

(ii) The Associate Administrator may include in any decision of approval such conditions as may be necessary to ensure that the proposed safety improvements are effective. If the Associate Administrator does not approve the quiet zone, the Associate Administrator describes in the decision the basis upon which the decision was made. A decision denying approval may be reviewed as provided in § 222.57(b).

(c) Appendix C contains guidance on how to create a quiet zone.

§ 222.41 How does this rule affect Pre-Rule Quiet Zones?

(a) *Pre-Rule Quiet Zones which qualify for automatic approval.* A Pre-Rule Quiet Zone will be considered automatically approved and may remain in effect, subject to § 222.51, if the Pre-Rule Quiet Zone is in compliance with § 222.35 (minimum requirements for quiet zones) and § 222.43 (notice and information requirements, with the exception of providing advance notice) and the Pre-Rule Quiet Zone:

(1) Has at every public highway-rail grade crossing within the quiet zone, one or more SSMs identified in Appendix A of this part; or

(2) The Quiet Zone Risk Index as last published by FRA is at, or below, the Nationwide Significant Risk Threshold; or

(3) The Quiet Zone Risk Index as last published by FRA is above the Nationwide Significant Risk Threshold but less than twice the Nationwide Significant Risk Threshold and there have been no relevant collisions at any public grade crossing within the quiet zone for the five years preceding December 18, 2003.

(b) *Pre-Rule Quiet Zones which do not qualify for automatic approval.* (1) If a Pre-Rule Quiet Zone does not qualify for automatic approval under paragraph (a) of this section, existing restrictions may, at the public authority's discretion, remain in place on an interim basis under the provisions of this paragraph (b) and upon compliance with § 222.43 (notice and information requirements, with the exception of providing advance notice). Continuation of a quiet zone beyond the interim periods specified in this paragraph will require implementation

of SSMs or ASMs in accord with § 222.39.

(2) In order to provide time for the public authority to plan for and implement quiet zones which are in compliance with the requirements of this part, a public authority may continue locomotive horn restrictions at Pre-Rule Quiet Zones which do not qualify for automatic approval for a period of five years from December 18, 2003, provided that, the public authority has, within three years of December 18, 2003, filed with the Associate Administrator a detailed plan for establishing a quiet zone under this part, including, in the case of a plan requiring approval under § 222.39(b), all of the required elements of filings under that paragraph together with a timetable for implementation of safety improvements.

(3) Locomotive horn restrictions may continue for an additional three years beyond the five year period permitted by paragraph (b)(2) of this section, if,

(i) Prior to December 18, 2006, the appropriate State agency provides to the Associate Administrator: a comprehensive State-wide implementation plan and funding commitment for implementing improvements at Pre-Rule Quiet Zones which do not qualify for automatic approval under paragraph (a) of this section, which, when implemented, would enable them to qualify for a quiet zone under this part; and

(ii) Prior to December 18, 2007, either physical improvements are initiated at a portion of the crossings within the quiet zone, or the appropriate State agency has participated in quiet zone improvements in one or more jurisdictions elsewhere within the State.

(4) In the event that the safety improvements planned for the quiet zone require approval of FRA under § 222.39(b), the public authority should apply for such approval prior to June 19, 2006, to assure that FRA has ample time in which to review such application prior to the end of the extension period.

§ 222.43 What notices and other information are required to establish a quiet zone?

(a) (1) Upon compliance with §§ 222.39(a) or 222.39(b) resulting in the establishment or approval of a quiet

zone, or of its continuation under § 222.41, the public authority shall provide written notice, by certified mail, return receipt requested, of the quiet zone implementation to: all railroads operating over the public highway-rail grade crossings within the quiet zone; the highway or traffic control authority or law enforcement authority having control over vehicular traffic at the crossings within the quiet zone; the landowner having control over any private crossings within the quiet zone; the State agency responsible for highway and road safety; and the Associate Administrator.

(2)(i) Notice of the establishment of a quiet zone established under the provisions of § 222.39 (New Quiet Zones) shall provide the date upon which routine locomotive horn use at grade crossings shall cease, but in no event shall the date be earlier than 21 days after the date of mailing of such written notification.

(ii) Notice of the continuation of a quiet zone under §§ 222.41(a) and (b) (Pre-Rule Quiet Zone) shall be served no later than December 18, 2004.

(3) The notice shall list the grade crossings within the quiet zone, identified by both U.S. DOT National Highway-Rail Grade Crossing Inventory Number and street or highway name. The notice shall also include specific reference to the regulatory provision which provides the basis for establishment or continuation of the quiet zone, citing as appropriate, either § 222.39(a)(1), 222.39(a)(2)(i), 222.39(a)(2)(ii), 222.39(a)(3), 222.39(b), or 222.41. Reference to §§ 222.39(a)(1), (2), or (3) shall include a copy of the FRA web page containing the quiet zone data upon which the public authority relies. Reference to § 222.39(b) shall include a copy of FRA's notification of approval. Reference to § 222.41 shall include a statement as to how the quiet zone is in compliance with the requirements of that section and, if appropriate, shall include a copy of the FRA web page containing the quiet zone data upon which the public authority relies. The notice shall be accompanied by a certificate of service showing to whom and by what means the notice was provided.

(b) The following must be submitted to the Associate Administrator together with the notification required in paragraph (a) of this section:

(1) An accurate and complete Grade Crossing Inventory Form for each public and private highway-rail grade crossing within the quiet zone, dated within six months prior to designation or FRA approval of the quiet zone;

(2) An accurate, complete and current Grade Crossing Inventory Form reflecting SSMS and ASMs in place upon establishment of the quiet zone. SSMS or ASMs that cannot be fully described on the Inventory Form shall be separately described;

(3) The name and title of the person responsible for monitoring compliance with the requirements of this part and the manner in which that person can be contacted;

(4) A list of all parties notified in accordance with paragraph (a) of this section, together with copies of the certificates of service showing to whom and by what means the notice was provided; and

(5) A statement signed by the chief executive officer of each public authority establishing or continuing a quiet zone under this part, in which the official shall certify that responsible officials of the public authority have reviewed documentation prepared by or for FRA, and filed in Docket No. FRA-1999-6439, sufficient to make an informed decision regarding the advisability of establishing the quiet zone. FRA documents which may be of interest are found on FRA's Web site at <http://www.fra.dot.gov>.

§ 222.45 When is a railroad required to cease routine use of locomotive horns at crossings?

After notification from a public authority, pursuant to § 222.43, that a quiet zone is being established, a railroad shall cease routine use of the locomotive horn at all public and private highway-rail grade crossings identified by the public authority upon the date set by the public authority.

§ 222.47 What periodic updates are required?

(a) *Quiet zones with SSMS at each public crossing.* This paragraph addresses