DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket No. FRA–1999–6439, Notice No. 25]

Adjustment of Nationwide Significant Risk Threshold

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

ACTION: Notice of Adjustment of Nationwide Significant Risk Threshold.

SUMMARY: Under title 49 Code of Federal Regulations, Use of Locomotive Horns at Public Highway-Rail Grade Crossings, FRA is updating the Nationwide Significant Risk Threshold (NSRT). This action is needed to ensure the public has the proper permissible risk threshold to evaluate risk resulting from prohibiting routine locomotive horn sounding at highway-rail grade crossings located in quiet zones. This is the seventh update to the NSRT and it is increasing from 14,347 to 14,723.

DATES: The effective date of this notice is April 25, 2017.


Supplementary Information:

Background

The NSRT is an average of the risk indexes for gated public crossings nationwide where train horns are routinely sounded. FRA developed this risk index to serve as one threshold of permissible risk for quiet zones established across the nation under 49 CFR part 222. Use of Locomotive Horns at Public Highway-Rail Grade Crossings. Thus, a community trying to establish and/or maintain its quiet zone, under 49 CFR part 222, can compare the Quiet Zone Risk Index calculated for its specific crossing corridor to the NSRT to determine whether sufficient measures have been taken to compensate for the excess risk that results from prohibiting routine sounding of the locomotive horn. In the alternative, a community can establish its quiet zone in comparison to the Risk Index With Horns, which is defined in 49 CFR 222.9 as a measure of risk to the motoring public when locomotive horns are routinely sounded at every public highway-rail grade crossing within a quiet zone.

FRA has periodically updated the NSRT since 2006. FRA last updated the NSRT in 2013, when FRA calculated the NSRT to be 14,347. 78 FR 70623, Nov. 26, 2013.

New NSRT

Using collision data over a 5-year period from 2011 to 2015, FRA has recalculated the NSRT based on formulas identified in 49 CFR part 222, appendix D. In making this recalculation, FRA noted the total number of gated crossings nationwide where train horns are routinely sounded was 44,591.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fatality Rate</th>
<th>Fatal Incidents</th>
<th>Injuries in Injury-Only Incidents</th>
<th>Injury-Only Incidents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>220</td>
<td>217</td>
<td>1050</td>
<td>641</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fatality Rate = Fatal Incidents / 217 = 1.2442

Injury Rate = Injuries in Injury-Only Incidents / 641 = 1.6381

Applying the fatality rate and injury rate to the probable number of fatalities and injuries predicted to occur at each of the 44,591 identified crossings, and the predicted cost of the associated injuries and fatalities, FRA calculates the NSRT is 14,723. Accordingly, this updated NSRT value will serve as one threshold of permissible risk for quiet zones established across the nation pursuant to 49 CFR part 222.

Patrick T. Warren,
Acting Administrator.

[FR Doc. 2017–08360 Filed 4–24–17; 8:45 am]

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Washington, DC 20503, Attention: NHTSA Desk Officer.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For additional information or access to background documents, contact John Kindelberger, Office of Regulatory Analysis and Evaluation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, N3A–310, Washington, DC 20590. Mr. Kindelberger’s telephone number is 202–366–4696.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Before a Federal agency can collect certain information from the public, it must receive approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). In compliance with these requirements, this notice announces that the following information collection request has been forwarded to OMB. A Federal Register notice requesting comments on the following information collection was published on December 21, 2016 (81 FR 93728). The agency received no comments on that notice.


Type of Request: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: Improperly inflated tires pose a safety risk, increasing the chance of skidding, hydroplaning, longer stopping distances, and crashes due to flat tires and blowouts. Section 13 of the Transportation Recall Enhancement, Accountability, and Documentation (TREAD) Act, which Congress passed on November 1, 2000, directed NHTSA to conduct rulemaking actions to revise and update the Federal motor vehicle safety standards for tires, to improve labeling on tires, and to require a system in new motor vehicles that warns the operator when a tire is significantly underinflated.

Tire Pressure Monitoring Systems (TPMS) were mandated in Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) No. 138, so that drivers are warned when the pressure in one or more of the vehicle’s tires has fallen to 25 percent or more below the placard pressure, or a minimum level of pressure specified in the standard, whichever pressure is higher, and may be informed about which of the four tires is underinflated.

As of September 1, 2007, after a phase-in period beginning on October 5, 2005, TPMS was required on all new light vehicles (i.e., passenger cars, trucks, multipurpose passenger vehicles, and buses with a gross vehicle weight rating of 10,000 pounds or less, except those vehicles with dual wheels on an axle). Executive Order 12866 requires Federal agencies to evaluate their existing regulations and programs and measure their effectiveness in achieving their objectives. Since the phase-in of TPMS, there has been only one evaluation of TPMS. The TPMS–SS (OMB #2127–0626) was conducted in 2011, as a special study through the infrastructure of the National Automotive Sampling System (NASS), to collect nationally representative data on how effective TPMS was in reducing underinflation in the on-road fleet of passenger vehicles. Analysis of the survey results indicated that direct TPMS is 55.6-percent effective at preventing severe underinflation as defined in FMVSS No. 138. However, effectiveness was substantially lower in vehicles that were 6–7 years old at the time of the survey. One explanation as to why this is true was the possibility that the drivers of these older vehicles were not taking all the maintenance actions (e.g., adding TPMS sensors to new replacement tires, replacing non-functioning sensors on current tires, having the system properly re-set when needed) that were needed to insure the vehicles had functioning TPMS.

Relevant data are needed to examine why the effectiveness of TPMSs in older vehicles is reduced and what can be done to increase it. This was the original goal of the TPMS–ORRC and is still a goal.

Additionally, on December 4, 2015, the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation (FAST) Act (Pub. L. 114–94) was signed into law. An amendment (Section 24115) directs the Secretary of Transportation to update the standard on tire pressure monitoring systems, FMVSS No. 138, to ensure that they cannot be overridden, reset or recalibrated in a way that will prevent the system from identifying a tire that is significantly underinflated. The Act also states that the revised requirements shall not contain any provision that has the effect of prohibiting the availability of direct or indirect tire pressure monitoring systems. Data are needed to help inform the required rulemaking. For this purpose, the design of the TPMS–ORRC field survey has been changed from a convenience sample to a probability sample, allowing nationally representative estimates; this revision also adds a module for indirect TPMS.

Affected Public: Individuals and businesses.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 1,352 hours.

Comments are Invited on: Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Department, including: Whether the information will have practical utility; the accuracy of the Department’s estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.


Joseph M. Kolly,
Acting Associate Administrator, National Center for Statistics and Analysis.

[FR Doc. 2017–08355 Filed 4–24–17; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Office of Foreign Assets Control

Sanctions Actions Pursuant to the Foreign Narcotics Kingpin Designation Act

SUB-AGENCY: Office of Foreign Assets Control, Treasury.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of the Treasury’s Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) is publishing the names of two entities whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to the Foreign Narcotics Kingpin Designation Act (Kingpin Act).

DATE: OFAC’s actions described in this notice were effective on April 20, 2017.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Electronic Availability

The Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons List (SDN List) and additional information concerning OFAC sanctions programs are available on OFAC’s Web site (http://www.treasury.gov/ofac).

Notice of OFAC Actions

On April 20, 2017, OFAC’s Acting Director determined that the property and interests in property of the following persons are blocked.