a nesting seabird colony. Provided, however, that vessels may approach within 50 yards of that part of South Marble Island lying south of 58°38.6′N. latitude (approximately the southern one-half of South Marble Island) to view seabirds.

(C) May 1 through August 31, operating a vessel, or otherwise approaching within ¼ nautical mile of Spider Island or any of the four small islets lying immediately west of Spider Island.

(D) May 1 through August 31, operating a cruise ship on Johns Hopkins Inlet waters south of 58°54′2.2″N. latitude (an imaginary line running approximately due west from Jaw Point).

(E) May 1 through June 30, operating a vessel or a seaplane on Johns Hopkins Inlet waters south of 58°54′2.2″N. latitude (an imaginary line running approximately due west from Jaw Point).

(F) July 1 through August 31, operating a vessel or a seaplane on Johns Hopkins Inlet waters south of 58°54′2.2″N. latitude (an imaginary line running approximately due west from Jaw Point), within ¼ nautical mile of a seal hauled out on ice; except when safe navigation requires, and then with due care to maintain the ¼ nautical mile distance from concentrations of seals.

(G) Restrictions imposed in this paragraph (b)(3)(vi) are minimum distances. Park visitors are advised that protection of park wildlife may require that visitors maintain greater distances from wildlife. See, 36 CFR 2.2 (Wildlife protection).

(vii) Closed waters, motor vessels and seaplanes. (A) May 1 through September 15, operating a motor vessel or a seaplane on the following water is prohibited:

1. A dams Inlet, east of 135°59′.2″W. longitude (an imaginary line running approximately due north and south through the charted (5) obstruction located approximately 2½ nautical miles east of Pt. George).

2. Rendu Inlet, north of the wilderness boundary at the mouth of the inlet.

3. Hugh Miller complex, including Scidmore Bay and Charpentier Inlet, west of the wilderness boundary at the mouth of the Hugh Miller Inlet.

4. Waters within the Beardslee Island group (except the Beardslee Entrance), that is defined by an imaginary line running due west from shore to the easternmost point of Lester Island, then along the south shore of Lester Island to its western end, then to the southernmost point of Young Island, then north along the west shore and east along the north shore of Young Island to its northernmost point, then at a bearing of 15° true to an imaginary point located one nautical mile due east of the easternmost point of Strawberry Island, then at a bearing of 345° true to the northernmost point of Flapjack Island, then at a bearing of 81° true to the northernmost point of the unnamed island immediately to the east of Flapjack Island, then southeasterly to the northernmost point of the next unnamed island, then southeasterly along the (Beartrack Cove) shore of that island to its easternmost point, then due east to shore.

(B) June 1 through July 15, operating a motor vessel or a seaplane on the waters of Muir Inlet north of 59°02′.7″N. latitude (an imaginary line running approximately due west from the point of land on the east shore approximately 1 nautical mile north of the McBride Glacier) is prohibited.

(C) July 16 through August 31, operating a motor vessel or a seaplane on the waters of Wachusett Inlet west of 136°12′.0″W. longitude (an imaginary line running approximately due north from the point of land on the south shore of Wachusett Inlet approximately 2½ nautical miles west of Rowe Point) is prohibited.

(viii) Noise restrictions. June 1 through August 31, except on vessels in transit or as otherwise permitted by the superintendent, the use of generators or other non-propulsive motors (except a windless) is prohibited from 10:00 p.m. until 6:00 a.m. in Red Inlet, Blue Mouse Cove and North Sandy Cove.

(ix) Other restrictions. Notwithstanding any other provision of this part, due to the rapidly emerging and changing ecosystems of, and for the protection of wildlife in Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve, including but not limited to whales, seals, sea lions, nesting birds and molting waterfowl:

(A) Pursuant to §§ 1.5 and 1.6 of this chapter, the superintendent may establish, designate, implement and enforce restrictions and public use limits and terminate such restrictions and public use limits.

