

parks, forests, or grasslands, and analyze the potential impacts on these resources resulting from each alternative.

c. Propose mitigation measures to avoid, minimize or eliminate potential project impacts to biological resources, as appropriate.

#### 6. Water Resources

The EIS will:

a. Describe the existing surface water and groundwater resources within the project area, including the lakes, rivers, streams, agricultural drainage tile systems, stock ponds, wetlands, and floodplains and analyze the potential impacts on these resources resulting from each alternative.

b. Describe the permitting requirements for the various alternatives with regard to wetlands, river crossings, water quality, floodplains, and erosion control.

c. Propose mitigation measures to avoid, minimize or eliminate potential project impacts to water resources, as appropriate.

#### 7. Navigation

The EIS will:

a. Describe existing navigable waterways within the project area and analyze the potential impacts on navigability resulting from each alternative.

b. Describe the permitting requirements for the various alternatives with regard to navigation.

c. Propose mitigation measures to avoid, minimize or eliminate potential impacts on navigation, as appropriate.

#### 8. Geology and Soils

The EIS will:

a. Describe the geology, soils, and seismic conditions found within the project area, including unique or problematic geologic formations or soils, prime farmland, and hydric soils, and analyze the potential impacts on these resources resulting from each alternative.

b. Analyze potential measures employed to avoid or construct through unique or problematic geologic formations or soils.

c. Propose mitigation measures to avoid, minimize or eliminate potential project impacts on geology and soils, as appropriate.

#### 9. Air Quality and Climate

The EIS will:

a. Analyze the potential air emissions from operations on each alternative, including potential changes in greenhouse gas emissions, as appropriate.

b. Analyze the potential air quality impacts resulting from rail line construction activities.

c. Analyze the potential impacts of the proposed project on global climate change and the potential impacts of global climate change on the proposed project.

d. Propose mitigation measures to avoid, minimize or eliminate potential project impacts on air quality and global climate change, as appropriate.

#### 10. Noise and Vibration

The EIS will:

a. Describe the potential noise and vibration impacts on noise sensitive receptors (e.g., residences, schools, and libraries) of each alternative.

b. Propose mitigation measures to avoid, minimize or eliminate potential project impacts on sensitive noise receptors, as appropriate.

#### 11. Energy Resources

The EIS will:

a. Describe and analyze the potential impact of the proposed project on the distribution of energy resources in the project area resulting from each alternative.

b. Propose mitigation measures to avoid, minimize or eliminate potential project impacts on energy resources, as appropriate.

#### 12. Socioeconomics

The EIS will:

a. Analyze the effects of a potential influx of construction workers to the project area and the potential increase in demand for local services interrelated with natural or physical environmental effects.

b. Propose mitigation measures to avoid, minimize or eliminate potential project impacts on social and economic resources, as appropriate.

#### 13. Cultural and Historic Resources

The EIS will:

a. Describe historic buildings, structures, sites, objects, or districts eligible for listing on or listed on the National Register of Historic Places (built-environment historic properties) within the area of potential effects for each alternative and analyze potential project impacts on them.

b. Describe properties of traditional religious and cultural importance to Indian Tribes, Traditional Cultural Properties (TCPs), and prehistoric or historic archaeological sites evaluated as potentially eligible, eligible, or listed on the National Register of Historic Places (archaeological and historic properties) within the area of potential effects for each alternative, and analyze potential project impacts on them.

c. Propose mitigation measures to avoid, minimize or eliminate potential project impacts to TCPs, and built-environment and archaeological historic properties, as appropriate.

#### 14. Aesthetics

The EIS will:

a. Describe the potential impacts of the proposed rail line construction on any areas identified or determined to be of high visual quality.

b. Describe the potential impacts of the proposed rail line construction on any waterways considered for or designated as wild and scenic.

c. Propose mitigation measures to avoid, minimize or eliminate potential project impacts on aesthetics, as appropriate.

#### 15. Environmental Justice

The EIS will:

a. Describe minority and low-income populations in the project area.

b. Analyze the potential impacts resulting from each alternative on those minority and low-income populations.

c. Propose mitigation measures to avoid, minimize or eliminate potential project impacts on environmental justice populations, as appropriate.

#### 16. Cumulative Impacts

The EIS will evaluate the cumulative and incremental impacts of the proposed project when added to impacts from other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions in the project area, as appropriate.

Decided: March 15, 2016.

By the Board, Victoria Rutson, Director, Office of Environmental Analysis.

**Kenyatta Clay,**  
*Clearance Clerk.*

[FR Doc. 2016-06151 Filed 3-17-16; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4915-01-P**

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## **SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

**[Docket No. EP 290 (Sub-No. 5) (2016-2)]**

### **Quarterly Rail Cost Adjustment Factor**

**AGENCY:** Surface Transportation Board.

**ACTION:** Approval of rail cost adjustment factor.

**SUMMARY:** The Board has approved the second quarter 2016 rail cost adjustment factor (RCAF) and cost index filed by the Association of American Railroads. The second quarter 2016 RCAF (Unadjusted) is 0.840. The second quarter 2016 RCAF (Adjusted) is 0.356. The second quarter 2016 RCAF-5 is 0.336.

