(3) Are removed from service for any other reason.
(c) Recognizing other quality assurance programs. The MMS will consider approving other quality assurance programs covering the manufacture of SPPE. If you want MMS to evaluate other quality assurance programs, submit relevant information about the program and reasons for MMS approval to the Deputy Associate Director for Operations and Safety Management; Minerals Management Service; Mail Stop 4600; 381 Eileen Street; Herndon, Virginia 20170–4817.

[FR Doc. 96–32041 Filed 12–17–96; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4310–MR–M

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 52
[IDS–2–7075b; FRL–5664–9]

Clean Air Act Promulgation of Reclassification of PM–10 Nonattainment Areas in Idaho

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: This action identifies those nonattainment areas in the State of Idaho which have failed to attain the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter of less than or equal to ten micrometers (PM–10) by the applicable attainment date of December 31, 1995. This action also proposes to grant a second one-year extension to the attainment date for the Power-Bannock Counties PM–10 nonattainment in Idaho. In the Final Rules Section of this Federal Register, the EPA is granting this extension as a direct final rule without prior proposal because the Agency views this action as noncontroversial and anticipates no adverse comments. A detailed rationale for granting the extension is set forth in the direct final rule. If no adverse comments are received in response to this proposed rule, no further activity is contemplated in relation to this rule. If the EPA receives adverse comments, the direct final rule will be withdrawn and all public comments received will be addressed in a subsequent final rule. The EPA will not institute a second comment period on this action.

DATES: Comments on this proposal must be received in writing by January 17, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on this action should be addressed to Montel Livingston, SIP Manager, Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Air Quality, 1200 Sixth Avenue, Seattle, Washington, 98101. Copies of the documents relevant to this action are available for public inspection during normal business hours at the same address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Steven K. Body, Office of Air Quality, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Sixth Avenue, Seattle, Washington, 98101, 206/553–0782.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: See the information provided in the Direct Final action which is located in the Rules Section of this Federal Register.

Dated: December 5, 1996.

Chuck Clarke,
Regional Administrator.

[FR Doc. 96–32055 Filed 12–17–96; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Coast Guard

46 CFR Parts 10 and 15

[CGD 94–055]

RIN 2115–AF23

Licensing and Manning for Officers of Towing Vessels

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard intends to modify the proposed rule on Licensing and Manning for Officers of Towing Vessels and to publish a supplemental notice of proposed rulemaking (SNPRM) before issuing a final rule. The SNPRM will include a new comment period and it may announce additional public meetings.

ADDRESSES: The Executive Secretary maintains the public docket for this rulemaking. Comments previously received have become part of this docket and are available for inspection or copying at room 3406, U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, 2100 Second Street, SW., Washington, DC 20593, between 9:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: LCDR Don Darcy, Project Manager, Operating and Environmental Standards Division (G–MSO–1), U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, 2100 Second Street, SW., Washington, DC 20593, telephone (202) 267–0221.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background and Purpose

On June 19, 1996, the Coast Guard published in the Federal Register a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) that proposed changes to the licensing and manning requirements for officers of towing vessels in order to provide a safer towing industry (61 FR 31332). The NPRM proposed changes including, but not limited to, the following: A graduated series of master and mate (pilot) licenses (allowing holders of current licenses to be grandfathered); an additional license level for new entries—apprentice mate (steersman); route endorsements for particular geographical areas; a limited and unlimited licensing structure based on a 3000-horsepower breakpoint; a practical demonstration of skills; a check-ride with a designated examiner; or completion of a refresher course for renewals and upgrades of licenses; and a clarification that the master of the vessel is responsible for the overall safety of the vessel, but not for another individual’s misconduct or incompetence.

The comment period under the NPRM closed on October 17, 1996. Because of the very active public response to the NPRM, through a public meeting and numerous written comments, the Coast Guard intends to modify the proposed rule. The Coast Guard will develop a supplemental notice of proposed rulemaking (SNPRM) to help it re-evaluate the proposed rule and the cost–benefit analysis, and to incorporate certain recommendations. Public comments are being reviewed and may be instrumental in the development of the new proposal. The SNPRM will include a comment period, similar to the NPRM, allowing mariners and companies within the industry to express their views on the new changes.

Issuing an SNPRM, before an interim or final rule, will also create the potential for further public meetings. Notice will be given in the SNPRM, and otherwise in the Federal Register, regarding dates and times of any further public meetings for this rulemaking.

