DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[Notice 

[Submit comments through the Federal eRulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov or by mail, email, or hand delivery.

I. Background

II. Exemption Decision

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Charles A. Horan, III, Director, Carrier, Driver and Vehicle Safety Standards, 202–366–4001, fmcsamedical@dot.gov, FMCSA, Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Room W64–224, Washington, DC 20590–0001. Office hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Under 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, FMCSA may renew an exemption from the vision requirements in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10), which applies to drivers of CMVs in interstate commerce, for a two-year period if it finds “such exemption would likely achieve a level of safety that is equivalent to or greater than the level that would be achieved absent such exemption.” The procedures for requesting an exemption (including renewals) are set out in 49 CFR part 381.

II. Exemption Decision

This notice addresses 26 individuals who have requested renewal of their exemptions in accordance with FMCSA procedures. FMCSA has evaluated these 26 applications for renewal on their merits and decided to extend each exemption for a renewable two-year period. They are:

- Rex A. Botsford (MI)
- William D. Cardiff (IL)
- Roger C. Carson (IN)
- Gregory L. Cooper (PA)
- Kenneth D. Craig (VA)
- Terry J. Dare (IN)
- Jerald O. Edwards (ID)
- Breck L. Falcon (LA)
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- Emanuel N. Malone (VA)
- Roberto E. Martinez (WA)
- Travis W. Neiwert (ID)
- Bernard J. Phillips (WA)
- James A. Smith (WA)
- Clarence L. Swann, Jr. (AL)
- Michael G. Trueblood (IL)
- Donald A. Uplinger II (OH)
- Kerry W. VanStory (TX)
- Steven M. Vujicic (IL)

The exemptions are extended subject to the following conditions: (1) That each individual has a physical examination every year (a) by an ophthalmologist or optometrist who attests that the vision in the better eye continues to meet the requirements in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10), and (b) by a medical examiner who attests that the individual is otherwise physically qualified under 49 CFR 391.41; (2) that each individual provides a copy of the ophthalmologist’s or optometrist’s report to the medical examiner at the time of the annual medical examination; and (3) that each individual provide a copy of the annual medical certification to the employer for retention in the driver’s qualification file and retains a copy of the certification on his/her person while driving for presentation to

Any interested person may submit comments, including any personal information, at any time during the 365 days each year. If you want acknowledgment that we received your comments, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope or postcard or print the acknowledgement page that appears after submitting comments on-line.

Privacy Act: In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552a, each Docket. FMCSA seeks public comments on the collection of personal information by the agency. Comments are available to the public and may be sold by the Government Printing Office.

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a duly authorized Federal, State, or local enforcement official. Each exemption will be valid for two years unless rescinded earlier by FMCSA. The exemption will be rescinded if: (1) The person fails to comply with the terms and conditions of the exemption; (2) the exemption has resulted in a lower level of safety than was maintained before it was granted; or (3) continuation of the exemption would not be consistent with the goals and objectives of 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315.

III. Basis for Renewing Exemptions

Under 49 U.S.C. 31315(b)(1), an exemption may be granted for no longer than two years from its approval date and may be renewed upon application for additional two year periods. In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, each of the 26 applicants has satisfied the entry conditions for obtaining an exemption from the vision requirements (65 FR 78256; 66 FR 16311; 67 FR 76439; 68 FR 10290; 68 FR 10301; 69 FR 13360; 68 FR 19596; 69 FR 33997; 69 FR 61292; 69 FR 64806; 70 FR 2701; 70 FR 2705; 70 FR 7543; 70 FR 12265; 70 FR 16886; 70 FR 16887; 72 FR 184; 72 FR 5489; 72 FR 11425; 72 FR 11426; 72 FR 12666; 72 FR 18726; 72 FR 25831; 74 FR 7097; 74 FR 8842; 74 FR 11988; 74 FR 11991; 74 FR 15584; 74 FR 15586; 74 FR 21427; 74 FR 21796; 75 FR 77942; 76 FR 5425; 76 FR 21796; 76 FR 25762; 78 FR 22596). Each of these 26 applicants has requested renewal of the exemption and has submitted evidence showing that the vision in the better eye continues to meet the requirement specified at 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10) and that the vision impairment is stable. In addition, a review of each record of safety while driving with the respective vision deficiencies over the past two years indicates each applicant continues to meet the vision exemption requirements. These factors provide an adequate basis for predicting each driver’s ability to continue to drive safely in interstate commerce. Therefore, FMCSA concludes that extending the exemption for each renewal applicant for a period of two years is likely to achieve a level of safety equal to that existing without the exemption.

