

Issued this 24th day of November, 2009, in Washington, DC.

Peter M. Rogoff,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. E9-28532 Filed 11-24-09; 4:15 pm]

BILLING CODE P

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) has received a request for a waiver of compliance from 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.

Mohawk Adirondack and Northern Railroad Corporation

[Waiver Petition Docket Number FRA-2009-0063]

The Mohawk Adirondack and Northern Railroad (MHW), a Class III railroad, seeks a waiver of compliance from the requirements of 49 CFR 223.11 *Requirements for existing locomotives*. Specifically, MHW has petitioned FRA for a waiver for one 80-ton, 470 horsepower diesel electric locomotive numbered 1670. This locomotive was built for the United States Air Force by General Electric in March 1952.

MHW operates this locomotive on a terminal/switching railroad at the former Griffiss Air Force Base in Rome, New York, presently called the Griffiss Industrial Park. MHW operates at speeds of 10 miles per hour (or less) and hauls 1-3 cars on a twice weekly basis. The locomotive is equipped with safety laminate glass (AS-1, AS-2) and is serviced & maintained by MHW at Rome, New York. MHW states that the railroad is private and will occasionally interchange to the general system which is accomplished with CSX Railroad interchange tracks at Rome, NY.

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-2009-0063) 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 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://www.regulations.gov>.

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 document (or signing the document, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** published on April 11, 2000 (65 FR 19477) or at <http://www.dot.gov/privacy.html>.

Issued in Washington, DC on November 23, 2009.

Grady C. Cothen, Jr.,

Deputy Associate Administrator for Safety Standards and Program Development.

[FR Doc. E9-28483 Filed 11-27-09; 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) has received a request for a waiver of compliance from 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.

Association of American Railroads

[Waiver Petition Docket Number FRA-2009-0102]

The Association of American Railroads (AAR) has petitioned, on behalf of its member railroads, for a temporary waiver of compliance from the requirements of 49 CFR 232.109(g)(2), which state that locomotives placed into service for the first time on or after October 1, 2007, shall display in real-time in the cab of the controlling (lead) locomotive the total train dynamic brake retarding force available in the train. AAR petition seeks relief due to conflicts found in the common communication channel, known as "C-Band" shared by the dynamic brake system reporting (DBSR) and Electronic Controlled Pneumatic (ECP) brake systems. AAR requests this relief until January 1, 2011, to allow it the time to have conversion modules manufactured and installed on its members' locomotives.

AAR states that when locomotives equipped with ECP brakes were placed in service, it was discovered that operation of the ECP systems and DBSR conflicted due to the sharing of a common communications band, the C-Band. Consequently, AAR developed a standard (S-5509) in February 2008, providing for using the A-Band for DBSR. During the period of modification and conversion of its members' locomotives, there will be times when the total train dynamic brake retarding force required by 49 CFR 232.109(g)(2) cannot be displayed in the controlling locomotive because some locomotives will be equipped to transmit on A-Band and some on C-Band. AAR further states that during the period of conversion, the engineer shall be provided with a record of dynamic brake operational status as required by 49 CFR 232.109(a).

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-2009-

0102) 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 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 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://www.regulations.gov>.

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 document (or signing the document, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** published on April 11, 2000 (65 FR 19477) or at <http://www.dot.gov/privacy.html>.

Issued in Washington, DC on November 23, 2009.

Grady C. Cothen, Jr.,

Deputy Associate Administrator for Safety Standards and Program Development.

[FR Doc. E9-28482 Filed 11-27-09; 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) has received a request for a waiver of compliance from 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.

Union Pacific Railroad Company

[Docket Number FRA-2007-28454]

By a letter dated January 16, 2009, FRA granted conditional relief in response to the petition filed by the Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP) for a waiver of compliance from 49 CFR 232.305(b)(2) *Single car air brake tests* as it relates to UP's in-train wheel-set replacement program. Specifically, UP sought relief from the regulation to the extent necessary to permit the replacement of non-FRA-condemnable wheel-sets on railcars as part of an in-train wheel-set replacement program without the need to also perform single car air brake tests (SCABT) as required by § 232.305(b)(2), if the car has not received a SCABT within the previous 12 months. UP now, by a letter dated June 5, 2009, seeks revision of Condition 6 of FRA's January 16, 2009, letter. Condition 6 requires the identification and removal of *wheels exerting 100 kips or greater, or exerting 90 kips and an acoustic bearing detector defect, when the car is empty at the first in-train wheel replacement location*. UP's complete request can be reviewed at <http://www.regulations.gov> under the docket number listed above.

UP states that the threshold of "100 kips" in Condition 6 is onerous, is contrary to UP's and other railroads experience of this threshold as being close to 140 kips, is not a requirement in 49 CFR regulations, is an unnecessarily strict standard exclusive to UP's in-train wheel-set replacement program, places UP in a different category than other railroads, and hampers UP's innovative and voluntary effort to improve safety by allowing it to replace an increased numbers of wheel-sets with incipient defects. As a result, UP requests that FRA modify this condition to require replacement of wheels exerting 140 kips or greater, or wheels exerting 90 kips in conjunction with acoustic bearing detector defects.

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-2007-28454) 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, D.C. 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

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://www.regulations.gov>.

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 comment, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** published on April 11, 2000 (Volume 65, Number 70; Pages 19477–78).

Issued in Washington, DC on November 23, 2009.

Grady C. Cothen, Jr.,

Deputy Associate Administrator for Safety Standards and Program Development.

[FR Doc. E9-28480 Filed 11-27-09; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[Docket No. FMCSA-1999-5578; FMCSA-1999-5748; FMCSA-2001-9258; FMCSA-2002-12844; FMCSA-2003-15892; FMCSA-2005-21711]

Qualification of Drivers; Exemption Applications; Vision

AGENCY: Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of renewal of exemptions; request for comments.

SUMMARY: FMCSA announces its decision to renew the exemptions from the vision requirement in the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations for 22