

Determination: Approved in part. The PFC approved amount has been reduced from the amount requested to reflect a revised project cost estimate received from the Duluth Airport Authority.

Decision Date: September 30, 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Gordon Nelson, Minneapolis Airports District Office, (612) 725-4358.

Issued in Washington, D.C. on October 4, 1996.

Sheryl Scarborough,
Acting Manager, Passenger Facility Charge Branch.

[FR Doc. 96-26166 Filed 10-10-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-M

Federal Highway Administration

Environmental Impact Statement: Broome County, New York

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), New York State Department of Transportation (NYDOT).

ACTION: Retract notice of intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), Susquehanna River Crossing.

SUMMARY: The FHWA is issuing this notice to advise the public that an EIS will not be prepared for a proposed bridge that crosses the Susquehanna River connecting Route 17C with Route 17 and Route 434 in eastern Tioga/western Broome Counties, New York as advertised in the Federal Register.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Harold J. Brown, Division Administrator, Federal Highway Administration, New York Division, Leo W. O'Brien Federal Building, 9th Floor, Clinton Avenue and North Pearl Street, Albany, New York 12207, Telephone: (518) 431-4127; or Richard R. Church, Regional Director, New York State Department of Transportation, Binghamton State Office Building, 44 Hawley Street, Binghamton, New York 13901-3200, Telephone (607) 721-8116.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FHWA, in cooperation with the NYSDOT, has determined that an EIS will not be prepared for the proposal to construct a bridge and associated approach roadway and interchange ramps for a new crossing of the Susquehanna River. The NYSDOT evaluated four corridors connecting NYS Route 17C with NYS Route 17 and NYS Route 17 and 434 located between Hiawatha Boulevard in the town of Owego, Tioga County and NYS Route 26 in the town of Vestal and village of Endicott, Broome County. NYSDOT

initiated the preparation of a Draft EIS. A public hearing was held in July 1996 to present the project information to the public and solicit comments.

Upon reevaluation of the project alternatives with regard to goals, economics, environmental impacts and public input, it was determined that Alternative "A" has a project objective different from the other alternatives and will be pursued independently. This corridor spans the Susquehanna River at the Route 17 (Exit 66) interchange connecting the hamlets of Apalachin/Campville in the town of Owego, Tioga County. The existing bridges span Route 17 carrying the Exit 66 on and off ramps. They are identified as BINs 1054771 and 1054772. This alternative meets the requirements for a Categorical Exclusion with FHWA concurrence. A Final Design Report will be prepared that evaluates two locations for Alternative "A" crossing and the no action alternative.

The benefits with Alternative "A" include the potential for increased economic development, increased access between Routes 17C, 434 and 17 in the project area, and improved delivery of public services in the town of Owego which is split by the Susquehanna River.

The environmental impacts associated with Alternative "A" are minor and include: noise impacts at nine locations, disturbance of approximately a 0.3 acre wetland and/or stream in the project area, and a 3% increase in energy consumption.

Issued on: September 30, 1996.

Harold J. Brown,
Division Administrator, Federal Highway Administration, Albany, New York.
[FR Doc. 96-25681 Filed 10-10-96; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4910-22-M

Maritime Administration

Maritime Security Program; Request For Applications for FY 1997

SUMMARY: This notice solicits applications from eligible candidates for possible participation in the Maritime Security Program (MSP) pursuant to the Maritime Security Act of 1996 (MSA).

DATES: The MSA requires applications be received no later than November 7, 1996. However, to expedite processing of applications, all applicants are encouraged to submit their applications within 15 days of the date of this notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Raymond R. Barberesi, Director, Office of Sealift Support. Telephone 202-366-2323.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Overview

The MSA establishes a new 10-year MSP commencing in Fiscal Year 1996. The MSP will support the operation of U.S.-flag vessels in the foreign commerce of the United States through assistance payments. Participating vessel operators are required to make their ships and other commercial transportation resources available upon request of Secretary of Defense during times of war or national emergency.

ADDRESSES: To be considered, applications must be mailed, delivered in person or telefaxed (in which case an original must subsequently be received within the statutory 30-day period) to the Secretary, Maritime Administration, Room 7210, Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh St., S.W., Washington, DC 20590. Telefax number (202) 366-9206. Applicants wishing MARAD to acknowledge receipt should enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope or postcard.

Application Procedure

Applicants must submit:

- (1) An "Application For Participation Under Section 651, Subtitle B, Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as Amended", and,
- (2) An audited financial statement or a Form MA-172 as described at 46 CFR Part 232.

These forms have been approved by OMB, number 2133-0525 and number 2133-0005, respectively, and are available from the Office of Sealift Support, MAR-630, Room 7300, Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20590. Applicants must submit one original, signed by a person authorized to receive funds for the applicant, and one copy (double-sided copies are encouraged).

By Order of the Maritime Administrator:

Dated: October 8, 1996.

