4. Section 87.483 is added under Subpart Q to read as follows:

§ 87.483 Audio visual warning systems.

An audio visual warning system (AVWS) is a radar-based obstacle avoidance system. AVWS activates obstruction lighting and transmits VHF audible warnings to alert pilots of potential collisions with land-based obstructions. The continuously operating radar calculates the location, direction and groundspeed of nearby aircraft that enter one of two warning zones reasonably established by the licensee. As aircraft enter the first warning zone, the AVWS activates obstruction lighting. If the aircraft continues toward the obstacle and enters the second warning zone, the VHF radio transmits an audible warning describing the obstacle.

(a) Radio determination (radar) frequencies. Frequencies authorized under §87.475(b)(7) of this part are available for use by an AVWS. The frequency coordination requirements in §87.475(a) of this part apply.

(b) VHF audible warning frequencies. Frequencies authorized under §87.187(j), §87.217(a), §87.241(b) and §87.323(b) (excluding 121.950 MHz) of this part are available for use by an AVWS. Multiple frequencies may be authorized for an individual station, depending on need and the use of frequencies assigned in the vicinity of a proposed AVWS facility. Use of these frequencies is subject to the following limitations:

(1) The output power shall not exceed 3 dBi watts for each frequency authorized.

(2) The antenna used in transmitting the audible warnings must be omni directional with a maximum gain equal to or lower than a half-wave centered dipole above 30 degree elevation, and a maximum gain of +5 dBi from horizontal up to 30 degrees elevation.

(3) The audible warning shall not exceed two seconds in duration. No more than six audible warnings may be transmitted in a single warning cycle, which shall not exceed 12 seconds in duration. An interval of at least twenty seconds must occur between transmit cycles.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

49 CFR Parts 177 and 392


RIN 2137–AE69 & 2126–AB04
Highway-Rail Grade Crossing; Safe Clearance

AGENCY: Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), and Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM); reopening of comment period.

SUMMARY: On March 1, 2011, the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA) requested that PHMSA and FMCSA extend the comment period for the Highway-Rail Grade Crossing: Safe Clearance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, which was published on January 28, 2011 (76 FR 5120), by 60 days. CVSA believes the extension is necessary to gain feedback from its members who will be attending the CVSA Spring Workshop Meeting from April 11–14, 2011.

PHMSA and FMCSA believe that other potential commenters to this rulemaking will benefit from an extension as well, and that 30 days is sufficient time to allow CVSA to gain feedback from its members during its Spring Workshop and prepare its comments. Accordingly, PHMSA and FMCSA reopen the comment period for all comments on the NPRM and its related documents to April 29, 2011.

Issued in Washington, DC, on March 25, 2011, under authority delegated in 49 CFR part 1.
By the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration.

William Bronrott,
Deputy Administrator.

By the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration.

Bizunesh Scott,
Chief Counsel.


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