

the objectives of Section 6(b)(5)⁹ in particular, in that it is designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of free and open market and a national market system, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

C. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received From Members, Participants, or Others

Written comments on the proposed rule change were neither solicited nor received.

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

The proposed rule change has been filed by the Exchange as a "non-controversial" rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act¹⁰ and subparagraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder.¹¹ Because the foregoing proposed rule change: (i) Does not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (ii) does not impose any significant burden on competition; and (iii) by its terms, does not become operative for 30 days after the date of the filing, it has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act¹² and Rule 19b-4(f)(6).¹³ The Exchange also provided the Commission with written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change, along with a brief description and text of the proposed rule change, at least five business days prior to the date of the filing of the proposed rule change. At any time within 60 days of the filing of such proposed rule change, the Commission may summarily abrogate such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views and arguments concerning the foregoing,

including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Persons making written submissions should file six copies thereof with the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549-0609. Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for inspection and copying in the Commission's Public Reference Section. Copies of such filing will also be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the PCX. All submissions should refer to File No. SR-PCX-2001-20 and should be submitted by May 24, 2001.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.¹⁴

Margaret H. McFarland,
Deputy Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

**Environmental Impact Statement:
Shelby County, Tennessee and Desoto
County, Mississippi**

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The FHWA is issuing this notice to advise the public that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be prepared for Section 9 of proposed Interstate 69 in Desoto County, MS and Shelby County, TN beginning near Hernando, MS and extending to Millington, TN.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Mark Doctor, Field Operations Team Leader, Federal Highway Administration, 640 Grassmere Park, Suite 112, Nashville, Tennessee 37211, Telephone: (615) 781-5788

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FHWA, in cooperation with the Tennessee Department of Transportation and Mississippi Department of Transportation will prepare an Environmental Impact

Statement (EIS) on a proposal to provide a divided freeway facility from Interstate 55 (I-55) and State Route (S.R.) 304 near Hernando in Desoto County, Mississippi to US 51/S.R. 385 near Millington in Shelby County, Tennessee. Two general corridors, A and B, are being studied. Corridor A will pass through the city of Memphis and will generally follow the existing interstate system from I-55/S.R. 304 in Hernando, MS to US 51/S.R. 385 near Millington. Corridor B will be east of Memphis and will begin at I-55/S.R. 304 in Hernando, MS and end at US 51/S.R. 385 near Millington. The proposed project will be 64 to 96 kilometers (40 to 60 miles) in length depending on which alternative alignment is selected.

This proposed improvement is a section of independent utility of the Congressionally-designated High Priority Corridor 18, or future Interstate 69 which proposes to construct Interstate 69 from Port Huron, Michigan to the lower Rio Grande Valley in Texas. The overall purpose of this corridor is to improve international and interstate trade and to facilitate economic development.

Alternatives to be considered are: (1) Taking no action (no-build); (2) three build alternatives in Corridor A and three build alternatives in Corridor B. All alternatives will have a full control of access freeway design and will be on both existing and new location and (3) other alternatives that may arise from public and agency input. Incorporated into and studied with the build alternatives will be design variations of grade and alignment.

Initial coordination letters describing the proposed action and soliciting comments will be sent to appropriate Federal, State and local agencies, and to private organizations and citizens who have previously expressed or are known to have an interest in this proposal. A public hearing will be held upon completion of the Draft EIS and public notice will be given of the time and place of the hearing. The Draft EIS will be available for public and agency review and comment prior to the public hearing. A formal scoping meeting and public involvement meetings are planned for late Spring 2001.

To ensure that the full range of issues related to this proposed action are addressed and all significant issues identified, comments and suggestions are invited from all interested parties. Comments or questions concerning this proposed action and the EIS should be directed to the FHWA at the address provided above.

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

¹⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹¹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

¹² 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹³ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

¹⁴ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number 20.205, Highway Planning and Construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 12372 regarding intergovernmental consultation on Federal Programs and activities apply to this program.)

Issued on: April 26, 2001.

Gary D. Corino,

*Tennessee Assistant Division Administrator,
Nashville.*

[FR Doc. 01-11047 Filed 5-2-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

Petition for Waiver of Compliance

In accordance with Part 211 of Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), notice is hereby given that the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) received a request for a waiver of compliance with certain requirements of its safety standards. The individual petition is described below including the party seeking relief, the regulatory provisions involved, the nature of the relief being requested and the petitioner's arguments in favor of relief.

United States Department of the Interior

[Docket Number FRA-2001-9012]

The United States Department of the Interior on behalf of Steam Town National Historic Site seeks a waiver of compliance with the Inspection and Maintenance Standards for Steam Locomotives, 49 CFR Part 230, published November 17, 1999. Section 230.3(c) of the standards requires steam locomotives having flue tubes replaced prior to September 25, 1995, have a one thousand four hundred seventy-two service day inspection [49 CFR 230.17] performed prior to being allowed to operate under the requirements. The Steam Town National Historic Site seeks this waiver for one locomotive number CP 2317, which had the flue tubes replaced and was returned to service in July of 1998. Steam Town National Historic Site was unaware of the requirement to file for special consideration and failed to meet the cut off filing date of January 18, 2001.

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-2001-9012) and must be submitted in triplicate to the Docket Clerk, DOT Central Docket Management Facility, Room P1-401, Washington, DC 20590-0001. Communications received within 45 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 a.m.-5 p.m.) at DOT Central Docket Management Facility, Room P1-401 (Plaza Level), 400 Seventh Street SW., Washington, DC. 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 23, 2001.

Grady C. Cothen, Jr.,

Deputy Associate Administrator for Safety Standards and Program Development.

[FR Doc. 01-11085 Filed 5-2-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

Petition for Waiver of Compliance

In accordance with Part 211 of Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), notice is hereby given that the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) received a request for a waiver of compliance with certain requirements of its safety standards. The individual petition is described below including the party seeking relief, the regulatory provisions involved, the nature of the relief being requested, and the petitioner's arguments in favor of relief.

Long Island Rail Road

[Docket Number FRA-2000-8588]

Long Island Rail Road (LIRR) seeks a waiver of compliance with the Safety Appliance Safety Standards, 49 CFR part 231.14, which requires that sill steps be mounted utilizing mechanical fasteners. They request that the waiver be granted for one hundred twenty-one bi-level passenger coaches and twenty-three bi-level control car locomotives manufactured by Kawasaki. The waiver, if granted, would allow sill steps located at the four corners and two located on each side of the equipment, at the side

door locations, to be mechanical fastened to a bracket that is welded to a tubular side sill. The railroad states that the equipment is a center sill-less design and is supported by two tubular side sills and to mechanically fasten the step to the car would require drilling the sill which would weaken it.

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-2000-8588) and must be submitted to the Docket Clerk, DOT Central Docket Management Facility, Room P1-401, Washington, DC 20590-0001. Communications received within 45 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 a.m.-5 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 27, 2001.

Grady C. Cothen, Jr.,

Deputy Associate Administrator for Safety Standards and Program Development.

[FR Doc. 01-11084 Filed 5-2-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Research and Special Programs Administration

[Docket RSPA-98-4957 Notice 26]

Request for Public Comment

AGENCY: Research and Special Programs Administration, DOT.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA) published its request to renew its information collection "Reporting of Safety-Related Conditions on Gas, Hazardous Liquid