not to be used for the purpose of substantially informing influential policy decisions; and
intended to yield only qualitative information; the collections will not be designed or expected to yield statistically reliable results or used as though the results are generalized to the population of study.

This type of generic clearance for qualitative information will not be used for quantitative information collections that are designed to yield reliably actionable results, such as monitoring trends over time or documenting program performance. Such data uses require more rigorous designs that address: The target population to which generalizations will be made; the sampling frame, the sample design (including stratification and clustering), the precision requirements or power calculations that justify the proposed sample size; and the expected response rate, methods for assessing potential nonresponse bias, the protocols for data collection, and any testing procedures that were or will be undertaken prior to fielding the study. Depending on the degree of influence the results are likely to have, such collections may still be eligible for submission for other mechanisms that are designed to yield quantitative results. As a general matter, information collections will not result in any new system of records containing privacy information and will not ask questions of a sensitive nature, such as sexual behavior and attitudes, religious beliefs, and other matters that are commonly considered private.

Title: Generic Clearance of Customer Satisfaction Surveys.

OMB Control Number: 2126–0061.

Type of Request: Renewal of currently approved collection.

Respondents: State and local agencies, general public and stakeholders; original equipment manufacturers (OEM) and suppliers to the commercial motor vehicle (CMV) industry; fleets, owner-operators, state CMV safety agencies, research organizations and contractors; news organizations and safety advocacy groups.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 5,900 [5,000 customer satisfaction survey respondents + 100 listening sessions/stakeholder feedback forums respondents + 300 focus group respondents + 500 strategic planning customer satisfaction survey respondents].

Estimated Time per Response: Range from 10–120 minutes.

Expiration: July 31, 2018

Frequency of Response: Generally, on an annual basis.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 1,758 hours [853 hours for customer satisfaction surveys + 200 hours for listening sessions/stakeholder feedback forums + 600 hours for focus groups + 125 hours for strategic planning customer satisfaction surveys].

Public Comments Invited: You are asked to comment on any aspect of this information collection, including: (1) Whether the proposed collection is necessary for the performance of FMCSA’s functions; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways for FMCSA to enhance the quality, usefulness, and clarity of the collected information; and (4) ways that the burden could be minimized without reducing the quality of the collected information. The agency will summarize or include your comments in the request for OMB’s clearance of this information collection.

Issued under the authority of 49 CFR 1.87 on: January 12, 2018.

Kelly Regal,
Associate Administrator, Office of Research and Information Technology.

[FR Doc. 2018–00845 Filed 1–18–18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–EX–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[Docket No. FMCSA–2017–0108]

Hours of Service of Drivers of Commercial Motor Vehicles: Proposed Regulatory Guidance Concerning the Use of a Commercial Motor Vehicle for Personal Conveyance; Extension of Comment Period

AGENCY: Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed regulatory guidance; extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: FMCSA extends the public comment period for the Agency’s December 19, 2017, notice announcing the proposed regulatory guidance concerning the use of a commercial motor vehicle for personal conveyance. On December 22, 2017, the American Trucking Associations, Inc. (ATA) requested a 30-day extension of the comment period. The Agency extends the January 18, 2018, deadline for the submission of public comments to February 20, 2018.

DATES: FMCSA extends the comment period for the notice of proposed regulatory guidance published on December 19, 2017. You must submit comments by February 20, 2018.

ADDRESSES: You may insert comments identified by Federal Docket Management System Number FMCSA–2017–0108 by any of the following methods:

• Federal eRulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

• Mail: Docket Management Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590–0001.

• Hand Delivery or Courier: West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

• Fax: (202) 493–2251.

To avoid duplication, please use only one of these four methods. See the “Public Participation and Request for Comments” portion of the SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section for instructions on submitting comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Thomas Yager, Chief, Driver and Carrier Operations Division, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590, phone (614) 942–6477, email MCPSD@dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Public Participation and Request for Comments

A. Submitting Comments

If you submit a comment, please include the docket number listed above, indicate the specific section of this document to which your comment applies, and provide a reason for each suggestion or recommendation. You may submit your comments and material online or by fax, mail, or hand delivery. FMCSA recommends that you include your name and a mailing address, an email address, or a phone number in the body of your document so that FMCSA can contact you if there are questions regarding your submission.

To submit your comment online, go to http://www.regulations.gov, put the docket number, FMCSA–2017–0108, in the keyword box, and click “Search.” When the new screen appears, click on the “Comment Now!” button and type your comment into the text box on the following screen. Choose whether you are submitting your comment as an individual or on behalf of a third party and then submit.

If you submit your comments by mail or hand delivery, submit them in an unbound format, no larger than 8½ by
B. View Comments and Documents

To view comments, go to http://www.regulations.gov. Insert the docket number, FMCSA–2017–0108, in the keyword box, and click “Search.” Next, click the “Open Docket Folder” button and choose the document to review. If you do not have access to the internet, you may view the docket online by visiting the Docket Management Facility in Room W12–140 on the ground floor of the DOT West Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

C. Privacy Act

In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its regulatory process. DOT posts these comments, without edit, including any personal information the commenter provides, to www.regulations.gov, as described in the system of records notice (DOT/ALL–14 FDMS), which can be reviewed at www.transportation.gov/privacy.

