

system to alert drivers to brake defects (e.g., brake adjustment).

4. Mechanic and driver training should not be seen as a stand-alone solution to the brake violation problem.

5. Government and industry efforts to improve motor carrier management commitment to brake maintenance should take a targeted, rather than a general approach. The program should start with contacting high violation-rate carriers, informing them of their problems, and offering them help from both industry and government.

6. The vehicle identification number (VIN) should be recorded on each vehicle inspection report.

7. A simple, standardized tool should be developed for use by carriers and enforcement inspectors to measure pushrod travel.

#### *Development of Publications Concerning Brake Maintenance*

As part of the effort to follow up on the recommendations presented in the Phase 1 report, the FHWA and the TRI will work together in the development of publications to help increase industry awareness of the importance of proper brake maintenance and to inform carriers of the availability of technical information to improve their brake maintenance programs. The FHWA believes this work is necessary because the Phase 1 report indicated that brake suppliers and OEMs have developed a variety of training materials but that most motor carriers are not aware this material is available to them.

#### **Information Requested**

The FHWA and The Maintenance Council (TMC) of the American Trucking Associations are developing a brake training resources directory. This industry-wide directory will list information on brake training materials, classes, short courses, computer-based training, video training and any other types of brake training that are being offered to the motor carrier industry. The directory will be organized into two groups: personal instruction, and products/services. The directory is intended for distribution to all interested motor carriers with a special emphasis on motor carriers that appear to have unusually high brake-related violation rates during roadside inspections. The information will be published as a pamphlet with copies provided free of charge by the FHWA. The FHWA requests that interested parties submit detailed information on the types of training/training material that they offer to motor carrier industry.

#### *Personal Training*

The following information is requested:

1. Training format(s) (classroom, home-study, hands-on, computer-based, etc.);

2. Training availability (at the customer's request, mail order, call for current schedule);

3. Training cost (current price list, fee/tuition available upon request, or no charge);

4. Type of training organization (Federal, State or local government agency or department; college/university, vocational/trade school; association; business/corporation);

5. Length of course; and

6. Training location(s).

#### *Products/Services*

The following information is requested:

1. Product format(s) (video, slides, printed material, audio tapes, computer-based, computer compact disc (CD-ROM));

2. Product/services cost (current price list, fees available upon request, or no charge); and

3. Type of organization offering the products/services (Federal, State or local government agency or department; college/university, vocational/trade school; association; business/corporation).

#### *Deadline for Submission of Information*

All information received before the close of business on the comment closing date indicated in the caption "DATES" will be considered and will be available for examination in the docket room at the above address. Information received after the comment closing date will be filed in the docket and will be considered to the extent practicable. The FHWA, however, may publish the directory at any time after the close of the comment period. The FHWA will publish a notice of availability in the **Federal Register** when the directory is completed.

(49 U.S.C. 31133; 49 CFR 1.48)

Issued on: March 19, 1997.

**Jane Garvey,**

*Acting Administrator, Federal Highway Administration.*

[FR Doc. 97-7736 Filed 3-26-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-22-P

#### **Maritime Administration**

[Docket No. M-031]

#### **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) intentions to request extension of approval for three years of a currently approved information collection.

**DATES:** Comments should be submitted on or before May 27, 1997.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Carey Brady, Trade Specialist, Office of Cargo Preference, Maritime Administration, MAR-590, Room 8118, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20590. Telephone 202-366-5524 or fax 202-366-5522. Copies of this collection can also be obtained from that office.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title of Collection:* Monthly Report of Ocean Shipments Moving Under Export-Import Bank Financing.

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

*OMB Control Number:* 2133-0013.

*Form Number:* MA-518.

*Expiration Date of Approval:* September 30, 1997.

*Summary of Collection of Information:* Title 46 App. U.S.C. 1241-1, Public Resolution 17, 73rd Congress (PR 17), requires the Maritime Administration (MARAD) to monitor and enforce the U.S.-flag shipping requirements relative to the loans/guarantees extended by the Export-Import Bank (Eximbank) to foreign borrowers. PR 17 requires that all shipments financed by Eximbank and that move by sea, must be transported exclusively on U.S.-flag registered vessels unless a waiver is obtained from MARAD.

*Need and Use of the Information:* The prescribed monthly report is necessary for MARAD to fulfill its responsibilities under PR 17, to ensure compliance of ocean shipping requirements operating under Eximbank financing and to ensure equitable distribution of shipments between U.S.-flag and foreign ships. MARAD will use this information to report annually to Congress, the total shipping activities during the calendar year.

*Annual Responses:* 336.

*Annual Burden:* 168 hours.

*Comments:* Send all comments regarding this information collection to Joel C. Richard, Department of Transportation, Maritime Administration, MAR-120, Room 7210, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20590. Send comments regarding whether this information collection is necessary for proper performance of the function of the agency and will have practical utility, accuracy of the burden estimates, ways to minimize this burden, and ways to enhance quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.

