

Street, SW., Room 10228, Washington, DC 20590. Office hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For further information about the Commission and the upcoming field hearings, contact Mr. Robert A. Mariner, Environmental Protection Specialist (*info@surfacecommission.gov*), Office of the Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy, (202) 493-0064, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Room 10228, Washington, DC 20590. Office hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Electronic Access**

An electronic copy of this notice may be downloaded from the Office of the Federal Register's home page at <http://www.archives.gov> and the Government Printing Office's Web site at <http://www.access.gpo.gov>. Further information on the Commission is available on its Web site at <http://www.surfacecommission.gov>.

**Background**

Section 1909(b) of SAFETEA-LU established the National Transportation Revenue and Policy Study Commission to address the needs and financing of surface transportation as described in sections 1909(b)(5), (6), and (7). In carrying out its responsibilities, the Commission is authorized to hold hearings to take relevant testimony and receive relevant evidence at such times and places the Commission deems appropriate. The Commission intends to conduct at least four hearings to receive views from interested parties and obtain public input into its study.

Organizations interested in submitting a proposal to co-host one of the Commission's field hearings, should do so no later than August 25, 2006. While there is no template for the submissions, each proposal should at the least address the following issues:

(i) Preferred date (out of those listed) for the hearing;

(ii) Proposed location of the hearing, and the location's relevance to the Commission's work (field hearing locations will be determined based on proposals received);

(iii) Organization(s) that will co-host the hearing;

(iv) Recommendations on key topics and themes to be addressed at the hearing. Please use the Commission's authorizing statute, specifically sections 1909(b)(5), (6), and (7), as a guide to the matters the Commission is required to study and address;

(v) Costs of the hearing to be borne by the Commission; and

(vi) Full contact information for the organization(s).

The Executive Director of the Commission will contact each organization submitting a proposal that is selected by the Commission. All interested organizations are encouraged to attend the field hearings, the details of which will be announced in future **Federal Register** notices.

(Authority: Section 1909(b) of Pub. L. 109-59.)

Issued on: July 20, 2006.

**Quintin Kendall,**

*Executive Director, National Surface Transportation Policy and Revenue Study Commission.*

[FR Doc. E6-11904 Filed 7-25-06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-22-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Federal Aviation Administration**

**Proposed Opinion on the Transferability of Interim Operating Authority Under the National Parks Air Tour Management Act**

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed opinion; extension of comment period.

**SUMMARY:** This action extends the comment period for a notice of proposed opinion that was published on June 28, 2006 (71 FR 36874). In that document, the FAA set forth a proposed decision on the transferability of interim operating authority under the National Parks Air Tour Management Act.

**DATES:** Send your comments on or before September 13, 2006.

**ADDRESSES:** You may send comments [identified as "Comments on the Transferability of IOA"] using any of the following methods:

- Sending your comments electronically to *james.whitlow@faa.gov*.
- Mail: Office of the Chief Counsel; FAA, 800 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20591.
- Fax: 1-202-267-3227.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** James Whitlow, Deputy Chief Counsel, Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20591; telephone (202) 267-3773.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Extension of Comment Period**

On June 28, 2006, a notice of proposed opinion, Proposed Opinion on

the Transferability of Interim Operating Authority Under the National Parks Air Tour Management Act, was published in the **Federal Register** with a comment due date of July 28, 2006. On July 14, 2006, the FAA received a request from the U.S. Air Tour Association, through legal counsel, to extend the comment period until September 13, 2006. In response to that request, the FAA is extending the comment period to September 13, 2006.

Issued in Washington, DC, on July 20, 2006.

**James W. Whitlow,**

*Deputy Chief Counsel.*

[FR Doc. 06-6468 Filed 7-25-06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-13-M**

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Federal Highway Administration**

**Environmental Impact Statement: Allegheny County, PA**

**AGENCY:** Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Cancellation of the Notice of Intent.

**SUMMARY:** This notice rescinds the previous Notice of Intent (issued April, 2000) to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for a proposed highway project in Allegheny County.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

David W. Cough, P.E., Director of Operations, Federal Highway Administration, Pennsylvania Division Office, 228 Walnut Street, Room 508, Harrisburg, PA 17101-1720, Telephone (717) 221-3411; or, Cheryl Moon-Sirianni, Assistant District Executive, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, District 11-0, 45 Thoms Run Road, Bridgeville, PA 15017, Telephone (412) 429-5001.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

Additional public meetings and environmental analysis have indicated that all project alternatives can be down-scoped with little or no significant impact to the environment. An Environmental Assessment will be pursued, based on a revised project scoping.

