

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION****Federal Highway Administration**

[Docket No. FHWA-2018-0027]

**Agency Information Collection****Activities: Request for Comments for the Renewal of a Previously Approved Information Collection****AGENCY:** Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, this notice announces that FHWA will submit the collection of information described below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on the following collection of information was published on December 6, 2017. The PRA submission describes the nature of the information collection and its expected cost and burden.

**DATES:** Please submit comments by May 23, 2018.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments identified by DOT Docket ID 2018-0027 by any of the following methods:

**Website:** For access to the docket to read background documents or comments received go to the Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

**Fax:** 1-202-493-2251.

**Mail:** Docket Management Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590-0001.

**Hand Delivery or Courier:** U.S. Department of Transportation, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. ET, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jeff Purdy, 202-366-6993, Office of Freight Management & Operations (HOFM-1), Office of Operations, Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue Southeast, Washington, DC 20590. Office hours are from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Title:** USDOT Survey and Comparative Assessment of Truck Parking Facilities.

**Background:** U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) is directed to

complete a survey and comparative assessment of truck parking facilities in each State as required by Section 1401(c) of *Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century* (MAP-21). MAP-21 Section 1401(c) required the survey in order to evaluate the capability of the States to provide adequate parking and rest facilities for commercial motor vehicles engaged in interstate transportation. Other work activities required under this section of MAP-21 were: An assessment of the volume of commercial motor vehicle traffic in each State and the development of a system of metrics designed to measure the adequacy of commercial motor vehicle truck parking facilities in each state. A survey was conducted in 2014 and is available at: [https://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/freight/infrastructure/truck\\_parking/jasons\\_law/truckparkingsurvey/index.htm](https://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/freight/infrastructure/truck_parking/jasons_law/truckparkingsurvey/index.htm). MAP-21 Section 1401(c)(3) called for periodic updates to the survey, which is the intent of the proposed updated survey. The results of this updated survey shall be made available on a publicly accessible Department of Transportation website and updated periodically USDOT seeks to continue to collect data to support updates to the survey.

**Respondents:** State Transportation and Enforcement Officials, Private Sector Facility Owners/Operators, Trucking Company owners or their designee, and Truck Drivers. The target groups of respondents are individuals who are responsible for providing or overseeing the operation of truck parking facilities and stakeholders that depend on such facilities to safely conduct their business. The target group identified in the legislation is "state commercial vehicle safety personnel;" the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has interpreted this term to include the Department of Transportation personnel in each State involved in commercial vehicle safety program activities and State enforcement agency personnel directly involved in enforcing highway safety laws and regulations and in highway incident and accident response. In addition, FHWA finds that the survey on the adequacy of truck parking opportunities is not limited to publicly owned facilities; input from private sector facility owners/operators must be obtained to adequately complete the required work provided in the federal legislation. FHWA also finds that input obtained from trucking company representatives (owners or their designees, especially those in logistics or who schedule drivers) and truck drivers, key stakeholders for truck

parking facilities who are most likely to know where truck parking is needed, will be necessary to complete the survey requirements. As per MAP-21 Section 1401(c)(3), this survey will be conducted periodically to allow for required updates.

**Types of Survey Questions:** FHWA intends to survey Department of Transportation personnel in each State on the location, number of spaces, availability and demand for truck parking in their State, including at rest facilities, truck parking information systems, truck parking plans, as well as any impediments to providing adequate truck parking capacity (including but not limited to legislative, regulatory, or financial issues; zoning; public and private impacts, approval, and participation; availability of land; insurance requirements and other issues). FHWA intends to survey private truck stop operators in each State on the location, number of truck parking spaces, availability and demand they observe at their facilities. FHWA intends to survey public safety officials in each State on their records and observations of truck parking use and patterns, including the location and frequency of trucks parked adjacent to roadways and on exit and entrance ramps to roadway facilities. FHWA intends to survey trucking companies and truck drivers regarding the location and frequency of insufficient truck parking and capacity at rest facilities, future truck parking needs and locations, availability of information on truck parking capacity, and other impediments to identification, access and use of truck parking. Other questions may be included as needed as a result of input from the focus groups, stakeholder outreach or at FHWA's discretion, or as follow-up to the survey.

**Estimate:**

State Departments of Transportation = 50 (4 hours each) = up to 200 hours;  
 State Enforcement Personnel = 50 (1 hour each) = up to 50 hours;  
 Private Facility Owners/Operators = 229 (1 hour each) = up to 229 hours; and  
 Trucking Company Representatives and Drivers = 150 (1 hour each) = up to 150 hours;

Total number of respondents = 479 for the survey.

Total burden hours = no more than 629 hours (as allocated above).

**Estimated Total Annual Burden:** This survey will be updated periodically; the estimated total burden for each survey cycle for all respondents is no more than 629 hours.

**Public Comments Invited:** You are asked to comment on any aspect of this information collection, including: (1)

Whether the proposed collection is necessary for the FHWA's performance; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burdens; (3) ways for the FHWA to enhance the quality, usefulness, and clarity of the collected information; and (4) ways that the burden could be minimized, including the use of electronic technology, without reducing the quality of the collected information. The agency will summarize and/or include your comments in the request for OMB's clearance of this information collection.

