

activities other than those necessary for the winding up of its affairs.

For the SEC, by the Division of Investment Management, under delegated authority.

Margaret H. McFarland,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-16337 Filed 6-20-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-M

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Agency Meeting; Sunshine Act Meeting

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the Government in the Sunshine Act, Pub. L. 94-409, that the Securities and Exchange Commission will hold the following meeting during the week of June 23, 1997.

A closed meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 24, 1997, at 2:30 p.m.

Commissioners, Counsel to the Commissioners, the Secretary to the Commission, and recording secretaries will attend the closed meeting. Certain staff members who have an interest in the matters may also be present.

The General Counsel of the Commission, or his designee, has certified that, in his opinion, one or more of the exemptions set forth in 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(4), (8), (9)(A) and (10) and 17 CFR 200.402 (a)(4), (8), (9)(i) and (10), permit consideration of the scheduled matters at the closed meeting.

Commissioner Wallman, as duty officer, voted to consider the items listed for the closed meeting in a closed session.

The subject matter of the closed meeting scheduled for Tuesday, June 24, 1997, at 2:30 p.m., will be:

Institution and settlement of injunctive actions.

Institution and settlement of administrative proceedings of an enforcement nature.

Opinion.

At times, changes in Commission priorities require alterations in the scheduling of meeting items. For further information and to ascertain what, if any, matters have been added, deleted or postponed, please contact:

The Office of the Secretary at (202) 942-7070.

Dated: June 18, 1997.

[FR Doc. 97-16429 Filed 6-18-97; 4:41 pm]

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice No. 2562]

Advisory Committee on Religious Freedom Abroad; Public Meeting

The Department of State announces a meeting of the Secretary of State's Advisory Committee on Religious Freedom Abroad on Tuesday, July 2, 1997 at 9:00 a.m. in the Loy Henderson auditorium at the U.S. Department of State, 2201 C Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. The Advisory Committee will consider topics related to eliminating religious persecution, supporting religious freedom and promoting reconciliation and conflict resolution.

The Advisory Committee members will elaborate on a report which they will prepare over the course of the year to be delivered to the Secretary of State and the President. The report will focus on two issues: (1) religious persecution and (2) the role of religious groups in promoting conflict resolution, reconciliation and conditions that permit respect for religious freedom and other human rights. In preparing the report, the members will draw on the discussions and information presented at the July 2 meeting, and gathered or presented to them individually throughout the year.

Members of the public wishing to attend the meeting or otherwise desiring information should contact Ms. Raynell Bowling, Advisory Committee on Religious Freedom Abroad, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, Department of State, Washington, D.C. 20520, telephone: (202) 647-1422. In order to attend the meeting, please RSVP by June 30 and provide your date of birth and social security number to facilitate entry to the State Department. Please bring a photo identification to enter the State Department.

Dated: June 18, 1997.

John Shattuck,

Chairman, Advisory Committee on Religious Freedom Abroad.

[FR Doc. 97-16518 Filed 6-19-97; 2:10 pm]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

Dedicated Short Range Communication Systems; Applications for Frequency Assignments

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The FHWA invites any party interested in making use of spectrum in the 5850 to 5925 megahertz (MHz) radio frequency band for dedicated short range communication (DSRC) systems to request an application package for frequency assignment. The use of these frequencies will be limited to certain applications and subject to technical constraints. This spectrum was allotted to the FHWA on an experimental basis for 15 years and is intended to be used by the FHWA to develop applications for the Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) program.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. James A. Arnold, Intelligent Systems and Technologies Division, (703) 285-2974, or Ms. Beverly Russell, Office of the Chief Counsel, (202) 366-0780, Federal Highway Administration, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, D.C. 20590. Office hours are from 7:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On May 23, 1996, the FHWA was granted shared use of spectrum in the 5850-5925 MHz radio frequency band for development and testing of DSRC. The authorization was granted through a Certificate of Spectrum by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), the agency responsible for management of Federal spectrum. This spectrum was allotted to the FHWA on an experimental basis for 15 years and is intended to be used by the FHWA to develop applications for the ITS program. The FHWA invites parties interested in making use of these frequencies for ITS applications to request an application package as indicated below.

The national ITS program encompasses the use of advanced and emerging technologies in such fields as information processing, communications, control and electronics to increase the safety and efficiency of the Nation's intermodal transportation system. One way in which the FHWA facilitates the development of ITS is through research and testing of enabling technologies for ITS. DSRC is one such technology, identified as being critical to the future nationwide interoperability of intelligent transportation systems applications in the National ITS Architecture Final Report (June 1996). DSRC systems consist of short-range communication devices that are capable of transferring large amounts of data over a wireless interface between mobile or stationary vehicles and normally structure-mounted or handheld stationary devices at the roadside. When

used, each DSRC application, like all other radio frequency systems, requires some specific, unused portion of the electromagnetic spectrum.

