

after that date will be considered as far as practicable.

Anyone is able to search the electronic form of any written communications and comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the document, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its processes. DOT posts these comments, without edit, including any personal information the commenter provides, to www.regulations.gov, as described in the system of records notice (DOT/ALL-14 FDMS), which can be reviewed at <https://www.transportation.gov/privacy>. See also <https://www.regulations.gov/privacyNotice> for the privacy notice of www.regulations.gov.

Robert C. Lauby,

*Associate Administrator for Railroad Safety
Chief Safety Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2017-07013 Filed 4-7-17; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket Number FRA-2016-0125]

Petition for Waiver of Compliance

Under part 211 of Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), this document provides the public notice that on December 15, 2016, the Age of Steam Roundhouse (AOSR) petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) for a waiver of compliance from certain provisions of the Federal railroad safety regulations contained at 49 CFR part 230, Steam Locomotive Inspection and Maintenance Standards. FRA assigned the petition Docket Number FRA-2016-0125.

AOSR maintains and operates the locomotive number 1293, a 4-6-2 Pacific Class type steam locomotive built by the Canadian Locomotive Works in 1948 for the Canadian Pacific Railway. AOSR requests relief from performing the 1,472 service day inspection (SDI) required by 49 CFR 231.17, for number 1293, as it pertains to the inspection of the boiler. AOSR is requesting an additional 3 calendar years before performing the 1,472 SDI. The previous SDI was performed on May 4, 2002. Granting relief will allow number 1293 a SDI period of 18 calendar years, while not exceeding the 1,472 service days.

AOSR sporadically operates number 1293 on the Ohio Central Railroad (OHCR), part of the Genesee & Wyoming Corporation (GWRR). AOSR's justification for requesting relief is that number 1293 has only operated for a total 285 service days within the 15 calendar year period. Due to the purchase of OHCR by the GWRR in 2008, AOSR now only operates number 1293 for static and switching displays at its facility while under steam. Since 2008, number 1293 has tallied 34 service days. AOSR anticipates that number 1293 will be used for approximately 34 additional service days during the requested time extension.

A copy of the petition, as well as any written communications concerning the petition, is available for review online at www.regulations.gov and in person at the Department of Transportation's (DOT) Docket Operations Facility, 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE., W12-140, Washington, DC 20590. The Docket Operations Facility is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

Interested parties are invited to participate in these proceedings by submitting written views, data, or comments. FRA does not anticipate scheduling a public hearing in connection with these proceedings since the facts do not appear to warrant a hearing. If any interested parties desire an opportunity for oral comment and a public hearing, they should notify FRA, in writing, before the end of the comment period and specify the basis for their request.

All communications concerning these proceedings should identify the appropriate docket number and may be submitted by any of the following methods:

- *Web site:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
- *Fax:* 202-493-2251.
- *Mail:* Docket Operations Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., W12-140, Washington, DC 20590.
- *Hand Delivery:* 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

Communications received by May 25, 2017 will be considered by FRA before final action is taken. Comments received after that date will be considered if practicable.

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submitting the comment (or signing the document, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). Under 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its processes. DOT posts these comments, without edit, including any personal information the commenter provides, to www.regulations.gov, as described in the system of records notice (DOT/ALL-14 FDMS), which can be reviewed at <https://www.transportation.gov/privacy>. See also <https://www.regulations.gov/privacyNotice> for the privacy notice of www.regulations.gov.

Robert C. Lauby,

*Associate Administrator for Railroad Safety,
Chief Safety Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2017-07014 Filed 4-7-17; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket Number FRA-2017-0021]

Notice of Application for Approval of Discontinuance or Modification of a Railroad Signal System

Under part 235 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) and 49 U.S.C. 20502(a), this document provides the public notice that on March 2, 2017, National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) seeking approval for the discontinuance or modification of a signal system. FRA assigned the petition Docket Number FRA-2017-0021.

Applicant: National Railroad Passenger Corporation, Mr. Nicholas J. Croce III, PE, Deputy Chief Engineer C&S, Acting, 2995 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104.

Amtrak seeks to remove the wayside signals on both Main Tracks No. 1 and No. 2 at automatic block points 1572 and 1607 on Amtrak's Northeast Corridor, New England Division, in Rhode Island. Signals 1572-1 and 1572-2 at block point 1572 will fall within the limits of the future Liberty interlocking. These signals will be removed due to the installation of the new Liberty interlocking. The westbound distant signals to Kingston interlocking at block point 1607, signals 1607-1 and 1607-2 are not required in NORAC Rule 562 territory and cab signals without fixed automatic block signals will be removed from service. Block point 1607 will remain in service as a block point without wayside signals.

