

employment opportunity, personnel management, position management, performance management, disciplinary actions, staff training and development, personnel security and human resource policy. OEO provides and manages information technology for OIG. This includes the planning, design, development, testing, implementation and maintenance of hardware, software and telecommunications networks to support OIG's mission. OEO is responsible for the security of sensitive electronic data relating to investigations, audits and legal proceedings. OEO develops and administers systems security plans for OIG.

Section S8L.10 *The Office of Executive Operations—(Organization):*

Delete in its entirety and replace with the following:

The Office of Executive Operations (S8L) under the leadership of the Assistant Inspector General for Executive Operations includes the:

- A. Assistant Inspector General for Executive Operations (S8L)
- B. Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Executive Operations (S8L)
- C. Immediate Office of the Assistant Inspector General for Executive Operations (S8L).
- D. Budget and Logistics Division (S8L-1)
- E. Human Resources Division (S8LA).
- F. Information Technology Division (S8LC).
- G. External Affairs Division (S8LE).

Section S8L.20 *The Office of Executive Operations—(Functions):*

Delete paragraph A in its entirety and replace with the following:

A. The Assistant Inspector General for Executive Operations (AIGEO) (S8L) is directly responsible to the Inspector General for carrying out the OEO mission and providing general supervision to the major components of OEO.

Delete paragraph B in its entirety and replace with the following:

B. The Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Executive Operations (DAIGEO)(S8L) is responsible for assisting the AIGEO in carrying out his/her responsibilities.

Delete paragraph C in its entirety and replace with the following:

C. The Immediate Office of the Assistant Inspector General for Executive Operations (S8L) provides the AIGEO with staff assistance on the full range of his/her responsibilities.

Delete paragraph D in its entirety and replace with the following:

D. The Budget and Logistics Division (BFD)(S8L-1) is responsible for formulating, presenting and executing

the OIG budget; performing a wide range of analytical, technical, and advisory functions related to the budgetary process; and analyzing financial and economic issues and activities facing the organization including a review and analysis of proposed and/or enacted legislation and regulations. The Division is also responsible for coordinating and integrating a national facilities management program including property and asset management. The Budget and Logistics Division coordinates the development of OIG's Strategic Plan and prepares the annual organizational performance plan. This division prepares and maintains OIG administrative policies and procedures.

Delete paragraph E in its entirety and replace with the following:

E. The Human Resources Division (HRD)(S8LA) is responsible for the development, presentation, and implementation of OIG nationwide personnel management policy; and a national personnel management and training program.

Delete paragraph F in its entirety and replace with the following:

F. The Information Technology Division (SSD)(S8LC) is responsible for the planning design, development testing and implementation of hardware, software and telecommunications systems for OIG nationwide. These responsibilities include developing and enforcing network policies; designing system interfaces; monitoring and evaluating hardware and telecommunications lines; developing, monitoring and evaluating software applications and associated interfaces with network devices. The division is also responsible for the security of sensitive data relating to investigations, audits, and legal proceedings which is kept on OIG computer systems as well as the administration of systems security plans for the OIG.

Add paragraph G as follows:

G. The External Affairs Division (EAD) (S8LE) is responsible for directing the OIG external and public affairs program. EAD coordinates interagency activities and responds to media, congressional and constituent inquiries. EAD prepares press releases, coordinates press conferences, and develops congressional testimony. EAD prepares speeches and publications, and communicates OIG's planned and current activities and their results to the Commissioner and the Congress as well as other entities.

Subchapter added **Federal Register—** December 15, 1999.

¹ **Federal Register—** July 11, 1996.

² **Federal Register—** August 1, 1997.

³ **Federal Register—** May 22, 1998.

⁴ **Federal Register—** September 22, 1998.

⁵ **Federal Register—** December 15, 1999.

⁶ **Federal Register—** December 21, 2001.

Dated: August 15, 2003.

James G. Huse, Jr.,

Inspector General.

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BILLING CODE 4191-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

Environmental Impact Statement; Harris and Brazoria Counties, TX

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), TxDOT.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The FHWA is issuing this notice to advise the public that an environmental impact statement will be prepared for a proposed highway project to improve State Highway 35 in Harris and Brazoria Counties, Texas.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. John Mack, P.E., Federal Highway Administration, Texas Division, 300 East 8th Street, Room 826, Austin, Texas 78701, Telephone (512) 536-5960.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FHWA, in cooperation with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on a proposal for transportation improvements within the State Highway 35 corridor from Bellfort Road in Harris County to Farm-to-Market Road 1462 in Brazoria County. The EIS will be conducted concurrently with a Major Corridor Feasibility Study (MCFS) that will examine and evaluate all reasonable and feasible modal alternatives for transportation improvements within the State Highway 35 corridor from Interstate Highway 45 to State Highway 288 in Angleton. The proposed action could include a combination of highway, toll, and transit components for the facility of approximately 22 miles in length, built on a new location within the above limits. The majority of the corridor crosses heavily urbanized regions of Harris and Brazoria Counties. Cities and towns in the region include the cities of Houston, Brookside Village, Pearland, and Alvin.