The FHWA intends to share the use of its recently acquired spectrum with public and private organizations in selected ITS projects involving applications that are broadly consistent with the following: In-Vehicle Signing, Highway-Rail Intersection, Commercial Vehicle Operations (CVO) Electronic Clearance*, CVO Automated Roadside Inspection*, Fleet Management, Intermodal Freight Management, Hazardous Material Incident Response, CVO Off-line Verification, Intersection Collision Avoidance, Emergency Vehicle Signal Preemption, Transit Vehicle Signal Priority, Transit Vehicle Data Transfer, High-occupancy Vehicle (HOV) Access Clearance, Traffic Network Performance Monitoring, Traffic Information Dissemination, Automated Highway System to Vehicle Communications, Electronic Toll Collection*, and Parking Payments. The functions marked with an asterisk are likely to be limited to the 5850–5875 MHz portion of the radio frequency band. A full description of these services is included in the frequency assignment application package (see *Applications for Frequency Assignments* below).

Objectives

The FHWA has several objectives related to the experimental use of this spectrum. The first objective is to foster the development of a single nationwide standard system for DSRC. Such a standard implies a minimum level of interoperability of the communication link such that a single in-vehicle unit will meet all known user requirements. Since this communication link has not been fully defined, there exists an opportunity for the DSRC community and the FHWA to jointly develop a single communications link for DSRC systems. This definition of standards in the DSRC area is currently being conducted under the auspices of the American Society of Testing and Materials (ASTM) and the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE).

The second, and related, FHWA objective is to develop a DSRC system that is compatible with existing users of the band. Much of the information concerning electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) of DSRC systems and other systems is not available to the general public. The FHWA can assist DSRC users to identify and resolve potential EMC issues.

The third objective is to develop a DSRC system that is not only sufficiently robust to meet existing requirements of the applications identified above, but is also capable of expanding to include applications that are as yet unknown. Future application requirements may be difficult to define, but must be considered if this DSRC system is to have a service life sufficient to warrant deployment nationwide. Applications may be proposed that have not yet been considered but which involve innovative uses of the spectrum to meet user requirements and provide significant societal benefits.

Finally, the FHWA encourages organizations interested in using this spectrum to apply as soon as possible. As mentioned above, this spectrum has been specifically allotted for experimental work that will aid in developing early products for a nationwide and compatible DSRC system.

Terms of Use

Under the terms of this authorization (a *Stage 2 Experimental Certificate of Spectrum Support* from the NTIA), the FHWA must maintain administrative control over the use of these frequencies, which is accomplished through a contract or memorandum of understanding between the FHWA and the party applying for use of this spectrum. Several terms of the Certificate of Spectrum support apply to the FHWA or any party with whom the FHWA enters into an agreement, and are stated as follows:

(1) There is an absolute prohibition against interfering with existing users of the spectrum in the 5850–5925 MHz and surrounding bands (see number 2 below). If such interference takes place, the FHWA must demand that the interfering entity either cease operation or take other appropriate action. The right of the FHWA to make such a demand, and the obligation of the interfering entity to immediately comply, will be written in all contracts or memoranda of understanding for use of the spectrum.

(2) The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the NTIA share jurisdiction over this Mhz radio frequency band. The FCC has allocated this spectrum on a primary basis to fixed satellite earth-to-space applications, and on a secondary basis to amateur radio operations. The NTIA has allocated this spectrum to government radiolocation and the band is used for military radar applications. Experimental DSRC systems must, therefore, defer to these types of systems. As part of the agreement to

allow experimental use of this band it was pointed out by the NTIA that: (i) The band is allocated to the radiolocation service, and is the subject of ongoing reallocation efforts; (ii) the FCC issued a final rule at 62 FR 4649 on January 31, 1997, to provide for unlicensed National Information Infrastructure (U-NII) devices in the 5150–5350 and 5725–5875 MHz bands (47 CFR part 15, subpart E); (iii) this system may suffer harmful interference from adjacent and co-channel high power Department of Defense (DoD) systems in this band, in addition to harmonics of 2700–2900 MHz radar operations; (iv) the DSRC system may not be deployed (i.e., be made available to the general public) until the FHWA performs an analysis that identifies techniques to mitigate the electromagnetic interference potential from and to other co and adjacent-band users, and all parties agree that electromagnetic compatibility exists.

