

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION****Coast Guard****Maritime Administration**

[USCG 1998-3553]

**Marine Transportation System:  
Waterways, Ports, and Their  
Intermodal Connections****AGENCY:** Coast Guard, and Maritime Administration, DOT.**ACTION:** Notice of availability; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Coast Guard and the Maritime Administration, together with several other federal agencies, announce the availability of the Proceedings of the National Conference on the Marine Transportation System held in Warrenton, Virginia on November 17-19, 1998. Participants created a national vision for the system into the 21st century; discussed a framework for collaborative decision-making at the national and local levels; and examined safety, environmental, competitiveness, infrastructure, and security issues associated with the system. The conclusions and recommendations of the conference will be used to shape the direction and future of the Marine Transportation System. The conference proceedings are available for your review and comment.

**DATES:** Comments must be received by the Docket Management Facility by April 30, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** You may mail comments to the Docket Management Facility, (USCG 1998-3553), U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), room PL-401, Seventh Street SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001, or deliver them to room PL-401, located on the Plaza Level of the Nassif Building at the same address between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

The Docket Management Facility maintains the public docket for this notice. The comments will become part of this docket and will be available for inspection or copying at room PL-401, located on the Plaza Level of the Nassif Building at the same address between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. You may also electronically access the public docket for this notice on the Internet at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For information on the public docket, contact Dorothy Walker, Chief, Dockets, telephone 202-366-5145. For information concerning this notice contact Ms. Margie Hegy, U.S. Coast Guard (G-MWP), telephone 202-267-

0415 or Ms. Patricia Randall, Maritime Administration (MAR-830), telephone 202-366-4125.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****Request for Comments**

We encourage interested persons to submit comments, written data, views, or other relevant documents. Persons submitting comments should include their names and addresses, identify this notice (USCG-1998-3553), and the reasons for each comment. Please submit all comments and attachments in an unbound format, no larger than 8½x11 inches, suitable for copying and electronic filing to the DOT Docket Management Facility at the address under **ADDRESSES**. If you want acknowledgment of receipt of your comments, enclose a stamped, self-addressed post card or envelope.

A copy of the Proceedings is available for review in the docket and may be electronically accessed on the Internet at <http://dms.dot.gov>. To request a printed copy of the Proceedings, contact Ms. Short, telephone 202-267-6164 or Ms. Randall at the phone number under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

**Background**

During the Spring of 1998, the Maritime Administration and the Coast Guard, together with the Federal Highway Administration, Federal Railroad Administration, Research and Special Programs Administration, Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Minerals Management Service, National Imagery and Mapping Agency, U.S. Customs Service, and the Environmental Protection Agency, held seven two-day regional listening sessions to receive information concerning the current state and future needs of the U.S. marine transportation system—the waterways, ports, and their intermodal connections. The listening sessions were a first step in developing a customer-based strategy to work together to ensure that our waterways, ports and their intermodal connections meet user needs and public expectations for the 21st century.

The information from the seven regional listening sessions was presented at the November National Conference on the Marine Transportation System (MTS). The Secretary of Transportation hosted the conference attended by 144 senior public and private sector leaders. During the two and one-half day conference, participants created a national vision for the MTS into the 21st century; discussed a framework for

collaborative decision-making at the national and local levels; and examined safety, environmental, competitiveness, infrastructure, and security issues associated with achieving the national vision. Participants reviewed current information and trends; and identified goals and recommended actions for resolving coordination, safety, environmental, competitiveness, infrastructure, and security issues.

The conclusions and recommendations of the conference will be used to shape the direction and future of the MTS. The conference proceedings are available for your review and comment. We request information from the general public and system users on the action items recommended and how to accomplish them. Identification of subissues, and relevant data or other information that will assist us in developing strategies and action plans is also requested. In addition, information on relevant MTS activities that are ongoing or planned within the public or private section is requested.

**Next Steps**

Comments received during the comment period will be considered by a congressionally mandated National Task Force to assess the adequacy of the marine transportation system. The Task Force will produce a report examining the critical marine transportation issues, and recommending strategies and plans of action to advance national interests, including economic competitiveness and national security in the marine transportation arena. The report will be submitted to Congress on July 1, 1999, and will be available to the public at that time.

Dated: March 4, 1999.

**James M. Loy,**

*Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard, Commandant.*

**Clyde J. Hart, Jr.,**

*Maritime Administrator.*

[FR Doc. 99-6014 Filed 3-10-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-15-M

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION****Federal Aviation Administration****RTCA Joint Special Committee 190/  
Eurocae Working Group 52**

Pursuant to section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, 5 U.S.C., Appendix 2), notice is hereby given for Joint Special Committee (SC)-190/EUROCAE Working Group (WG)-52 meeting to be held March 23-26, 1999, starting at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 23. The

meeting will be held at Boeing Long Beach Division, 3855 Lakewood Boulevard, Long Beach, CA 90846.

