

River Study Board until September 15, 2006 following the release of the Annexes to the report. The Study Board reviewed the regulation of water levels and flows in the Lake Ontario-St. Lawrence River system, taking into account the impact of regulation on affected interests. The Annexes provide the Technical Work Group summaries, descriptions of the new candidate regulation plans, discussion of mitigation and adaptive management action plans, and the pertinent background documents.

The Commission will consider the options as potential replacements for the current regulation plan, Plan 1958-D, and will also consider revising its Orders of Approval for regulation of Lake Ontario outflows. The public is welcome to provide comments on the Study Board report, the Annexes to the report, or any other relevant matters, to assist the Commission in its deliberations. Copies of the Study Board report and Annexes are available from either address below, or online at [WWW.IJC.ORG](http://WWW.IJC.ORG). Comments by letter, fax or e-mail must be received by September 15, 2006 at either address below:

U.S. Section Secretary, International Joint Commission, 1250 23rd Street NW, Suite 100, Washington, DC 20440. Tel: (202) 736-9024, Fax: (202) 467-0746, [Commission@washington.ijc.org](mailto:Commission@washington.ijc.org).

Canadian Section Secretary, International Joint Commission, 234 Laurier Avenue West, 22nd Floor, Ottawa, ON K1P 6K6. Tel: (613) 995-0088, Fax: (613) 993-5583, [Commission@ottawa.ijc.org](mailto:Commission@ottawa.ijc.org).

Written public comments will become part of a public record that may be posted on the IJC's Web site or otherwise made available to the public. The IJC requests that people who submit comments provide contact information so that the IJC can inform them of the outcome of the process. To protect the privacy of any person submitting comment, the IJC will remove the following identifying information from the incoming communication before making the comment available to the public: e-mail address, street address, post office box, zip code, postal code, telephone number and fax number. The following identifying information will remain part of the record that is made available to the public: name, organizational affiliation, city, and state/province.

The Commission will hold public hearings after making a preliminary decision on changes to the current regulation plan and Orders of Approval. The times and locations will be announced. For more information, visit

the Commission's Web site at: [WWW.IJC.ORG](http://WWW.IJC.ORG).

For more information, contact Frank Bevacqua: (202) 736-9024; [bevacquaF@washington.ijc.org](mailto:bevacquaF@washington.ijc.org)

Dated: July 20, 2006.

**James Chandler,**

*Legal Advisor, U.S. Section, International Joint Commission, Department of State.*

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**BILLING CODE 4710-14-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### First Meeting, Special Committee 211, Nickel-Cadmium, Lead Acid and Rechargeable Lithium Batteries

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

**ACTION:** Notice of RTCA Special Committee 211, Nickel-Cadmium, Lead Acid and Rechargeable Lithium Batteries.

**SUMMARY:** The FAA is issuing this notice to advise the public of a first meeting of RTCA Special Committee 211, Nickel-Cadmium, Lead Acid and Rechargeable Lithium Batteries.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held August 22-23, 2006, from 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at RTCA, Inc., 1828 L Street, NW., Suite 805, Washington, DC 20036.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** RTCA Secretariat, 1828 L Street, NW., Suite 805, Washington, DC, 20036; telephone (202) 833-9339; fax (202) 833-9434; web site <http://www.rtca.org>.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Pursuant to section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, 5 U.S.C., Appendix 2), notice is hereby given for a Special Committee 209 meeting. The Special Committee 211 task is to revise DO-293—Minimum Operational Performance Standards for Nickel-Cadmium and Lead Acid Batteries and will develop Minimum Operational Performance Standards for Rechargeable Lithium Batteries. The committee will address the design, performance, operational and testing issues associated with Special Committee 211. The chairmen are: William Johnson, U.S. Navy and Hector Silberman, The Boeing Company. The agenda will include:

- August 22:
- Opening Plenary Session (Welcome, Introductions, and Administrative Remarks, Agenda Overview)
- RTCA Overview
- Previous Battery Committee History

- Current Committee Scope, Terms of Reference Overview

- Presentation, Discussion, Recommendations

- Review and Resolve Existing Comments to DO-293

- August 23:

- Agenda Overview

- Discuss and decide if the Lithium Rechargeable Batteries Special Requirements can be added to DO-293 or a new separated standards as needed.

- Discussion, Recommendations.

Evaluation of the task scope and schedule.

- Organization of Work, Assign Tasks, and Workgroups

- Assignment of Responsibilities

- Closing Plenary Session (Other Business, Establish Agenda, Date and Place of Next Meeting, Adjourn).

Attendance is open to the interested public but limited to space availability. Pre-Registration for this meeting is not required for attendance but is desired and can be done through the RTCA secretariat. With the approval of the chairmen, members of the public may present oral statements at the meeting. Persons wishing to present statements or obtain information should contact the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section. Members of the public may present a written statement to the committee at any time.

