

September 24, 1998, at U.S. Department of Commerce, 325 Broadway, Conference Room 3012, Boulder, CO. 80303.

The agenda for the Study Group B meeting will include preparations for ITU-T Study Group 15 meeting in October 1998.

Members of the General Public may attend this meeting and join in the discussions, subject to the instructions of the Chair. Admittance of public members will be limited to seating available.

In this regard, entrance to the meeting please inform Marcie Geissinger, Carole Craig, or Amy Moulton by September 21 at 303-497-5216, fax 3030-497-5993, or mgeissinger@its.bldrdoc.gov if you intend to attend this U.S. Study Group B Meeting. Provide your name, organization, and telephone number.

Dated: July 30, 1998.

Marian R. Gordon,
Chairman, U.S. ITAC for
Telecommunications Standardization.
[FR Doc. 98-22357 Filed 8-19-98; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4710-45-M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

Rotorcraft Draft Advisory Material

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of availability of draft rotorcraft advisory material.

SUMMARY: This is a notice of availability of draft Advisory Circular (AC) material, which provides guidance as to an acceptable means of accomplishing the requirements of proposed rules on the subject of normal and transport category rotorcraft load combination safety requirements and on the subject of normal category rotorcraft maximum weight and passenger seat limitation.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kathy Jones, Rotorcraft Standards Staff, FAA, Rotorcraft Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service, Fort Worth, TX 76193-0110; telephone (817) 222-5359, fax (817) 222-5961.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice announces the availability of draft AC material. The FAA tasked the Aviation Rulemaking Advisory Committee (ARAC) to develop rulemaking and policy material for normal and transport category rotorcraft. The ARAC process is a means for the public to participate in the drafting of rules and advisory material. The FAA review of the ARAC Working Groups'

material resulted in the FAA proposing Notices of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM's) and AC material. Consequently, NPRM No. 98-6, "Rotorcraft Load Combination Safety Requirements," was published in the **Federal Register** on July 13, 1998 (63 FR 37745). The accompanying AC material is available and will be published in a future revision to AC 27-1A and AC 29-2B (Certification of Normal Category Rotorcraft and Certification of Transport Category Rotorcraft, respectively). NPRM No. 98-4, "Normal Category Rotorcraft Maximum Weight and Passenger Seat Limitation," was published in the **Federal Register** on June 25, 1998 (63 FR 34610). The accompanying AC material is available and will be published in a future revision to AC 27-1A (Certification of Normal Category Rotorcraft).

Issued in Fort Worth, Texas, on August 12, 1998.

Eric Bries,
Acting Manager, Rotorcraft Directorate,
Aircraft Certification Service.
[FR Doc. 98-22387 Filed 8-19-98; 8:45 am]
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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

[Docket No. FHWA-98-4204]

Notice of Request for Clearance of a New Information Collection

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the requirements of section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the intention of the FHWA to request the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) approval of a new information collection. This information collection will be used to provide a baseline to measure improvements in customer satisfaction. The information collected from the survey will help the Office of Budget and Finance to measure the level of satisfaction with the payment process administered by FHWA.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before October 19, 1998.

ADDRESSES: All signed, written comments should refer to the docket number that appears in the heading of this document and must be submitted to the Docket Clerk, U.S. DOT Dockets, Room PL-401, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20590-0001. All

comments received will be available for examination at the above address between 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 envelope or postcard.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Joseph Haldeman, (202) 366-2881, Office of Budget and Finance, Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20590. Office hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Fiscal Vendor Satisfaction Survey.

Background: The mission of the FHWA's Office of Budget and Finance is the administration of fiscal programs to ensure an effective budget process and proper utilization and accounting for agency resources. In addition, the office works to improve the financial management practices of State Highway Agencies. Some of these functions include: (1) The planning, coordination, and administration of FHWA programs, as they relate to the budget process; (2) the allocation and administration of fiscal and ceiling control aspects of personnel resources within employment ceilings, fiscal limitations, and other established criteria; (3) the administration of a nationwide highway project reporting system; and (4) the administration of a system of accounting for agency resources and programs. A survey of FHWA's vendors to be selected at random will provide feedback to help focus on accounting operations and organization toward a customer service/satisfaction-oriented way of doing business. The information will be collected on a standardized questionnaire via mail. Respondents will be advised of the purpose for the survey and the confidentiality of their responses by an accompanying letter. The questionnaire will request respondents if their telephone calls are answered in a timely manner; if their inquiries receive timely responses; if their invoices are paid in a timely fashion; and if the members of the finance staff are accessible, professional, and courteous in providing assistance and resolving payment issues.

The sample size of respondents will be approximately 200. The results of the surveys will be analyzed and presented in a report to management. This report will be used for ongoing improvements to FHWA's payment process.

Respondents: The individuals asked to respond to the survey are employees of private firms from which FHWA procures products and services.

Estimated Average Burden per Response: 10 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 33 hours.

Frequency: Annually.

Public Comments Invited: Interested parties are invited to send comments regarding any aspect of this information collection, including, but not limited to: (1) the necessity and utility of the information collection for the proper performance of the functions of the FHWA; (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's clearance of this information collection.