(B) The public shall be notified of restrictions or public use limits imposed under this paragraph (b)(3)(ix) and the termination or relaxation of such, in accordance with § 1.7 of this chapter, and by submission to the U.S. Coast Guard for publication as a “Notice to Mariners,” where appropriate.

(C) The superintendent shall make rules for the safe and equitable use of Bartlett Cove waters and for park docks. The public shall be notified of these rules by the posting of a sign or a copy of the rules at the dock. Failure to obey a sign or posted rule is prohibited.

(x) Closed waters and islands within Glacier Bay as described in paragraphs (b)(3)(iv) through (vii) of this section are described as depicted on NOAA Chart #17318 GLACIER BAY (4th Ed., Mar. 6/93) available to the public at park offices at Bartlett Cove and Juneau, Alaska.

(xi) Paragraphs (b)(3)(ii) through (iii) of this section do not apply to a vessel being used in connection with federally permitted whale research or monitoring; other closures and restrictions in this paragraph (b)(3) do not apply to authorized persons conducting emergency or law enforcement operations, research or resource management, park administration/ supply, or other necessary patrols.

(4) Marine vessel visible emission standards. Visible emissions from a marine vessel, excluding condensed water vapor, may not result in a reduction of visibility through the exhaust effluent of greater than 20 percent for a period or periods aggregating more than:

(i) Three minutes in any one hour while underway, at berth, or at anchor; or

(ii) Six minutes in any one hour during initial startup of diesel-driven vessels; or

(iii) 12 minutes in any one hour while anchoring, berthing, getting underway or maneuvering in Bartlett Cove.

Dated: April 22, 1996.

George T. Frampton, Jr.,
Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks.

[FR Doc. 96–13210 Filed 5–29–96; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4310–70–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 52
[10–1–5529a; FRL–5449–2]

Approval and Promulgation of State Implementation Plans: Idaho

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Direct final rule.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approves the State Implementation Plan submitted by the State of Idaho for the purpose of bringing about the attainment of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter less than or equal
to a nominal 10 micrometers (PM$_{10}$) in the Northern Ada County PM$_{10}$ nonattainment area.

DATES: This action is effective on July 29, 1996 unless adverse or critical comments are received by July 1, 1996. If the effective date is delayed, timely notice will be published in the Federal Register.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the State's request and other information supporting this action are available for inspection during normal business hours at the following locations: EPA, Region 10, Office of Air Quality (OAQ--107), 1200 Sixth Avenue, Seattle, Washington 98101, and State of Idaho Division of Environmental Quality, 1410 N. Hilton, Boise, ID 83720.

Written comments should be addressed to: Montel Livingston, EPA, Region 10, Office of Air Quality, 1200 Sixth Avenue, OAQ--107, Seattle, Washington, 98101.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Doug Cole, EPA, Region 10, Idaho Operations Office, 1435 North Orchard, Boise, Idaho 83706; (208) 334--9555.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

On September 22, 1994, EPA issued a proposed rulemakings action on the State Implementation Plan (SIP) for the Northern Ada County PM$_{10}$ nonattainment area. See 59 FR 48582, Sept. 22, 1994. The plan was submitted for the purpose of satisfying the moderate area planning requirements for PM$_{10}$ nonattainment areas, as set forth in subparts 1 and 4 of Title I of the Clean Air Act (CAA or Act). In that proposed rulemaking, EPA proposed to grant full approval of the emissions inventory and PM$_{10}$ precursor exclusion elements, limited approval of the control measures submitted by the State for the limited purpose of making them Federally enforceable, and disapproval of the control measures submitted by the State.

II. Analysis of State Submission

A detailed analysis of the SIP is contained in the September 22, 1994, Federal Register document proposing action on the Northern Ada County PM$_{10}$ SIP. (59 FR 48582) That analysis evaluated each of the SIP elements, and concluded that certain elements were approvable and that certain elements had deficiencies requiring resolution. A summary of the analysis, and additional analysis of information contained in the December 30, 1994, submittal follows.

