DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

49 CFR Chapter III, Subchapter B
[Docket No. FMCSA–2018–0037]

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs) Which May Be a Barrier to the Safe Integration of Automated Driving Systems in Commercial Vehicle Operations; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of public listening session.

SUMMARY: The FMCSA announces a public listening session on July 12, 2018, to solicit information on issues relating to the design, development, testing, and integration of automated driving systems (ADS) equipped commercial motor vehicles (CMVs) on our Nation’s roadways. The listening session will provide interested parties an opportunity to share their views on the FMCSRs as they relate to the development and safe integration of ADS. It will also allow FMCSA to share with stakeholders the ADS strategy and open a channel for two-way communication. This listening session will supplement the information gathered from FMCSA’s previous requests for comment on issues related to automation. The session will be conducted at the same location as the 2018 Automated Vehicles Symposium sponsored by the Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International and the Transportation Research Board. During the session representatives from FMCSA and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) will solicit information on issues relating to the design, development, testing and integration of ADS-equipped commercial vehicles. Attendees are also encouraged to share any data or analysis on this topic with FMCSA and FHWA representatives.

DATES: The meeting will be held Thursday, July 12, 2018, from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., Pacific Daylight Time (PDT). Comments will be accepted from in-person participants as well as comments submitted via the internet. If all interested participants have had an opportunity to comment, the session may conclude early.

ADDRESS: The public listening session will be held as part of the 2018 Automated Vehicles Symposium at the Hilton San Francisco Union Square, 333 O’Farrell Street, San Francisco, California 94102. Participation in the listening session is free.


Services for Individuals With Disabilities: For information on facilities or services for individuals with disabilities or to request special assistance at the meeting, please contact Victoria Waters, (734) 647–4217 by July 2, 2018.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The FMCSA is responsible for overseeing the safety of CMVs, their drivers, and those motor carriers operating CMVs in interstate commerce. The Agency works with Federal, State, and local enforcement agencies, the motor carrier industry, safety groups, and organized labor to reduce crashes, injuries, and fatalities involving large trucks and buses.

The FMCSRs provide rules to ensure the safe operation of CMVs, as defined in 49 CFR 390.5, which includes vehicles with a gross vehicle weight/ gross combination weight or gross vehicle weight rating/gross combination weight rating, whichever is greater, of 10,001 pounds or more; passenger-carrying vehicles designed or used to transport 9 to 15 passengers for direct compensation; passenger-carrying vehicles designed or used to transport 16 or more passengers; and any size vehicle transporting hazardous materials in a quantity requiring placards.

On September 12, 2017, the Department published the Automated Driving Systems (ADS): A Vision for Safety 2.0. (the Voluntary Guidance), adopting the SAE International (SAE) J3016 standard’s definition for levels of automation. The SAE definitions divide vehicles into levels based on “who does what, when.” Generally:

- **SAE Level 0, No Driving Automation:** the driver performs all driving tasks.
- **SAE Level 1, Driver Assistance:** the vehicle is controlled by the driver, but some driving assist features may be included in the vehicle design.
- **SAE Level 2, Partial Driving Automation:** the vehicle has combined automated functions, like acceleration and steering, but the driver must remain engaged with the driving task and monitor the environment at all times.
- **SAE Level 3, Conditional Driving Automation:** the driver is a necessity, but is not required to monitor the environment. The driver must be ready to take control of the vehicle at all times with notice.
- **SAE Level 4, High Driving Automation:** the vehicle is capable of performing all driving functions under certain conditions. The driver may have the option to control the vehicle.
- **SAE Level 5, Full Driving Automation:** the vehicle is capable of performing all driving functions under all conditions.

Using the SAE levels described above, the Department draws a distinction between Levels 0–2 and 3–5 based on whether the human driver or the automated system is primarily responsible for monitoring the driving environment. For the purposes of this Federal Register notice and the July 12 public listening session, the Agency’s primary focus is SAE Levels 3–5 ADS.

The FMCSA encourages the development of these advanced safety technologies for use in CMVs. The Agency also recognizes the need to work with the States and localities to ensure that all testing and use of these advanced safety systems supports the safe operation and deployment of ADS-equipped CMVs.

