

impacts and benefits of implementing the high-speed train in the more geographically limited area between Merced and Fresno, and is based on more detailed project planning and engineering. This Draft EIR/EIS analysis builds on the earlier decisions and program EIR/EISs, and provides more site-specific and detailed analysis.

The Authority plans to complete the California HST System in two phases. Phase 1 will connect San Francisco to Los Angeles/Anaheim via the Pacheco Pass and the Central Valley with a mandated express travel time of 2 hours and 40 minutes or less. Phase 2 will connect the Central Valley to the state's capital, Sacramento, and will extend the system from Los Angeles to San Diego. This Project is for one section in Phase 1 and is receiving funding from FRA for design and environmental review as well as for construction of an initial Section in the Central Valley.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act), enacted February 17, 2009, contained \$8 billion to fund high-speed and intercity passenger rail (HSIPR) projects. In response to the Recovery Act funding, FRA developed and began implementation of the HSIPR Program to fund projects to improve existing intercity passenger rail service and to develop new high speed intercity passenger rail corridors. FRA's HSIPR Program also received an additional \$2.1 billion from the Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2010. The California High-Speed Rail Authority applied for and was selected to receive over \$3.5 billion in HSIPR funds from FRA to complete preliminary engineering and NEPA reviews, and associated documentation for seven sections comprising the Phase 1 California HST System and to construct an initial Central Valley Section from Madera County to Bakersfield (Kern County), California. Completion of the environmental review process marked by issuance of a Record of Decision (ROD) by FRA is a prerequisite for any construction related federal funding or approvals from FRA.

The approximately 65-mile-long Merced to Fresno Section is an essential part of the statewide HST System. The Merced to Fresno Section is the location of the connection between the Bay Area and Sacramento branches of the HST System; it will provide Merced and Fresno access to a new transportation mode and will contribute to increased mobility throughout California. This Section will connect the central San Joaquin Valley region to the remainder of the HST System via Merced County,

Madera County, and the northern part of the city of Fresno.

This Draft EIR/EIS has been prepared by the FRA and the Authority consistent with the provisions of Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), the Counsel of Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations implementing NEPA (40 CFR parts 1500 *et seq.*), FRA's Procedures for Considering Environmental Impacts (64 FR 28545 (May 26, 1999)), and in conformity with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (California Public Resources Code Section 21000 *et seq.*), and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15000 *et seq.*).

The Draft EIR/EIS is available online at FRA's Web site: <http://www.fra.dot.gov> and the Authority's Web site: <http://www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov>. The Draft EIR/EIS is also available for viewing at the following locations near the planned rail system:

- Fresno County Public Library, Central Branch, 2420 Mariposa Street, Fresno, CA 93721;
- Madera County Library, 121 North G Street, Madera, CA 93637;
- Chowchilla Branch Library (Madera County Library), 300 Kings Avenue, Chowchilla, CA 93610;
- Merced Community Senior Center, 755 West 15th Street, Merced, CA 95340;
- Merced County Library, 2100 O Street, Merced, CA 95340;
- Galilee Missionary Baptist Church, 22941 Fairmead Boulevard, Chowchilla, CA 93610;
- Le Grand Branch Library, 12949 Le Grand Road, Le Grand, CA 95333;
- Lao Family Community, 855 W. 15th Street, Merced, CA 95333;
- Madera Ranchos Branch Library, 37167 Avenue 12, Suite 4C, Madera, CA 95636;
- Merced County Los Banos Branch Library, 1312 South Seventh Street, Los Banos, CA 93635; and
- Atwater Branch Library, 1600 Third Street, Atwater, CA 95301.

Issued in Washington, DC, on August 31, 2011.

**Paul Nissenbaum,**

*Director, Office of Passenger and Freight Programs.*

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**BILLING CODE 4910-06-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Maritime Administration**

**Reports, Forms and Recordkeeping Requirements; Agency Information Collection Activity Under OMB Review**

**AGENCY:** Maritime 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 abstracted below has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval. The nature of the information collection is described as well as its expected burden. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on the following collection of information was published on May 27, 2011, and comments were due by July 26, 2011. No comments were received.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted on or before October 11, 2011.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Edmond J. Fitzgerald, Office of Financial Approvals and Marine Insurance, Maritime Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590. *Telephone:* 202-366-2279; or *e-mail:* [edmond.j.fitzgerald@dot.gov](mailto:edmond.j.fitzgerald@dot.gov). Copies of this collection can also be obtained from that office.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Maritime Administration.

*Title:* Application for Construction Reserve Fund and Annual Statements.

*OMB Control Number:* 2133-0032.

