DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

Notice of Final Federal Agency Actions on Proposed Highway in California

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of limitation on claims for judicial review of actions by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and other Federal agencies.

SUMMARY: The FHWA, on behalf of Caltrans, is issuing this notice to announce actions taken by Caltrans, that are final within the meaning of 23 U.S.C. 139(l)(1). The actions relate to a proposed highway project on northbound Interstate 680 from south of State Route (SR) 237 (Calaveras Boulevard) to north of SR 84 (Valleymonte Road) in or near the cities of Milpitas, Fremont, and Pleasanton, and the community of Sunol in Santa Clara and Alameda Counties in the State of California. Those actions grant licenses, permits, and approvals for the project.

DATES: By this notice, the FHWA, on behalf of Caltrans, is advising the public of final agency actions subject to 23 U.S.C. 139(l)(1). A claim seeking judicial review of the Federal agency actions on the highway project will be barred unless the claim is filed on or before January 19, 2016. If the Federal law that authorizes judicial review of a claim provides a time period of less than 150 days for filing such claim, then that shorter time period still applies.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For Caltrans: Wahida Rashid, Branch Chief, Office of Environmental Analysis, Ilil Grand Avenue, Oakland, CA 94612, during normal business hours from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., telephone (510) 286–5935, or email wahida.rashid@dot.ca.gov. For USFWS: John Cleckler, Caltrans Liaison, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 2800 Cottage Way, Suite W–2605, Sacramento, CA 95825–1846, (916) 414–6600, email john.clecklerfws@fws.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Effective July 1, 2007, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) assigned, and the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) assumed, environmental responsibilities for this project pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327. Notice is hereby given that Caltrans has taken final agency actions subject to 23 U.S.C. 139(l)(1) by issuing licenses, permits, and approvals for the 1–680 Northbound HOV/Express Lane project in the State of California: The project proposes an approximately 15-mile HOV/express lane from south of SR 237 (post mile 6.5) in Santa Clara County to north of SR 84 (post mile 12.4) in Alameda County. The HOV/express lane would be a specially-designated freeway lane that is free for carpools and other eligible users, but also gives single-occupancy-vehicles the option to pay tolls to use the HOV/express lane. The actions by the Federal agencies, and the laws under which such actions were taken, are described in the Final Environmental Assessment (EA)/Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the project, approved on July 28, 2015. The EA/FONSI, and other project records are available by contacting Caltrans at the address provided above. The Caltrans EA and FONSI can be viewed and downloaded from the project Web site at http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist4/envdocs.htm.

The USFWS decision and Biological Opinion are available by contacting USFWS at the address provided above. This notice applies to all Federal agency decisions as of the issuance date of this notice and all laws under which such actions were taken, including but not limited to:

1. Council on Environmental Quality Regulations
3. Executive Order 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice and Low-Income Populations
4. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended
5. National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended
6. Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management
8. Federal Clean Air Act
10. Federal Endangered Species Act
11. Migratory Bird Treaty Act
12. Executive Order 13112, Invasive Species

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number 20.205, Highway Planning and Construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 13272 regarding intergovernmental consultation on Federal programs and activities apply to this program.)

Authority: 23 U.S.C. 139(l)(1)

Matthew Schmitz,
Director, Project Delivery, Federal Highway Administration, Sacramento, California.

[FR Doc. 2015–20612 Filed 8–19–15; 8:45 am]
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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

Notice To Rescind Notice of Intent To Prepare Environmental Impact Statement, Interstate 64 Hampton Roads Bridge-Tunnel Corridor, Virginia

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice to rescind Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement.

SUMMARY: The Federal Highway Administration is issuing this notice to advise the public that FHWA is rescinding its Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for Interstate 64 Hampton Roads Bridge-Tunnel Corridor proposal in Virginia.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Edward Sundra, Director of Program Development, Federal Highway Administration, 400 North 8th Street, Suite 750, Richmond, VA 23219; email: Ed.Sundra@dot.gov; (804) 775–3357.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: A Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Interstate 64 Hampton Roads Bridge-Tunnel Corridor proposal was published in the Federal Register in 2011 (76 FR 29290, May 20, 2011). The Draft Environmental Impact Statement was issued in December 2012, and public hearings were held shortly thereafter. Public and agency comments and concerns over the magnitude of potential environmental impacts to a variety of resources, such as impacts to historic resources as well

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as communities and neighborhoods, led to a preferred alternative not being identified and work was not conducted to advance the study further. Accordingly, FHWA is rescinding the Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Interstate 64 Hampton Roads Bridge-Tunnel Corridor proposal in Virginia. The Interstate 64 crossing of Hampton Roads is one alternative being studied as part of the Hampton Roads Crossing Study Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement, which is looking at alternatives over a much larger study area. A Notice of Intent to prepare that Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement was published in the Federal Register in June (80 FR 36038, June 23, 2015).