FMCSA’s 2018 Request for Comments

On March 28, 2018, FMCSA published “Request for Comments Concerning Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs) Which May Be a

1 Publication No. DOT HS 812 442.
Barrier to the Safe Testing and Deployment of Automated Driving Systems-Equipped Commercial Motor Vehicles on Public Roads.” The notice solicited public comments on existing FMCSRs that may need to be updated, modified, or eliminated to facilitate the safe introduction of ADS-equipped CMVs onto our Nation’s roadways. The Agency indicated that it had commissioned the U.S. Department of Transportation’s John A. Volpe National Transportation Systems Center (Volpe) to conduct a preliminary review of the FMCSRs to identify regulations that may relate to the development and safe introduction of ADS. The Agency requested comments on this report, including whether any of FMCSA’s current safety regulations may hinder the testing and safe integration of ADS-equipped CMVs. Further, FMCSA requested comment on certain FMCSRs likely to be affected as ADS-equipped CMVs are increasingly integrated into our roadways, including regulations concerning hours of service and driver fatigue, the use of electronic devices, roadside inspection, and Commercial Driver’s License requirements.

To further support FMCSA’s effort to understand necessary changes to the FMCSRs, FMCSA requested information from companies engaged in the design, development, testing, and integration of ADS-equipped CMVs into the fleet. Specifically, the Agency requested information about: (1) The scenarios and environments where entities expect that ADS will soon be tested and integrated into CMVs operating on public roads or in interstate commerce; (2) the operational design domains (ODD) in which these systems are being operated, tested and deployed; and, (3) suggested measures to ensure the protection of any proprietary or confidential business information shared with the Agency on this topic. The comment period ended on May 10, 2018. Interested parties may view the comments the Agency received at www.regulations.gov (docket number FMCSA–2018–0037).

In the Spring Regulatory and Deregulatory Agenda issued after the publication of the March 28 RFC notice, FMCSA announced the initiation of rulemaking concerning ADS-equipped CMVs beginning with an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM), which is currently scheduled to be published in late 2018 (“Safe Integration of Automated Driving Systems-Equipped Commercial Motor Vehicles,” RIN 2126–AC17).

Meeting Participation

The FMCSA hopes to supplement the information gathered from the RFC by targeting stakeholders who have not previously provided many comments, including academia, insurance groups, and technology providers and developers. The listening session will provide interested parties an opportunity to provide information and data that can inform the Agency’s future rulemaking efforts by sharing their views on the FMCSRs as they relate to the development and safe integration of ADS through oral presentations. The Agency will provide the public with all relevant details for this meeting at: http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov.

Oral comments from the public will be heard during the meeting. Members of the public may also submit written comments to public docket referenced at the beginning of this notice using any of the following methods:

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to http://www.regulations.gov. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
- Hand Delivery: U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, West Building, Room W12–140, Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., E.T. Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Issued on: July 5, 2018.

Wiley Deck,
Director of Governmental Affairs.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 648

RIN 0648–XG295

Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Fisheries; Notice of Receipt of a Petition for Rulemaking

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of receipt; request for comments.

SUMMARY: On March 23, 2018, the State of New York submitted a petition to the Secretary of Commerce requesting rulemaking under the Administrative Procedure Act. The petition requests that NMFS revise the current state-by-state commercial quota allocations in the summer flounder fishery. This notice announces that NMFS, acting on the Secretary’s behalf, has received this request, and provides the opportunity for public comment.

DATES: Comments must be received by 5 p.m. local time, on July 25, 2018.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments on this document, identified by NOAA–NMFS–2018–0074, by either of the following methods:

- Electronic Submission: Submit all electronic public comments via the Federal eRulemaking Portal at:
  2. Click the “Comment Now!” icon, complete the required fields, and enter or attach your comments.

- Mail: Submit written comments to Michael Pentoery, Regional Administrator, National Marine Fisheries Service, 55 Great Republic Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930. Mark the outside of the envelope: “Comments on the NY Fluke Petition for Rulemaking.”

Instructions: Comments sent by any other method, to any other address or individual, or received after the end of the comment period, may not be considered by NMFS. All comments received are part of the public record and will generally be posted for public viewing on www.regulations.gov without change. All personal identifying information (e.g., name, address, etc.), confidential business information, or otherwise sensitive information submitted voluntarily by the sender will be publicly accessible. NMFS will accept anonymous comments (enter “N/A” in the required fields if you wish to remain anonymous). Attachments to electronic comments will be accepted in Microsoft Word, Excel, or Adobe PDF file formats only.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Cynthia Hanson, Fishery Management Specialist, (978) 281–9180.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On March 23, 2018, the State of New York and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (“New York”) submitted a petition to the Secretary of Commerce requesting rulemaking under the Administrative Procedure Act. The petition requests that NMFS amend the Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass