

The ITAC will meet as US Study Group D from 9:30 to 3:30 on Wednesday, January 16, 2002 to prepare for meetings of ITU Study Groups 16 and 17. This meeting will be held at the Telecommunications Industry Association, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, Suite 350, Washington, DC. If preparations for SG17 are not completed at this meeting, they will be continued via email from February 6–13, 2002. Directions for joining the Study Group D email reflector for this e-mail meeting can be provided by the Secretariat (see below).

Members of the general public may attend these meetings. Directions to meeting location and actual room assignments may be determined by calling the ITAC Secretariat at 202 647–0965 or e-mail to minardje@state.gov.

Attendees may join in the discussions, subject to the instructions of the Chair. Admission of participants will be limited to seating available.

Dated: December 20, 2001.

Doreen F. McGirr,

*Director, Telecommunications Development,
U.S. Department of State.*

[FR Doc. 01–31970 Filed 12–27–01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710–45-P

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Maritime Administration

[Public Notice 3833]

[Docket No. MARAD–2001–11135]

Secretary of State's Advisory Committee on Private International Law; Study Group on International Carriage of Goods by Sea; Meeting Notice

There will be a public meeting of a study group of the Secretary of State's Advisory Committee on Private International Law on Wednesday, January 9, 2002, to consider the draft instrument on the International Carriage of Goods by Sea, as prepared by the Comité Maritime International (CMI) for the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL). The meeting will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in rooms 3200–3204 of the Nassif building at the Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC.

The purpose of the Study Group meeting is to assist the Departments of State and Transportation in determining the U.S. negotiating position for the first session of the UNCITRAL Working Group on this draft instrument, to be

held in New York from April 15 to 26, 2002.

The text prepared by CMI at the request of UNCITRAL will constitute the basic working document of the UNCITRAL Working Group. A copy of the preliminary draft convention should shortly be available on UNCITRAL's website, www.uncitral.org. Persons interested in the work of the study group may also request copies from Ms. Rosalia Gonzales by fax at 202–776–8482, by telephone at 202–776–8420 (you may leave your request, name, telephone number, e-mail, or mailing address on the answering machine), or by e-mail at gonzalez@ms.state.gov. E-mail is the most efficient way to transmit the documents.

The Study Group meeting is open to the public up to the capacity of the meeting room. Persons wishing to attend should contact Ms. Gonzales by telephone, fax, or e-mail, providing their name, affiliation, telephone and fax number, and e-mail address. Persons who wish to have their views considered are encouraged to submit written comments in advance of the meeting. Comments should refer to docket number MARAD–2001–11135. Written comments may be submitted to the Docket Clerk, U.S. DOT Dockets, Room PL–401, Department of Transportation, 400 7th St., SW., Washington, DC 20590–0001. You may also send comments electronically via the Internet at <http://dmses.dot.gov/submit/>. All comments will become part of this docket and will be available for inspection and copying at the above address between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., e.s.t., Monday through Friday, except federal holidays. An electronic version of this document along with all documents entered into this docket is available on the World Wide Web at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

Mary Helen Carlson,

Attorney-Adviser, Office of the Assistant Legal Adviser For Private International Law, U.S. Department of State.

Edmund T. Sommer, Jr.,

Chief, Division of General and International Law, Office of the Chief Counsel, Maritime Administration, U.S. Dept. of Transportation.

[FR Doc. 01–31971 Filed 12–27–01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710–08-P

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

Trade Policy Staff Committee; Extension of Deadline for the Submission of Written Comments on What Action, if Any, the President Should Take Under Section 203 of the Trade Act of 1974 With Regard to Imports of Certain Steel and Responses to Such Comments

AGENCY: Office of the United States Trade Representative.

ACTION: Extension of deadline for submission of comments and responses.

SUMMARY: The Trade Policy Staff Committee ("TPSC") is extending the deadline for the submission of written comments on what action, if any, the President should take under section 203 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2253) ("Trade Act") with regard to imports of certain steel and responses to such written comments, which were requested in a **Federal Register** notice of October 26, 2001. See 66 FR 54321 ("Notice").

DATES: The deadline for written comments on what action, if any, the President should take under section 203 of the Trade Act is being extended to January 4, 2002, and the deadline for responses to such written comments is being extended to January 15, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Office of Industry, Office of the United States Trade Representative, 600 17th Street, NW., Room 501, Washington, DC 20508. Telephone (202) 395–5656.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On October 26, 2001, the TPSC published in the **Federal Register** a request for written public comments on what action the President should take under section 203 of the Trade Act to facilitate efforts by the domestic industries producing certain steel products to make a positive adjustment to import competition and provide greater economic and social benefits than costs. See 66 FR 54321 ("Notice"). According to the Notice, the deadline for the submission of written comments on what action, if any, the President should take under section 203 of the Trade Act is December 28, 2001, and the deadline for responses to such written comments is January 8, 2002. The TPSC is extending the deadline for written comments until not later than January 4, 2002, and the deadline for responses to written comments until not later than January 15, 2002. Parties should refer to the Notice, as modified by the TPSC's **Federal Register** notice of November 29, 2001 (66 FR 59599), for

instructions for the submission of written comments.

