

and equipped with fuel tanks that do not meet the FMCSA's requirements that fuel tanks be capable of receiving fuel at a rate of at least 20 gallons per minute, and be labeled or marked by the manufacturer to certify compliance with the design criteria. The FMCSA believes the terms and conditions of the exemptions have ensured a level of safety that is equivalent to the level of safety that would be achieved by complying with the regulations, and that renewing the exemptions would not adversely affect highway safety. The exemptions, if renewed, would continue to preempt inconsistent State and local requirements applicable to interstate commerce.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before January 28, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Deborah M. Freund, Office of Bus and Truck Standards and Operations, (202) 366-4009, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001. Office hours are from 7:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Electronic Access

You can mail or deliver comments to the U.S. Department of Transportation, Dockets Management Facility, Room PL-401, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001. You can also submit comments electronically at <http://dms.dot.gov>. Please include the docket number that appears in the heading of this document. You can examine and copy this document and all comments received at the same Internet address or at the Dockets Management Facility from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. If you want to know that we received your comments, please include a self-addressed, stamped postcard or include a copy of the acknowledgement page that appears after you submit comments electronically.

Background

GM's Application for Exemptions

GM previously applied for exemptions from 49 CFR 393.67(c)(7)(ii), which requires that certain fuel tank systems on CMVs be designed to permit a fill rate of at least 20 gallons (75.7 liters) per minute, and 49 CFR 393.67(f)(2) and (f)(3), which require that liquid fuel tanks be marked with the manufacturer's name and a certification that the tank conforms to all applicable rules in § 393.67, respectively.

On December 20, 1999 (64 FR 71186), the FHWA published a notice of intent to grant GM's applications. The FHWA requested public comment on GM's applications and the agency's safety analysis, and presented other relevant information known to the agency. After considering all the comments received, the agency granted the exemptions on April 26, 2000 (65 FR 24531). In that notice (at 24532-24533), the agency noted that the 20 gallon per minute rate referenced in the FMCSA's regulations, while appropriate for diesel fuel-powered vehicles, mandates that fill pipes on gasoline-powered vehicles be capable of receiving fuel at twice the maximum rate gasoline pumps are designed to dispense fuel. The vehicles in question are gasoline-fueled and are capable of receiving fuel at a rate of approximately 10 gallons per minute.

The exemptions covered the vehicles specified at the end of this notice for § 393.67(c)(7)(ii), Construction of liquid fuel tanks; fill pipe, and §§ 393.67(f)(2) and (f)(3)(ii) which require that liquid fuel tanks be marked with the manufacturer's name, and a certification that the tank conforms to all applicable rules in "§ 393.67, respectively.

Reason for Renewing the Exemptions

The FMCSA intends to renew the exemptions because the commercial motor vehicles covered by the exemptions are still in operation, and the agency is not aware of any information, anecdotal or otherwise, that would suggest that the level safety for the exempted vehicles is not equivalent to the level of safety of that would have been achieved if the vehicles complied with §§ 393.67(c)(7)(ii), 393.67(f)(2), and 393.67(f)(3)(ii). No interested parties have contacted the FMCSA or submitted comments to the docket since the exemption was granted on April 26, 2000, indicating that any aspects of the exemptions have had an adverse effect on highway safety. Accordingly, the agency is proposing to renew the exemptions for another two-year period.

Terms and Conditions for the Exemption Renewal

The FMCSA would continue to provide exemptions to §§ 393.67(c)(7)(ii), 393.67(f)(2), and 393.67(f)(3)(ii) for motor carriers operating GM G-Vans (Chevrolet Express and GMC Savanna) and full-sized C/K trucks (Chevrolet Silverado and GMC Sierra) with gross vehicle weight ratings over 10,000 pounds. The exemption renewal would be effective upon publication in the **Federal Register** pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(1)

and would be valid for two years from the date of approval, unless revoked earlier by the FMCSA. GM, or any of the affected motor carriers, may apply to the FMCSA for another renewal of the exemption. The exemption would continue to preempt inconsistent State or local requirements applicable to interstate commerce.

As with the original exemption, the motor carriers operating these vehicles would not be required to maintain documentation concerning the exemption because the vehicles have markings that would enable enforcement officials to identify them. The vehicles covered by the exemptions can be identified by their vehicle identification numbers (VINs). The VINs contain either a "J" or a "K" in the fourth position of the VIN. In addition, the seventh position of the VINs on the G-Van would contain a "1."

Request for Comments

In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31315 and 31136(e), the FMCSA is requesting public comment from all interested persons on the exemption renewal. All comments received before the close of business on the comment closing date indicated at the beginning of this notice will be considered and will be available for examination in the docket at the location listed under the address section of this notice. Comments received after the comment closing date will be filed in the public docket and will be considered to the extent practicable, but the FMCSA may renew the exemptions at any time after the close of the comment period. In addition to late comments, the FMCSA will also continue to file, in the public docket, relevant information that becomes available after the comment closing date. Interested persons should continue to examine the public docket for new material.