IV. Public Participation and Request for Comments

FMCSA encourages you to participate by submitting comments and related materials.

Submitting Comments

If you submit a comment, please include the docket number for this notice (FMCSA–2000–8398; FMCSA–2002–13411; FMCSA–2003–14223; FMCSA–2004–17984; FMCSA–2004–19477; FMCSA–2005–20027; FMCSA–2007–27333; FMCSA–2008–0398; FMCSA–2009–0054; FMCSA–2010–0385), indicate the specific section of this document to which each comment applies, and provide a reason for each suggestion or recommendation. You may submit your comments and material online or by fax, mail, or hand delivery, but please use only one of these means. FMCSA recommends that you include your name and a mailing address, an email address, or a phone number in the body of your document so the Agency can contact you if it has questions regarding your submission.

To submit your comment online, got to http://www.regulations.gov and put the docket number, “FMCSA–2000–8398; FMCSA–2002–13411; FMCSA–2003–14223; FMCSA–2004–17984; FMCSA–2004–19477; FMCSA–2005–20027; FMCSA–2007–27333; FMCSA–2008–0398; FMCSA–2009–0054; FMCSA–2010–0385” in the “Keyword” box, and click “Search.” When the new screen appears, click on “Comment Now!” button and type your comment into the text box in the following screen. Choose whether you are submitting your comment as an individual or on behalf of a third party and then submit. If you submit your comments by mail or hand delivery, submit them in an unbound format, no larger than 8½ by 11 inches, suitable for copying and electronic filing. If you submit comments by mail and would like to know that they reached the facility, enclose a stamped, self-addressed postcard or envelope. FMCSA will consider all comments and material received during the comment period and may change this notice based on your comments.

Viewing Comments and Documents

To view comments, as well as any documents mentioned in this preamble as being available in the docket, go to http://www.regulations.gov and in the search box insert the docket number, “FMCSA–2000–8398; FMCSA–2002–13411; FMCSA–2003–14223; FMCSA–2004–17984; FMCSA–2004–19477; FMCSA–2005–20027; FMCSA–2007–27333; FMCSA–2008–0398; FMCSA–2009–0054; FMCSA–2010–0385” in the “Keyword” box and click “Search.” Next, click “Open Docket Folder” button choose the document listed to view. If you do not have access to the Internet, you may view the docket online by visiting the Docket Management Facility in Room W12–140 on the ground floor of the DOT West Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Issued on: March 19, 2015.

Larry W. Minor, Associate Administrator for Policy.

[FR Doc. 2015–07049 Filed 3–26–15; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[Docket No. FMCSA–2014–0071]

Hours of Service of Drivers: McKee Foods Transportation, LLC, Application for Exemption

AGENCY: Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of final disposition; grant of application for exemption.

SUMMARY: FMCSA announces its decision to grant an exemption to McKee Foods Transportation, LLC (MFT) from certain provisions of the Agency’s hours-of-service (HOS) regulations. MFT proposed that its team drivers be granted an exemption from the HOS rules pertaining to use of a sleeper berth (SB). Current HOS rules require that all SB rest regimens include, in part, the use of an SB for at least 8 hours—combined with a separate period of at least 2 hours, either in the SB, off-duty or some combination of both—to gain the equivalent of at least 10 consecutive hours off duty. The exemption will allow MFT’s team drivers to take the equivalent of 10 consecutive hours off duty by splitting SB time into two periods totaling 10 hours, provided neither of the two periods is less than 3 hours.

DATES: This exemption is effective March 27, 2015 and expires on March 27, 2016.


Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents or comments submitted to notice requesting public comments on the exemption application, go to www.regulations.gov at any time or visit Room W12–140 on the ground level of the West Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., ET, Monday through