

providing the public an opportunity to comment on the preliminary decision to approve the State's application and public and Agency comments on the MOU.

The FHWA received 51 comments in response to the **Federal Register** Notice. Nine comments were in support of the application and the State's readiness for this assignment. An additional 42 comments expressed concern for the State's ability to assume FHWA's responsibilities for a particular project or generally for the Program. The comments in opposition mentioned concerns for the State's ability to manage the environmental review process for the Interstate 11 (I-11) and Sonoran Corridor Tier II Environmental Impact Statements (EIS).

The FHWA has considered these comments and offers the following responses. The FHWA notes that by signing the MOU and the State accepting the jurisdiction of the Federal courts in cases that involve the compliance, discharge, and enforcement of any responsibility of the Secretary assumed by the State pursuant to the MOU, the State has taken on both the responsibility and liability for meeting all environmental laws under NEPA. Under the Program, the State will make the project-level decisions in relation to NEPA on highway projects within the State; however, other Federal agencies will continue to make decisions respective to their own project-level responsibilities. In the State's application, the State describes its procedures, manuals, and a Quality Assurance/Quality Control plan that will guide the State in fulfilling its NEPA responsibilities under the MOU. Furthermore, FHWA will oversee the State's compliance with the terms of the MOU through auditing and monitoring. The FHWA will make the results of all audits available to the public through notices in the **Federal Register**.

With the execution of the MOU, the State becomes responsible for project-level environmental review decisions for projects, including those not excluded from assignment, for which review began prior to this date. The FHWA excluded the Tier 1 EIS studies for I-11 and the Sonoran Corridor from assignment to the State since they are both nearing completion. However, FHWA assigned the responsibilities for the Tier-2 EISs for these corridors because the State has the capacity and ability to complete the EISs without FHWA's involvement in the process.

The FHWA Arizona Division, in consultation with FHWA Headquarters, has reviewed all the comments received and determined that the State's

application meets all regulatory requirements. Pursuant to the MOU, FHWA assigns and the State assumes FHWA's environmental review responsibilities under NEPA, and all or part of FHWA's responsibilities for environmental review, consultation, or other actions required under any Federal environmental law with respect to one or more Federal-aid highway projects within the State. The executed MOU specifies the assignments and assumptions of NEPA responsibilities and scope of environmental review, consultation and other activities. This notice in the **Federal Register** makes the executed MOU available to the public.

A copy of the proposed MOU may be viewed on the online docket, as described above, or may be obtained by contacting FHWA or the State at the addresses provided above.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number 20.205, Highway Planning and Construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 12372 regarding intergovernmental consultation on Federal programs and activities apply to this program.)

Authority: 23 U.S.C. 327; 42 U.S.C. 4331, 4332; 23 CFR 771.101-139; 23 CFR 773.109; 40 CFR 1507.3; and 49 CFR 1.85.

Nicole R. Nason,

Administrator, Federal Highway Administration.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Maritime Administration

[Docket No. DOT-MARAD-2019-0096]

Request for Comments of a Previously Approved Information Collection

AGENCY: Maritime Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces that the Information Collection Request (ICR) abstracted below is being forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comments. A **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on the following information collection was published on March 1, 2019.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before July 8, 2019.

ADDRESSES: Send comments regarding the burden estimate, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Office of Management and Budget,

Attention: Desk Officer for the Office of the Secretary of Transportation, 725 17th Street NW, Washington, DC 20503.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Michael Pucci, Office of Maritime Programs, Maritime Administration, Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, W26-494, Washington, DC 20590, 202-366-5167.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Requirements for Establishing U.S. Citizenship—46 CFR 355.

OMB Control Number: 2133-0012.

Type of Request: Renewal of a Previously Approved Information Collection.

Background: In accordance with 46 CFR part 355, shipowners, charterers, equity owners, ship managers, etc., seeking benefits provided by statute are required to provide on an annual basis, an Affidavit of U.S. Citizenship to the Maritime Administration (MARAD) for analysis. The Affidavits of U.S. Citizenship filed with MARAD will be reviewed to determine if the Applicants are eligible to participate in the programs offered by the agency.

Respondents: Shipowners, charterers, equity owners, ship managers.

Affected Public: Business or other for profit.

Total Estimated Number of Responses: 500.

Frequency of Collection: Annually.

Estimated time per Respondent: 5 hours.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 2,500.

Public Comments Invited: 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.

(Authority: The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995; 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended; and 49 CFR 1.93) * * *.

Dated: June 3, 2019.

By Order of the Maritime Administrator.

T. Mitchell Hudson, Jr.,
Secretary, Maritime Administration.

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