FMVSS No. 212; Windshield Mounting

This standard establishes the retention requirements for windshields in motor vehicle crashes. The purpose of the standard is to reduce injuries and fatalities in crashes by providing retention of a vehicle’s windshield during a crash by utilizing the penetration-resistance and injury-avoidance properties of the windshield glazing material and preventing occupant ejection from the vehicle. This standard does not apply to the back glass at issue in this petition. No other FMVSS establishes a minimum level of performance for back glass retention in either convertible or hard top vehicles.

IV. ODI’s Assessment

The adhesive bond of the convertible top back glass to the top material can lose its bonding properties over time. From complainant descriptions, it appears that separation of the glass generally starts in a small area, possibly at a lower corner. Over time, the separation can progress around the glass to a point at which the glass is visibly and physically loose from the top material and in some cases can separate completely from the top. Because of the angle at which the glass is installed in the top it will tend to fall inside of the vehicle onto the tonneau cover, behind the only two available seats for the vehicle occupants. In addition, the glass panel in question is larger than the rear window opening in the convertible top. Therefore, the glass would have to rotate and move in several planes of motion to pass through the rear window opening after detaching from the top.

ODI has also previously examined rear window separation in the subject vehicles. Based on 11 VOQs reporting some degree of rear glass separation, ODI first examined rear glass separation in MY 2005 Chrysler Crossfire Roadsters in late 2009. Soon thereafter, ODI contacted Chrysler seeking complaint information concerning the issue. Chrysler provided a confidential response to ODI on January 29, 2010. Chrysler’s response did not contain any information indicating that the separation of the rear glass in the subject vehicles posed an unreasonable risk to safety. However, Chrysler subsequently provided a limited extended warranty to some owners.

As part of this petition analysis, ODI sent an information request to FCA requesting information for any reports that resulted in any injury or fatality to any person either in the vehicle or outside of the vehicle; a vehicle crash or loss of control incident; or a back glass leaving the confines of the vehicle top. FCA’s response to this request provided one report in which it was alleged that the back glass went off the back of the vehicle while being driven. FCA’s response letter explains that the Company believes that the back glass did not separate and fall off the back of the vehicle as alleged by the individual submitting the complaint to FCA. ODI also notes that FCA’s May 19, 2015 response letter answering our information request for this petition erroneously concludes that ODI previously found that no safety defect existed when we reviewed information submitted by Chrysler on January 29, 2010. ODI’s decision not to take further action at that time is not, as Chrysler suggests, a finding that no safety defect existed.

ODI’s analysis, our second examination of Crossfire Roadster rear window separations, indicates that there are not any crashes, deaths or injuries related to this issue. The configuration of the window opening and the size of the window glass itself indicates that it is unlikely that the glass would pass through the window opening once the rear glass has completely separated from the convertible top. Further, although the petitioner states that Chrysler’s extended warranty policy for these vehicles is unreasonable, the question that ODI must answer is whether the separation of the rear glass from the convertible top results in an unreasonable risk to safety. The evidence revealed by our analysis does not presently support such a finding.

V. Conclusion

For the reasons presented in the petition analysis, and after thorough assessment of the potential risks to safety, it is unlikely that an order concerning the notification and remedy of a safety-related defect would be issued as a result of granting Mr. Devries petition. After full consideration of the potential for finding a safety related defect in these vehicles and in view of the need to allocate and prioritize NHTSA’s limited resources to best accomplish the agency’s mission, the petition is respectfully denied.

This action does not constitute a finding by NHTSA that a safety-related defect does not exist. The Agency will take further action if warranted by future circumstances.

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 30162(d); delegations of authority at CFR 1.95 and 501.8.

Frank S. Borris, II,
Acting Associate Administrator for Enforcement.

[FR Doc. 2015–20380 Filed 8–18–15; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4910–59–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board
[Docket No. AB 6 (Sub-No. 490X)]

BNSF Railway Company—Abandonment Exemption—in King County, Wash.

BNSF Railway Company (BNSF) has filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR pt. 1152 subpart F—Exempt Abandonments to abandon 1,100 linear feet of rail line between milepost 4.53 and the end of the line at Engineering Station 258+07 in Seattle, King County, Wash. (the Line). The Line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Code 98119.

