

and public review and comment. In addition, a public hearing will be held following completion of the Draft EIS. Public Notice will be given for the time and place of the public hearing on the Draft EIS.

Coordination has been initiated and will continue with appropriate Federal, State and local agencies and private organizations and citizens who have previously expressed or are known to have an interest in the proposed action. 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: September 27, 2002.

Stanley M. Graczyk,

Project Development Engineer, Federal Highway Administration, St. Paul, Minnesota.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

Intelligent Transportation Society of America; Public Meeting

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Intelligent Transportation Society of America (ITS AMERICA) will hold a meeting of its Coordinating Council on Monday, October 14, 2002, in the McCormick Room at the Chicago Hilton. The meeting runs from 10 a.m.–2 p.m. A luncheon starts at 1 p.m.

The General Session includes the following items: (1) Welcome; (2) Introductions and Antitrust Statement; (3) Approval of Minutes (From the Last Meeting); (4) Approval of Program Plan Homeland Security Supplement and Advice Letter; (5) Approval of IVI Advice Letter; (6) Review Leadership Steering Committee Appointments; (7) Discussion of Areas of Responsibility (coverage)—Forums and Programs; (8) Review Two-Day Summit Agenda and Discussion of Logistics; (9) Discussion of Outcome Strategies: Special Interest Groups, Management of Projects, Member Communication, and Other

Items; (10) Other Business; (11) Luncheon; (12) Adjourn.

ITS AMERICA provides a forum for national discussion and recommendations on ITS activities including programs, research needs, strategic planning, standards, international liaison, and priorities.

The charter for the utilization of ITS AMERICA establishes this organization as an advisory committee under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) 5 U.S.C. app. 2, when it provides advice or recommendations to DOT officials on ITS policies and programs. (56 FR 9400, March 6, 1991).

DATES: The Coordinating Council of ITS AMERICA will meet on Monday, October 14, 2002 from 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The Hilton Chicago, 720 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60605. Phone: (312) 922-4400 and Fax (312) 922-5240.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Materials associated with this meeting may be examined at the offices of ITS AMERICA, 400 Virginia Avenue SW., Suite 800, Washington, DC 20024. Persons needing further information or who request to speak at this meeting should contact Debbie M. Busch at ITS AMERICA by telephone at (202) 484-2904 or by FAX at (202) 484-3483. The DOT contact is Kristy Frizzell, FHWA, HOIT, Washington, DC 20590, (202) 366-9536. Office hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except for legal holidays.

(23 U.S.C. 315; 49 CFR 1.48)

Issued on: October 2, 2002.

Jeffrey Paniati,

Acting Associate Administrator, Office of Operations, Federal Highway Administration, and Acting Director, ITS Joint Program Office, Department of Transportation.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

Petition for Waiver of Compliance

In accordance with Part 211 of Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), notice is hereby given that the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) received a request for a waiver of compliance with certain requirements of its safety standards. The individual petition is described below, including the party seeking relief, the regulatory provisions involved, the nature of the relief being requested, and the petitioner's arguments in favor of relief.

Port Authority Trans-Hudson Corporation

[Docket Number FRA-2002-12936]

The Port Authority Trans-Hudson Corporation (PATH) seeks a temporary waiver of compliance until December 31, 2003, for one locomotive from the requirements of the *Railroad Safety Appliance Safety Standards*, 49 CFR 231.30(a)(2), which requires all locomotives used in switching service built prior to April 1, 1977, be equipped with four switching steps. The locomotive for which the waiver is requested is a 42-ton General Electric diesel switcher style locomotive without switching steps. PATH is leasing the locomotive for use by a contractor. They also state that the locomotive was refurbished in April 2002, and that it is physically impossible to modify the locomotive to incorporate switching steps.

If the request is granted, PATH will utilize the locomotive during the reconstruction of their system damaged during the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. The locomotive would be utilized to transport materials and equipment to and from a construction site at a speed not to exceed 15 mph. PATH needs the waiver because the locomotive would travel for approximately one mile over PATH's main line, from PATH's "C" yard in Jersey City, New Jersey to Exchange Place Station. The construction site extends west of Exchange Place and is off limits to any passenger service.

Interested parties are invited to participate in these proceedings by submitting written views, data, or comments. FRA does not anticipate scheduling a public hearing in connection with these proceedings since the facts do not appear to warrant a hearing. If any interested party desires an opportunity for oral comment, they should notify FRA, in writing, before the end of the comment period and specify the basis for their request.

All communications concerning these proceedings should identify the appropriate docket number (e.g., Waiver Petition Docket Number FRA-2002-12936) and must be submitted to the Docket Clerk, DOT Central Docket Management Facility, Room PL-401 (Plaza Level), 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001. Communications received within 30 days of the date of this notice will be considered by FRA before final action is taken. Comments received after that date will be considered as far as practicable. All written communications concerning these proceedings are