

the Secretary to establish a technical advisory committee to collect and evaluate technical input from appropriate Federal, State, and local officials with responsibility for transportation; transportation and trade associations; emergency management officials; freight providers; the general public; and other entities and persons determined to be appropriate by the Secretary to ensure a diverse range of views. (SAFETEA-LU, § 1909(b)(8)). The Surface Transportation Policy and Revenue Technical Advisory Committee is necessary and in the public interest.

**A. Notice Of Intent To Establish An Advisory Committee And Request For Comment:** In accordance with the requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA, 5 U.S.C. App. 2), an agency of the Federal government cannot establish or utilize a group of people in the interest of obtaining consensus advice or recommendations unless that group is chartered as a Federal advisory committee. The purpose of this notice is to indicate the DOT's intent to create a Federal advisory committee to collect and evaluate technical input as directed in section 1909(b)(8) of the SAFETEA-LU.

**B. Name Of Committee:** Surface Transportation Policy and Revenue Technical Advisory Committee (STPR-TAC).

**C. Purpose And Objective:** The STPR-TAC will collect comments and evaluate technical information provided by stakeholders regarding the needs and financing of surface transportation as described in sections 1909(b)(5), (6), and (7). The STPR-TAC will report directly to the Secretary of Transportation. With the Secretary's approval, the TAC may assist with the work of the Revenue Commission including assisting with the collection and evaluation of technical information on the needs and financing of surface transportation as described in sections 1909(b)(5), (6), and (7) of SAFETEA-LU. With the Secretary's approval, and at the request of the Revenue Commission, the TAC, or individual TAC members, may be asked to assist with the incorporation of their work into the Revenue Commission's report to Congress. This may include drafting specific sections of the report or providing substantive technical reviews of the report, as it is prepared. The TAC may also participate in other matters closely related to the work of the Revenue Commission as approved by the Secretary.

The STPR-TAC will not exercise program management or regulatory development responsibilities and will make no decisions directly affecting the programs on which it provides advice.

The STPR-TAC will provide technical advice to the Secretary of Transportation, or as directed to the Revenue Commission, from a knowledgeable and independent perspective.

**D. Balanced Membership Plans:** The TAC's membership shall be large enough to promote deliberations, but shall include only the number necessary to ensure the breadth and balance of expertise required to accomplish its purpose. Members of the TAC should possess the requisite skills and abilities to collect technical information and to provide meaningful advice and recommendations on the needs and financing of surface transportation as described in sections 1909(b)(5), (6), and (7).

This document gives notice of the purpose of the STPR-TAC and affords those interested working on the STPR-TAC the opportunity to submit an application to the DOT. The procedure for submitting an application is set out in paragraph E of this notice.

The DOT is aware that there are many more potential organizations and participants than there are membership opportunities on the STPR-TAC. It is very important to recognize that interested persons who are not selected for membership on the STPR-TAC can make valuable contributions to the work of the STPR-TAC. Interested persons and organizations may request to be placed on the STPR-TAC mailing list and may submit written comments to the STPR-TAC.

Advisory committee meetings must be open to the public except where closed or partially-closed, as determined proper and consistent with the exemptions of the Government in the Sunshine Act, 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(3). Any member of the public is welcome to attend the open STPR-TAC meetings, and, as provided in FACA, may contact and communicate with the STPR-TAC directly. Time will be set-aside during open meetings for this purpose, consistent with the STPR-TAC's need for sufficient time to complete its deliberations.

**E. Applications for Membership:** Each application for membership or nomination to the STPR-TAC should include:

(1) The name of the applicant or nominee and a statement of interest in the purpose and objectives of the STPR-TAC;

(2) References and a justification in support of the applicant's or nominee's unique qualifications for participation on the TAC; and

(3) A written commitment that the applicant or nominee would participate in good faith.

Every effort will be made to select STPR-TAC members who can make significant contributions to the advisory committee's efforts. A balance is needed and weight is given to a variety of factors including, but not limited to, geographical distribution, gender, minority status, organization, and expertise.

**F. Duration:** The STPR-TAC will terminate 2 years after the date of the filing of the STPR-TAC charter unless prior to that time the charter is extended in accordance with the FACA and other applicable requirements.

**G. Notice of Establishment:** After evaluating applications as a result of this Notice, the Department will issue a notice announcing the establishment and composition of the STPR-TAC.

(Authority: Section 1909(b)(8) of Pub. L. 109-59)

Issued on: July 27, 2006.

**Maria Cino,**

*Acting Secretary of Transportation.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Highway Administration

#### Environment Impact Statement: Jefferson and St. Clair Counties, AL

**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 a proposed highway project in Jefferson and St. Clair Counties, Alabama.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Catherine A. Batey, Acting Division Administrator, Federal Highway Administration, Alabama Division Office, 500 Eastern Blvd, Suite 200, Montgomery, AL 36117-2018, Telephone: (334) 223-7370.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The FHWA, in cooperation with the Alabama Department of Transportation, will prepare an EIS for Federal-aid Project STPAA-PE00(6). The proposed project would involve an extension of the Birmingham Northern Beltline from Interstate 59 in Trussville, Jefferson County, to Interstate 20 in the vicinity of Leeds, St. Clair County, Alabama, for a distance of about 10 miles.

