

produced in a sufficient and reasonably available amount.

The FRA also solicited public comments on the waiver request for a period of 15 days. The waiver request was made available for public review on FRA's Web site and through a notice published in the **Federal Register**. The **Federal Register** notice requested the public's views on the waiver request and for any information regarding the availability of suitable domestically manufactured products. FRA did not receive any comments on the waiver request or any information regarding the availability of suitable domestically manufactured products.

The WSDOT and BNSF began discussions with FRA concerning the Vossloh concrete tie in late 2011. Since then, WSDOT and BNSF have consulted with FRA's legal and technical staff in determining how FRA's Buy America requirements apply to the Vossloh concrete tie and to other FRA investments on BNSF infrastructure. As part of this consultation, BNSF participated in calls with the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Hollins Manufacturing Extension Program (NIST-MEP), an agency that helps encourage the development of a domestic supply base to support intermodal transportation in the United States, including rail infrastructure. These conversations led to BNSF's commitment to help facilitate conversations between NIST-MEP and Vossloh.

The FRA understands that BNSF is one of the largest users of concrete ties in North America with over 11 million concrete ties currently in track. Consequently, FRA acknowledges that BNSF has a substantial interest in ensuring that the concrete ties installed on its system meet BNSF's specific needs in terms of performance, durability and cost efficiency. However, as demonstrated in the waiver request, BNSF also recognizes that as a "large supplier of rail infrastructure and construction materials it is uniquely situated to encourage American manufacturing of those products." The FRA appreciates that BNSF has committed to working with Vossloh to explore the feasibility of having the foreign components made in the United States and to continue an ongoing dialog with FRA and NIST-MEP. Further, FRA is encouraged to hear that Vossloh has separately begun the process to identify potential suitable locations on which to construct a manufacturing facility for the dowels and SKL-30 tension clamps.

For the foregoing reasons, FRA is granting WSDOT's Buy America waiver

request.<sup>2</sup> The waiver is conditioned on BNSF's good faith efforts to facilitate conversations between NIST-MEP, FRA and Vossloh in order to explore the feasibility of having the dowel and SKL-30 tension clamps made in the United States. Pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 24405(a)(4), FRA will publish a detailed written justification in the **Federal Register** and provide notice of such finding and an opportunity for public comment after which this waiver will become effective. This waiver is granted only because of the specific facts of these projects; any future requests for a waiver regarding this product will not be granted without a specific showing that domestic products for that particular project also are not reasonably available at that time. Additionally, unless otherwise approved by FRA in writing, this waiver is time limited to two years after the effective date of this waiver or until Vossloh begins manufacturing the components in the United States, whichever occurs first.

Sincerely,  
Joseph C. Szabo  
Administrator

Issued in Washington, DC on June 25, 2012.

Melissa Porter,  
Chief Counsel.

[FR Doc. 2012-15865 Filed 6-26-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-06-P

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Maritime Administration

[Docket No. MARAD 2012 0072]

#### Requested Administrative Waiver of the Coastwise Trade Laws: Vessel PISCES; Invitation for Public Comments

**AGENCY:** Maritime Administration, Department of Transportation.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** As authorized by 46 U.S.C. 12121, the Secretary of Transportation, as represented by the Maritime Administration (MARAD), is authorized to grant waivers of the U.S.-build requirement of the coastwise laws under certain circumstances. A request for such a waiver has been received by MARAD. The vessel, and a brief description of the proposed service, is listed below.

<sup>2</sup> This waiver applies to the SKL-30 tension clamp and the dowel insert manufactured in Germany and does not apply to any other component of the Vossloh 101-LV concrete rail tie that might be available from both foreign and domestic sources.

**DATES:** Submit comments on or before July 27, 2012.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should refer to docket number MARAD-2012-0072. Written comments may be submitted by hand or by mail to the Docket Clerk, U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590. You may also send comments electronically via the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov>. All comments will become part of this docket and will be available for inspection and copying at the above address between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., E.T., Monday through Friday, except federal holidays. An electronic version of this document and all documents entered into this docket is available on the World Wide Web at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Joann Spittle, U.S. Department of Transportation, Maritime Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Room W21-203, Washington, DC 20590. Telephone 202-366-5979, Email [Joann.Spittle@dot.gov](mailto:Joann.Spittle@dot.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** As described by the applicant the intended service of the vessel PISCES is:

INTENDED COMMERCIAL USE OF VESSEL: "Yacht racing support and coastal photography."  
GEOGRAPHIC REGION: "Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Connecticut, California."

The complete application is given in DOT docket MARAD-2012-0072 at <http://www.regulations.gov>. Interested parties may comment on the effect this action may have on U.S. vessel builders or businesses in the U.S. that use U.S.-flag vessels. If MARAD determines, in accordance with 46 U.S.C. 12121 and MARAD's regulations at 46 CFR Part 388, that the issuance of the waiver will have an unduly adverse effect on a U.S.-vessel builder or a business that uses U.S.-flag vessels in that business, a waiver will not be granted. Comments should refer to the docket number of this notice and the vessel name in order for MARAD to properly consider the comments. Comments should also state the commenter's interest in the waiver application, and address the waiver criteria given in § 388.4 of MARAD's regulations at 46 CFR Part 388.