By Order of the Maritime Administrator.  
Dated: March 24, 1997.

**Joel C. Richard,**  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-7826 Filed 3-26-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-81-P

## Research and Special Programs Administration

[Docket No. PS-142; Notice 5]

### Requests for Applications for the Pipeline Risk Management Demonstration Program

**AGENCY:** Office of Pipeline Safety, DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of request for letters of intent.

**SUMMARY:** The Research and Special Programs Administration's (RSPA) Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS) invites eligible pipeline operators to submit Letters of Intent expressing interest in participating in its Pipeline Risk Management Demonstration Program. This notice begins the solicitation process by specifying a deadline and address for Letters of Intent, by directing interested operators to supplementary guidance documents, and by providing updated guidance for operators interested in participating.

**DATES:** Letters of Intent will be accepted no later than July 25, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** Letters of Intent should be sent to Richard B. Felder, Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety, Research and Special Programs Administration, Department of Transportation, Room 2335, 400 7th St., SW, Washington, DC, 20590.

#### SUPPLEMENTAL DOCUMENTS:

(1) Program Framework for Risk Management Demonstrations (61 FR 58605): Describes the processes by which OPS will receive, review, approve, monitor, modify, and terminate company risk management demonstration projects, and provides a description of the information a

company should include in its Letter of Intent. The guidance in the Program Framework is current except where noted in Section II of this notice. The significant information in the Program Framework is contained in Appendix A of this document or available on the Internet at OPS address <http://ops.dot.gov>.

(2) Interim Risk Management Program Standard: Describes the essential elements and characteristics of a company's risk management program. A Letter of Intent should include evidence that the company will address all considerations raised in the Program Standard. It is available by contacting Eben Wyman at (202)366-0918 or on Internet at OPS address <http://ops.dot.gov>.

(3) Guidance on Performance Measures: Provides the basis for participating companies and OPS to assess, through the demonstration projects, whether risk management is an effective alternative to the current regulatory environment; and to determine whether superior public safety and environmental protection is being achieved. OPS considers the performance measures proposed in the consultation process to be critical to approving a demonstration project. Companies may include proposed performance measures, if available, in their Letters of Intent. The March 1997 guidance is available by contacting Eben Wyman at (202)366-0918 or on Internet at <http://opspm.volpe60.dot.gov>.

(4) Risk Management Communications Plan: Outlines the processes to enable all stakeholders (including OPS, companies, States, and local officials) to exchange information about the goals, objectives, and status of the Demonstration Program and individual projects. The Communications Plan describes the information OPS intends to share with stakeholders via local prospectuses once candidate companies are selected for consultations. Companies may consult the Plan to ensure their Letters of Intent contain sufficient information for the prospectuses, and for guidance on local level communications the company should conduct. OPS will continue to develop communications with the public during the Demonstration Program. The Plan is available by contacting Eben Wyman at (202)366-0918 or on Internet at OPS address <http://ops.dot.gov>.

(5) Risk Management Training Curricula: Describes the content of the risk management training that will be provided to industry and regulator participants in the Demonstration Program. Companies who submit Letters

of Intent and who OPS identifies as candidates for selection will be invited to participate in the training. The company may request an orientation with the OPS personnel who will be assigned to evaluate and monitor its demonstration project. An outline of the curricula is available by contacting Eben Wyman at (202)366-0918 or on Internet at OPS address <http://ops.dot.gov>.

(6) Proceedings from January 28, 1997 Public Meeting held at the Hilton Riverside Hotel, New Orleans, LA: Record of OPS response to public comment on elements of the Demonstration Program. Available by contacting Eben Wyman at (202)366-0918, or on Internet at OPS address <http://ops.dot.gov>. A summary of OPS comments at the public meeting is contained in Appendix B of this notice.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Eben M. Wyman, (202) 366-0918, or by E-mail ([eben.wyman@rspa.dot.gov](mailto:eben.wyman@rspa.dot.gov)), regarding the subject matter of this document. Persons wishing to review previously submitted comments may contact the RSPA Dockets Clerk, (202) 366-5046, U.S. Department of Transportation, room 8421, 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC 20590. Inquiries should identify the docket number (PS-142). The Dockets Facility is open from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on Federal holidays when the facility is closed.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Overview

The Program Framework for Risk Management Demonstrations (Program Framework)(61 FR 58605), published on November 15, 1996, describes the Pipeline Risk Management Demonstration Program and its objectives and statutory basis, and provides guidance for pipeline operators who may wish to participate. The Demonstration Program will enable participating pipeline operators to substitute compliance with the provisions of an OPS-approved demonstration project for compliance with existing pipeline safety standards. The objective of the Demonstration Program is to test whether allowing operators the flexibility to allocate safety resources through risk management is an effective way to improve public safety, environmental protection, and reliability of service. It will also provide data on how to administer risk management as a permanent feature of the Federal pipeline safety program, should risk management prove to be a viable regulatory alternative.