The agenda will include the following: Tuesday, March 23: 8:00–8:30 a.m. (1) Registration; 8:30 a.m.–12:00 noon (2) Plenary Session: a. Welcome; b. Administrative Issues; c. Editorial Team; d. Group Report-ins; 1:00–5:00 p.m. (3) Working Group Breakout Sessions. Wednesday, March 24: 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. (4) Working Group Breakout Sessions; 4:30 p.m. (5) Papers delivered and provided to the Plenary. Thursday, March 25: 8:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m. (6) Working Group Breakout Sessions. Friday, March 26: 8:30 a.m.–12:00 noon (7) Plenary Session: a. Report-outs and Voting; b. Executive Report-out; c. Time and Place of Next Meeting; d. Administrative Issues; 12:00 noon (8) Adjourn.

Attendance is open to the interested public but limited to space availability. With the approval of the chairman, members of the public may present oral statements at the meeting. Persons wishing to present statements or obtain information should contact the RTCA Secretariat, 1140 Connecticut Avenue, NW., Suite 1020, Washington, DC 20036; (202) 833–9339 (phone); (202) 833–9434 (fax); or <http://www.rtca.org> (web site). Members of the public may present a written statement to the committee at any time.

Issued in Washington, DC, on March 5, 1999.

**Janice L. Peters,**

*Designated Official.*

[FR Doc. 99–6053 Filed 3–10–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–13–M

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Highway Administration

#### Environmental Impact Statement: Washington County, Utah

**AGENCY:** Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of Intent.

**SUMMARY:** The FHWA is issuing this notice to advise the public that a study will be prepared for a new transportation corridor in Washington County, Utah. The new corridor will provide a new transportation facility to the east of I–15, from approximately milepost 1 on I–15 south of St. George, Utah to a connection with SR–9 near Hurricane, Utah.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Tom Allen, FHWA, Utah Division, 2520 West 4700 South, Suite 9–A, Salt Lake City, UT 84118, Telephone (801) 963–0182;

or Ken Adair, Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT), 1345 South 350 West, Richfield, Utah 84701, Telephone (801) 896–9501 x760.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** FHWA, in cooperation with the Utah Department of Transportation, will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for a new transportation corridor approximately 20 miles in length to the east of I–15, from approximately milepost 1 on I–15 south of St. George, Utah to a connection with SR–9 near Hurricane, Utah. The study is being initiated as an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). If the scoping process does not identify potential for significant impacts, or identify controversy on environmental grounds, the study will be charged to an Environmental Assessment.

The study is intended to consider the need for additional capacity to serve transportation needs associated with expected regional growth in the project area, including several currently planned development projects. Existing travel-forecasting models will be updated and supplemented to forecast traffic patterns. The study will consider no-build, transportation system management, and build alternatives. The build alternative is expected to be a new 2–4 lane highway, with access control.

A project steering committee has been established to provide direction on the project. Additionally, a project advisory committee will be established to encourage early and on-going participation by interested parties. 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 expressed an interest in this proposal. A series of public meetings will be held, including a scoping meeting expected in April 1999. In addition, a public hearing will be held. Public notice will be given of the time and place of the meetings and hearing. The environmental document will be available for review and comment prior to the public 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 and the EIS should be directed to the FHWA at 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 February 17, 1999.

**Michael G. Richie,**

*Division Administrator, Utah Division,  
Federal Highway Administration, Salt Lake  
City, Utah.*

[FR Doc. 99–6041 Filed 3–10–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–22–M

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Research and Special Programs Administration

[Contract DTRS–56–96–C–0010]

#### Quarterly Performance Review Meeting on The Contract “Detection of Mechanical Damage in Pipelines”

**AGENCY:** Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** RSPA invites the pipeline industry, in-line inspection (“smart pig”) vendors, and the general public to the next quarterly performance review meeting of progress on the contract “Detection of Mechanical Damage in Pipelines.” The meeting is open to anyone, and no registration is required. This contract is being performed by Battelle Memorial Institute (Battelle), along with the Southwest Research Institute, and Iowa State University. The contract is a research and development contract to develop electromagnetic in-line inspection technologies to detect and characterize mechanical damage and stress corrosion cracking. The meeting will cover a review of the overall project plan, the status of the contract tasks, progress made during the past quarter, and projected activity for the next quarter.

**DATES:** The next quarterly performance review meeting will be held on Monday, April 19, 1999 beginning at 1:00 p.m. and ending around 5:00 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The quarterly review meeting will be held at The Wyndham Anatole Hotel, 2201 Stemmons Freeway, Dallas TX 75207. The hotel’s telephone number is (214) 748–1200.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Lloyd W. Ulrich, Contracting Officer’s Technical Representative, Office of Pipeline Safety, telephone: (202) 366–4556, FAX: (202) 366–4566, e-mail: [lloyd.ulrich@rspa.dot.gov](mailto:lloyd.ulrich@rspa.dot.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

#### I. Background

RSPA is conducting quarterly meetings on the status of its contract