1. Procedural Background

IDEQ conducted public hearings and adopted the SIP consistent with Section 110 of Clean Air Act. The initial public hearing was held on October 11, 1990, and a second public hearing was held on November 14, 1991, on a plan modification. The additional information submitted on December 30, 1994, included four implementing ordinances that had each been adopted by the responsible agency after having gone through the public hearing process required by State and local law. EPA has determined that notice and public hearing, meeting the requirements of 40 CFR 51.102, is not required for the December 30, 1994, submittal because the ordinances and other information submitted by the State do not differ materially from the control measures outlined in the SIP that went through notice and public hearing.

2. Accurate Emissions Inventory

The September 22, 1994 Federal Register document discussed the emissions inventory contained in the November 15, 1991, SIP and concluded it was consistent with the requirements of Sections 172(c)(3) and 110(a)(2)(K) of the Act. The additional information submitted on December 30, 1994, did not contain this inventory. Thus, for the reasons set forth in the September 22, 1994 Federal Register document, EPA is fully approving the emission inventory.

3. Control Measures

In the September 22, 1994 Federal Register document, EPA determined that the November 14, 1991, SIP did not provide for the timely implementation of reasonably available control measures (RACM), including reasonably available control technology (RACT). To achieve required emission reductions, the SIP relied upon a residential wood burning program, which consisted of four elements: an episodic wood burning curtailment program, a wood smoke public education/awareness program, a wood stove certification program, and a wood stove change-out program. The principal element of the residential wood burning program was the episodic wood burning curtailment program. The SIP stated that this program would be implemented at the local level through the adoption of local ordinances by Ada County, and by the cities of Boise, Garden City, Eagle, and Meridian. However, as noted in the September 22, 1994, Federal Register document, the State had not adopted and submitted all of these ordinances as part of the SIP submittal and the SIP therefore did not satisfy the RACM/RACT requirement.

The additional information submitted to EPA on December 30, 1994, included the required ordinances for Ada County, and for the cities of Garden City, Eagle, and Meridian. Each ordinance describes the procedures for instituting a wood stove curtailment program, including the monitored level at which an "alert" is called (100 µg/m$^3$), and provisions for exemptions from the program. The additional information also included a description of the procedures by which each local agency in the nonattainment area which has passed a wood smoke control ordinance will issue wood stove permits, determine exemptions from the curtailment program, enforce the program, and fund implementation.

EPA believes that the State's December 30, 1994, submittal addresses the deficiencies identified in the September 22, 1994, Federal Register document, with one exception which does not bar full approval of the State's control measures as meeting the RACM/RACT requirement. The State's initial SIP submittal stated that all cities in the nonattainment area and the unincorporated areas of Ada County had ordinances prohibiting the sale and installation of uncertified wood stoves. The initial SIP submittal, however, only included the ordinance for the City of Boise, and EPA proposed limited approval of that control measure. As stated above, the additional information
submitted on December 30, 1994, included wood smoke control ordinances for Garden City, Eagle, Meridian, and unincorporated Ada County. Only the Garden City and Ada County ordinances, however, have prohibitions on the sale and installation of non-certified wood stoves. EPA does not believe that the failure of the Cities of Meridian and Eagle to prohibit the sale and installation of uncertified wood stoves poses a bar to full approval of the control measures identified in the SIP as meeting the RACM/RACT requirement.

As stated in the September 22, 1994, Federal Register document, the State did not take any emission reduction credit for the wood stove certification program. See 59 FR 48585. RACM/RACT does not require the implementation of all available control measures where an area demonstrates timely attainment of the NAAQS and implementation of additional control measures would not expedite attainment. See 57 FR 13498, 13540-13544 (April 10, 1992).