The Birmingham Northern Beltline is a planned limited access facility

intended to provide a circumferential expressway system around the Birmingham metropolitan area. The extension of the Beltline that is proposed under this project is considered necessary to provide a connecting link between Interstate 59 to Interstate 20.

Alternatives under consideration include (1) Taking no action; and (2) constructing a new multi-lane, limited access highway on new location. Incorporated into and studied with the various build alternatives within the corridor study limits, will be proposed interchange locations and designs at the crossing of U.S. 411 (S.R. 20) and the route terminus at Interstate 20.

Input for further defining the purpose and need for the proposed project and additional alternatives will be accomplished via the following. 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. Agencies will also be invited by letter to attend a formal Scoping Meeting. A series of public meetings will be held within the corridor study area. In addition, a public hearing will be held upon approval of the Draft EIS. The Draft EIS will be available for public and agency review and comment prior to the public hearing. Public notice will be given of the time and place of the meetings and hearing. 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 should be directed to the FHWA contact person identified in the address 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 July 27, 2006.

**Bill Van Luchene,**

*Acting Division Administrator, Montgomery, AL.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Railroad Administration

#### Proposed Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Federal Railroad Administration, DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice and Request For Comments.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this notice announces that the Information Collection Requirements (ICRs) abstracted below have been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The ICRs describe the nature of the information collection and their expected burden. The **Federal Register** notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on the following collections of information was published on May 15, 2006 (71 FR 28076).

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted on or before September 1, 2006.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Robert Brogan, Office of Planning and Evaluation Division, RRS-21, Federal Railroad Administration, 1120 Vermont Ave., NW., Mail Stop 17, Washington, DC 20590 (telephone: (202) 493-6292), or Victor Angelo, Office of Support Systems, RAD-43, Federal Railroad Administration, 1120 Vermont Ave., NW., Mail Stop 35, Washington, DC 20590 (telephone: (202) 493-6470). (These telephone numbers are not toll-free.)

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), Pub. L. No. 104-13, § 2, 109 Stat. 163 (1995) (codified as revised at 44 U.S.C. 3501-3520), and its implementing regulations, 5 CFR Part 1320, require Federal agencies to issue two notices seeking public comment on information collection activities before OMB may approve paperwork packages. 44 U.S.C. 3506, 3507; 5 CFR 1320.5, 1320.8(d)(1), 1320.12. On May 15, 2006, FRA published a 60-day notice in the **Federal Register** soliciting comment on ICRs that the agency was seeking OMB approval. 71 FR 28076. FRA received no comments in response to this notice.

Before OMB decides whether to approve this proposed collection of information, it must provide 30 days for public comment. 44 U.S.C. 3507(b); 5 CFR 1320.12(d). Federal law requires OMB to approve or disapprove paperwork packages between 30 and 60 days after the 30-day notice is

published. 44 U.S.C. 3507 (b)-(c); 5 CFR 1320.12(d); see also 60 FR 44978, 44983, Aug. 29, 1995. OMB believes that the 30-day notice informs the regulated community to file relevant comments and affords the agency adequate time to digest public comments before it renders a decision. 60 FR 44983, Aug. 29, 1995. Therefore, respondents should submit their respective comments to OMB within 30 days of publication to best ensure having their full effect. 5 CFR 1320.12(c); see also 60 FR 44983, Aug. 29, 1995.

The summaries below describe the nature of the information collection requirements (ICRs) and the expected burden. The revised requirements are being submitted for clearance by OMB as required by the PRA.

**Title:** State Safety Participation Regulations and Remedial Actions.

**OMB Control Number:** 2130-0509.

**Type of Request:** Extension of a currently approved collection.

**Affected Public:** Businesses.

**Form(s):** 6180.33/61/67/96/96A/109/110/111/112.

**Abstract:** The collection of information is set forth under 49 CFR Part 212, and requires qualified state inspectors to provide various reports to FRA for monitoring and enforcement purposes concerning state investigative, inspection, and surveillance activities regarding railroad compliance with Federal railroad safety laws and regulations. Additionally, railroads are required to report to FRA actions taken to remedy certain alleged violations of law.

**Annual Estimated Burden Hours:** 10,359.

**Title:** Certification of Glazing Materials.

**OMB Control Number:** 2130-0525.

**Type of Request:** Extension of a currently approved collection.

**Affected Public:** Businesses.

**Form(s):** N/A.

**Abstract:** The collection of information is set forth under 49 CFR Part 223, which requires the certification and permanent marking of glazing materials by the manufacturer. The manufacturer is also responsible for making available test verification data to railroads and FRA upon request. Annual Estimated Burden Hours: 119.

**Addressee:** Send comments regarding these information collections to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, 725 Seventeenth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20503; Attention: FRA Desk Officer.

Comments are invited on the following: Whether the proposed collections of information are necessary