(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)

**James A. Cheatham,**

*FHWA Division Administrator, Harrisburg, PA.*

[FR Doc. 06-6474 Filed 7-25-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-22-M

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

#### Availability of Grant Funds for the Thermal Imaging Inspection System Project

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This document announces the availability of grant funding under FMCSA's FY2006 Research Grants program as specified in the *Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy For Users*. The program provides one-time funding for a demonstration project that uses a thermal imaging inspection system that leverages state-of-the-art thermal imagery technology, integrated with signature recognition software, providing the capability to identify, in real time, faults and failures in tires, brakes, and bearings mounted on commercial motor vehicles. The period of performance for this project is 24 months from the date of award.

**DATES:** Applications for grant funding should be sent to FMCSA Headquarters no later than August 25, 2006.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Jeff Loftus, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, Office of Research and Analysis, Technology Division (MC-RRT), 202-385-2363, 202-385-2422 (fax), [jeff.loftus@dot.gov](mailto:jeff.loftus@dot.gov), 400 Virginia Avenue, SW., Suite 600, Washington, DC 20024. Office hours are from 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

Section 5513(a) of the *Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy For Users* (SAFETEA-LU) [Pub. L. 109-59, August 10, 2005, 119 Stat. 1829] authorizes the thermal imaging inspection system (TIIS) project for FY2006 only. The authorized funding for the program is \$2 million. Funding is subject to reductions resulting from obligation limitations, rescissions, and takedowns as specified in SAFETEA-LU or other legislation. The actual

amount available for this project after these reductions is \$1,412,044. FMCSA anticipates making one award to one recipient. Incremental payments will be made at intervals corresponding to performance milestones agreed upon by the parties.

Funds are available to public nonprofit institutions/organizations, profit organizations, private nonprofit institutions/organizations, other private institutions/organizations, and institutions of higher education including public, private, or state colleges and universities who are eligible recipients of Federal assistance.

The Federal share of the funds is established by SAFETEA-LU as 80 percent. The 20 percent match may be in the form of dedicated funding, equipment, or in-kind services for this project. Allocations remain available for expenditure until fully spent.

Additional information on the TIIS project and its application process is available from the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) on the Internet at <http://www.cfda.gov>. The TIIS project is listed as CFDA number 20.236.

#### TIIS Project Objectives

The objectives of this project are to:

- Employ a TIIS in a field environment, along the interstate, to further assess the system's ability to identify faults in tires, brakes, and bearings mounted on commercial motor vehicles (CMVs);
- Establish, through statistical analysis, the probability of failure for each component; and
- Develop and integrate a predictive tool into the TIIS, which identifies an impending tire, brake, or bearing failure and provides a timeframe in which this failure may occur.

#### Application and Selection Process

The Secretary may enter a grant agreement with a public or private organization including an institution of higher education that has the most responsive grant application to the objectives of this project.

The applicant must submit an application form (SF-424, SF-424A, and SF-424B) and proposal to FMCSA Office of Research and Analysis, Technology Division no later than August 25, 2006.

The application must include sections on relevant past performance, technical and management approach, budget, schedule, and personnel. Additionally, it must address the following project tasks:

- Develop a project work plan,

- Develop a concept of operations document,
- Conduct technology trade-off analyses,
- Develop a test and evaluation plan,
- Conduct analyses of component failures,
- Develop a predictive decision support tool,
- Integrate the tool into the TIIS,
- Conduct a demonstration of the TIIS with the predictive tool along the interstate,
- Write an annual report of progress and activities, and
- Write a final report.

To receive consideration for award, an applicant must submit its budget along with adequate documentation that supports the factors listed below. The documentation must demonstrate a clear understanding of and the ability to accomplish the project objectives.

#### Factor 1: Past Performance

The past performance data must not exceed one page for each grant or contract referenced.

To substantiate its past performance, each applicant is requested to submit information on at least three of the Government grants or contracts or commercial contracts it performed within the past three years. The applicant must provide demonstrated experience in work effort similar in size, scope, magnitude, complexity, and cost to the project objectives. The past performance data can include information on grants or contracts on which the applicant, or any proposed subgrantee or subcontractor, has performed or is performing. The applicant must include the following on each grant or contract referenced in its proposal:

- Project statistical information
  - Name and address of the activity;
  - Grant or contract number;
  - Agreement type;
  - Place of performance;
  - Date of project and period of performance;
  - Total project value;
  - Government Sponsor's name, telephone number, and e-mail address;
  - Program Manager's name, telephone number, and e-mail address; and
  - List of major subgrantees or subcontractors.
- The applicant must include a description of the projects cited in order to demonstrate relevance to the requirements outlined in the project objectives. The applicant must also identify and state the reasons for any terminations.

**Note:** In the event that an applicant has no past performance history, e.g., a new firm,