

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The notice of the President's major disaster declaration for the State of Louisiana, dated September 24, 2005, is hereby amended to extend the deadline for filing applications for economic injury as a result of this disaster to July 26, 2006.

All other information in the original declaration remains unchanged.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Numbers 59002 and 59008)

**Herbert L. Mitchell,**

*Associate Administrator for Disaster Assistance.*

[FR Doc. E6-8966 Filed 6-8-06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8025-01-P**

## SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

**[Disaster Declaration #10176 and #10177]**

### Louisiana Disaster Number LA-00002

**AGENCY:** U.S. Small Business Administration.

**ACTION:** Amendment 6.

**SUMMARY:** This is an amendment of the Presidential declaration of a major disaster for the State of Louisiana (FEMA-1603-DR), dated August 29, 2005.

*Incident:* Hurricane Katrina.

*Incident Period:* August 29, 2005 through November 1, 2005.

*Effective Date:* May 31, 2006.

*EIDL Loan Application Deadline Date:* June 28, 2006.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit completed loan applications to: U.S. Small Business Administration, National Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** A. Escobar, Office of Disaster Assistance, U.S. Small Business Administration, 409 3rd Street, SW., Suite 6050, Washington, DC 20416.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The notice of the President's major disaster declaration for the State of Louisiana, dated August 29, 2005, is hereby amended to extend the deadline for filing applications for economic injury as a result of this disaster to June 28, 2006.

All other information in the original declaration remains unchanged.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Numbers 59002 and 59008)

**Herbert L. Mitchell,**

*Associate Administrator for Disaster Assistance.*

[FR Doc. E6-8969 Filed 6-8-06; 8:45 am]

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## SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

**[Disaster Declaration #10178 and #10179]**

### Mississippi Disaster Number MS-00005

**AGENCY:** U.S. Small Business Administration.

**ACTION:** Amendment 7.

**SUMMARY:** This is an amendment of the Presidential declaration of a major disaster for the State of Mississippi (FEMA-1604-DR), dated August 29, 2005.

*Incident:* Hurricane Katrina.

*Incident Period:* August 29, 2005 through October 14, 2005.

*Effective Date:* May 31, 2006.

*EIDL Loan Application Deadline Date:* June 28, 2006.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit completed loan applications to: U.S. Small Business Administration, National Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** A. Escobar, Office of Disaster Assistance, U.S. Small Business Administration, 409 3rd Street, SW., Suite 6050, Washington, DC 20416.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The notice of the President's major disaster declaration for the State of Mississippi, dated August 29, 2005, is hereby amended to extend the deadline for filing applications for economic injury as a result of this disaster to June 28, 2006.

All other information in the original declaration remains unchanged.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Numbers 59002 and 59008)

**Herbert L. Mitchell,**

*Associate Administrator for Disaster Assistance.*

[FR Doc. E6-8968 Filed 6-8-06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8025-01-P**

## SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

**[Disaster Declaration #10203 and #10204]**

### Texas Disaster Number TX-00066

**AGENCY:** U.S. Small Business Administration.

**ACTION:** Amendment 6.

**SUMMARY:** This is an amendment of the Presidential declaration of a major disaster for the State of Texas (FEMA-1606-DR), dated September 24, 2005.

*Incident:* Hurricane Rita.

*Incident Period:* September 23, 2005 through October 14, 2005.

*Effective Date:* May 31, 2006.

*EIDL Loan Application Deadline Date:* July 26, 2006.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit completed loan applications to: U.S. Small Business Administration, National Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** A. Escobar, Office of Disaster Assistance, U.S. Small Business Administration, 409 3rd Street, SW., Suite 6050, Washington, DC 20416.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The notice of the President's major disaster declaration for the State of Texas, dated September 24, 2005, is hereby amended to extend the deadline for filing applications for economic injury as a result of this disaster to July 26, 2006.

All other information in the original declaration remains unchanged.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Numbers 59002 and 59008)

**Herbert L. Mitchell,**

*Associate Administrator for Disaster Assistance.*

[FR Doc. E6-8965 Filed 6-8-06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8025-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Office of the Secretary

#### Notice of Applications for Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity and Foreign Air Carrier Permits Filed Under Subpart B (Formerly Subpart Q) During the Week Ending May 19, 2006

The following Applications for Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity and Foreign Air Carrier Permits were filed under Subpart B (formerly Subpart Q) of the Department of Transportation's Procedural Regulations (See 14 CFR 301.201 *et seq.*). The due date for Answers, Conforming Applications, or Motions to Modify Scope are set forth below for each application. Following the Answer period DOT may process the application by expedited procedures. Such procedures may consist of the adoption of a show-cause order, a tentative order, or in appropriate cases a final order without further proceedings.

*Docket Number:* OST-2006-24834.

*Date Filed:* May 16, 2006.

*Due Date for Answers, Conforming Applications, or Motion to Modify Scope:* June 6, 2006.

