

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

[4910-EX-P]

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[Docket No. FMCSA-2011-0097]

Acceptance of Applications for Mexican-Domiciled Long-Haul Operations

AGENCY: Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The United States-Mexico Cross-Border Long-Haul Trucking Pilot Program (Pilot Program) concluded on October 10, 2014. The Pilot Program was part of FMCSA's implementation of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) cross-border long-haul trucking provisions. Congress required the Pilot Program to test the safety of granting long-haul authority to Mexico-domiciled motor carriers. This notice announces that the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) has submitted the required report to Congress and is accepting applications from Mexico-domiciled motor carriers interested in conducting long-haul operations.

DATES: This decision is effective [INSERT DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

ADDRESSES:

Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents or comments submitted to previous notices concerning the Pilot Program , go to www.regulations.gov at any time or visit Room W12-140 on the ground level of the West Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., ET, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The on-line Federal document management system is available 24 hours each day, 365 days each year. The docket number is FMCSA-2011-0097.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bryan Price, Chief, North American Borders Division, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, Washington, DC 20590-0001. Telephone (202) 366-2995; e-mail Bryan.Price@dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

From October 14, 2011, to October 10, 2014, FMCSA conducted a Pilot Program to test and demonstrate the ability of Mexico-based motor carriers to operate safely in the United States beyond the municipalities and commercial zones along the United States-Mexico border. The Pilot Program was part of FMCSA's implementation of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) cross-border long-haul trucking provisions.

As of October 10, 2014, 13 Mexico-domiciled motor carriers with authority to operate in the United States beyond the commercial zones and municipalities at the U.S.-Mexico border had successfully participated in the Pilot Program and established a record of safety.

On October 10, 2014, FMCSA issued new certificates of operating authority registration to the 13 Pilot Program participants pursuant to 49 U.S.C. section 13902(a) and (c),¹ the November 27, 2002 Memorandum of the President of the United States to the Secretary of Transportation [67 FR 71795 (December 2, 2002)] and the motor carriers' successful performance in the Pilot Program.²

On October 10, 2014, the Department verbally advised Congress of the completion of the Pilot Program. On January 9, 2015, DOT submitted its report titled, "United States-Mexico Cross-Border Long-Haul Trucking Pilot Program Report to Congress" to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations as well as the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and

¹ Including compliance with Section 350 of the Fiscal Year 2002 DOT Appropriations Act, (Pub. L. 104-87), which has been incorporated in successive appropriations legislation.

² Pursuant to the procedures noted in 76 Fed. Reg. 40420 (July 8, 2011).

Transportation and the House of Representatives' Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. A copy of the report is posted in the docket for this program (FMCSA-2011-0097) and the Agency posted a link to the docket on the Pilot Program's website at: <http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/international-programs/mexico-cross-border-trucking-pilot-program>.

As a result of the successful completion of the Pilot Program, FMCSA will again accept applications from Mexico-domiciled motor carriers seeking authority to operate in long-haul transportation beyond the U.S. commercial zones. Information regarding the application and review processes is available at <http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/registration/form-op-1mx>.

Issued on:

T. F. Scott Darling, III
Acting Administrator