BNSF has certified that: (1) No local traffic has been handled over the Line since prior to 1995; (2) no overhead traffic has been handled on the Line since prior to 1995; (3) no formal complaint filed by a user of rail service on the Line for by a state or local government entity acting on behalf of such user) regarding cessation of service
over the Line either is pending with the Surface Transportation Board (Board) or with any U.S. District Court or has been decided in favor of a complainant within the two-year period; and (4) the requirements at 49 CFR 1105.7(c) (environmental report), 49 CFR 1105.11 (transmittal letter), 49 CFR 1105.12 (newspaper publication), and 49 CFR 1152.50(d)(1) (notice to governmental agencies) have been met.

As a condition to this exemption, any employee adversely affected by the abandonment shall be protected under Oregon Short Line Railroad—Abandonment Portion Goshen Branch Between Firth & Ammon, in Bingham & Bonneville Counties, Idaho, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979). To address whether this condition adequately protects affected employees, a petition for partial revocation under 49 U.S.C. 10502(d) must be filed.

Provided no formal expression of intent to file an offer of financial assistance (OFA) has been received, this exemption will be effective on September 18, 2015, unless stayed pending reconsideration. Petitions to stay that do not involve environmental issues, formal expressions of intent to file an OFA under 49 CFR 1152.27(c)(2), and interim trail use/rail banking requests under 49 CFR 1152.29 must be filed by August 31, 2015.

Petitions to reopen or requests for public use conditions under 49 CFR 1152.28 must be filed by September 8, 2015, with the Surface Transportation Board, 395 E Street SW., Washington, DC 20423–0001.

A copy of any petition filed with the Board should be sent to applicant’s representative: Karl Morell, Karl Morell & Associates, 655 Fifteenth Street NW., Suite 225, Washington, DC 20005.

If the verified notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void ab initio.

BNSF has filed environmental and historic reports that address the effects, if any, of the abandonment on the environment and historic resources. OEA will issue an environmental assessment (EA) by August 24, 2015. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the EA by writing to OEA (Room 1100, Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423–0001) or by calling OEA at (202) 245–0305. Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through the Federal Information Relay Service at (800) 877–8339. Comments on environmental and historic preservation matters must be filed within 15 days after the EA becomes available to the public.

Environmental, historic preservation, public use, or trail use/rail banking conditions will be imposed, where appropriate, in a subsequent decision. Pursuant to the provisions of 49 CFR 1152.29(c)(2), BNSF shall file a notice of consummation with the Board to signify that it has exercised the authority granted and fully abandoned the line. If consummation has not been effected by filing of a notice of consummation by August 19, 2016, and there are no legal or regulatory barriers to consummation, the authority to abandon will automatically expire.

Board decisions and notices are available on our Web site at “WWW.STB.DOT.GOV.”

Decided: August 14, 2015.

By the Board, Rachel D. Campbell, Director, Office of Proceedings.

Jeffrey Herzig,
Clearance Clerk.

[FR Doc. 2015–20519 Filed 8–18–15; 8:45 am] 203,193
BILLING CODE 4915–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: Department of the Treasury
ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury will submit the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13, on or after the date of publication of this notice.

DATES: Comments should be received on or before September 18, 2015 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Send comments regarding the burden estimate, or any other aspect of the information collection, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to (1) Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Attention: Desk Officer for Treasury, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503, or email at OIRA_Submission@OMB.EOP.gov and (2) Treasury PRA Clearance Officer, 1750 Pennsylvania Ave. NW., Suite 8140, Washington, DC 20220, or email at PRA@treasury.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by emailing PRA@treasury.gov or viewing the entire information collection request at www.reginfo.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

DEPARTMENTAL OFFICES, OFFICE OF THE PROCUREMENT EXECUTIVE

OMB Number: 1505–0081.
Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.
Title: Solicitation of Proposal Information for Award of Public Contracts.

Abstract: Information requested of offerors is specific to each procurement solicitation, and is required for Treasury to properly evaluate the capabilities and experience of potential contractors who desire to provide the supplies or services to be acquired. Evaluation will be used to determine which proposal most benefits the Government.

Affected Public: Private Sector; Businesses or other for-profits.

Estimated Burden Hours: 203,193.


Dawn D. Wolfgang,
Treasury PRA Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2015–20375 Filed 8–18–15; 8:45 am] 203,193
BILLING CODE 4810–25–P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900–0160]

Agency Information Collection: (Per Diem for Nursing Home Care of Veterans in State Homes; Per Diem for Domiciliary Adult Day Health Care of Veterans in State Homes)

AGENCY: Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Veterans Health Administration (VHA), Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), is announcing an opportunity for public comment on the proposed collection of certain information by the agency. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, Federal agencies are required to publish notice in the Federal Register concerning each proposed collection of information and allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments on the information needed to provide payment of per diem to State homes that provide nursing home care to eligible