The September 22, 1994 document discussed whether, assuming the implementation of control measures on wood smoke as identified in the SIP, RACM/RACT required the imposition of controls on emissions of other sources of PM₁₀ in the nonattainment area, such as road dust, prescribed silvicultural and agricultural burning, and stationary sources. See 59 FR 48585. EPA preliminarily concluded that additional controls on these sources would not be necessary, assuming implementation of the proposed wood smoke controls, either because emissions from such sources were insignificant or because additional controls on such sources were not necessary for and would not expedite attainment. Now that the State has fully implemented the wood smoke controls discussed in the SIP and demonstrated that such controls result in timely attainment of the PM₁₀ standard, EPA concludes that RACM/RACT does not require additional controls on sources other than wood smoke.

Accordingly, for the reasons set forth in the September 22, 1994, Federal Register document and the reasons set forth herein, EPA is approving the State's control measures as meeting the RACM/RACT requirement.

4. Attainment Demonstration

As discussed in the September 22, 1994, Federal Register document, IDEQ conducted modeling which demonstrated the nonattainment area will be in attainment of the 24-hour PM₁₀ NAAQS during the period of 1993 through 2000. However, because IDEQ had not demonstrated to EPA that it had adopted the wood smoke control measures necessary to achieve the emission reductions identified in the SIP, EPA proposed to disapprove the attainment demonstration. See 59 FR 48586. Now that IDEQ has demonstrated that the necessary control measures have been adopted and implemented and EPA is approving those measures as meeting the RACM/RACT requirement, EPA is giving full approval to the State's attainment demonstration.

A review of monitored data in the Northern Ada County NAAQ indicates that no exceedences of the standard have occurred since January 7, 1991. Over time, the expected exceedence rate for the 24-hour standard has been steadily decreasing, from a high of 4.5 during the three-year period 1986-1988 to 0.0 for the period 1992-1994. Based on the monitored data, it appears the nonattainment area has attained the 24-hour PM₁₀ standard.

5. Quantitative Milestones and Reasonable Further Progress

The State's initial SIP submittal also met the requirements for quantitative milestones and Reasonable Further Progress (RFP). In the September 22, 1994, Federal Register document, however, EPA proposed disapproving these requirements because attainment and maintenance of the standard was predicated on control measures that had not been incorporated into the SIP. See 59 FR 48586-48587. Now that this deficiency has been corrected by the December 31, 1994, submittal, EPA is fully approving State's plan as meeting the quantitative milestones and RFP requirements.

6. PM₁₀ Precursors

The September 22, 1994, Federal Register document proposed to grant the exclusion from controls authorized under Section 189(e) of the Act for major stationary sources of PM₁₀ precursors in the nonattainment area. See 59 FR 48587. EPA proposed a finding that major stationary sources of PM₁₀ precursors did not contribute significantly to PM₁₀ levels in excess of the NAAQS in the nonattainment area. IDEQ has subsequently submitted information identifying in the nonattainment area two major stationary sources of NOₓ, a PM₁₀ precursor under certain meteorological conditions. Northwest Pipeline has a potential to emit 314 tons of NOₓ per year and St. Alphonius Hospital has the potential to emit 116 tons of NOₓ per year. The SIP provides an adequate demonstration that implementation of RACT will be sufficient to attain the PM₁₀ by the applicable attainment date. In addition, EPA reviewed the ambient air quality data from 1992, 1993, and 1994 and determined that the area attained the NAAQS by December 31, 1994. Thus, although there are two major stationary sources of PM₁₀ precursors in the nonattainment area, EPA believes these sources do not contribute significantly to PM₁₀ levels in excess of the NAAQS in the nonattainment area. Therefore, Section 189(e) of the Clean Air Act does not require the imposition of control requirements on major stationary sources of PM₁₀ precursors in the nonattainment area.