Joel C. Richard,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96-26334 Filed 10-10-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-81-P

Research and Special Programs Administration

[Docket HM-223; Notice No. 96-21]

RIN 2137-AC68

Applicability of the Hazardous Materials Regulations to Loading, Unloading and Storage

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

ACTION: Notice of meeting; issues to be discussed in Philadelphia.

SUMMARY: On July 29, 1996, RSPA published an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and notice of meeting in the Federal Register. In that document, RSPA announced three public meetings at which it would seek ideas, proposals and recommendations regarding the applicability of the Hazardous Materials Regulations to particular hazardous materials transportation activities. The first of the three public meetings was held in Atlanta, Georgia, on September 13, 1996. The second public meeting was held in Sacramento, California, on September 25, 1996. Based on information gathered at those public meetings and information in the docket, RSPA is announcing the topics to be discussed at the October 30, 1996 meeting in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, by two working groups comprised of interested members of the public. Those two topics are (1) the loading of hazardous materials at shipper and consignee facilities and (2) the loading, unloading and storage of hazardous materials at transfer and other mid-transportation facilities. Also, commenters to date have identified several factors which could provide a framework for possible regulation in these areas. These factors are set forth in this notice and will serve as a starting point for discussion for each working group in Philadelphia.

DATES: *Public meeting:* A public meeting will be held October 30, 1996, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Any person wishing to participate in the Philadelphia working-group session should notify Nancy E. Machado by telephone or in writing on or before October 23, 1996. Notice is not a prerequisite to participation in the Philadelphia working groups, but will facilitate the agency's planning efforts.

Written comments: Written comments must be received on or before November 30, 1996.

ADDRESSES: *Public meeting:* Penn Tower Hotel, Civic Center Boulevard at 34th St., Philadelphia, PA 19104.

Written comments: Address comments to Dockets Unit (DHM-30), Office of Hazardous Materials Safety, Research and Special Programs Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, Washington, D.C. 20590-0001. Comments should identify the docket and notice number and be submitted, when possible, in five copies. Persons wishing to receive confirmation of receipt of their comments should include a self-addressed, stamped postcard. The

Dockets Unit is located in Room 8421 of the Nassif Building, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20590-0001.

Office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on public holidays when the office is closed.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Nancy E. Machado, Office of the Chief Counsel, Research and Special Programs Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington D.C. 20590-0001, telephone 202-366-4400.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On July 29, 1996, RSPA published an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM) and notice of meeting in the Federal Register (61 FR 39522). In that document, RSPA announced three public meetings at which it would seek ideas, proposals and recommendations regarding the applicability of the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR) (49 CFR Parts 171-180) to particular hazardous materials transportation activities. In the ANPRM, RSPA asked that participants in the first meeting, held in Atlanta, Georgia, comment on issues identified and respond to questions raised in the July 29, 1996 ANPRM. RSPA proposed to begin the Sacramento and Philadelphia meetings with an overview of the issues of greatest concern to commenters in Atlanta, and then have participants break out into working groups to discuss those issues and to generate further ideas, proposals and recommendations. At the conclusion of the working-group sessions, RSPA proposed to have each working group present its ideas, proposals and recommendations to all meeting participants for further discussion.

The Atlanta meeting was held on September 13, 1996, and was attended by members of the regulated community, local government interests, and Department of Transportation (DOT), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) representatives.

After considering the oral statements made by participants, and information already in the public docket, RSPA announced at the conclusion of the Atlanta meeting that the two topics for working-group discussions in Sacramento would be the unloading of hazardous materials and the storage of hazardous materials. RSPA also published a notice in the Federal Register, (61 FR 49723; Sept. 3, 1996) identifying the issues, as well as several criteria which commenters have suggested as a framework for

determining the applicability or non-applicability of the HMR. Those criteria are:

- (1) The nature of the activity;
- (2) The intent of the activity;
- (3) The time-frame involved in the activity;
- (4) The physical location where the activity takes place;
- (5) The priority of interests of each agency in regulating the activity;
- (6) The nature of the shipping papers (e.g., "active") at the time the activity is taking place; and
- (7) The type of packaging involved in each activity.

The Sacramento meeting was held on September 25, 1996, and was attended by members of the regulated community, State and local government interests, and Department of Transportation (DOT) and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) representatives. After considering the information, ideas, proposals and recommendations gathered during the two working-group sessions, and information already in the public docket, RSPA announced at the conclusion of the Sacramento meeting that the two topics for working-group discussion in Philadelphia would be (1) the loading of hazardous materials at shipper and consignee facilities and (2) the loading, unloading and storage of hazardous materials at transfer and other mid-transportation facilities. RSPA intends to use the same criteria which were announced in the September 23, 1996 Federal Register notice, and discussed during the Sacramento meeting, as a starting point for discussions in Philadelphia.

RSPA is publishing this information in the Federal Register to allow participants at the Philadelphia meeting to prepare in advance for the working-group discussions.

Issued in Washington, DC on October 7, 1996.

Alan I. Roberts,

Associate Administrator for Hazardous Materials Safety.

[FR Doc. 96-26168 Filed 10-10-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-60-P

[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