

Affected Public: Employees of private firms from which FHWA procures products and services.

Abstract: 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.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 33.

ADDRESSES: Send comments, within 30 days, to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, 725-17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20503, Attention DOT Desk Officer. Comments are invited on: whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; the accuracy of the Department's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be

collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

A comment to OMB is best assured of having its full effect if OMB receives it within 30 days of publication.

Issued in Washington, DC, on November 6, 1998.

Vanester M. Williams,

Clearance Officer, United States Department of Transportation.

[FR Doc. 98-30440 Filed 11-12-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-62-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Coast Guard

[CGD08-98-069]

Public Hearing; CSX Railroad Bridge across the Mobile River, Mile 13.3, at Hurricane, Alabama

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of public hearing; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard will hold a public hearing on whether the CSX Railroad Bridge across the Mobile River at Hurricane, Alabama, is an unreasonable obstruction to navigation which should be altered. The Coast Guard has received complaints that the bridge is unreasonably obstructive to navigation. The hearing will allow interested parties to present comments and information concerning the bridge.

DATES: The hearing will start at 10 a.m. on December 7, 1998. Comments must be received by December 18, 1998.

ADDRESSES: The hearing will be held in the Killian Auditorium at the International Trade Center, 250 North Water Street, Mobile, Alabama 36602. Written comments may be submitted to, and will be available for examination from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays, at the office of the Director, Western Rivers Operations, Bridge Branch, 1222 Spruce Street, St. Louis, Missouri 63103-2398.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Roger Wiebusch, Director, Western Rivers Operations, Bridge Branch, telephone (314) 539-3900 ext. 378.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Coast Guard has received complaints alleging that the CSX Railroad Bridge is unreasonably obstructive to navigation. The preliminary Coast Guard investigation indicates there were 73 marine

collisions with the bridge between 1986 and 1997. These collisions have caused moderate to heavy damage to the bridge. In addition, the restrictive navigation channel of the bridge caused delays to the passage of waterway traffic. Based on this information, the bridge appears to be a hazard to navigation and many require increasing the horizontal clearance on the bridge to meet the needs of navigation.

Procedural

Any person who wishes may appear and speak or present evidence at this public hearing. Persons planning to speak at the hearing should notify the Director, Western Rivers Operations, Bridge Branch at the location listed under **ADDRESSES** or the telephone number listed in **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** any time prior to the hearing indicating the amount of time required. Depending upon the number of scheduled statements, the Coast Guard may limit the amount of time allocated to each person. Any time limitations will be announced at the beginning of the hearing.

Written statements and exhibits may be submitted in place of, or in addition to, oral statements and will be made a part of the hearing record. Written statements and exhibits may be delivered at the hearing or mailed in advance to the Director, Western Rivers Operations, Bridge Branch. Transcripts of the hearing will be made available for purchase upon request.

Information on Services for Individuals With Disabilities

For information about facilities or services for individuals with disabilities, or to request special assistance at the meeting, contact the Director, Western Rivers Operations, Bridge Branch at the number under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** as soon as possible.

Authority: 33 U.S.C. 513; 49 CFR 1.46.

Dated: October 23, 1998.

Paul J. Pluta,

Rear Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard Commander, Eighth Coast Guard District.

[FR Doc. 98-30445 Filed 11-12-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-15-M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

Financial Responsibility Advisory Material

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration, Associate

Administrator for Commercial Space Transportation, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of availability of advisory material.

SUMMARY: This is a notice of availability of an Advisory Circular (AC), which provides guidance as to an acceptable means of compliance with certain conditions of insurance coverage required for the conduct of licensed launch activities.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Ms. Esta M. Rosenberg, Attorney-Advisor, Regulations Division, Office of the Chief Counsel, Federal Aviation Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation (202) 366-9320.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice announces the availability of Advisory Circular Number 440-1, issued November 3, 1998, by the Associate Administrator for commercial Space Transportation concerning financial responsibility requirements for licensed launch activities. The FAA Advisory circular System provides guidance and advisory information to the public on aviation and aerospace matters, including acceptable methods of demonstrating compliance with Federal Aviation Regulations and Commercial Space Transportation Regulations.

