

comment period and otherwise consult with members of the public and affected agencies concerning each proposed collection of information. The OMB has promulgated regulations describing what must be included in such a document. Under OMB's regulation, See 5 CFR 1320.8(d), an agency must ask for public comment on the following:

(i) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(ii) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(iii) how to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(iv) how to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

In compliance with these requirements, NHTSA asks for public comments on the following collection of information:

Title of Collection: Petitions for Hearings on Notification and Remedy of Defects.

Type of Request: Extension of a currently approved information collection.

OMB Control Number: 2127-0039.

Affected Public: Businesses or others for profit.

Abstract: Sections 30118(e) and 30120(e) of Title 49 of the United States Code specify that any interested person may petition NHTSA to hold a hearing to determine whether a manufacturer of motor vehicles or motor vehicle equipment has met its obligation to notify owners, purchasers, and dealers of vehicles or equipment of a safety-related defect or noncompliance with a Federal motor vehicle safety standard in the manufacturer's products and to remedy that defect or noncompliance.

To implement these statutory provisions, NHTSA promulgated 49 CFR part 557, Petitions for Hearings on Notification and Remedy of Defects. Part 557 establishes procedures providing for the submission and disposition of petitions for hearings on the issues of whether the manufacturer has met its obligation to notify owners, purchasers, and dealers of safety-related defects or noncompliance, or to remedy such defect or noncompliance free of charge.

Estimated annual burden: During NHTSA's last renewal of this information collection, the agency estimated it would receive one petition a year, with an estimated one hour of preparation for each petition, for a total of one burden hour per year. That estimate remains unchanged with this notice.

Number of respondents: 1.

Comments are invited on: Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; the accuracy of the Department's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval.

Authority: 44 U.S.C. 3506(c); delegation of authority at 49 CFR 1.50 and 501.8(f).

Stephen A. Ridella,

Director, Office of Defects Investigation.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Office of the Secretary

[Docket No. DOT-OST-2010-0211]

RIN 2105-AE07

Notice of Submission of Proposed Information Collection to OMB Agency Request for Renewal of a Previously Approved Information Collection Request: Reports by Air Carriers on Incidents Involving Animals During Air Transport

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary (OST), Department of Transportation (Department or DOT).

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Department's intention to apply to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to renew the previously approved information collection request (ICR) OMB No. 2105-0552, "Reports by Air Carriers on Incidents Involving Animals During Air Transport." The current information collection request approved by OMB expires August 31, 2018.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by July 20, 2018.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments (identified by Docket No. DOT-OST-2010-0211) through one of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

- *Mail:* Docket Management Facility; U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, West Building, Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590.

- *Hand Delivery:* U.S. Department of Transportation, West Building Ground Floor, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on Federal Holidays. The telephone number is 202-366-9329.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Vinh Q. Nguyen, Senior Trial Attorney, Office of the General Counsel, Office of the Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590, 202-366-9342 (Voice), 202-366-7152 (fax), or vinh.nguyen@dot.gov (email).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Reports by Air Carriers on Incidents Involving Animals During Air Transport.

OMB Control Number: 2105-0552.

Type of Request: Renewal of currently approved Information Collection Request.

Background: The Wendell H. Ford Aviation Investment and Reform Act for the 21st Century or "AIR-21" (Pub. L. 106-181), which was signed into law on April 5, 2000, includes section 710, "Reports by Carriers on Incidents Involving Animals During Air Transport." This provision was codified as 49 U.S.C. 41721. The statute requires air carriers that provide scheduled passenger air transportation to submit monthly to the Secretary of Transportation a report on any incidents involving the loss, injury, or death of an animal (as defined by the Secretary of Transportation) during air transport provided by the air carrier.

On August 11, 2003, DOT, through its Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), issued a final rule implementing section 710 of AIR-21.¹ The rule required air carriers that provide scheduled passenger air transportation to submit a report to APHIS on any incident involving the loss, injury, or death of an animal during air transportation provided by the air carrier. Due to issues regarding whether APHIS had the

¹ Reporting Directive Regarding Incidents Involving Animals During Air Transport, 68 FR 47798 (August 11, 2003).

capability to accept such information directly from the carriers, DOT made a technical change in the rule on February 14, 2005, to require air carriers to submit the required information directly to DOT's Aviation Consumer Protection Division (ACPD) rather than APHIS and to make the rule part of DOT's economic regulations.²