7. Enforceability of Control Measures

In the September 22, 1994, Federal Register document, EPA reserved judgment on the enforceability of the identified control measures because several of the control measures relied on by the State in its SIP submittal had not been submitted to EPA. See 59 FR 48587. As discussed in Section II.3 above, IDEQ has now submitted those control measures to EPA, and EPA has determined the control measures meet the RACM/RACT requirement. The December 31, 1994, submittal includes a description of each implementing ordinance, the agency responsible for enforcement, enforcement procedures and penalties, and the steps the State of Idaho would take should an agency fail to implement or enforce its respective ordinance, as required by Section 110(a)(2)(E) of the Clean Air Act. Specifically, IDEQ has committed to impose Tier II operating permits on all owners and operators of wood stoves within the nonattainment area should a local agency fail to implement its ordinance, and IDEQ has demonstrated its authority to do so. In summary, EPA believes that IDEQ has satisfied the enforceability requirements of Title I of the Act, including the requirements of Section 110(a)(2)(E), and is therefore fully approving the State's SIP as meeting these requirements.

8. Contingency Measures

Section 172(c)(9) of the Act requires that contingency measures be included in each moderate area PM₁₀ nonattainment plan. These measures must take effect without further action by the State or EPA upon a
determination that the area has failed to make Reasonable Further Progress (RFP) or attain the PM$_{10}$ NAAQS by the applicable statutory deadline, and should result in emission reductions approximately equal to the emissions reductions necessary to demonstrate RFP. See generally 57 FR 13510-13512 and 13543-13544. For a moderate PM$_{10}$ nonattainment area, such as Northern Ada County, with a three to four year period between SIP development and the attainment date, this would mean that contingency measures should result in emission reductions equal to at least 25 percent of the emission reductions in the total control strategy. 57 FR 13544.

A State may rely on “over control” as a contingency measure, that is, rely on control measures that are part of the core control strategy in the SIP, if such control measures result in emission reductions greater than those required to achieve the 24-hour NAAQS standard of 150 µg/m$^3$.

On July 13, 1995, IDEQ submitted contingency measures to EPA for approval which were a combination of over control from the wood smoke control measures and new controls on fugitive road dust. Modeling of the core control measures in the SIP for the Northern Ada County nonattainment area indicates a 17 µg/m$^3$ reduction in the 24-hour standard (from 164 µg/m$^3$ to 147 µg/m$^3$). This means that the core control measures in the SIP result in over control of 18 percent (ratio of the difference between 147 µg/m$^3$ and 150 µg/m$^3$ to 17 µg/m$^3$). To obtain the additional 7 percent of emission reductions needed for 25 percent reduction of emissions through contingency measures, the State has adopted a program for the reduction of fugitive road dust. The State’s submittal includes a signed agreement between the Idaho Transportation Department, Ada County Highway District, and IDEQ, which details a road sweeping program designed to reduce particulate emissions by prioritizing road sanding such that streets with the highest potential to emit PM$_{10}$, in the form of reentrained dust, are swept first, and more frequently. IDEQ retains the authority to review and approve any changes to the plan. The State anticipates that this road dust program will result in an additional 9 percent reduction in PM$_{10}$ emissions. Together with the 18 percent in emission reductions achieved through over control, the State’s contingency measures are predicted to result in more than 25 percent of the total reductions necessary for attainment. EPA therefore approves the contingency measures submitted by the State on July 13, 1995.

9. New Source Review

States with initial moderate PM$_{10}$ nonattainment areas were required to submit a permit program for the construction and operation of new and modified stationary sources of PM$_{10}$ by June 30, 1992. See Section 189(a) of the Clean Air Act. This permit program element, known as the New Source Review (NSR) program, was submitted by the State of Idaho on May 17, 1994. EPA notified the State on June 10, 1994, that its NSR program submittal was complete. EPA is currently reviewing Idaho’s NSR program submittal to determine if the program meets the requirements of the Act. EPA intends to take action on Idaho’s NSR program in another rulemaking after EPA has completed its review.

III. This Action

EPA is granting full approval to the November 14, 1991, Northern Ada County PM$_{10}$ SIP, as supplemented by additional information which IDEQ has submitted since that time. IDEQ has demonstrated that the SIP meets the applicable requirements of the Act.

