



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE.  
Washington, DC 20590

Ms. Chandana Achanta  
Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs  
Office of Management and Budget  
Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Ms. Achanta:

Pursuant to Office of Management and Budget procedures established at 5 CFR Part 1320, Controlling Paperwork Burdens on the Public, I ask that the following collection of information, "Recruitment of Human Subjects for Observational Experiments regarding Vehicle Sound" be processed pursuant to section 1320.13 Emergency processing.

I have determined that this information must be collected prior to the expiration of the time periods established under Part 1320, and that this information is essential to National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) mission to establish Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No.141 pursuant to the Pedestrian Safety Enhancement Act (PSEA) of 2010.

This new standard will require an alert sound to be emitted by electric or hybrid vehicles allowing visually impaired and other pedestrians to reasonably detect them. As discussed in detail in the agency's supporting statement, this collection of voluntary information to identify participants is essential to complete a human factors observational study.

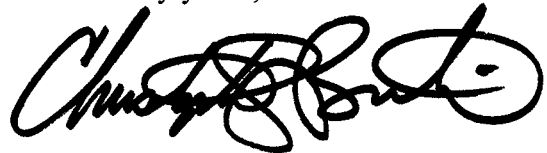
The PSEA established a statutory deadline for prescribing final requirements by January 4, 2014. In order to meet this deadline the observational study needs to start as soon as possible. The results of this study will assist in the refinement of the performance requirements for pedestrian alert sounds and assist in our response to anticipated comments to the NPRM. Because of the deadlines established by Congress, the agency is not in a position to wait until comments are received in order to initiate testing and still meet the statutory deadline for a final rule. Therefore, the agency cannot comply with the normal ICR clearance procedures without delaying the schedule to publish the final rule.

Please approve or disapprove the collection of information by December 12, 2012.

NHTSA has taken all practicable steps to consult with other agencies and members of the public in order to minimize the burden of this collection of information. These efforts are described in detail in the Supporting Statement Part A under A8.

If you have any questions, please contact the NHTSA Chief Counsel, Kevin Vincent, at (202) 366-9511.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christopher J. Bonanti". The signature is stylized and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Christopher J. Bonanti  
Associate Administrator for  
Rulemaking