



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

Deputy Administrator

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

April 10, 2008

Mr. Stephen N. Salomon
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Stop T-8-F-42
Washington, DC 20555

Dear Mr. Salomon:

Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), 42 U.S.C. §§ 4321-4347, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) plans to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to address the potential environmental impacts of new Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards. The agency is developing the standards for model year 2011-2015 passenger cars and light trucks. I am writing to invite your organization to participate in the first step of the NEPA process by submitting written comments on the appropriate scope of NHTSA's NEPA analysis for the new CAFE standards. A copy of NHTSA's recently issued "Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for New Corporate Average Fuel Economy Standards" is enclosed. The notice provides more information about the CAFE rulemaking, the NEPA "scoping" process, and the opportunity to comment during scoping.

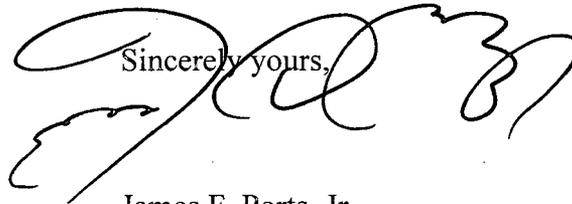
Please share this letter and the enclosed notice with interested parties within your organization. In addition, if you are not the appropriate contact for this matter, please provide NHTSA with contact information for your organization's lead contact by returning the enclosed mailing list form to NHTSA or by sending an e-mail containing the information requested on the form to nhtsa.nepa@dot.gov by Friday, April 25, 2008.



Throughout the NEPA process, notices published in the *Federal Register* will announce the availability of NHTSA's NEPA documents concerning the new CAFE standards and opportunities for public participation. NHTSA also anticipates communicating such information directly to interested parties primarily by e-mail; however, NHTSA will mail such information to parties who indicate on the enclosed form that they prefer to receive paper copies. If you wish to receive NHTSA's correspondence about this matter by mail, please indicate your preference on the enclosed form. In addition, NHTSA plans to post information about its environmental review for the new CAFE standards on its website (www.nhtsa.dot.gov).

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James F. Ports, Jr.', written over the typed name below.

James F. Ports, Jr.

Enclosures

**REQUEST FOR INCLUSION ON NHTSA'S MAILING LIST
FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS) TO SUPPORT
NEW CORPORATE AVERAGE FUEL ECONOMY (CAFE) STANDARDS**

Step 1 – Complete the following information if you wish to remain on the list.

Please keep my name on NHTSA's mailing list for this matter:

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Please add the following name(s) to NHTSA's mailing list for this matter:

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Step 2 – Indicate by checking here if you prefer to receive NHTSA's NEPA correspondence concerning this matter by U.S. mail (instead of e-mail). If you do not check here, NHTSA anticipates corresponding primarily by e-mail.

Step 3 – Provide your contact information to NHTSA.

By returning this form via U.S. mail to:

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Office of the Chief Counsel, Room W41-227
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

By sending an e-mail containing the contact information requested above to:

nhtsa.nepa@dot.gov

holidays. The Docket Facility telephone number is (703) 305-5805.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Jeanne Kasai, Field and External Affairs Division, (7506P), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington DC 20460-0001; telephone number: (703) 308-3240; e-mail address: kasai.jeanne@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. General Information

A. Does this Action Apply to Me?

This action is directed to the public in general. It simply announces the submission of a draft proposed rule to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and does not otherwise affect any specific entities. This action may, however, be of particular interest to pesticide formulators, pesticide container recycling programs, third party certification bodies and accreditation organizations. Since other entities may also be interested, the Agency has not attempted to describe all the specific entities that may be interested in this action. If you have any questions regarding this action, consult the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

B. How Can I Access Electronic Copies of this Document and Other Related Information?

In addition to using regulations.gov, you may access this **Federal Register** document electronically through the EPA Internet under the "**Federal Register**" listings at <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr>.