II. Background

On December 19, 2017 (82 FR 60269), FMCSA published a notice of proposed regulatory guidance concerning the use of a commercial motor vehicle (CMV) for personal conveyance. This provision is available to all CMV drivers required to record their hours of service (HOS) who are permitted by their employer to use the vehicle for personal use. The proposed regulatory guidance would revise Question 26 to 49 CFR 395.8.

The existing guidance on personal conveyance (49 CFR 395.8, Question 26) was issued by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), FMCSA’s predecessor agency, in a memorandum dated November 18, 1996, and later published in a compilation of guidance (62 FR 16370, 16426, April 4, 1997). The guidance reiterated the basic principle that a driver in off-duty status must be relieved from work and all responsibility for performing work. It highlighted the use of the CMV as a personal conveyance in traveling to and from the place of employment (e.g., the normal work reporting location). The 1997 guidance included discussion of CMVs used to travel “short distances” from a driver’s en route lodgings to restaurants in the vicinity of such lodgings. In addition, the 1997 guidance explicitly excluded the use of laden vehicles as personal conveyance and the operation of the CMV as personal conveyance by drivers who have been placed out of service for HOS violations. The guidance has remained unchanged since 1997.

In the December 19, 2017, proposed revision to the guidance, the Agency focused on the reason the driver is operating a CMV while off duty, without regard to whether the CMV is or is not laden. The previous guidance, which required the CMV to be unladen, was written for combination vehicles, where the driver could readily detach the trailer and use the unladen tractor for personal conveyance. This interpretation had the inadvertent effect of not allowing drivers of single-unit work trucks that carry loads, as well as tools of trade and related materials, on the power unit to document this off-duty time on the RODS. In the absence of a trailer, these loads, tools, and other equipment cannot reasonably be offloaded, left unattended, and reloaded after the power unit has been used for personal conveyance. This proposed revision to the guidance eliminates the requirement that the CMV be unladen and thus the disparate impact created by the previous guidance.

Request for Extension of the Comment Period

On December 22, 2017, the American Trucking Associations, Inc. (ATA), asked that the Agency provide a 30-day extension of the comment period. ATA expressed concern that end-of-year tasks and holiday periods might make it difficult for many interested parties to prepare comments by the original January 19, deadline. A copy of the ATA request is in the docket identified at the beginning of this notice.

FMCSA acknowledges ATA’s concerns. After reviewing the request, FMCSA hereby grants a 30-day extension of the comment period to February 20, 2018, to provide all interested parties additional time to respond to the notice of proposed regulatory guidance.

Issued on: January 12, 2018.

Larry W. Minor,
Associate Administrator for Policy.

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Multiemployer Pension Plan Application To Reduce Benefits

AGENCY: Department of the Treasury.

ACTION: Notice of availability; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Board of Trustees of the Alaska Ironworkers Pension Plan, a multiemployer pension plan, has submitted an application to reduce benefits under the plan in accordance with the Multiemployer Pension Reform Act of 2014. The purpose of this notice is to announce that the application submitted by the Board of Trustees of the Alaska Ironworkers Pension Plan has been published on the Treasury website, and to request public comments on the application from interested parties, including participants and beneficiaries, employee organizations, and contributing employers of the Alaska Ironworkers Pension Plan.

DATES: Comments must be received by March 5, 2018.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments electronically through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at http://www.regulations.gov, in accordance with the instructions on that site. Electronic submissions through www.regulations.gov are encouraged. Comments may also be mailed to the Department of the Treasury, MPRA Office, 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Room 1224, Washington, DC 20220. Attn: Eric Berger. Comments sent via facsimile and email will not be accepted.

Additional Instructions. All comments received, including attachments and other supporting materials, will be made available to the public. Do not include any personally identifiable information (such as Social Security number, name, address, or other contact information) or any other information in your comment or supporting materials that you do not want publicly disclosed. Treasury will make comments available for public inspection and copying on www.regulations.gov or upon request. Comments posted on the internet can be retrieved by most internet search engines.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information regarding the application from the Alaska Ironworkers Pension Plan, please contact Treasury at [202] 622–1534 (not a toll-free number).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Multiemployer Pension Reform Act of 2014 (MPRA) amended the Internal Revenue Code to allow multiemployer pension plans to apply to reduce vested benefits or contributions under the plan. The Multiemployer Pension Plan Amendments Act of 1980 (MPPAA) required all plans to include a provision that no benefit may be less than 70 percent of the benefit that would have been payable under the plan had it not been terminated. The MPPAA also added a nonforfeiture provision to provide a new benefit to participants in the event of plan termination. The new benefit will be 70 percent of the accrued benefit under the plan. 

Multiemployer Pension Reform Act of 2014

The Multiemployer Retirement Protection Act of 2014 (S. 980), which became the Multiemployer Pension Reform Act of 2014 (MPRA) when it was signed into law on May 24, 2014, 

The Multiemployer Pension Reform Act of 2014 (MPRA) amended the Internal Revenue Code to allow multiemployer pension plans to apply to reduce vested benefits or contributions under the plan. The Multiemployer Pension Plan Amendments Act of 1980 (MPPAA) required all plans to include a provision that no benefit may be less than 70 percent of the benefit that would have been payable under the plan had it not been terminated. The MPPAA also added a nonforfeiture provision to provide a new benefit to participants in the event of plan termination. The new benefit will be 70 percent of the accrued benefit under the plan.