Alternatives to be studied include "No-action" (the no-build alternative), Transportation System Management (TSM)/Transportation Demand Management (TDM) alternative, mass transit alternative and roadway build alternatives. The EIS will evaluate

potential impacts from construction and operation of the proposed transportation improvements including, but not limited to, the following: transportation impacts (construction detours, construction traffic, mobility improvement and evacuation route improvements), air and noise impacts from construction equipment and operation of the facility, water quality impacts from construction area and roadway storm water runoff, impacts to waters of the United States including wetlands from right of way encroachment, impacts to historic and archeological resources, impacts to floodplains, and impacts and/or potential displacements to residents and businesses.

Letters describing the proposed action and soliciting comments will be sent to appropriate Federal, State and local agencies, and to private organizations and citizens who have previously expressed or are known to have interest in this proposal. Public meetings will be held on dates to be determined at a later time. A formal scoping meeting will be held in January 2004. In addition, a public hearing will be held. Public notice will be given of the time and place of the meetings and hearing. A copy of the Draft EIS will be made available for public review prior to the public hearing. To ensure that the full range of issues related to this proposed action are addressed and all significant issues identified, comments and suggestions are invited from all interested parties. Comments or questions concerning this proposed action and the EIS should be directed to FHWA at the address provided above.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number 20.205 Highway Planning and Construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 12372 regarding governmental consultation on federal programs and activities apply to this program.)

John R. Mack,

District Engineer.

[FR Doc. 03-27364 Filed 10-22-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-22-M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

Environmental Impact Statement: Montgomery and Grimes Counties, TX

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of intent (revised).

SUMMARY: The FHWA is issuing this notice to advise the public that an environmental impact statement will be

prepared for a proposed transportation project in Montgomery and Grimes Counties, Texas.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. John Mack, P.E., Federal Highway Administration, Texas Division, 826 Federal Building, 300 East 8th Street, Austin, Texas 78701, Telephone 512-536-5960.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FHWA, in cooperation with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) for improvements in the SH 249 corridor within Montgomery and Grimes Counties, Texas. The project study area is approximately 15 miles in length from FM 149 in Montgomery County to FM 1774 in Grimes County. Cities within the study area include Pinehurst, Magnolia, and Todd Mission.

A Major Investment Study (MIS) for the project was completed in 2002. The MIS evaluated modal, configuration, and route corridor alternatives within the overall study area and recommended an alternative which was the most feasible modal, configuration, and route corridor that met the regions transportation needs, while minimizing impacts to the surrounding environment. The most feasible corridor alternative studied in the MIS was selected based on the detailed evaluation of the viable alternatives, as well as public input. This alternative encompasses two (2) general-purpose lanes in each direction, including auxiliary lanes between on-ramps and off-ramps where appropriate. The EIS will study the overall SH 249 corridor with all corridor alternatives considered in detail and recommend the most feasible corridor. The EIS is authorized pursuant to the Texas Transportation Commission Minute Order No. 104908 issued January 26, 1995.

A public scoping meeting will be held in December of 2003. The purpose of the public scoping meeting is to request comments and identify issues that will be considered during the evaluation of alignment alternatives and preparation of the EIS. All interested citizens are encouraged to attend these meetings. Large-scale maps of the project area will be displayed at the meeting. This will be the first in a series of meetings to solicit public comments on the proposed action. In addition, a public hearing will be held.

The EIS will evaluate potential impacts from construction and operation of the proposed roadway including, but not limited to, the following: transportation impacts (construction detours, construction traffic, mobility improvement and

evacuation improvement), air, and noise impacts from construction equipment and operation of the facilities, water quality impacts from construction area and roadway storm water runoff, impacts to water of the United States including wetlands from right-of-way encroachment, impacts to historic and archeological resources, impacts to floodplains, and impacts and/or potential displacements to residents and businesses.

Letters describing the proposed action and soliciting comments will be sent to appropriate agencies, and private organizations and citizens who have previously expressed or are known to have interest in this proposal. To ensure that the full range of issues related to this proposed action are addressed and all significant issues identified, comments and suggestions are invited from all interested parties. Comments or questions concerning this proposed action and the EIS should be directed to FHWA at the address above.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number 20.205 Highway Planning and Construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 12372 regarding governmental consultation on Federal Programs and activities apply to this program.)

John R. Mack,

District Engineer.

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BILLING CODE 4910-22-M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[Docket No. FMCSA-2003-16241]

Qualification of Drivers; Exemption Applications; Vision

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

ACTION: Notice of applications for exemption from the vision standard; request for comments.

SUMMARY: This notice publishes the FMCSA's receipt of applications from 24 individuals for an exemption from the vision requirement in the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations. If granted, the exemptions will enable these individuals to qualify as drivers of commercial motor vehicles (CMVs) in interstate commerce without meeting the vision standard prescribed in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10).

DATES: Comments must be received on or before December 1, 2003.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments identified by any of the following