II. What Action is EPA Taking?

Section 25(a)(2) of FIFRA requires the Administrator to provide the Secretary of Agriculture with a copy of any proposed regulation at least 60 days before signing it for publication in the **Federal Register**. The draft proposed rule is not available to the public until after it has been signed by EPA. If the Secretary comments in writing regarding the draft proposed rule within 30 days after receiving it, the Administrator shall include the comments of the Secretary and the Administrator's response to those comments in the proposed rule when published in the **Federal Register**. If the Secretary does not comment in writing within 30 days after receiving the draft proposed rule, the Administrator may sign the proposed regulation for publication in the **Federal Register** anytime after the 30-day period.

III. Do Any Statutory and Executive Order Reviews Apply to this Notification?

No. This document is not a proposed rule, it is merely a notification of submission to the Secretary of Agriculture. As such, none of the regulatory assessment requirements apply to this document.

List of Subjects in Part 165

Environmental protection, packaging and containers, pesticides and pests, recycling.

Dated: March 19, 2008.

Debra Edwards,

Director, Office of Pesticide Programs.

[FR Doc. E8-6396 Filed 3-27-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-S

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

49 CFR Parts 531 and 533

[Docket No. NHTSA-2008-0060]

Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for New Corporate Average Fuel Economy Standards

AGENCY: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Notice of intent; request for scoping comments.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), NHTSA plans to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to address the potential environmental impacts of the agency's Corporate Average Fuel Economy program for passenger automobiles (referred to herein as "passenger cars") and non-passenger automobiles (referred to herein as "light trucks"). The EIS will consider the potential environmental impacts of new fuel economy standards for model year 2011-2015 passenger cars and light trucks that NHTSA will be proposing pursuant to the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007.

To this end, this notice initiates the NEPA scoping process to identify the environmental issues and reasonable alternatives to be examined in the EIS, and requests comments regarding those and other matters related to the scope of NHTSA'S NEPA analysis for the new standards. NHTSA will provide further guidance for the public about the scoping process in a separate notice that

will be published when the proposal itself is published.

DATES: The scoping process will culminate in the preparation and issuance of a Draft EIS, which will be made available for public comment. Interested persons are requested to submit their scoping comments as soon as possible after the issuance of the proposal in order to ensure their consideration and facilitate the agency's prompt preparation of the Draft EIS.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments to the docket number identified in the heading of this document by any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

- *Mail:* Docket Management Facility, M-30, U.S. Department of Transportation, West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590.

- *Hand Delivery or Courier:* U.S. Department of Transportation, West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Eastern time, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

- *Fax:* 202-493-2251.

Regardless of how you submit your comments, you should mention the docket number of this document.

You may call the Docket at 202-366-9324.

Note that all comments received, including any personal information provided, will be posted without change to <http://www.regulations.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For technical issues, contact Carol Hammel-Smith, Fuel Economy Division, Office of International Vehicle, Fuel Economy and Consumer Standards, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590. Telephone: 202-366-5206.

For legal issues, contact Kerry E. Rodgers, Vehicle Safety Standards & Harmonization Division, Office of the Chief Counsel, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590. Telephone: 202-366-5552.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NHTSA is preparing a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) to propose Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards for model year (MY) 2011-2015 passenger cars and light trucks pursuant to the amendments made by the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007, Public Law 110-140, 121 Stat. 1492 (December 19, 2007)

date provide sufficient information to begin the scoping process. This assessment is supported by the public comments submitted on the 2005 NPRM that led to the 2006 Rule (70 FR 51414, August 30, 2005).

As noted above, NHTSA plans to publish a separate scoping notice in the **Federal Register** to provide further information and guidance to facilitate public participation in the scoping process. Based on comments received during scoping, NHTSA expects to prepare a draft EIS for public comment and a final EIS to support a final rule later this year.

Issued: March 21, 2008.

Ronald Medford,

Senior Associate Administrator for Vehicle Safety.