**DATES:** *Effective Date:* April 1, 2016.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Pedro Ramirez, (202) 245-0333. Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) for the hearing impaired: (800) 877-8339.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Additional information is contained in the Board's decision, which is available on our Web site, <http://www.stb.dot.gov>. Copies of the decision may be purchased by contacting the Office of Public Assistance, Governmental Affairs, and Compliance at (202) 245-0238. Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through FIRS at (800) 877-8339.

This action is categorically excluded from environmental review under 49 CFR 1105.6(c).

Decided: March 15, 2016.

By the Board, Chairman Elliott, Vice Chairman Miller, and Commissioner Begeman.

**Tia Delano,**

*Clearance Clerk.*

[FR Doc. 2016-06161 Filed 3-17-16; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4915-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Maritime Administration

[Docket No. MARAD-2016 0027]

#### Requested Administrative Waiver of the Coastwise Trade Laws: Vessel MAH JONG; Invitation for Public Comments

**AGENCY:** Maritime Administration, Department of Transportation.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** As authorized by 46 U.S.C. 12121, the Secretary of Transportation, as represented by the Maritime Administration (MARAD), is authorized to grant waivers of the U.S.-build requirement of the coastwise laws under certain circumstances. A request for such a waiver has been received by MARAD. The vessel, and a brief description of the proposed service, is listed below.

**DATES:** Submit comments on or before April 18, 2016.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should refer to docket number MARAD-2016-0027. Written comments may be submitted by hand or by mail to the Docket Clerk, U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590. You may also send comments electronically via the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov>. All comments will become part of this docket and will be available for

inspection and copying at the above address between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., E.T., Monday through Friday, except federal holidays. An electronic version of this document and all documents entered into this docket is available on the World Wide Web at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Bianca Carr, U.S. Department of Transportation, Maritime Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Room W23-453, Washington, DC 20590. Telephone 202-366-9309, Email [Bianca.carr@dot.gov](mailto:Bianca.carr@dot.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** As described by the applicant the intended service of the vessel MAH JONG is:

*Intended Commercial Use Of Vessel:*

Coastal day sailing, providing experiential education programs for people of S.C.

*Geographic Region:* "SOUTH CAROLINA"

The complete application is given in DOT docket MARAD-2016-0027 at <http://www.regulations.gov>. Interested parties may comment on the effect this action may have on U.S. vessel builders or businesses in the U.S. that use U.S.-flag vessels. If MARAD determines, in accordance with 46 U.S.C. 12121 and MARAD's regulations at 46 CFR part 388, that the issuance of the waiver will have an unduly adverse effect on a U.S.-vessel builder or a business that uses U.S.-flag vessels in that business, a waiver will not be granted. Comments should refer to the docket number of this notice and the vessel name in order for MARAD to properly consider the comments. Comments should also state the commenter's interest in the waiver application, and address the waiver criteria given in § 388.4 of MARAD's regulations at 46 CFR part 388.

#### Privacy Act

Anyone is able to search the electronic form of all comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the comment, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** published on April 11, 2000 (Volume 65, Number 70; Pages 19477-78).

By Order of the Maritime Administrator.

Dated: March 8, 2016.

**T. Mitchell Hudson, Jr.,**

*Secretary, Maritime Administration.*

[FR Doc. 2016-06082 Filed 3-17-16; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-81-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Maritime Administration

[Docket No. MARAD-2016 0029]

#### Requested Administrative Waiver of the Coastwise Trade Laws: Vessel KAI'OLU; Invitation for Public Comments

**AGENCY:** Maritime Administration, Department of Transportation.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** As authorized by 46 U.S.C. 12121, the Secretary of Transportation, as represented by the Maritime Administration (MARAD), is authorized to grant waivers of the U.S.-build requirement of the coastwise laws under certain circumstances. A request for such a waiver has been received by MARAD. The vessel, and a brief description of the proposed service, is listed below.

**DATES:** Submit comments on or before April 18, 2016.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should refer to docket number MARAD-2016-0029. Written comments may be submitted by hand or by mail to the Docket Clerk, U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590. You may also send comments electronically via the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov>. All comments will become part of this docket and will be available for inspection and copying at the above address between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., E.T., Monday through Friday, except federal holidays. An electronic version of this document and all documents entered into this docket is available on the World Wide Web at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Bianca Carr, U.S. Department of Transportation, Maritime Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Room W23-453, Washington, DC 20590. Telephone 202-366-9309, Email [Bianca.carr@dot.gov](mailto:Bianca.carr@dot.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** As described by the applicant the intended service of the vessel KAI'OLU is:

*Intended Commercial Use of Vessel:* "Private Vessel Charters, Passengers Only"

*Geographic Region:* "Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, California, Oregon, Washington, and