

aided dispatching center to the on-board computers of all trains operating through this territory.

(2) Amtrak must provide for TSR compliance through the use of Northeast Operating Rules Advisory Committee (NORAC) Form D or temporary speed restriction bulletin forms, advance speed signs, speed signs and resume signs. Compliance will continue to be monitored through efficiency tests.

(3) Amtrak must enforce the current speed limit of 110 miles per hour on the affected territory until ACSES is fully implemented and all features of the system, including positive enforcement of TSRs, are fully functional.

(4) Amtrak must provide a minimum of ten days notice to any carriers affected by ACSES expansion prior to its activation of the ACSES system to allow the affected carriers sufficient opportunity to operate test trains within the territory. The Regional Administrator for Region 1 shall be provided all associated safety and testing documentation to determine that appropriate preparations have been made to support expansions of ACSES.

Accordingly, for the reasons stated in the preamble, the Final Order of Particular Applicability published at 63 FR 39343, July 22, 1998 (Order) is amended as follows:

1. The authority for the Order continues to read as follows: 49 U.S.C. 20103, 20107, 20501–20505 (1994); and 49 CFR 1.49(f), (g), and (m).

2. Paragraph 13 is added as follows:

13. *Amtrak Temporary Operating Protocols*

Effective upon March 17, 2004, until no later than April 1, 2005:

a. The requirement that Amtrak achieve positive enforcement of temporary speed restrictions (TSRs) through temporary transponders is suspended on the mainline track between Mill River Interlocking (MP 73.6) and High Street Interlocking (MP 142.9) on the NEC-North End to allow Amtrak to achieve direct loading of TSR data from its computer-aided dispatching center to the on-board computers of all trains operating through this territory.

b. Amtrak shall provide for TSR compliance and roadway worker protection through the use of Northeast Operating Rules Advisory Committee (NORAC) Form D or temporary speed restriction bulletin forms, advance speed signs, speed signs and resume signs. Compliance will continue to be monitored through efficiency tests.

c. Amtrak shall enforce the current speed limit of 110 miles per hour on the affected territory until ACSES is fully implemented and all features of the

system, including positive enforcement of TSRs, are fully functional.

d. Amtrak must provide a minimum of ten days notice to any carriers affected by ACSES expansion prior to its activation of the ACSES system to allow the affected carriers sufficient opportunity to operate test trains within the territory. The Regional Administrator for Region 1 shall be provided all associated safety and testing documentation to determine that appropriate preparations have been made to support expansions of ACSES.

Issued in Washington, DC, on March 11, 2004.

Allan Rutter,
Administrator.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Maritime Administration

Reports, Forms and Recordkeeping Requirements; Agency Information Collection Activity Under OMB Review

AGENCY: Maritime Administration, DOT.
ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 seq.), this notice announces that the Information Collection abstracted below has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval. The nature of the information collection is described as well as its expected burden. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on the following collection of information was published on December 12, 2003. No comments were received.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before April 16, 2004.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Patricia Ann Thomas, Maritime Administration, 400 7th Street SW., Washington, DC 20590. Telephone: (202) 366–2646; FAX: (202) 493–2180, or e-mail:

patricia.thomas@marad.dot.gov. Copies of this collection also can be obtained from that office.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Maritime Administration (MARAD).

Title: Merchant Marine Medals and Awards.

OMB Control Number: 2133–0506.

Type of Request: Extension of currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Masters, officers and crew members of U.S. ships.

Forms: None.

Abstract: This information collection provides a method of awarding merchant marine medals and decorations to masters, officers, and crew members of U.S. ships in recognition of their service in areas of danger during the operations by the Armed Forces of the United States in World War II, Korea, Vietnam, and Operation Desert Storm.

Annual Estimated Burden Hours: 1200 hours.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20503, Attention MARAD Desk Officer.

Comments are invited on: 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; the accuracy of the agency'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. A comment to OMB is best assured of having its full effect if OMB receives it within 30 days of publication.

Dated: March 12, 2004.

Joel C. Richard,

Secretary, Maritime Administration.

[FR Doc. 04–5993 Filed 3–16–04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

Petition for Modification of a Previously Approved Antitheft Device; General Motors Corporation

AGENCY: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Grant of petition for modification of a previously approved antitheft device.

SUMMARY: On June 16, 1986, this agency granted in full General Motors Corporation's (GM) petition for exemption from the parts-marking requirements of the vehicle theft prevention standard for the Chevrolet Corvette vehicle line. This notice grants in full GM's petition for modification of the previously approved antitheft device for that line. NHTSA is granting GM's