Authority: 23 U.S.C. 315; 23 CFR 771. (Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number 20.205, Highway Planning and Construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 12372 regarding intergovernmental consultation on Federal programs and activities apply to this program.)

Edward Sundra,
Director of Program Development, Federal Highway Administration, Richmond, Virginia.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[Docket No. FMCSA–2015–0262]

Hours of Service of Drivers; National Star Route Mail Contractors Association; Application for Exemption

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

ACTION: Notice of application for exemption; request for comments.

SUMMARY: FMCSA announces that it has received an application from the National Star Route Mail Contractors Association (NSRMCA) on behalf of its member motor carriers that transport mail under contract for the United States Postal Service (USPS). NSRMCA requests that its contract carriers be exempt from the “14-hour rule” of the Agency’s hours-of-service regulations found in section 395.3(a)(2). NSRMCA specifically requests that a U.S. mail-carrying driver may elect to drive a U.S. mail-carrying commercial motor vehicle (CMV) no more than 10 hours following 8 consecutive hours off duty; and not drive after having been on duty 15 hours following 8 consecutive hours off duty. NSRMCA believes the exemption would positively impact safety, while reducing operating costs for USPS and contractors that provide Highway Contract Route services to the USPS. FMCSA requests public comment on the NSRMCA application for exemption.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before September 21, 2015.

ADDRESS: You may submit comments identified by Federal Docket Management System Number FMCSA–2015–0262 by any of the following methods:

• Federal eRulemaking Portal: www.regulations.gov. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
• Fax: 1–202–493–2251.
• Mail: Docket Management Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590–0001.
• Hand Delivery or Courier: West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. E.T., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Instructions: All submissions must include the Agency name and docket number. For detailed instructions on submitting comments and additional information on the exemption process, see the Public Participation heading below. Note that all comments received will be posted without change to www.regulations.gov, including any personal information provided. Please also see the Privacy Act heading below.

Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents or comments received, go to www.regulations.gov, and follow the online instructions for accessing the dockets, or go to the street address listed above.

Privacy Act: In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its rulemaking process. 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 www.dot.gov/privacy.

Public participation: The Federal eRulemaking Portal is available 24 hours each day, 365 days each year. You can obtain electronic submission and retrieval help and guidelines under the “help” section of the Federal eRulemaking Portal Web site. If you want us to notify you that we received your comments, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope or postcard, or print the acknowledgement page that appears after submitting comments online. Comments received after the comment closing date will be included in the docket and will be considered to the extent practicable.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Richard Clemente, FMCSA Driver and Carrier Operations Division; Office of Carrier, Driver and Vehicle Safety Standards; Telephone: 202–366–4325. Email: MCPSPD@dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

FMCSA has authority under 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315 to grant exemptions from certain parts of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs). Before doing so, the Agency must provide an opportunity for public comment. The Agency is required to publish a notice of each exemption request in the Federal Register (49 CFR 381.315(a)), providing the public an opportunity to inspect the information relevant to the application, including any safety analyses that have been conducted, and to comment on the request. FMCSA must review the safety analyses and public comments submitted and determine whether granting the exemption would likely achieve a level of safety equivalent to, or greater than, the level that would be achieved by the current regulation (49 CFR 381.305). The Agency must publish its decision in the Federal Register (49 CFR 381.315(b)) and state the reasons for denying or granting the application. If the exemption is granted, the notice must include the name of the person or entity, or class of persons, receiving the exemption, and the regulation from which the exemption is granted. The notice must also specify the effective period of the exemption and state the terms and conditions of the exemption, if any. The exemption may be renewed (49 CFR 381.300(b)).

Request for Exemption

NSRMCA is a national trade association representing contractors transporting mail for the United States Postal Service (USPS). The NSRMCA represents contractors in all 50 States as well as U.S. territories. The NSRMCA’s interest is in the safe and efficient delivery of U.S. mail. NSRMCA members employ drivers who are regulated by the FMCSA hours-of-service (HOS) regulations, and they submitted their request for exemption on behalf of all motor carriers that meet the terms specified within the request. NSRMCA is seeking an exemption from the “14-hour rule” in 49 CFR 395.3(a)(2), which prohibits a property-