#### Privacy Act

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).

By Order of the Maritime Administrator.  
Dated: June 21, 2012.

**Julie P. Agarwal,**

*Secretary, Maritime Administration.*

[FR Doc. 2012–15723 Filed 6–26–12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910–81–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Maritime Administration

[Docket No. MARAD 2012 0071]

#### Requested Administrative Waiver of the Coastwise Trade Laws: Vessel ISLANDER; Invitation for Public Comments

**AGENCY:** Maritime Administration, Department of Transportation.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** As authorized by 46 U.S.C. 12121, the Secretary of Transportation, as represented by the Maritime Administration (MARAD), is authorized to grant waivers of the U.S.-build requirement of the coastwise laws under certain circumstances. A request for such a waiver has been received by MARAD. The vessel, and a brief description of the proposed service, is listed below.

**DATES:** Submit comments on or before July 27, 2012.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should refer to docket number MARAD–2012–0071. Written comments may be submitted by hand or by mail to the Docket Clerk, U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M–30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590. You may also send comments electronically via the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov>. All comments will become part of this docket and will be available for inspection and copying at the above address between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., E.T., Monday through Friday, except federal holidays. An electronic version of this document and all documents entered into this docket is available on the World Wide Web at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Joann Spittle, U.S. Department of Transportation, Maritime Administration, 1200 New Jersey

Avenue SE., Room W21–203, Washington, DC 20590. Telephone 202–366–5979, Email [Joann.Spittle@dot.gov](mailto:Joann.Spittle@dot.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** As described by the applicant the intended service of the vessel ISLANDER is:

INTENDED COMMERCIAL USE OF VESSEL: “Overnight luxury pleasure time charters for weeklong or greater charter periods.”

GEOGRAPHIC REGION: “Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Maryland, Virginia, Delaware, New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Maine.”

The complete application is given in DOT docket MARAD–2012–0071 at <http://www.regulations.gov>. Interested parties may comment on the effect this action may have on U.S. vessel builders or businesses in the U.S. that use U.S.-flag vessels. If MARAD determines, in accordance with 46 U.S.C. 12121 and MARAD's regulations at 46 CFR Part 388, that the issuance of the waiver will have an unduly adverse effect on a U.S.-vessel builder or a business that uses U.S.-flag vessels in that business, a waiver will not be granted. Comments should refer to the docket number of this notice and the vessel name in order for MARAD to properly consider the comments. Comments should also state the commenter's interest in the waiver application, and address the waiver criteria given in § 388.4 of MARAD's regulations at 46 CFR Part 388.

#### Privacy Act

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).

By Order of the Maritime Administrator.  
Dated: June 21, 2012.

**Julie P. Agarwal,**

*Secretary, Maritime Administration.*

[FR Doc. 2012–15711 Filed 6–26–12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910–81–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

[Docket No. NHTSA–2012–0007; Notice 1]

#### Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC, and Daimler AG (DAG), Receipt of Petition for Decision of Inconsequential Noncompliance

**AGENCY:** National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, DOT.

**ACTION:** Receipt of petition.

**SUMMARY:** Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC<sup>1</sup> (MBUSA) and its parent company Daimler AG (DAG) (collectively referred to as “MB”) have determined that certain model year 2011 and 2012 Mercedes-Benz S-Class (221 platform) passenger cars do not fully comply with paragraph S4.4 *TPMS Malfunction* of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) No. 138, *Tire Pressure Monitoring Systems*. MB has filed an appropriate report pursuant to 49 CFR Part 573, *Defect and Noncompliance Responsibility and Reports* (dated September 30, 2011).

Pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 30118(d) and 30120(h) (see implementing rule at 49 CFR Part 556), MB has petitioned for an exemption from the notification and remedy requirements of 49 U.S.C. Chapter 301 on the basis that this noncompliance is inconsequential to motor vehicle safety.

This notice of receipt of MB's petition is published under 49 U.S.C. 30118 and 30120 and does not represent any agency decision or other exercise of judgment concerning the merits of the petition.

**Vehicles involved:** Affected are approximately 4,769 model year 2011 and 2012 Mercedes-Benz S-Class (221 platform) passenger cars that were produced from March 2011 through August 2011.

NHTSA notes that the statutory provisions (49 U.S.C. 30118(d) and 30120(h)) that permit manufacturers to file petitions for a determination of inconsequentiality allow NHTSA to exempt manufacturers only from the duties found in sections 30118 and 30120, respectively, to notify owners, purchasers, and dealers of a defect or noncompliance and to remedy the defect or noncompliance. Therefore, these provisions only apply to the

<sup>1</sup> Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC, and Daimler AG are motor vehicle manufacturers and importers. Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC is a limited liability company organized under the laws of Delaware. Daimler AG is organized under the laws of Germany.