[FR Doc. E8-6227 Filed 3-27-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-59-M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 216

[Docket No. 071105649-8028-01]

RIN 0648-AW22

Marine Mammals; Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: On January 31, 2008, NMFS published an Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPR) soliciting public comments on revisions to its implementing regulations governing the taking of stranded marine mammals. Written comments were due by March 31, 2008. NMFS has decided to allow additional time for submission of public comments on this action.

DATES: The public comment period for this action has been extended for 30 days. Written comments must be received or postmarked by April 30, 2008.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by any one of the following methods:

- Electronic Submissions: Submit all electronic public comments via the Federal eRulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>;

- Fax: 301-427-2522, Attn: Chief, Marine Mammal and Sea Turtle

Conservation Division (Stranding Regulations ANPR); or

- Mail: Chief, Marine Mammal and Sea Turtle Conservation Division, Attn: Stranding Regulations ANPR, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13635, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

Instructions: All comments received are part of the public record and will generally be posted to <http://www.regulations.gov> without change. All Personal Identifying Information (for example, name, address, etc.) voluntarily submitted by the commenter may be publicly accessible. Do not submit Confidential Business Information or otherwise sensitive or protected information.

NMFS will accept anonymous comments. Attachments to electronic comments will be accepted in Microsoft Word, Excel, WordPerfect, or Adobe PDF file formats only.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sarah Howlett at (301) 713-2322.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The ANPR, published on January 31, 2008 (73 FR 5786), is available upon request and can be found on the NMFS Office of Protected Resources web site: http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/health/mmpa_anpr.htm.

Dated: March 24, 2008.

David Cottingham,

Chief, Marine Mammal and Sea Turtle Conservation Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. E8-6443 Filed 3-27-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR 223 and 224

[Docket No. 080318441-8467-01]

RIN 0648-AV36

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife; Notice of 90-Day Finding on a Petition to List the Ribbon Seal as a Threatened or Endangered Species

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of a 90-day petition finding; request for information; and initiation of status reviews of ribbon, bearded, ringed, and spotted seals.

SUMMARY: We (NMFS) announce a 90-day finding on a petition to list the ribbon seal (*Histriophoca fasciata*) as a

threatened or endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). We find that the petition presents substantial scientific or commercial information indicating that the petitioned action may be warranted. Therefore, we initiate a status review of the ribbon seal to determine if listing under the ESA is warranted. Concurrently, we also initiate a status review of the other ice seal species: bearded (*Erignathus barbatus*), ringed (*Phoca fasciata*), and spotted (*Phoca largha*). To ensure these status reviews are comprehensive, we solicit scientific and commercial information regarding all of these ice seal species.

DATES: Information and comments must be submitted to NMFS by May 27, 2008.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, information, or data, identified by the Regulation Identifier Number (RIN), 0648-AV36, by any of the following methods:

Electronic Submissions: Submit all electronic public comments via the Federal eRulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>.

Mail: Assistant Regional Administrator, Protected Resources Division, NMFS, Alaska Regional Office, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802.

Facsimile (fax): 907-586-7012.

Instructions: All comments received are a part of the public record and will generally be posted to <http://www.regulations.gov> without change. All Personal Identifying Information (for example, name, address, etc.) voluntarily submitted by the commenter may be publicly accessible. Do not submit Confidential Business Information or otherwise sensitive or protected information.

NMFS will accept anonymous comments. Attachments to electronic comments will be accepted in Microsoft Word, Excel, WordPerfect, or Adobe PDF file formats only.

Interested persons may obtain a copy of the ribbon seal petition from the above address or online from the NMFS Alaska Region website: <http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/protectedresources/seals/ice.htm>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: James Wilder, NMFS Alaska Region, (907) 271 6620; Kaja Brix, NMFS Alaska Region, (907) 586-7235; or Marta Nammack, NMFS, Office of Protected Resources, (301) 713-1401.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 4(b)(3)(A) of the ESA of 1973, as amended (U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), requires, to the maximum extent practicable, that within 90 days of receipt of a petition to designate a species as threatened or endangered, the Secretary of Commerce