

By order of the Maritime Administrator.
Joel C. Richard,
Secretary, Maritime Administration.
 [FR Doc. 03-16453 Filed 6-27-03; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4910-81-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Maritime Administration

[Docket Number: MARAD 2003-15496]

Requested Administrative Waiver of the Coastwise Trade Laws

AGENCY: Maritime Administration, Department of Transportation.

ACTION: Invitation for public comments on a requested administrative waiver of the Coastwise Trade Laws for the vessel TRANSITION.

SUMMARY: As authorized by Public Law 105-383 and Public Law 107-295, 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. The complete application is given in DOT docket 2003-15496 at <http://dms.dot.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 Public Law 105-383 and MARAD's regulations at 46 CFR part 388 (68 FR 23084; April 30, 2003), 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.

DATES: Submit comments on or before July 30, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Comments should refer to docket number MARAD-2003-15496. Written comments may be submitted by hand or by mail to the Docket Clerk, U.S. DOT Dockets, Room PL-401, Department of Transportation, 400 7th St., SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001. You may also send comments electronically via the Internet at <http://dmses.dot.gov/submit/>. 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://dms.dot.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael Hokana, U.S. Department of Transportation, Maritime Administration, MAR-830 Room 7201, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590. Telephone 202-366-0760.

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

Intended Use: "Sunset Tours, Memorial Services, Weddings."
Geographic Region: "Florida East Coast."

Dated: June 24, 2003.

By order of the Maritime Administrator.

Joel C. Richard,
Secretary, Maritime Administration.
 [FR Doc. 03-16448 Filed 6-27-03; 8:45 am]
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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Maritime Administration

[Docket Number: MARAD 2003-15498]

Requested Administrative Waiver of the Coastwise Trade Laws

AGENCY: Maritime Administration, Department of Transportation.

ACTION: Invitation for public comments on a requested administrative waiver of the Coastwise Trade Laws for the vessel VILLOMEE.

SUMMARY: As authorized by Public Law 105-383 and Public Law 107-295, 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. The complete application is given in DOT docket 2003-15498 at <http://dms.dot.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 Public Law 105-383 and MARAD's regulations at 46 CFR part 388 (68 FR 23084; April 30, 2003), 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.

DATES: Submit comments on or before July 30, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Comments should refer to docket number MARAD-2003-15498. Written comments may be submitted by hand or by mail to the Docket Clerk, U.S. DOT Dockets, Room PL-401, Department of Transportation, 400 7th St., SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001. You may also send comments electronically via the Internet at <http://dmses.dot.gov/submit/>. 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://dms.dot.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael Hokana, U.S. Department of Transportation, Maritime Administration, MAR-830 Room 7201, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590. Telephone 202-366-0760.

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

Intended Use: "Recreational sailing charters and coastwise cruising."
Geographic Region: "Along the East Coast of the U.S."

Dated: June 24, 2003.

By order of the Maritime Administrator.

Joel C. Richard,
Secretary, Maritime Administration.
 [FR Doc. 03-16450 Filed 6-27-03; 8:45 am]
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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

[Docket No. NHTSA-2003-15470]

Notice of Receipt of Petition for Decision That Nonconforming 2003 Mitsubishi Evolution VIII, Left Hand Drive Passenger Cars Are Eligible for Importation

AGENCY: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of petition for decision that nonconforming 2003 Mitsubishi Evolution VIII, Left Hand Drive (LHD) passenger cars are eligible for importation.

SUMMARY: This document announces receipt by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a petition for a decision that 2003 Mitsubishi Evolution VIII LHD passenger cars that were not originally manufactured to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards are eligible for importation into the United States because (1) they are substantially similar to vehicles that were originally manufactured for importation into and sale in the United States and that were certified by their manufacturer as complying with the safety standards, and (2) they are capable of being readily altered to conform to the standards.

DATES: The closing date for comments on the petition is July 30, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Comments should refer to the docket number and notice number, and be submitted to: Docket Management, Room PL-401, 400 Seventh St., SW., Washington, DC 20590. [Docket hours are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.]. 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) or you may visit <http://dms.dot.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Coleman Sachs, Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance, NHTSA (202-366-3151).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Under 49 U.S.C. 30141(a)(1)(A), a motor vehicle that was not originally manufactured to conform to all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards shall be refused admission into the United States unless NHTSA has decided that the motor vehicle is substantially similar to a motor vehicle originally manufactured for importation into and sale in the United States, certified under 49 U.S.C. 30115, and of the same model year as the model of the motor vehicle to be compared, and is capable of being readily altered to conform to all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

Petitions for eligibility decisions may be submitted by either manufacturers or

importers who have registered with NHTSA pursuant to 49 CFR part 592. As specified in 49 CFR 593.7, NHTSA publishes notice in the **Federal Register** of each petition that it receives, and affords interested persons an opportunity to comment on the petition. At the close of the comment period, NHTSA decides, on the basis of the petition and any comments that it has received, whether the vehicle is eligible for importation. The agency then publishes this decision in the **Federal Register**.