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

**Francisco Estrada C.,**

*RTCA Advisory Committee.*

[FR Doc. 06-6508 Filed 7-26-06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-13-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Railroad Administration

#### Petition for Waiver of Compliance

In accordance with part 211 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), notice is hereby given that the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) has received a request for a waiver of compliance with certain requirements of its safety standards. The individual petition is described below, including the party seeking relief, the regulatory provisions involved, the nature of the relief being requested, and the petitioner's arguments in favor of relief.

#### Union Pacific Railroad Company

[Waiver Petition Docket Number FRA-2006-24840]

The Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP) is initiating a program to implement "Remote Authority" technology, designed to permit

authorized users in the field to request, be granted, or release on-track authority. To facilitate the implementation of this technology, UP is requesting that FRA suspend compliance with certain rules in accordance with the provisions contained in 49 CFR 211.51.

The Remote Authority is a web-based application that will permit authorized users to request, be granted, or release Foul Time, Track Permit, Track & Time or Track Warrant authority to occupy a main track or other controlled track. The central office component consists of one or more Remote Authority servers that will receive requests from authorized users for on-track authority or requests to release on-track authority. If the user is authorized to request or release on-track authority, and the request meets established criteria, the request is forwarded to the Union Pacific's Computer Aided Dispatching system for further processing. Requests that do not meet established criteria are rejected at this point in the process, and the user is provided the opportunity to change or cancel the request.

Requests for on-track authority are received by the dispatching system and must meet established criteria to be eligible for issuance by the dispatching system without dispatcher intervention. If the established criteria are not satisfied, the request is placed in the appropriate authority request queue, and the train dispatcher is notified.

In this regard, the UP requests relief to permit the dispatching system to grant or release on-track authority in response to a valid request from an authorized user without intervention on the part of the train dispatcher or control operator who controls train movements on that track. The UP hereby seeks relief from 49 CFR 214.321(a)(1), which requires a track occupancy authority for working limits to be issued to the roadway worker in charge by the train dispatcher or control operator who controls train movements on that track.

Access to the Remote Authority application within the UP network requires the user to present valid credentials consisting of standard user identification and secret password. For off-network access, a Virtual Private Network (VPN) connection must be established by the employee before presenting valid credentials. Within the Remote Authority application, individual users are further restricted in the functions they may perform.

Interested parties are invited to participate in this proceeding by submitting written views, data, or comments. Although FRA does not anticipate scheduling a public hearing

in connection with this proceeding, if any interested party desires an opportunity for oral comment, they should notify FRA in writing before the end of the comment period and specify the basis for their request.

All communications concerning this proceeding should identify the appropriate docket number (FRA-2006-24840) and may be submitted by any of the following methods:

- Web site: <http://dms.dot.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments on the DOT electronic docket site.
- Fax: 202-493-2251.
- Mail: Docket Management Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Nassif Building, Room PL-401, Washington, DC 20590-001.
- Hand Delivery: Docket Management Facility, Room PL-401 on the Plaza level of the Nassif Building, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

Communications received within 45 days of the date of this notice will be considered by FRA before final action is taken. Comments received after that date will be considered as far as practicable. All written communications concerning these proceedings are available for examination during regular business hours (9 a.m.-5 p.m.) at the above facility. All documents in the public docket are also available for inspection and copying on the Internet at the docket facility's Web site at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

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). The statement may also be found at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

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

**Grady C. Cothen, Jr.,**

*Deputy Associate Administrator for Safety Standards and Program Development.*

[FR Doc. E6-11964 Filed 7-26-06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-06-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket No. FRA-2005-23281, Notice No. 1]

#### Safety of Private Highway-Rail Grade Crossings; Notice of Safety Inquiry

**AGENCY:** Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

**ACTION:** Notice of safety inquiry.

**SUMMARY:** FRA announces its intent to conduct a series of open meetings throughout the United States, in cooperation with appropriate State agencies, to consider issues related to the safety of private highway-rail grade crossings. At each open meeting, FRA intends to solicit oral statements from private crossing owners, railroads and other interested parties on issues related to the safety of private highway-rail grade crossings, which will include, but not be limited to, current practices concerning responsibility for safety at private grade crossings, the adequacy of warning devices at private crossings, and the relative merits of a more uniform approach to improving safety at private crossings. FRA has also opened a public docket on these issues, so that interested parties may submit written comments for public review and consideration.

**DATES:** The initial public meeting will be held in Fort Snelling, Minnesota on August 30, 2006 at the Bishop Henry Whipple Federal Building. Persons wishing to participate are requested to provide their names, organizational affiliation and contact information to Michelle Silva, Docket Clerk, FRA, 1120 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20590 (telephone 202-493-6030) by July 31, 2006. Persons needing sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodation for disability are also encouraged to contact Michelle Silva, FRA Docket Clerk, at (202) 493-6030 by July 31, 2006. Additional public meetings will be announced over the next three months.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ron Ries, Office of Safety, FRA, 1120 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20590 (telephone 202-493-6299); Miriam Kloeppel, Office of Safety, FRA, 1120 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20590 (telephone 202-493-6299); or Kathryn Shelton, Office of Chief Counsel, FRA, 1120 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20590 (telephone 202-493-6038).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** There are currently over 94,000 private highway-