The existing automatic train control and Advanced Civil Speed Enforcement System (ACSES) designs will be modified to support the modifications to the block design with the addition of the new Liberty interlocking. ACSES will enforce a positive stop at each interlocking and a stop to a train with failed cab signal equipment unless the "C" signal is displayed allowing the failed train to enter the block.

The reason for removal of the signals is to eliminate maintenance and operation of unnecessary hardware no longer needed, and to reduce delays to trains caused by failures of the signals.

A copy of the petition, as well as any written communications concerning the petition, is available for review online at www.regulations.gov and in person at the U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) Docket Operations Facility, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., W12-140, Washington, DC 20590. The Docket Operations Facility is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

Interested parties are invited to participate in these proceedings by submitting written views, data, or comments. FRA does not anticipate scheduling a public hearing in connection with these proceedings since the facts do not appear to warrant a hearing. If any interested parties desire an opportunity for oral comment and a public hearing, they should notify FRA, in writing, before the end of the comment period and specify the basis for their request.

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Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

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- *Hand Delivery:* 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

Communications received by May 25, 2017 will be considered by FRA before final action is taken. Comments received after that date will be considered if practicable.

Anyone can search the electronic form of any written communications and comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the document, if submitted on behalf of an

association, business, labor union, etc.). Under 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its processes. DOT posts these comments, without edit, including any personal information the commenter provides, to www.regulations.gov, as described in the system of records notice (DOT/ALL-14 FDMS), which can be reviewed at <https://www.transportation.gov/privacy>. See also <https://www.regulations.gov/privacyNotice> for the privacy notice of www.regulations.gov.

Issued in Washington, DC.

Robert C. Lauby,

*Associate Administrator for Railroad Safety,
Chief Safety Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2017-07018 Filed 4-7-17; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket Number FRA-2016-0126]

Petition for Waiver of Compliance

In accordance with part 211 of Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), this document provides the public notice that by a document dated December 19, 2016, the Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority (CMTA) has petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) for a waiver of compliance from certain provisions of the Federal railroad safety regulations for the purchase of four new railcars from Stadler Bussnang AG. Specifically, CMTA is requesting relief from 49 CFR part 229, Railroad Locomotive Safety Standards (229.47, 229.71, 229.135(b)(4)(xviii) and (xix)); 49 CFR part 231, Railroad Safety Appliance Standards (231.14(a)(2), (b)-(d), (f), (g)); and 49 CFR part 238, Passenger Equipment Safety Standards (238.305, 238.229, 238.230(d), and 238.309(b)). FRA assigned the petition Docket Number FRA-2016-0028.

The Capital Metro commuter rail system consists of a single rail line, known as the Red Line, running from downtown Austin, TX, to Austin's northern suburbs, a distance of 32 miles. The Red Line service began in March 2010. The current operation serves nine stations with a fleet of six diesel multiple unit (DMU) rail vehicles designated as model G1 GTWs, manufactured by Stadler Bussnag AG. Due to steadily increasing ridership and a desire to enhance service, Capital Metro will be adding four additional DMUs, manufactured by Stadler and designated model G4 GTW.

The Stadler G4 GTW DMUs are based on the G2 GTW DMUs, which are currently operating at the Denton County Transportation Authority in Denton, TX. The new vehicles are designed and built to current European design and regulatory standards, which differ in several areas from current U.S. design standards and regulations. Capital Metro believes that the design characteristics of the Stadler G4 GTW vehicles provide an equivalent or higher level of safety and security to the passengers and crew.

Capital Metro has organized its regulatory compliance efforts into two distinct but related parts: Part 1 represents the "base" compliance assessment effort (this petition) and Part 2 represents a separate petition to utilize Alternative Vehicle Technology crashworthiness technology as outlined in "Technical Criteria and Procedures for Evaluating the Crashworthiness and Occupant Protection Performance of Alternatively-Designed Passenger Rail Equipment for Use in Tier I Service" and the recent notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) on Passenger Equipment Safety Standards; Standards for Alternative Compliance and High-Speed Trainsets NPRM (81 FR 88006, December 6, 2016).

Noting that certain provisions in 49 CFR part 231 pertaining to safety appliances are statutorily required, and therefore not subject to FRA's waiver authority, CMTA also requested that FRA exercise its authority under 49 U.S.C. 20306 to exempt CMTA from certain provisions of Chapter 203, Title 49 of the United States Code because the G4 GTW DMU vehicles will be equipped with their own array of safety devices resulting in equivalent safety.

A copy of the petition, as well as any written communications concerning the petition, is available for review online at www.regulations.gov and in person at the U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) Docket Operations Facility, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., W12-140, Washington, DC 20590. The Docket Operations Facility is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

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