

route extending from Kansas City, MO to Shreveport, LA. This project is one of several projects identified as "high priority corridors" on the National Highway System that would provide a transportation corridor of national significance from Kansas City to Shreveport. The proposed improvements will draw new traffic through western Arkansas and serve as both a short-term and long-term economic stimulus, promoting development in this currently rural area.

The northern terminus of the proposed improvements will connect to Interstate 40 near Fort Smith, AR. The southern terminus will connect with the proposed improvements of U.S. 71 near DeQueen, AR, for which an EIS is currently being prepared.

Letters describing the proposed action and soliciting comments have been sent to appropriate Federal, state, and local agencies and to private organizations and citizens who have previously expressed or are known to have an interest in this project. A series of public meetings will be held within the study area beginning in the summer of 1995, with on-going public involvement activities. Scoping meetings with local officials and State and Federal resource agencies will also be held during the summer of 1995. The draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be available for public and agency review and comment prior to a public hearing. Public notice will be given of the time and place for all meetings and hearings.

To ensure that the full range of issues related to this proposed project are addressed and all significant issues identified, comments and suggestions are invited from all interested parties. Comments or questions concerning this proposed action and the EIS should be directed to the FHWA at the address 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.)

Issued on: July 12, 1995.

**Wendall L. Meyer,**

*Environmental and Design Specialist, FHWA, Little Rock, AR.*

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## National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

[Docket No. 95-30; Notice 2]

### Decision that Nonconforming 1992 Mercedes-Benz 600SL Passenger Cars are Eligible for Importation

**AGENCY:** National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of decision by NHTSA that nonconforming 1992 Mercedes-Benz 600SL passenger cars are eligible for importation.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces the decision by NHTSA that 1992 Mercedes-Benz 600SL passenger cars not originally manufactured to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards are eligible for importation into the United States because they are substantially similar to a vehicle originally manufactured for importation into and sale in the United States and certified by its manufacturer as complying with the safety standards (the 1992 Mercedes-Benz 500SL, and they are capable of being readily altered to conform to the standards.

**DATES:** The decision is effective as of July 18, 1995.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** George Entwistle, Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance, NHTSA (202-366-5306).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

Under 49 U.S.C. 30141(a)(1)(A) (formerly section 108(c)(3)(A)(i) of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act (the Act)), a motor vehicle that was not originally manufactured to conform to all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards shall be refused admission into the United States unless NHTSA has decided that the motor vehicle is substantially similar to a motor vehicle originally manufactured for importation into and sale in the United States, certified under 49 U.S.C. 30115 (formerly section 114 of the Act), and of the same model year as the model of the motor vehicle to be compared, and is capable of being readily altered to conform to all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

Petitions for eligibility decisions may be submitted by either manufacturers or importers who have registered with NHTSA pursuant to 49 CFR part 592. As specified in 49 CFR 593.7, NHTSA publishes notice in the **Federal Register** of each petition that it receives, and affords interested persons an opportunity to comment on the petition.

At the close of the comment period, NHTSA decides, on the basis of the petition and any comments that it has received, whether the vehicle is eligible for importation. The agency then publishes this decision in the **Federal Register**.

Northern California Diagnostics Laboratory, Inc. of Napa, California (Registered Importer R-92-011) petitioned NHTSA to decide whether 1992 Mercedes-Benz 600SL passenger cars are eligible for importation into the United States. NHTSA published notice of the petition on May 1, 1995 (60 FR 21238) to afford an opportunity for public comment. The reader is referred to that notice for a thorough description of the petition. No comments were received in response to the notice. Based on its review of the information submitted by the petitioner, NHTSA has decided to grant the petition.

#### Vehicle Eligibility Number of Subject Vehicles

The importer of a vehicle admissible under any final decision must indicate on the form HS-7 accompanying entry the appropriate vehicle eligibility number indicating that the vehicle is eligible for entry. VSP-121 is the vehicle eligibility number assigned to vehicles admissible under this notice of final decision.

#### Final Decision

Accordingly, on the basis of the foregoing, NHTSA hereby decides that a 1992 Mercedes-Benz 600SL (Model ID 129.076) is substantially similar to a 1992 Mercedes-Benz 500SL originally manufactured for importation into and sale in the United States and certified under 49 U.S.C. 30115, and is capable of being readily altered to conform to all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

**Authority:** 49 U.S.C. 30141 (a)(1)(A) and (b)(1); 49 CFR 593.8; delegations of authority at 49 CFR 1.50 and 501.8.

Issued on: July 13, 1995.

**Marilynne Jacobs,**

*Director, Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance.*

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[Docket No. 95-52; Notice 1]

### Receipt of Petition for Decision That Nonconforming 1992 Mercedes-Benz 300CE Passenger Cars Are Eligible for Importation

**AGENCY:** National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of receipt of petition for decision that nonconforming 1992