IV. Administrative Review

Under the Regulatory Flexibility Act, 5 U.S.C. 600 et seq., EPA must prepare a regulatory flexibility analysis assessing the impact of any proposed or final rule on small entities. 5 U.S.C. 603 and 604. Alternatively, EPA may certify that the rule will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. Small entities include small businesses, small not-for-profit enterprises, and government entities with jurisdiction over populations of less than 50,000.

SIP approvals under Section 110 and Subchapter I, Part D, of the CAA do not create any new requirements, but simply approve requirements that the State is already imposing. Therefore, the Federal SIP-approval process does not impose any new requirements, I certify that it does not have a significant impact on any small entities affected. Moreover, due to the nature of the Federal-State relationship under the CAA, preparation of a regulatory flexibility analysis would constitute Federal inquiry into the economic reasonableness of State action. The CAA forbids EPA to base its actions concerning SIPs on such grounds. Union Electric Co. v. U.S.E.P.A., 427 U.S. 246, 256-66 (S.Ct. 1976); 42 U.S.C. 7410(a)(2).

Under Section 205 of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995, signed into law on March 22, 1995, EPA must prepare a budgetary impact statement to accompany any proposed or final rule that includes a Federal mandate that may result in estimated costs to State, local, or tribal governments in the aggregate; or to the private sector, of $100 million or more. Under Section 205, EPA must select the most cost-effective and least burdensome alternative that achieves the objectives of the rule and is consistent with statutory requirements. Section 203 requires EPA to establish a plan for informing and advising any small governments that may be significantly or uniquely affected by the rule.

EPA has determined that the approval action promulgated does not include a Federal mandate that may result in estimated costs of $100 million or more to State, local, or tribal governments in the aggregate, or to the private sector. This Federal action approves pre-existing requirements under State or local law, and imposes no new Federal requirements. Accordingly, no additional costs to State, local, or tribal governments, or to the private sector, result from this action.

EPA has reviewed this request for revision of the Federally-approved SIP for conformance with the provisions of the 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments enacted on November 15, 1990. The EPA has determined that this action conforms with those requirements.

Nothing in this action should be construed as permitting or allowing or establishing a precedent for any future request for revision to any SIP. Each request for revision to the SIP shall be considered separately in light of specific technical, economic, and environmental factors, and in relation to relevant statutory and regulatory requirements.

This action has been classified as a Table 3 action for signature by the Regional Administrator under the procedures published in the Federal Register on January 19, 1989 (54 FR 2214-2225), as revised by a July 10, 1995, memorandum from Mary Nichols, EPA Assistant Administrator for Air and Radiation. The Office of Management and Budget has exempted this regulatory action from Executive Order 12866 review.

EPA is publishing this action without prior proposal because the Agency views this as a noncontroversial amendment and anticipates no adverse comments. However, in a separate document in this Federal Register publication, EPA is proposing to approve the SIP revision should adverse or critical comments be filed. This action will be effective July 29, 1996.
unless, by July 1, 1996 adverse or critical comments are received. If EPA receives such comments, this action will be withdrawn before the effective date by publishing a subsequent document that will withdraw the final action. All public comments received will be addressed in a subsequent final rule based on this action serving as a proposed rule. EPA will not institute a second comment period on this action. Any parties interested in commenting on this action should do so at this time. If no such comments are received, the public is advised that this action will be effective July 29, 1996.

Under Section 307(b)(1) of the Clean Air Act, petitions for judicial review of this action must be filed in the United States Court of Appeals for the appropriate circuit by July 29, 1996. Filing a petition for reconsideration by the Administrator of this final rule does not affect the finality of this rule for the purposes of judicial review nor does it extend the time within which a petition for judicial review may be filed and shall not postpone the effectiveness of such rule or action. This action may not be challenged later in proceedings to enforce its requirements. (See Section 307(b)(2), 42 U.S.C. 7607(b)(2)).

