

presence of an agent of the Office of Inspector General.

- (f) Prepare a report on the referendum.
- (g) Announce the results to the public.

§ 1214.204 Subagents.

The referendum agent may appoint any individual or individuals deemed necessary or desirable to assist the agent in performing such agent's functions hereunder. Each individual so appointed may be authorized by the agent to perform any or all of the functions which, in the absence of such appointment, shall be performed by the agent.

§ 1214.205 Ballots.

The referendum agent and subagents shall accept all ballots cast; but, should they, or any of them, deem that a ballot should be challenged for any reason, the agent or subagent shall endorse above their signature, on the ballot, a statement to the effect that such ballot was challenged, by whom challenged, the reasons therefore, the results of any investigations made with respect thereto, and the disposition thereof. Ballots invalid under this subpart shall not be counted.

§ 1214.206 Referendum report.

Except as otherwise directed, the referendum agent shall prepare and submit to the Administrator a report on results of the referendum, the manner in which it was conducted, the extent and kind of public notice given, and other information pertinent to analysis of the referendum and its results.

§ 1214.207 Confidential information.

The ballots and other information or reports that reveal, or tend to reveal, the vote of any person covered under the Act and the voting list shall be held confidential and shall not be disclosed.

Dated: September 23, 1996.

Robert C. Keeney,

Director, Fruit and Vegetable Division.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 440

[Docket No. 28635; Notice 96-8A]

RIN 2120-AF98

Financial Responsibility Requirements for Licensed Launch Activities

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM); reopen comment period.

SUMMARY: This document announces that the comment period for the NPRM on financial responsibility requirements for licensed launch activities is reopened. The initial comment period closed September 23, 1996. In response to industry requests that more time be provided for comment development, the comment period is reopened October 2, 1996 through December 2, 1996.

DATES: The comment period is being reopened from October 2, 1996 through December 2, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Comments on this NPRM should be mailed in triplicate to the Federal Aviation Administration, Office of Chief Counsel, Attention: Rules Docket (AGC-200), 800 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20591. Comments may also be sent electronically to the Rules Docket by using the following Internet address: nprmcmts@mail.faa.gov. All comments must be marked Docket No. 28635. Comments may be examined Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. in Room 915G.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Esta M. Rosenberg, Attorney-Advisor, Regulations Division, Office of the Chief Counsel, Federal Aviation Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, (202) 366-9305.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice No. 96-8 was published on July 25, 1996 [61 FR 38992]. This Notice, as published, provided a 60 day comment period which closed September 23, 1996.

Background

The Associate Administrator for Commercial Space Transportation currently prescribes financial responsibility requirements for licensees authorized to conduct commercial space launch activities on a case-by-base basis, after analyzing the risks associated with licensed activities. The proposed rulemaking would codify the Associate Administrator's approach to implementing these requirements in rules of general applicability. Specifically, the proposed regulations would establish how certain risks are allocated and addressed among the various launch participants through financial responsibility requirements, including statutorily based reciprocal waivers of claims. The proposed regulations would also address eligibility for payment by the United States Government of certain third party claims. The Notice requested comments on appropriate means of implementing

this obligation. The FAA is undertaking this rulemaking initiative to implement financial responsibility requirements under the Commercial Space Launch Act of 1984, as amended, codified at 49 U.S.C. Subtitle IX, ch. 701, Commercial Space Launch Activities.

On September 19, 1996, Orbital Sciences Corporation (OSC), as well as several other major U.S. commercial space launch industry participants, (i.e., Lockheed Martin, McDonnell Douglas, and Rockwell International Corporations) requested that the comment period be extended 60 days beyond September 23, 1996, to allow interested parties to respond adequately to the complex issues in the Notice. OSC states that in light of the detail needed to respond accurately and in a costly fashion, an extension is needed.

Reopen Comment Period

The comment period closed on September 23, 1996, which prevented an extension. In order to allow industry additional time for a more thorough review of applicable issues and drafting of responsive comments, the FAA finds that it is in the public interest to reopen the comment period. Accordingly, the comment period is being reopened from October 2, 1996 through December 2, 1996.

Issued in Washington, DC, on September 27, 1996.

Patti Grace Smith,

Acting Associate Administrator for Commercial Space Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration.

[FR Doc. 96-25187 Filed 10-1-96; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of Export Administration

15 CFR Ch. VII

[Docket No. 950920234-6268-02]

RIN 0694-XX02

Request for Comments on Effects of Foreign Policy-Based Export Controls

AGENCY: Bureau of Export Administration, Commerce.

ACTION: Request for comments on foreign policy-based export controls.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Export Administration (BXA) is reviewing the foreign policy-based export controls in the Export Administration Regulations to determine whether they should be modified, rescinded or extended. To help make these determinations, BXA is seeking comments on how existing