*Associate Administrator for Railroad Safety, Chief Safety Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2016-00202 Filed 1-8-16; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket No. FRA-2016-0001]

#### Establishment of an Emergency Relief Docket for Calendar Year 2016

**AGENCY:** Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

**ACTION:** Notice of establishment of public docket (Notice).

**SUMMARY:** This Notice announces the establishment of FRA's emergency relief docket (ERD) for calendar year 2016. The designated ERD for calendar year 2016 is Docket Number FRA-2016-0001.

**ADDRESSES:** See Supplementary Information section for further information regarding submitting petitions and/or comments to Docket No. FRA-2016-0001.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On May 19, 2009, FRA published a direct final rule addressing the establishment of ERDs and the procedures for handling

petitions for emergency waivers of safety rules, regulations, or standards during an emergency situation or event. 74 FR 23329. That direct final rule became effective on July 20, 2009, and made minor modifications to Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 211.45, *Petitions for emergency waiver of safety rules*, in FRA's Rules of Practice, published at 49 CFR part 211, Rules of Practice. Title 49 CFR 211.45, Paragraph (b) provides that each calendar year, FRA will establish an ERD in the publicly accessible DOT docket system (available at <http://www.regulations.gov>). Title 49 CFR 211.45, Paragraph (b) further provides that FRA will publish a notice in the **Federal Register** identifying, by docket number, the ERD for that year. As noted in the rule, FRA's purpose for establishing the ERD and emergency waiver procedures is to provide an expedited process for FRA to address the needs of the public and the railroad industry during emergency situations or events. This Notice announces that the designated ERD for calendar year 2016 is Docket Number FRA-2016-0001.

As detailed in 49 CFR 211.45, if the FRA Administrator determines that an emergency event as defined in 49 CFR 211.45(a) has occurred, or that an imminent threat of such an emergency occurring exists, and public safety would benefit from providing the railroad industry with operational relief, the emergency waiver procedures of 49 CFR 211.45 will go into effect. In such an event, the FRA Administrator will issue a statement in the ERD indicating that the emergency waiver procedures are in effect and FRA will make every effort to post the statement on its Web site at <http://www.fra.dot.gov/>. Any party desiring relief from FRA regulatory requirements as a result of the emergency situation should submit a petition for emergency waiver in accordance with 49 CFR 211.45(e) and (f). Specific instructions for filing petitions for emergency waivers in accordance with 49 CFR 211.45 are found at 49 CFR 211.45(f). Specific instructions for filing comments in response to petitions for emergency waivers are found at 49 CFR 211.45(h).

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 document, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its processes. DOT posts these comments, without edit, including

any personal information the commenter provides, to [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), as described in the system of records notice (DOT/ALL-14 FDMS), which can be reviewed at [www.dot.gov/privacy](http://www.dot.gov/privacy). See also <http://www.regulations.gov/#/privacyNotice> for the privacy notice of regulations.gov.

Issued in Washington, DC.

**Robert C. Lauby,**

*Associate Administrator for Railroad Safety,  
Chief Safety Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2016-00262 Filed 1-8-16; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket Number FRA-2009-0078]

#### 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 December 21, 2015, the American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association (ASLRRA) petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) for an amended waiver of compliance from certain provisions of the Federal hours of service (HOS) laws contained at 49 U.S.C. 21103(a)(4), which, in part, require a train employee to receive 48 hours off duty after initiating an on-duty period for 6 consecutive days. FRA assigned the petition Docket Number FRA-2009-0078.

In its petition, ASLRRA seeks to amend its existing waiver to add two member railroads, the Plainsman Switching Company and the South Kansas & Oklahoma Railroad Company. The existing HOS waiver was granted in a February 27, 2012, letter from FRA. The waiver allows a train employee to initiate an on-duty period each day for 6 consecutive days followed by 24 hours, rather than 48 hours, off duty.

Each railroad that seeks to be added to the waiver executed a compliance letter, attesting that it complies with all of the employee consent requirements that FRA set forth in its initial March 5, 2010, decision letter. Additionally, each railroad will maintain the underlying employee consent or employee representative consent documents in its files for FRA inspection.

A copy of the petition, as well as any written communications concerning the petition, is available for review online at [www.regulations.gov](http://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 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 February 25, 2016 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 document, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its processes. DOT posts these comments, without edit, including any personal information the commenter provides, to [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), as described in the system of records notice (DOT/ALL-14 FDMS), which can be reviewed at [www.dot.gov/privacy](http://www.dot.gov/privacy). See also <http://www.regulations.gov/#/privacyNotice> for the privacy notice of regulations.gov.

**Robert C. Lauby,**

*Associate Administrator for Railroad Safety,  
Chief Safety Officer.*

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