Electronic Availability: An electronic copy of this document may be downloaded using a modem and suitable communications software from the **Federal Register** electronic bulletin board service (telephone number: 202-512-1661). Internet users may reach the **Federal Register**'s WWW site at http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs.

Authority: Public Law 103-62, dated August 3, 1993.

Issued on: August 12, 1998.

George S. Moore, Jr.

Associate Administrator for Administration.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket No. RSAC-96-1, Notice No. 13]

Railroad Safety Advisory Committee (RSAC); Working Group Activity Update

AGENCY: Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Announcement of Railroad Safety Advisory Committee (RSAC) Working Group Activities.

SUMMARY: FRA is updating its announcement of RSAC's working group activities to reflect the current status of working group activities.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Vicky McCully, RSAC Coordinator, FRA, 400 7th Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20590, (202) 493-6305 or Grady

Cothen, Deputy Associate Administrator for Safety Standards Program Development, FRA, 400 7th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20590, (202) 493-6302.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice serves to update FRA's last announcement of working group activities and status reports on 11/5/97 (62 FR 59940). The eighth full Committee meeting was held May 14, 1998. The next meeting of the full Committee is scheduled for September 9, 1998.

Since its first meeting in April of 1996, the RSAC has accepted fifteen tasks. Status for each of the tasks is provided below:

Task 96-1—Revising the Freight Power Brake Regulations. This Task was formally withdrawn from the RSAC on 6/24/97.

Task 96-2—Reviewing and recommending revisions to the Track Safety Standards (49 CFR Part 213). This task was accepted April 2, 1996, and a Working Group was established. Consensus was reached on recommended revisions and an NPRM incorporating these recommendations was published in the **Federal Register** on 7/3/97 (62 FR 36138). The final rule was published in the **Federal Register** on 6/22/98 (63 FR 33991). The effective date of the rule is 9/21/98. Contact: Al MacDowell (202) 493-6206.

Task 96-3—Reviewing and recommending revisions to the Radio Standards and Procedures (49 CFR Part 220). This Task was accepted on April 2, 1996, and a Working Group was established. Consensus was reached on recommended revisions and an NPRM incorporating these recommendations published in the **Federal Register** on 6/26/97 (62 FR 34544). FRA is nearing completion of a final rule. Contact: Gene Cox (202) 493-6319.

Task 96-4—Reviewing the appropriateness of the agency's current policy regarding the applicability of existing and proposed regulations to tourist, excursion, scenic, and historic railroads. This Task was accepted on April 2, 1996, and a Working Group was established. The Working Group is currently monitoring completion of the steam locomotive regulations task. Contact: Grady Cothen (202) 493-6302.

Task 96-5—Reviewing and recommending revisions to Steam Locomotive Inspection Standards (49 CFR Part 230). Tasked to the Tourist and Historic Working Group on July 24, 1996. Consensus was reached on an NPRM and FRA is finalizing the regulatory analysis to accompany publication of the NPRM. Contact: George Scerbo (202) 493-6349.

Task 96-6—Reviewing and recommending revisions to miscellaneous aspects of the regulations addressing Locomotive Engineer Certification (49 CFR Part 240). This Task was accepted on October 31, 1996, and a Working Group was established. Consensus on an NPRM was reached on May 14, 1998, and FRA is finalizing the regulatory analysis to accompany publication of the NPRM. Contact: John Conklin (202) 493-6318.

Task 96-7—Developing On-Track Equipment Safety Standards. This task was assigned to the existing Track Standards Working Group on October 31, 1996, and a Task Force was established. The Task Force has reached agreement in principle on what should be included in a proposed rule and has identified remaining issues to be resolved. Contact: Al MacDowell (202) 493-6236.

♦ *Task 96-8—This Planning Task evaluated the need for action responsive to recommendations contained in a report to Congress entitled, Locomotive Crashworthiness & Working Conditions.* This Task was accepted on October 31, 1996. A Planning Group was formed and reviewed the report, grouping issues into categories.

♦ *Task 97-1—Developing crashworthiness specifications to promote the integrity of the locomotive cab in accidents resulting from collisions.* This Task was accepted on June 24, 1997. A Task Force on engineering issues established by the Working Group on Locomotive Crashworthiness has been actively reviewing collision history and design options and has commissioned additional research that is being guided toward completion over the next few months. Contact: Sean Mehrvazi (202) 493-6237.

♦ *Task 97-2—Evaluating the extent to which environmental, sanitary, and other working conditions in locomotive cabs affect the crew's health and the safe operation of locomotives, proposing standards where appropriate.* This Task was accepted June 24, 1997. The Working Group on Cab Working Conditions is meeting to draft a standard for locomotive sanitary conditions. Task forces on noise and temperature have been formed and are actively meeting to identify and address issues. Contact: Brenda Hattery (202) 493-6326.

♦ *Task 97-3—Developing event recorder data survivability standards.* This Task was accepted on June 24, 1997. An Event Recorder Working Group and Task Force have been established and are actively meeting.