Donald Eiss,

Acting Chair, Trade Policy Staff Committee.

[FR Doc. 01-32002 Filed 12-27-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

Environmental Impact Statement; Orange County, California

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 will be prepared for a series of proposed grade separations within the Orangethorpe Rail Corridor (a section of the Burlington Northern Santa Fe rail line) located within the Cities of Placentia and Anaheim in Orange County, California.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tay Dam, Senior Transportation Engineer, Federal Highway Administration—Los Angeles Metro Office, 201 N. Figueroa Street, Suite 1460, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Telephone: (213) 202-3954.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) rail line through Orange County is one of three main rail freight routes out of the Los Angeles area. International cargo comes into and out of the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach. The BNSF rail line serves those ports via the Alameda Corridor, a joint use line serving both the Union Pacific and BNSF railway companies, connects to the Hobart Yard outside downtown Los Angeles, and proceeds southeast through Pico Rivera and Santa Fe Springs. The line then continues through northern Orange County, the City of Corona, San Bernardino County, and, ultimately, the Gulf States and eastern United States. This proposed project is a part of the regional traffic congestion relief project called the Orange County Gateway (OCG) which is located within the limits of the Cities of Placentia, Fullerton, Anaheim, Yorba Linda, and the County of Orange.

The FHWA, as a federal lead agency, in cooperation with the Federal Railroad Administration, the California Department of Transportation, and the City of Placentia/Orange North American Trade Rail Access Corridor Authority (On Trac), will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

on a proposal to (1) Reduce traffic congestion; (2) eliminate or reduce the current and potential hazards posed by the existing at-grade crossings; (3) accommodate currently planned railroad expansion; (4) and implement transportation strategies to increase the efficiency of moving people and goods throughout the Orangethorpe Rail Corridor area.

Alternatives under consideration include (1) A no build option; (2) a series of grade separations option; and (3) a railroad trench option within the Orangethorpe Rail Corridor between Placentia Avenue and Imperial Highway in northern Orange County, California.

These basic alternatives will have additional design variations and other engineering details. A final selection of study alternatives and their subset variations will not be made until all public and agency comments are reviewed following the Scoping process.

Note: As required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, all other reasonable alternatives will be considered. These alternatives may be refined, combined with various different alternative elements, or be removed from further consideration, as more analysis is conducted on the project alternatives.

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 interest in this proposal. Public scoping meetings will be held on January 22 and 24, 2002 in the City of Placentia prior to preparation of the draft EIS. Public notice will be given of the time and place of these meetings.

Public hearing(s) will be held after the draft EIS is completed. Public notice will be given of the time and place of the hearing(s). The draft EIS will be available for public and agency review and comment prior to the formal public hearing(s).

To ensure that the full range of issues related to the proposed action are addressed and all significant issues are 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 addresses provided above.

(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: December 19, 2001.

Jeffrey W. Kolb,

Chief, District Operations-South, Sacramento, California.

[FR Doc. 01-31904 Filed 12-27-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-22-M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Maritime Administration

Presidential Memorandum of December 12, 2001; Marine War Risk Insurance Under Title XII of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936

On December 12, 2001, President George W. Bush approved the provision of vessel war risk insurance by memorandum for the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Transportation. The text of this memorandum reads:

By virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, including 3 U.S.C. 301 and section 1202 of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended (the "Act"), 46 U.S.C. App. 1282, I hereby:

Approve the provision by the Secretary of Transportation of insurance or reinsurance of vessels (including cargoes and crew) entering the Middle East region against loss or damage by war risks in the manner and to the extent approved in title XII of the Act, 46 U.S.C. App. 1281, *et seq.*, for purposes of responding to the recent terrorist attacks, whenever, after consultation with the Department of State, it appears to the Secretary of Transportation that such insurance adequate for the needs of the waterborne commerce of the United States cannot be obtained on reasonable terms and conditions from companies authorized to do an insurance business in a State of the United States. The approval is effective for 6 months.

I hereby delegate to the Secretary of Transportation, in consultation with the Secretary of State, the authority vested in me by section 1202 of the Act, to approve the provision of insurance or reinsurance for these purposes after the expiration of 6 months.

The Secretary of Transportation is directed to bring this approval to the immediate attention of all operators and to arrange for its publication in the **Federal Register**.

By Order of the Maritime Administrator.

Dated: December 21, 2001.

Murray A. Bloom,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 01-32019 Filed 12-27-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-81-P