Requests for Comments

With publication of the SNPRM, the Coast Guard will encourage interested persons to participate in this rulemaking by submitting written data, views, or arguments on the new proposals. There is no need or occasion to refile comments already submitted.
Revision to the NASA FAR Supplement to Eliminate Non-Statutory Certification Requirements

AGENCY: National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: The National Aeronautics and Space Administration is publishing a notice of proposed rulemaking to amend the NASA FAR Supplement (NFS) to eliminate all non-statutory imposed contractor and offeror certification requirements.

DATES: Written comments on the proposed rulemaking must be received on or before February 18, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Comments (3 copies) should be addressed to Donald G. Abrams, Office of Procurement, Contract Management Division, Code HK, NASA Headquarters, Washington DC 20546.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Donald G. Abrams, telephone (202) 358-0512; facsimile (202) 358-3083; or electronic mail donald.abrams@hq.nasa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Section 4301(b)(1)(B) of the Federal Acquisition Reform Act of 1996 (FARA), Pub. L. 104-106, requires agencies that have procurement regulations containing one or more certification requirements for contractors and offerors that are not specifically imposed by statute to issue for public comment a proposal to amend their regulations to remove the certification requirements. Such certification requirements may be omitted from the agency proposal if (i) the senior procurement executive for the executive agency provides the head of the executive agency with a written justification for the requirement and a determination that there is no less burdensome means for administering and enforcing the particular regulation that contains the certification requirement; and (ii) the head of the executive agency approves in writing the retention of such certification requirement.

The proposed rule constitutes NASA's proposal for the elimination of all non-statutory imposed contractor and offeror certification requirements from the NFS pursuant to section 430(b)(1)(B) of FARA. NASA has not identified any regulatory certification requirement contained in the NFS which it has determined should be proposed for retention. Consequently, the Agency is not pursuing approval from the Administrator of NASA to retain any certification requirement not specifically imposed by statute. The Agency invites public comment on its proposal to eliminate all regulatory certification requirements from the NFS and on its determination that there are no certification requirements which should be proposed for retention.

Agency Proposal to Eliminate Non-Statutory Certification Requirements

The following is the Agency's proposal pertaining to each contractor and offeror certification requirement contained in the NFS:

1. 1816.303 Cost Sharing Contracts

This requirement, which dealt with the certification requested from a university to the fact that it has "no commercial, production, educational, or service activities on which to use the results of the research and no means of recovering any cost sharing on such projects", has been deleted from the rewrite of the NFS.

2. 1819.7211 Application Process for Mentor Firms to Participate in the Program

This section, which required that "a proposed mentor must submit the following information (1) certification that the mentor firm is currently performing under at least one active approved subcontracting plan ** * * " will be rewritten to require simply a statement to the same effect.

3. 1832.7002 Responsibility

This section has been removed due to the rewrite of the NFS (effective October 29, 1996, 61 FR 55765-55774).

4. 1832.7004(b) Contractual Implementation (Milestone Billing)

The section has been removed due to the rewrite of the NFS (effective October 29, 1996, 61 FR 55765-55774).

5. 1834-005-1 Competition (Major Systems Acquisition)

The passing reference under "(4) Phase D: Development involves final detailed design, fabrication, certification, and delivery of an operational system that meets program requirements," will be deleted from the rewrite to the NFS.

6. 1845.302-73 Determination and Findings (Decision to Provide Government Property)

Whereas the previous section was worded, "contractor has certified inability to acquire the facilities", this will be rewritten to have the contractor "demonstrate inability to acquire* * *".

7. 1852.223-70 Safety and Health

Previously, the clause required the contractor to submit a certification program for personnel involved in hazardous operations as required by the contract schedule or the contracting officer.** This will be rewritten to require "qualification standards for personnel* * *", This clause was published in the Federal Register October 29, 1996 (61 FR 55753-55764).

8. 1852-247-73 Shipment by Government Bills of Lading

This optional transportation clause for use in f.o.b. Origin contracts instructs the contractor to certify on his/her invoices that the material has been shipped. It will be rewritten to require simply a statement that the material has been shipped.

9. 1870.102-703 VI Proposal Submission Information (Investigation Acquisition System)

Section 2.6, entitled Certification, previously required that "the proposal must be signed by an institutional official authorized to certify institutional support* * *". It will be rewritten to be entitled "Signatory" and require "signed by institutional official authorized to ensure* * *".

Public Comments

NASA invites interested persons to participate by submitting data, views, or arguments with respect to the NFS amendments set forth in this proposed rule. Three copies of written comments should be submitted to the address indicated in the ADDRESSES section of this rule. All comments received will be available for public inspection during normal work hours. All written comments received by the date indicated in the DATES section of this notice will be carefully assessed and full considered prior to the effective date of these amendments as a final rule. Any information considered to be confidential must be so identified and submitted in writing, one copy only.

NASA reserves the right to determine the confidential status of the information and to treat it according to...