(3) The FHWA is required further by NTIA to: (i) Conduct an analysis to determine potential worst-case interference distances for a set of emitters identified by the DoD; (ii) perform coordinated testing in areas indicated by the analysis [that] pose the greatest interference threat to either the DoD systems or [DSRC systems], and provide copies of the test results to DoD for review; and (iii) limit [DSRC system] operations to areas that are determined to be free from interference either to or from the emitters identified by the DoD. Again, any agreement entered by the FHWA with another party applying for use of this spectrum must aim to ensure that these recommendations are upheld.

Additional Terms of Use—Technical Limitations

Bandwidth: The power emission shall be attenuated below the highest power contained within the authorized channel according to the following schedule:

3 dB Bandwidth—1.0 MHz
20 dB Bandwidth—2.2 MHz
60 dB Bandwidth—10.0 Mhz

Power: The maximum permissible effective radiated power (ERP) for base and mobile, is 10 watts.

Modulation: The final digital modulation type that will be authorized on these frequencies is currently under study. It will be a digital modulation, with a spectral efficiency such that channel data rates in the vicinity of 600 kilobits per second (kbps) will be supported. This will yield a user data rate of between 300 and 400 kbps. For any specific field experiments that want to use the frequencies prior to the

determination of a standard modulation scheme, the FHWA will grant authorization for a period not to exceed one year for alternative modulations that meet the overall bandwidth limitations (attenuation vs. frequency displacement) specified above.

Frequency Stability: Base and Mobile stations shall maintain the carrier frequency within 0.1 ppm.

Hardware type Acceptance: If the equipment has received an FCC Type Acceptance Number, this should be stated in connection with any application for an experimental license.

Applications for Frequency Assignments

To request an application package or additional information, parties interested in using these frequencies should contact the following: James A. Arnold, Intelligent Systems and Technologies Division, HSR-10, 6300 Georgetown Pike, McLean, VA 22101-2296, (703) 285-2974. Generally, frequency assignments will be made for one to three years with potential for renewal.

(Authority: 23 U.S.C 307 note)

Issued on: June 13, 1997.

Jane Garvey,

Acting Administrator for the Federal Highway Administration.

[FR Doc. 97-16251 Filed 6-20-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 548X)]

CSX Transportation, Inc.— Abandonment Exemption—in Monroe County, IN

On June 3, 1997, CSX Transportation, Inc. (CSXT), filed with the Surface

Transportation Board a petition under 49 U.S.C. 10502 for exemption from the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 10903 to abandon a portion of its line of railroad known as the Monon Subdivision, extending from railroad milepost Q-217.67 at Hunters to railroad milepost Q-213.41 at the end of track at Ellettsville, which traverses U.S. Postal Service ZIP Codes 47427 and 47401, a distance of 4.26 miles, in Monroe County, IN. The line for which the abandonment exemption request was filed includes the station of Ellettsville, milepost Q-213.

The line does not contain federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in CSXT's possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it. The interest of railroad employees will be protected by the conditions set forth in *Oregon Short Line R. Co.—Abandonment—Goshen*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979).

By issuance of this notice, the Board is instituting an exemption proceeding pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 10502(b). A final decision will be issued by September 19, 1997.

Any offer of financial assistance under 49 CFR 1152.27(b)(2) will be due no later than 10 days after service of a decision granting the petition for exemption. Each offer of financial assistance must be accompanied by a \$900 filing fee. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).

All interested persons should be aware that following abandonment of rail service and salvage of the line, the line may be suitable for other public use, including interim trail use. Any request for a public use condition under 49 CFR 1152.28 or for trail use/rail banking under 49 CFR 1152.29 will be due no later than July 14, 1997. Each trail use request must be accompanied by a \$150 filing fee. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(27).

All filings in response to this notice must refer to STB Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 548X) and must be sent to: (1) Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20423-0001; and (2) Charles M. Rosenberger, 500 Water Street, Jacksonville, FL 32202.

Persons seeking further information concerning abandonment procedures may contact the Board's Office of Public Services at (202) 565-1592 or refer to the full abandonment or discontinuance regulations at 49 CFR part 1152. Questions concerning environmental issues may be directed to the Board's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) at (202) 565-1545. [TDD for the hearing impaired is available at (202) 565-1695.]

An environmental assessment (EA) (or environmental impact statement (EIS), if necessary), prepared by SEA will be served upon all parties of record and upon any agencies or other persons who commented during its preparation. Other interested persons may contact SEA to obtain a copy of the EA (or EIS). EAs in these abandonment proceedings normally will be made available within 60 days of the filing of the petition. The deadline for submission of comments on the EA will generally be within 30 days of its service.

Decided: June 12, 1997.

By the Board, Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-16373 Filed 6-20-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P