G&K Automotive Conversion, Inc. of Santa Ana, California ("G&K") (Registered Importer 90-007) has petitioned NHTSA to decide whether 2003 Mitsubishi Evolution VIII LHD passenger cars are eligible for importation into the United States. The vehicles which G&K believes are substantially similar are 2003 Mitsubishi Evolution VIII LHD passenger cars that were manufactured for importation into, and sale in, the United States and certified by their manufacturer as conforming to all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

The petitioner claims that it carefully compared non-U.S. certified 2003 Mitsubishi Evolution VIII LHD passenger cars to their U.S.-certified counterparts, and found the vehicles to be substantially similar with respect to compliance with most Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

G&K submitted information with its petition intended to demonstrate that non-U.S. certified 2003 Mitsubishi Evolution VIII LHD passenger cars, as originally manufactured, conform to many Federal motor vehicle safety standards in the same manner as their U.S. certified counterparts, or are capable of being readily altered to conform to those standards.

Specifically, the petitioner claims that non-U.S. certified 2003 Mitsubishi Evolution VIII LHD passenger cars are identical to their U.S. certified counterparts with respect to compliance with Standard Nos. 102 *Transmission Shift Lever Sequence* * * *, 103 *Defrosting and Defogging Systems*, 104 *Windshield Wiping and Washing Systems*, 106 *Brake Hoses*, 109 *New Pneumatic Tires*, 113 *Hood Latch Systems*, Standard No. 114 *Theft Protection*, 116 *Brake Fluid*, 118 *Power Window Systems*, 124 *Accelerator Control Systems*, 135 *Passenger Car Brake Systems*, 201 *Occupant Protection in Interior Impact*, 202 *Head Restraints*, 203 *Impact Protection for Driver from Steering Control Systems*, 204 *Steering Control Rearward Displacement*, 205 *Glazing Materials*, 206 *Door Locks and*

Door Retention Components, 207 *Seating Systems*, 208 *Occupant Crash Protection*, 209 *Seat Belt Assemblies*, 210 *Seat Belt Assembly Anchorages*, 212 *Windshield Retention*, 214 *Side Impact Protection*, 216 *Roof Crush Resistance*, 219 *Windshield Zone Intrusion*, and 302 *Flammability of Interior Materials*.

Petitioner also contends that the vehicles are capable of being readily altered to meet the following standards, in the manner indicated:

Standard No. 101 *Controls and Displays*: (a) Substitution of the word "Brake" for the international ECE warning symbol as markings for the brake failure indicator lamp; (b) inspection of all vehicles and installation, on vehicles that are not already so equipped, of a U.S. model speedometer reading in miles per hour.

Standard No. 108 *Lamps, Reflective Devices and Associated Equipment*: Installation of U.S.-model front and rear side marker lights and reflector assemblies.

Standard No. 110 *Tire Selection and Rims*: Installation of a tire information placard.

Standard No. 111 *Rearview Mirror*: Inscription of the required warning statement on the face of the passenger side rearview mirror.

Standard No. 225 *Child Restraint Anchorage Systems*: Installation of U.S.-model child restraint anchorage systems.

Standard No. 301 *Fuel System Integrity*: The petitioner stated that modification of fuel system is necessary to meet EPA emission requirements and that with these modifications the vehicle will comply with this standard.

Standard No. 401 *Interior Trunk Release*: Installation of U.S. model interior trunk release handle.

Petitioner states that the front and rear bumper on non-U.S. certified 2003 Mitsubishi Evolution VIII LHD passenger cars must be reinforced to meet the requirements of the Bumper Standard found in 49 CFR part 581.

The petitioner also states that inspection of all vehicles for compliance with the parts marking requirements of the Theft Prevention Standard in 49 CFR part 541 is necessary, and that required markings will be added to any covered parts that are not already so marked.

In addition, the petitioner states that a vehicle identification number (VIN) plate must be affixed to the vehicles so that it is readable from outside the driver's windshield pillar to meet the requirements of 49 CFR part 565.

Lastly, the petitioner states that a certification label will be affixed to the driver's side doorjamb to meet the

requirements of the vehicle certification regulations in 49 CFR part 567.

Interested persons are invited to submit comments on the petition described above. Comments should refer to the docket number and be submitted to: Docket Management, Room PL-401, 400 Seventh St., SW., Washington, DC 20590. (Docket hours are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.). It is requested but not required that 10 copies be submitted.

All comments received before the close of business on the closing date indicated above will be considered, and will be available for examination in the docket at the above address both before and after that date. To the extent possible, comments filed after the closing date will also be considered. Notice of final action on the petition will be published in the **Federal Register** pursuant to the authority indicated below.

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 30141(a)(1)(A) and (b)(1); 49 CFR 593.8; delegations of authority at 49 CFR 1.50 and 501.8.

Issued on: June 24, 2003.

Kenneth N. Weinstein,

Associate Administrator For Enforcement.