*Description:* Application of NEOS S.p.A. requesting a foreign air carrier permit authorizing (i) the carriage of international charter traffic of passengers and their accompanying baggage, and/or cargo between any point

or points in the Republic of Italy and any point or points in the territory of the United States; and between any point or points in the United States and any point or points in any third country or countries subject to the conditions set out in the currently effective "Open Skies" agreement between the Republic of Italy and the United States of America; and (ii) such other charter trips in foreign air transportation as the Department may authorize pursuant to the terms, conditions and limitations of Part 212.

**Renee V. Wright,**

*Program Manager, Docket Operations,  
Federal Register Liaison.*

[FR Doc. E6-8983 Filed 6-8-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-9X-P

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Transit Administration

[Docket Number: FTA-2006-24947]

#### Notice of Availability of Proposed Interim Guidance and Instructions for Small Starts and Request for Comments

**AGENCY:** Federal Transit Administration (FTA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability; Request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces the availability of the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA's) proposed Interim Guidance and Instructions: Small Starts Provision of the Section 5309 New Starts Program and requests your comments on it. The proposed guidance explains submission requirements and evaluation criteria that FTA plans to use to evaluate Small Starts projects in the interim period before publication of the Final Rule for Major Capital Investment Projects. FTA requests comments on the proposed interim guidance, which is available in DOT's electronic docket and on FTA's Web site.

**DATES:** Comments must be received by July 10, 2006. Late filed comments will be considered to the extent practicable.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments [identified by DOT DMS Docket Number FTA-2006-24947] by any of the following methods:

Web site: <http://dms.dot.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments on the DOT electronic docket site.

Fax: 202-493-2251.

Mail: Docket Management Facility;  
U.S. Department of Transportation, 400

Seventh Street, SW., Nassif Building,  
PL-401, Washington, DC 20590-0001.

**Hand Delivery:** Room PL-401 on the plaza level of the Nassif Building, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

**Instructions:** You must include the agency name (Federal Transit Administration) and the docket number (FTA-2006-24947). You should submit two copies of your comments if you submit them by mail. If you wish to receive confirmation that FTA received your comments, you must include a self-addressed stamped postcard. Note that all comments received will be posted without change to the Department's Docket Management System (DMS) Web site located at <http://dms.dot.gov>. This means that if your comment includes any personal identifying information, such information will be made available to users of DMS.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ron Fisher, Office of Planning and Environment, telephone (202) 366-4033, Federal Transit Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590 or [Ronald.Fisher@dot.gov](mailto:Ronald.Fisher@dot.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### 1. Background

The Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act—A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), enacted on August 10, 2005, established a new "Small Starts" program category for projects that seek less than \$75,000,000 in funding from the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA's) Section 5309 New Starts Program and that have a total project cost of less than \$250,000,000. SAFETEA-LU called for FTA to issue regulations to implement this new program category. Authorizations for Small Starts begin in Fiscal Year 2007. In addition, SAFETEA-LU made a number of other changes in FTA's New Starts Program (for projects too large to qualify as a Small Start). Consistent with SAFETEA-LU requirements to do so, FTA published a notice in the **Federal Register** on January 19, 2006, providing proposed revisions to FTA's New Starts Policy and draft New Starts Program guidance. This notice indicated that changes in the New Starts program required by SAFETEA-LU would be subject to a subsequent rulemaking and provided additional material describing possible approaches to implementing the changes which would be the subject of that rulemaking. In addition, on January 30, 2006, FTA issued an

Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM) related to implementation of the Small Starts program category. In both **Federal Register** notices, FTA indicated that it expected that a single regulation would be issued to cover both Small Starts and New Starts and that a later Notice of Proposed Rulemaking would be issued covering both programs. As promised in the January 19, 2006, notice, on May 22, 2006, FTA issued a notice responding to the comments received on the proposed New Starts policy changes and draft Program Guidance, announcing the final policy changes and making available the final Program Guidance.

The statutory language in section 5309(e) of Title 49, United States Code, which establishes the Small Starts category, provides for some significant differences for the Small Starts program in comparison to the requirements for larger New Starts projects in section 5309(d). The eligibility for funding is broader, including certain "corridor-based bus capital projects," rather than only new "fixed guideway" systems and extensions. As noted above, projects are limited to those with a proposed section 5309 amount of less than \$75,000,000 and a total project cost of less than \$250,000,000. Recognizing the smaller size of the projects to be funded, a number of simplifications are put in place. First, the project justification criteria are simplified, focusing on three criteria—cost-effectiveness, public transportation supportive land use policies, and effect on local economic development—rather than the more extensive list provided for in section 5309(d). The criteria for local financial commitment have been simplified to focus only on a shorter term financial plan. The project development process has three steps—alternatives analysis, project development, and construction—rather than the four steps—alternatives analysis, preliminary engineering, final design, and construction—in the section 5309(d) process. Finally, the instrument used for implementing these Small Starts projects is a "project construction grant agreement," which is to be structured as a streamlined version of the "full funding grant agreement" required for larger New Starts projects under section 5309(d).

##### 2. Summary

As noted in the May 22, 2006, notice, FTA received numerous comments on both the January 19, 2006, notice on New Starts and the January 30, 2006 ANPRM on Small Starts. It has become clear that the issues involved in developing the New Starts/Small Starts