**Authority:** The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995; 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended; and 49 CFR 1.48.

Issued On: April 17, 2018.

**Michael Howell,**

*Information Collection Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2018-08394 Filed 4-20-18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-22-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket No. FRA-2018-0037; Notice No. 1]  
[Draft Safety Advisory 2018-01]

#### **Draft Safety Advisory Related to Temporary Signal Suspensions** **AGENCY: Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), Department of Transportation (DOT)**

**ACTION:** Notice of draft Safety Advisory; request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** This document provides notice of FRA's intent to issue a Safety Advisory addressing railroad operations under temporary signal suspensions. The Safety Advisory would identify existing industry best practices railroads utilize when implementing temporary signal suspensions and would recommend that railroads conducting rail operations under temporary signal suspensions develop and implement procedures and practices consistent with the identified best practices. The Safety Advisory would also recommend that railroads take certain other actions to ensure the safety of railroad operations during temporary signal suspensions. FRA believes that actions consistent with the draft Safety Advisory will reduce the risk of serious injury or death both to railroad employees and members of the public. FRA invites public comment on all aspects of the draft Safety Advisory.

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on the draft Safety Advisory provided below on or before June 22, 2018.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments in response to this notice may be submitted by any of the following methods:

- **Website:** The Federal eRulemaking Portal, [www.Regulations.gov](http://www.Regulations.gov). Follow the website's online instructions for submitting comments.

- **Fax:** 202-493-2251.

- **Mail:** Docket Management Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590.

- **Hand Delivery:** Docket Management Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Room W12-140 on the Ground level of the West Building, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

**Instructions:** All submissions must include the agency name, docket name, and docket number for this notice, Docket No. FRA-2018-0037; Notice No. 1. Note that all comments received will be posted without change to <http://www.Regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided. Please see the Privacy Act Statement in this document.

#### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Douglas Taylor, Staff Director, Operating Practices, Office of Railroad Safety, FRA, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590, telephone (202) 493-6255; or Carolyn Hayward-Williams, Staff Director, Signal & Train Control Division, Office of Railroad Safety, FRA, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590, telephone (202) 493-6399.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **Draft Safety Advisory**

A review of FRA's accident/incident data shows that overall, rail transportation, both passenger and freight, is safe. However, recent rail accidents occurring in areas where a railroad has temporarily suspended the signal system, typically for purposes of maintenance, repair, or installation of additional components for a new or existing system, demonstrate that rail operations during the signal suspension present increased safety risks. Further, these accidents show that if the increased risks associated with rail operations under a temporary signal suspension are not addressed, serious unsafe conditions and practices are introduced into rail transportation.

Most recently, on February 4, 2018, both the engineer and conductor of National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) Train P09103 were killed and 115 passengers injured,<sup>1</sup> when their

<sup>1</sup> Including 92 individuals who were transported to medical facilities for treatment and 23 people

train collided head-on with a CSX Transportation, Inc. freight train (Train F77703). The collision occurred at approximately 2:27 a.m. in Cayce, South Carolina when the Amtrak train, traveling south from New York City, New York, to Miami, Florida, and operating on a track warrant, was diverted from the main track through a misaligned switch. The misaligned switch sent the Amtrak train into the siding where the CSX train was parked, resulting in a head-on collision with an impact speed of 50 miles per hour (mph). The lead locomotive and six of the seven cars in the Amtrak train derailed. At the time of the accident, eight Amtrak crew members and 139 passengers were on board the train.

While the cause of the February 4, 2018, accident has not yet been determined, FRA's preliminary investigation indicates that despite the CSX train crew reporting to the train dispatcher that the switch was lined correctly, the crew did not restore the main track switch to its normal position as required by Federal regulation (49 CFR 218.105) and CSX's own operating rules. Instead, it appears the crew left the switch misaligned in the reverse position (*i.e.*, lined for the siding, not the main line). Amtrak Train P09103 was the next train to traverse this location. The misaligned switch diverted the Amtrak train into the siding and into the standing CSX train parked on the siding. Notably, CSX signal personnel had suspended the signal system for the area where the accident occurred to upgrade the system with positive train control (PTC) technology.<sup>2</sup> Signal personnel had stopped working for the day at the time of the accident, yet the temporary signal suspension remained in place.

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is investigating this accident under its legal authority. 49 U.S.C. 1101 *et seq.*; 49 CFR 831.2(b). As is customary, FRA is participating in the NTSB's investigation and is also investigating the accident under its own authority. 49 U.S.C. 20902; 49 CFR 1.89(a). While NTSB has not yet issued any formal findings, on February 13, 2018, NTSB issued a Safety Recommendation Report<sup>3</sup> regarding

who received first aid at a triage area established near the accident site.

<sup>2</sup> PTC is a system designed to prevent train-to-train collisions, overspeed derailments, incursions into established work zone limits, and the movement of a train through a switch left in the wrong position, as described in subpart I of 49 CFR part 236 and 49 U.S.C. 20157(i)(5).

<sup>3</sup> NTSB, Safety Recommendation Report: Train Operation During Signal Suspension, Report No. RSR-18/01, Recommendation No. R-18-005 (Feb.