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

*Affected Public:* Owners or operators of vessels in the U.S. domestic or foreign commerce.

*Forms:* None.

*Abstract:* In accordance with Section 511 of the Merchant Marine Act of 1936, as amended, all citizens who own or operate vessels in the U.S. domestic or foreign commerce and desire "tax" benefits under the Construction Reserve Fund (CRF) program, are required to submit to MARAD an application for benefits. The annual statement provided to MARAD officials sets forth a detailed analysis of the CRF when each income tax return is filed. The application is required in order for MARAD to determine whether the applicant is qualified for the benefits, and the annual statements are required in order for MARAD to assure that the

requirements of the program are being satisfied.

*Annual Estimated Burden Hours:* 153 hours.

*Addresses:* Send comments to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, 725 Seventeenth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20503, *Attention:* MARAD Desk Officer. Alternatively, comments may be sent via e-mail to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA), Office of Management and Budget, at the following address: [oir.submissions@omb.eop.gov](mailto:oir.submissions@omb.eop.gov).

*Comments Are Invited On:* Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; the accuracy of the agency'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.

Dated: August 30, 2011.

By Order of the Maritime Administrator.

**Julie P. Agarwal,**

*Secretary, Maritime Administration.*

[FR Doc. 2011-22886 Filed 9-7-11; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-81-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Maritime Administration

[Docket No. MARAD 2011-0115]

#### Information Collection Available for Public Comments and Recommendations

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Maritime Administration's (MARAD's) intention to request extension of approval for three years of a currently approved information collection.

**DATES:** Comments should be submitted on or before November 7, 2011.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Michael C. Pucci, Maritime Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590. Telephone: 202-366-5167; or e-mail: [michael.pucci@dot.gov](mailto:michael.pucci@dot.gov). Copies of this

collection also can be obtained from that office.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title of Collection:* Requirements for Eligibility of U.S.-Flag Vessels of 100 Feet or Greater in Registered Length to Obtain a Fishery Endorsement.

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

*OMB Control Number:* 2133-0530.

*Form Numbers:* None.

*Expiration Date of Approval:* Three years from date of approval by the Office of Management and Budget.

*Summary of Collection of Information:* In accordance with the American Fisheries Act of 1998, owners of vessels of 100 feet or greater who wish to obtain a fishery endorsement to the vessels' documentation are required to file with the Maritime Administration (MARAD) an Affidavit of United States Citizenship.

*Need and Use of the Information:* The information collection is necessary for MARAD to determine that a particular vessel is owned and controlled by United States citizens and is eligible to receive a fishery endorsement to its documentation.

*Description of Respondents:* Vessel owners, charterers, mortgagees, mortgage trustees and managers of vessels of 100 feet or greater who seek a fishery endorsement for the vessel.

*Annual Responses:* 500.

*Annual Burden:* 2,950 hours.

*Comments:* Comments should refer to the docket number that appears at the top of this document. Written comments may be submitted to the Docket Clerk, U.S. DOT Dockets, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590. Comments also may be submitted by electronic means via the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov>. Specifically address whether this information collection is necessary for proper performance of the functions of the agency and will have practical utility, accuracy of the burden estimates, ways to minimize this burden, and ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected. All comments received will be available for examination at the above address between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. EDT (or EST), Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays. An electronic version of this document is available on the World Wide Web at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

*Privacy Act:* Anyone is able to search the electronic form of all comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the

comment (or signing the comment, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** published on April 11, 2000 (Volume 65, Number 70; Pages 19477-78) or you may visit <http://www.regulations.gov>.

Dated: August 30, 2011.

By Order of the Maritime Administrator.

**Julie Agarwal,**

*Secretary, Maritime Administration.*

[FR Doc. 2011-22886 Filed 9-7-11; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-81-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Maritime Administration

#### Reports, Forms and Recordkeeping Requirements; Agency Information Collection Activity Under OMB Review

**AGENCY:** Maritime 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 abstracted below has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval. The nature of the information collection is described as well as its expected burden. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on the following collection of information was published on June 15, 2010. No comments were received.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted on or before October 11, 2011.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Sheila Brown, Maritime Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590. *Telephone:* 202-366-5178; or e-mail [Sheila.brown@dot.gov](mailto:Sheila.brown@dot.gov). Copies of this collection also can be obtained from that office.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Maritime Administration (MARAD).

*Title:* Elements of Request for Course Approval.

*OMB Control Number:* 2133-0535.

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

*Affected Public:* Respondents are public and private maritime security course training providers.

*Form(s):* None.

*Abstract:* Under this voluntary collection, public and private maritime security training course providers may choose to provide the Maritime