List of Subjects in 40 CFR Part 52

Environmental protection, Air pollution control, Incorporation by reference, Intergovernmental relations, Particulate matter.

Note: Incorporation by reference of the Implementation Plan for the State of Idaho was approved by the Director of the Office of Federal Register on July 1, 1982.

Dated: March 20, 1996.

Chuck Clarke,
Regional Administrator.

Part 52, chapter I, title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations is amended as follows:

PART 52—[AMENDED]

1. The authority citation for Part 52 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 7401-7671q.

Subpart N—Idaho

2. Section 52.670 is amended by adding paragraph (c)(31) to read as follows:

§52.670 Identification of plan.

(c) * * * * *


(i) Incorporation by reference.

(A) November 14, 1991, letter from the IDHW Administrator to the EPA Region 10 Regional Administrator submitting a revision to the Idaho SIP for the Northern Ada County/Boise Particulate Air Quality Improvement Plan; The Northern Ada County Boise Particulate (PM₁₀) Air Quality Improvement Plan adopted on November 14, 1991.

(B) December 30, 1994, letter from the IDHW Administrator to the EPA Region 10 Regional Administrator including a revision to the Idaho SIP for the Northern Ada County/Boise PM₁₀ Air Quality Improvement Plan; Appendix C-1, Supplemental Control Strategy Documentation, Northern Ada County/Boise PM₁₀ Air Quality Improvement Plan, adopted December 30, 1994, with the following attachments: Garden City Ordinances #514 (May 14, 1987), #533 (January 10, 1989) and #624 (September 13, 1994); Meridian Ordinance #667 (August 16, 1994); Eagle Ordinance #245 (April 26, 1994); Ada County Ordinance #254 (November 3, 1992); and Table Ordinance-1 (December 30, 1994).

[FR Doc. 96-12888 Filed 5-29-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

49 CFR Part 571

[Docket No. 95-84; Notice 02]

RIN 2127-AF70

Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards; Head Restraints

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

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This final rule clarifies the test procedures in Standard No. 202, “Head Restraints,” by replacing the phrase “rearmost portion of the head form” with a reference to the portion of the head form in contact with the head restraint. The proposal on which this rule is based contained two other proposed amendments to the standard; this document terminates rulemaking on those proposals.

DATES: Effective Date: The amendments made in this rule are effective July 15, 1996.

PETITION DATES: Any petitions for reconsideration must be received by NHTSA no later than July 15, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Any petitions for reconsideration should refer to the docket and notice number of this notice and be submitted to: Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC 20590.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The following persons at the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC 20590:

For non-legal issues: Clarke Harper, Frontal Crash Protection Division, Office of Vehicle Safety Standards, NPS-12, telephone (202) 366-4916, fax (202) 366-4329, electronic mail “charper@nhtsa.dot.gov”.

For legal issues: Steve Wood, Office of the Chief Counsel, NCC-20, telephone (202) 366-2992, facsimile (202) 366-3820, electronic mail “swood@nhtsa.dot.gov”.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to the March 4, 1994 directive, “Regulatory Reinvention Initiative,” from the President to the heads of departments and agencies, NHTSA has undertaken a review of all its regulations and directives. During the course of this review, the agency identified several requirements and regulations that are potential candidates for amendment or rescission. Some of these provisions were found in Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 202, “Head Restraints.”

On October 24, 1995, NHTSA published a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM), proposing to delete one of two alternative performance requirements for head restraints. The NPRM also proposed to clarify the test procedures by replacing the phrase “rearmost portion of the head form” with a reference to the portion of the head form in contact with the head restraint. Last, the NPRM proposed to specify that head restraints on bench-type seats are loaded simultaneously during compliance testing.

The agency received eight comments in response to this NPRM. As explained below, after reviewing these comments the agency has decided to amend Standard No. 202 to replace the phrase “rearmost portion of the head form” with a reference to the portion of the head form in contact with the head restraint. However, the agency is terminating rulemaking on the other proposed amendments.