Issued on: December 20, 2001.

Joseph M. Clapp,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 01-31737 Filed 12-26-01; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4910-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Transit Administration

[FTA Docket No. FTA-2001-11218]

Notice of Request for the Extension of Currently Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Federal Transit Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the intention of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to request the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to extend the following currently approved information collection: 49 U.S.C. Section 5335(a) and (b) National Transit Database

DATES: Comments must be submitted before February 25, 2002.

ADDRESSES: All written comments must refer to the docket number that appears at the top of this document and be submitted to the United States Department of Transportation, Central Dockets Office, PL-401, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590. All comments received will be available for examination at the above address from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. Those desiring notification of receipt of comments must include a self-addressed, stamped postcard/envelope.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

—Gary Delorme, National Transit Database Manager, Office of Program Management (202) 366-1652.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Interested parties are invited to send comments regarding any aspect of this information collection, including: (1) The necessity and utility of the information collection for the proper performance of the functions of the FTA; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the collected information; and (4) ways to minimize the collection burden without reducing the quality of the collected information. Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection.

Title: 49 U.S.C. Section 5335(a) and (b) (*OMB Number:* 2132-0008).

Background: 49 U.S.C. Section 5335(a) and (b) require the Secretary of Transportation to maintain a reporting system by uniform categories to accumulate mass transportation financial and operating information and a uniform system of accounts and records. Each year, transit authorities that receive FTA funding submit data to the National Transit Database. The data that is submitted is used in statutory formulae to apportion over \$4 billion in federal funds back to those agencies. In addition, federal, state, and local governments, transit agencies/boards, labor unions, manufacturers, researchers, consultants and universities use the National Transit Database for

making transit related decisions. State and local governments also use the National Transit Database in allocating funds under 49 U.S.C. Section 5307. National Transit Database information is essential for understanding cost, ridership and other national performance trends, including transit's share of urban travel. It would be difficult to determine the future structure of FTA programs, to set policy, and to make funding and other decisions relating to the efficiency and effectiveness of the Nation's transit operations without the National Transit Database.

Respondents: State and local government, business or other for-profit institutions, non-profit institutions, and small business organizations.

Estimated Annual Burden on

Respondents: 412 hours for each of the 578 respondents.

Estimated Total Annual Burden:

238,136 hours.

Frequency: Annual.

Issued: December 20, 2001.

Dorrie Y. Aldrich,

Associate Administrator for Administration.

[FR Doc. 01-31840 Filed 12-26-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Ex Parte No. 290 (Sub No. 5) (2002-1)]

Quarterly Rail Cost Adjustment Factor

AGENCY: Surface Transportation Board.

ACTION: Approval of rail cost adjustment factor.

SUMMARY: The Board has approved the first quarter 2002 rail cost adjustment factor (RCAF) and cost index filed by the Association of American Railroads. The first quarter 2002 RCAF (Unadjusted) is 1.076. The first quarter 2002 RCAF (Adjusted) is 0.576. The first quarter 2002 RCAF-5 is 0.551.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: H. Jeff Warren, (202) 565-1533. Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) for the hearing impaired: 1-800-877-8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Additional information is contained in the Board's decision. To purchase a copy of the full decision, write to, call, or pick up in person from the Board's contractor, Dā-To-Dā Legal, Suite 405, 1925 K Street, NW, Washington, DC 20006, phone (202) 293-7776.

[Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through TDD services 1 (800) 877-8339.]

This action will not significantly affect either the quality of the human environment or energy conservation.

Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 605(b), we conclude that our action will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities within the meaning of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

Decided: December 19, 2001.

By the Board, Chairman Morgan, Vice Chairman Clyburn, and Commission Burkes.

Vernon A. Williams,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 01-31765 Filed 12-26-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 34135]

The Fulton Railroad Co., Ltd.— Acquisition and Operation Exemption—Cincinnati Railway Company

The Fulton Railroad Co., Ltd. (Fulton), a noncarrier, has filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1150.31 to acquire from Cincinnati Railway Company and operate approximately 4,800 feet of track from a beginning point of milepost 0.0 and continuing for 4,800 feet to end of track, in the City of Cincinnati, Millcreek Township, Hamilton County, OH (line).¹

The transaction is scheduled to be consummated on or about December 15, 2001. The earliest the transaction can be consummated is December 14, 2001, the effective date of the exemption (7 days after the notice of exemption was filed).

If the verified notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void *ab initio*. Petitions to reopen the proceeding to revoke the exemption under 49 U.S.C. 10502(d) may be filed at any time. The filing of a petition to revoke will not automatically stay the transaction.

An original and 10 copies of all pleadings, referring to STB Finance Docket No. 34135 must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on Robert L. Calhoun, Esq., Redmon, Peyton & Braswell, LLP, 510 King Street, Suite 301, Alexandria, VA 22314.

¹ Fulton states that it will be the operator of the line but that it is engaging in discussions with the Indiana & Ohio Railway Company (IORY) for IORY to assume operations over the line.