DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Federal Highway Administration

Buy America Waiver Notification

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice provides information regarding FHWA's finding that a Buy America waiver is appropriate for the use of non-domestic iron and steel components of casings, housings, electrical, and mechanical equipment needed for rehabilitation of Isthmus Bridge in the State of Oregon.

DATES: The effective date of the waiver is August 25, 2016.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For questions about this notice, please contact Mr. Gerald Yakowenko, FHWA Office of Program Administration, (202) 366–1562, or via email at gerald.yakowenko@dot.gov. For legal questions, please contact Mr. William Winne, FHWA Office of the Chief Counsel, 202–366–1397, or via email at William.Winne@dot.gov. Office hours for the FHWA are from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., E.T., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

SURPLUS INFORMATION:

Electronic Access


Background

The FHWA’s Buy America policy in 23 CFR 635.410 requires a domestic manufacturing process for any steel or iron products (including protective coatings) that are permanently incorporated in a Federal-aid construction project. The regulation also provides for a waiver of the Buy America requirements when the application would be inconsistent with the public interest or when satisfactory quality domestic steel and iron products are not sufficiently available. This notice provides information regarding FHWA’s finding that a Buy America waiver is appropriate for use of non-domestic iron and steel components of casings, housings, electrical, and mechanical equipment for rehabilitation of Isthmus Bridge in the State of Oregon.

In accordance with Division K, section 122 of the “Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015” (Pub. L. 113–235), FHWA published a notice of intent to issue a waiver on its Web site: http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/construction/contracts/waivers.cfm?id=127 on June 9th. The FHWA received no comments in response to the publication. Based on all the information available to the agency, FHWA concludes that there are no domestic manufacturers of casings, housings, electrical and mechanical equipment for in-kind replacement and rehabilitation of Isthmus Bridge in Oregon.

In accordance with the provisions of section 117 of the SAFETEA–LU Technical Corrections Act of 2008 (Pub. L. 110–244, 122 Stat. 1572), FHWA is providing this notice as its finding that a waiver of Buy America requirements is appropriate. The FHWA invites public comment on this finding for an additional 15 days following the effective date of the finding. Comments may be submitted to FHWA’s Web site via the link provided to the waiver page noted above.


Issued on: August 15, 2016.

Gregory G. Nadeau,
Administrator, Federal Highway Administration

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Federal Highway Administration

[Docket No. FHWA–2016–0015]

Emergency Route Working Group (ERWG)—Federal Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of Establishment of the Emergency Route Working Group; Request for Nominations.

SUMMARY: FHWA announces the establishment of the Emergency Route Working Group (ERWG) for a 2-year period. The ERWG will provide the U.S. Secretary of Transportation, through the Administrator of the FHWA, with advice and recommendations for the implementation of best practices for expedient State approval of special permits for vehicles involved in emergency response and recovery. The ERWG will provide the U.S. Secretary of Transportation a written report by December 4, 2016, on its findings and recommendations. The ERWG’s advice and recommendations will work within existing legal authorities and not require changes in State or Federal law for DOT to implement.

DATES: The deadline for nominations for ERWG members must be received on or before September 23, 2016.

ADDRESSES: All nomination materials should be emailed to erwg@dot.gov or faxed to the attention of Crystal Jones at (202) 366–3225, or mailed to Crystal Jones, Federal Highway Administration, Office of Freight Management and Operations, Room E84–314, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590. Any person needing accessibility accommodations should contact Crystal Jones at (202) 366–2976; email: erwg@dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 5502 of the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation (FAST) Act (P.L. 114–94, 129 Stat. 1312) requires the Secretary of Transportation to establish a working group to determine best practices for expedient State approval of special permits for vehicles involved in emergency response and recovery. Pursuant to Section 9(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), and in accordance with 41 CFR 102–3.65, and following consultation with the Committee Management Secretariat, General Services Administration, notice is hereby given that the ERWG will be established for up to a 2-year period. The ERWG will provide the U.S. Secretary of Transportation, through the Administrator of the FHWA, with advice and recommendations for the implementation of best practices for expedient State approval of special permits for vehicles involved in emergency response and recovery. The ERWG will provide the U.S. Secretary of Transportation a written report by December 4, 2016, on its findings and recommendations. The ERWG’s advice and recommendations will work within existing legal authorities and not require changes in State or Federal law for DOT to implement.

The Department of Transportation is hereby soliciting nominations for members of the ERWG. The Federal Highway Administrator, on behalf of the Secretary of Transportation, will appoint up to 25 ERWG members. The