Part 440 of the Commercial Space Transportation, FAA, DOT Regulations, 14 CFR Ch. III, prescribes insurance and other financial responsibility requirements for the conduct of licenses launch activities. One condition of insurance coverage provides that each insurance policy obtained by a launch licensee under Part 440 be placed with an insurer that is licensed to do business in any State, territory, possession of the United States, or the District of Columbia. Advisory Circular Number 440-1 states that a licensee satisfies the condition if policies of insurance obtained under Part 440 contain a service of suit clause in which the insurer agrees to submit to the jurisdiction of a court of competent jurisdiction within the United States and designates an authorized agent with the United States for service of legal process.

A copy of Advisory Circular Number 440-1 may be obtained from the Associate Administrator for Commercial Space Transportation (AST), Federal Aviation Administration, Room 331, 800 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20591. Internet users may obtain a copy by accessing AST's

webpage at <http://ast.faa.gov>. Issued in Washington, DC, on November 3, 1998.

Patricia Grace Smith,

Associate Administrator for Commercial Space Transportation.

[FR Doc. 98-30368 Filed 11-12-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Satellite Operational Implementation Team (SOIT) Hosted Forum on the Capabilities of the Global Positioning System (GPS)/Wide Area Augmentation System (WAAS) and Local Area Augmentation System (LAAS)

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The FAA SOIT will be hosting a public forum to discuss the FAA's GPS approvals and WAAS/LAAS operational implementation plans. This meeting will be held in conjunction with a regularly scheduled meeting of the FAA SOIT and in response to aviation industry requests to the FAA Administrator. Formal presentations by the FAA will be followed by a question and answer session. Those planning to attend are invited to submit proposed discussion topics. Requests to make presentations to the assembled forum should be made to the point of contact listed.

DATES: November 16-17, 1998, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn Fair Oaks hotel, 11787 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, Fairfax, VA 22033, adjacent to the Fair Oaks Mall.

POINT OF CONTACT: Registration, submission of suggested discussion topics and requests to make presentations may be made to Mr. Steven Albers, phone (202) 267-7301, fax (202) 267-5086, or email at steven.albers@faa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Open to the aviation industry with attendance limited to space available. Participants are requested to register their intent to attend this meeting by October 30, 1998. names, affiliations, telephones and facsimile numbers should be sent to the point of contact listed.

Dated: September 22, 1998.

Hank Cabler,

SOIT Co-Chairman.

[FR Doc. 98-30374 Filed 11-12-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement; Little River, Miller, and Sevier Counties, Arkansas, and Bowie County, TX

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The FHWA is issuing this notice to advise the public that a Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS) will be prepared for a proposed highway project in Little River, Miller, and Sevier Counties, Arkansas, and Bowie County, Texas.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Elizabeth A. Romero, Environmental Specialist, Federal Highway Administration, Arkansas Division, 700 West Capitol Avenue, Room 3130, Little Rock, Arkansas, 72201-3298, Telephone: (501) 324-6430; or Walter Waidelich, District Engineer, Federal Highway Administration, Texas Division, Suite 826, Federal Office Building, 300 East Eighth Street, Austin, Texas 78701, Telephone (512) 916-5988.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FHWA, in cooperation with the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department, and the Texas Department of Transportation, will prepare a Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS) on a proposal to construct a four-lane, divided, fully controlled access facility located on new alignment. The proposed Supplemental Draft EIS is a follow up to a Draft EIS dated February, 1997.

The overall project will serve southwest Arkansas and northeast Texas, including Little River, Miller, and Sevier Counties, Arkansas, and Bowie County, Texas. The Supplemental Draft EIS will address new alternatives in the vicinity of Texarkana, AR, Texarkana, TX, and Ashdown, AR which were identified through the public involvement activities related to the circulation of the Draft EIS in 1997. The new alternatives introduce the concept of a northern loop facility for Texarkana connecting with Interstate Highway (IH) IH-30 (W) and