

northward from the Caribbean in the spring.”

(6) A statement on the impact this waiver will have on U.S. shipyards. According to the applicant: “We chose our vessel SPINDRIFT precisely because of her unique features that we could not find in any U.S.-built sailboat of the same size and configuration. The boats now built in the U.S. * * * did and do not meet our needs or specifications, and we were not able to afford a custom design either in the U.S. or abroad. In short, we believe that the impact of the waiver requested for this vessel would be negligible.”

Dated: June 28, 2002.

By order of the Maritime Administrator.

Joel C. Richard,

Secretary, Maritime Administration.

[FR Doc. 02-16775 Filed 7-3-02; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Maritime Administration

[Docket Number: MARAD-2002-12685]

Requested Administrative Waiver of the Coastwise Trade Laws

AGENCY: Maritime Administration, Department of Transportation.

ACTION: Invitation for public comments on a requested administrative waiver of the Coastwise Trade Laws for the vessel TAI-PAN.

SUMMARY: As authorized by Pub. L. 105-383, the Secretary of Transportation, as represented by the Maritime Administration (MARAD), is authorized to grant waivers of the U.S.-build requirement of the coastwise laws under certain circumstances. A request for such a waiver has been received by MARAD. The vessel, and a description of the proposed service, is listed below. Interested parties may comment on the effect this action may have on U.S. vessel builders or businesses in the U.S. that use U.S.-flag vessels. If MARAD determines that in accordance with Pub. L. 105-383 and MARAD's regulations at 46 CFR Part 388 (65 FR 6905; February 11, 2000) that the issuance of the waiver will have an unduly adverse effect on a U.S.-vessel builder or a business that uses U.S.-flag vessels, a waiver will not be granted.

DATES: Submit comments on or before August 5, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Comments should refer to docket number MARAD-2002-12685. Written comments may be submitted by hand or by mail to the Docket Clerk, U.S. DOT Dockets, Room PL-401,

Department of Transportation, 400 7th St., SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001.

You may also send comments electronically via the Internet at <http://dmses.dot.gov/submit/>. All comments will become part of this docket and will be available for inspection and copying at the above address between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., E.T., Monday through Friday, except federal holidays. An electronic version of this document and all documents entered into this docket is available on the World Wide Web at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kathleen Dunn, U.S. Department of Transportation, Maritime Administration, MAR-832 Room 7201, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590. Telephone 202-366-2307.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Title V of Pub. L. 105-383 provides authority to the Secretary of Transportation to administratively waive the U.S.-build requirements of the Jones Act, and other statutes, for small commercial passenger vessels (no more than 12 passengers). This authority has been delegated to the Maritime Administration per 49 CFR § 1.66, Delegations to the Maritime Administrator, as amended. By this notice, MARAD is publishing information on a vessel for which a request for a U.S.-build waiver has been received, and for which MARAD requests comments from interested parties. Comments should refer to the docket number of this notice and the vessel name in order for MARAD to properly consider the comments. Comments should also state the commenter's interest in the waiver application, and address the waiver criteria given in § 388.4 of MARAD's regulations at 46 CFR Part 388.

Vessel Proposed for Waiver of the U.S.-Build Requirement

(1) Name of vessel and owner for which waiver is requested.

Name of vessel: TAI-PAN. Owner: Tai-Pan Inc.

(2) Size, capacity and tonnage of vessel. According to the applicant: “The length is 67.0, breadth 19 and depth 4.6. Her tonnage is 29 gross, 26 net * * *

(3) Intended use for vessel, including geographic region of intended operation and trade. According to the applicant: “We would like to be able to charter the vessel in the United States and possibly occasional trips to the Bahamas. The vast majority of the charters would center in the southwest section of Florida as she is based in Punta Gorda, Florida. Punta Gorda is approximately 60 miles south of Sarasota and 30 miles north of Ft. Myers, Florida.”

(4) Date and Place of construction and (if applicable) rebuilding. *Date of construction:* 1987. *Place of construction:* Kowloon, Hong Kong.

(5) A statement on the impact this waiver will have on other commercial passenger vessel operators. According to the applicant: “We do not know of another vessel of this type operating in our area of Southwest Florida. There is a commercial operator in Punta Gorda who takes out head boat cruises for sight seeing tours. However that is an entirely different operation from our occasional private live aboard 7 day charters that our guests usually prefer.”

(6) A statement on the impact this waiver will have on U.S. shipyards. According to the applicant: “Since our vessel is 15 years old and lightly used in the occasional charter trade we can not see any adverse affect on US Shipyards. Rather we would expect a positive effect on the local maintenance yards if we are able to get more use out of the vessel.”

Dated: June 28, 2002.

By order of the Maritime Administrator.

Joel C. Richard,

Secretary, Maritime Administration.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 34054]

Morristown & Erie Railway, Inc.— Modified Rail Certificate

On June 5, 2002, as amended by facsimile on June 24, 2002, Morristown & Erie Railway, Inc. (M&E), filed an application for a modified certificate of public convenience and necessity under 49 CFR 1150, subpart C, *Modified Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity*, to operate certain railroad lines in New Jersey. Based on M&E's representations, the following lines will be activated for service in four phases: (1) The former line of the Staten Island Railway Corporation (Staten Island Railway) from milepost 7.4 immediately west of the New Jersey Turnpike in Linden to milepost 9.8 immediately east of St. Georges Avenue in Linden; (2) the former line of the Staten Island Railway from milepost 9.8 to milepost 12.09 at the junction of the Staten Island Railway and the New Jersey Transit (NJ Transit) (Raritan Valley Line) in Cranford, exclusive of the portion of the line immediately west of milepost 9.8 to milepost 11.5 at the municipal boundary of the Borough of Roselle and