On July 3, 2014, DOT published a final rule amending the requirement that air carriers file reports with DOT on the loss, injury, or death of animals during air transport.³ The rule (1) expanded the reporting requirement from the largest U.S. carriers (*i.e.*, U.S. carriers that account for at least 1 percent of domestic scheduled passenger revenue) to U.S. carriers that operate scheduled service with at least one aircraft with a design capacity of more than 60 seats; (2) expanded the definition of "animal" from only a pet in a family household to include all cats and dogs transported by covered carriers, regardless of whether the cat or dog is transported as a pet by its owner or as part of a commercial shipment (*e.g.*, shipped by a breeder); (3) required covered carriers to file a calendar-year report in December, even if the carrier did not have any reportable incidents during the calendar year; (4) required covered carriers to provide in their December reports the total number of animals that were lost, injured, or died during air transport in the calendar year; and (5) required covered carriers to provide in their December reports the total number of animals transported in the calendar year. On August 25, 2015, OMB approved the information collection request, "Reports by Air Carriers on Incidents Involving Animals During Air Transport," through August 31, 2018.

In order to reduce burden to covered carriers, the ACPD established a website and online system for filing the required reports, <http://animalreport.ost.dot.gov>. This system enables covered carriers to easily and efficiently submit their reports through the internet rather than sending the reports to the Department by mail or email.

Respondents: U.S. carriers that operate scheduled passenger service with at least one aircraft having a designed seating capacity of more than 60 seats.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 32.

² Reports by Air Carriers on Incidents Involving Animals During Air Transport, 70 FR 7392 (February 14, 2005).

³ Reports by Air Carriers on Incidents Involving Animals During Air Transport, 79 FR 37938 (July 3, 2014) (codified at 14 CFR part 235).

Frequency: For each respondent, one information set for the month of December, plus one information set during some other months (1 to 12).

Estimated Total Burden on Respondents: (1) Monthly reports of incidents involving the loss, injury, or death of animals during air transport: 0 to 384 hours (Respondents [32] × Time to Prepare One Monthly Report [1 hour] × Frequency [0 to 12 per year]). (2) December report containing the total number of animals that were lost, injured, or died during air transport in the calendar year and the total number of animals that were transported in the calendar year: 16 hours (Respondents [32] × Time to Prepare One December Report [0.5 hour] × Frequency [1 per year]).

Public comments invited: You are asked to comment on any aspect of this information collection, including (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the Department's performance; (b) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (c) ways for the Department to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collection; and (d) ways that the burden could be minimized without reducing the quality of the collected information.

All comments will become a matter of public record. All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval.

Authority: The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995; 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended; and 49 CFR 1.27(n).

Issued in Washington, DC, on May 15, 2018, under the authority delegated at 49 CFR 1.27(n).

Blane A. Workie,

Assistant General Counsel for Aviation Enforcement and Proceedings.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

[Docket No. DOT-OST-2018-0044]

Notice of Proposed Agency Information Collection Activities; Agency Request To Modify Existing Information Collections: Railroad Rehabilitation and Improvement Financing (RRIF) and Transportation Infrastructure Financing and Innovation Act (TIFIA) Credit Programs

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, Department of Transportation.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the requirements of the Paperwork

Reduction Act of 1995, the Department of Transportation (the Department) invites public comments on a request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to approve modifications to two currently approved Information Collection Requests (ICRs). As part of the modifications to the ICRs, one ICR will be integrated into the other ICR. The modified and integrated ICR will be used to allow entities to apply for Railroad Rehabilitation and Improvement Financing (RRIF) and Transportation Infrastructure Financing and Innovation Act (TIFIA) credit assistance using a common set of forms, rather than having a separate set of forms for each of RRIF and TIFIA. The new, integrated forms have also been updated to reflect changes in law, streamlining of the credit programs, and efficiencies in the application process adopted by the Department. However, the general process of applying for credit assistance is not changing; applications are still accepted on a rolling basis. The ICR continues to be necessary for the Department to evaluate projects and project sponsors for credit program eligibility and creditworthiness as required by law.

DATES: We must receive your comments on or before July 20, 2018.

ADDRESSES: All comments should reference Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) Docket No. DOT-OST-2018-0044. Interested persons are invited to submit written comments on the proposed information collection through one of the following methods:

- **Federal eRulemaking Portal:** <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
- **Fax:** 1-202-493-2251.
- **Mail or Hand Delivery:** Docket Management Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, West Building, Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jenny Barket at Jenny.Barket@dot.gov or (202) 366-9993, or The Build America Bureau via email at BuildAmerica@dot.gov or (202) 366-2300.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: *OMB Control Number:* 2105-0569. *Title:* Letter of Interest and Application Forms for the Railroad Rehabilitation and Improvement Financing and Transportation Infrastructure Financing and Innovation Act Credit Programs.

Type of Review: Modification of existing information collections. *Background:* The RRIF credit program has its origins in Title V of the Railroad