[FR Doc. 03-16457 Filed 6-27-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Docket No. AB-439 (Sub-No. 1X)]

Dallas Area Rapid Transit—Abandonment Exemption—in Dallas County, TX; [STB Docket No. AB-103 (Sub-No. 16X)] The Kansas City Southern Railway Company—Discontinuance of Trackage Rights Exemption—in Dallas County, TX; [STB Docket No. AB-585X]; Dallas, Garland and Northeastern Railroad Company—Discontinuance of Trackage Rights Exemption—in Dallas County, TX

Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART), The Kansas City Southern Railway Company (KCS), and Dallas, Garland and Northeastern Railroad Company (DGNO), have jointly filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F—*Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuances of Service and Trackage Rights* for DART to abandon and KCS and DGNO to discontinue trackage rights over approximately 11.45 miles of railroad between approximately milepost 45.5 at Westmoreland Road and approximately milepost 56.95 at Tenison, in Dallas, Dallas County, TX.¹

¹ In 1995, DART acquired the subject line from The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway

The line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Codes 75211, 75212, 75233, 75237, and 75223.

Applicants have certified that: (1) No local traffic has moved over the line for at least 2 years; (2) there is no overhead traffic on the line; (3) no formal complaint filed by a user of rail service on the line (or by a state or local government entity acting on behalf of such user) regarding cessation of service over the line either is pending with the Surface Transportation Board (Board) or with any U.S. District Court or has been decided in favor of complainant within the 2-year period; and (4) the requirements at 49 CFR 1105.7 (environmental reports), 49 CFR 1105.8 (historic reports), 49 CFR 1105.11 (transmittal letter), 49 CFR 1105.12 (newspaper publication), and 49 CFR 1152.50(d)(1) (notice to governmental agencies) have been met.

As a condition to this exemption, any employee adversely affected by the abandonment shall be protected under *Oregon Short Line R. Co.—Abandonment—Goshen*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979). To address whether this condition adequately protects affected employees, a petition for partial revocation under 49 U.S.C. 10502(d) must be filed. Provided no formal expression of intent to file an offer of financial assistance (OFA) has been received, these exemptions will be effective on July 30, 2003, unless stayed pending reconsideration. Petitions to stay that do not involve environmental issues,² formal expressions of intent to file an OFA under 49 CFR

1152.27(c)(2),³ and trail use/rail banking requests under 49 CFR 1152.29 must be filed by July 10, 2003. Petitions to reopen or requests for public use conditions under 49 CFR 1152.28 must

Company. *See Dallas Area Rapid Transit—Acquisition and Operation Exemption—Certain Lines of The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway Company*, Finance Docket No. 32611 (ICC served Mar. 17, 1995). According to DART, prior to the acquisition, the Missouri Pacific Railroad Company (MP) and KCS acquired trackage rights over the subject line. MP's trackage rights were assigned to DGNO in 1992. *See Dallas, Garland & Northeastern Railroad, Inc.—Trackage Rights Exemption—The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway Company and Missouri Pacific Railroad Company*, Finance Docket No. 32198 (ICC served Dec. 15, 1992).

² The Board will grant a stay if an informed decision on environmental issues (whether raised by a party or by the Board's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) in its independent investigation) cannot be made before the exemption's effective date. *See Exemption of Out-of-Service Rail Lines*, 5 I.C.C.2d 377 (1989). Any request for a stay should be filed as soon as possible so that the Board may take appropriate action before the exemption's effective date.

³ Each OFA must be accompanied by the filing fee, which currently is set at \$1,100. *See* 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).

be filed by July 21, 2003, with: Surface Transportation Board, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423-0001.

A copy of any petition filed with the Board should be sent to applicants' representatives: Edward J. Fishman, 1800 Massachusetts Avenue, 2nd Floor, Washington, DC 20036; Thomas J. Healey, 427 West 12th Street, Kansas City, MO 64105; and Gary Laakso, 5300 Broken Sound Blvd., NW., 2nd Floor, Boca Raton, FL 33487.

If the verified notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void *ab initio*.

Applicants have filed an environmental report which addresses the effects, if any, of the abandonment and discontinuance on the environment and historic resources. SEA will issue an environmental assessment (EA) by July 3, 2003. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the EA by writing to SEA (Room 500, Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423-0001) or by calling SEA, at (202) 565-1552. [Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.] Comments on environmental and historic preservation matters must be filed within 15 days after the EA becomes available to the public.

Environmental, historic preservation, public use, or trail use/rail banking conditions will be imposed, where appropriate, in a subsequent decision.

Pursuant to the provisions of 49 CFR 1152.29(e)(2), DART shall file a notice of consummation with the Board to signify that it has exercised the authority granted and fully abandoned the line. If consummation has not been effected by DART's filing of a notice of consummation by June 30, 2004, and there are no legal or regulatory barriers to consummation, the authority to abandon will automatically expire.

Board decisions and notices are available on our Web site at www.stb.dot.gov.

Decided: June 23, 2003.

By the Board, Joseph H. Dettmar, Acting Director, Office of Proceedings.

Vernon A. Williams,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03-16308 Filed 6-27-03; 8:45 am]

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