Authority: 23 U.S.C. 402; 25 U.S.C. 13.

§ 181.1 Purpose.

This part will assist the BIA Indian Highway Safety Program Administrator to disperse funds DOT/NHTSA has made available. The funds assist selected tribes with their proposed Highway Safety Projects. These projects are designed to reduce traffic crashes, reduce impaired driving crashes, increase occupant protection education, provide Emergency Medical Service training, and increase police traffic services.

§ 181.2 Definitions.

Appeal means a written request for review of an action or the inaction of an official of the BIA that is claimed to adversely affect the interested party making the request.

Applicant means an individual or persons on whose behalf an application for assistance and/or services has been made under this part.

Application means the process through which a request is made for assistance or services.

Grant means a written agreement between the BIA and the governing body of an Indian tribe or Indian organization wherein the BIA provides funds to the grantee to plan, conduct, or administer specific programs, services, or activities and where the administrative and programmatic provisions are specifically delineated.

Grantee means the tribal governing body of an Indian tribe or Board of Directors of an Indian organization responsible for grant administration.

Recipient means an individual or persons who have been determined as eligible and are receiving financial assistance or services under this part.

§ 181.3 Am I eligible to receive a program grant?

The Indian Highway Safety Program grant is available to any federally recognized tribe. Because of the limited financial resources available for the program, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is unable to award grants to all applicants. Furthermore, some grant recipients may only be awarded a grant to fund certain aspects of their proposed tribal projects.

§ 181.4 How do I obtain an application?

BIA mails grant application packages for a given fiscal year to all federally recognized tribes by the end of February of the preceding fiscal year. Additional application packages are available from the Program Administrator, Indian Highway Safety Program, P.O. Box 2003, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103. Each application package contains the necessary information concerning the application process, including format, content, and filing requirements.

§ 181.5 How are applications ranked?

BIA ranks each timely filed application by assigning points based upon four factors.

(a) *Factor No. 1—Magnitude of the problem* (Up to 50 points available). In awarding points under this factor, BIA will take into account the following:

(1) Whether a highway safety problem exists.

(2) Whether the problem is significant.

(3) Whether the proposed tribal project will contribute to resolution of the identified highway safety problem.

(4) The number of traffic accidents occurring within the applicant's jurisdiction over the previous 3 years.

(5) The number of alcohol-related traffic accidents occurring within the applicant's jurisdiction over the previous 3 years.

(6) The number of reported traffic fatalities occurring within the applicant's jurisdiction over the previous 3 years.

(7) The number of reported alcohol-related traffic fatalities occurring within the applicant's jurisdiction over the previous 3 years.

(b) *Factor No. 2—Countermeasure selection* (Up to 40 points available). In awarding points under this factor, BIA will take into account the following:

(1) Whether the countermeasures selected are the most effective for the identified highway safety problem.

(2) Whether the countermeasures selected are cost effective.

(3) Whether the applicant's objectives are realistic and attainable.

(4) Whether the applicant's objectives are time framed and, if so, whether the time frames are realistic and attainable.

(c) *Factor No. 3—Tribal Leadership and Community Support* (Up to 10 points available). In awarding points under this factor, BIA will take into account the following:

(1) Whether the applicant proposes using tribal resources in the project.

(2) Whether the appropriate tribal governing body supports the proposal plan, as evidenced by a tribal resolution or otherwise.

(3) Whether the community supports the proposal plan, as evidenced by letters or otherwise.

(d) *Factor No. 4—Past Performance* (+ or − 10 points available). In awarding points under this factor, BIA will take into account the following:

(1) Financial and programmatic reporting requirements.

(2) Project accomplishments.

§ 181.6 How are applicants informed of the results?

BIA will send a letter to all applicants notifying them of their selection or non-selection for participation in the Indian Highway Safety Program for the upcoming fiscal year. BIA will explain to each applicant not selected for participation the reason(s) for non-selection.

§ 181.7 Appeals.

You may appeal actions taken by BIA officials under this part by following the procedures in 25 CFR part 2.

Dated: October 9, 1997.

Ada E. Deer,

Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

[FR Doc. 97–28010 Filed 10–23–97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–02–P

FEDERAL MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH REVIEW COMMISSION

29 CFR Part 2702

Regulations Implementing the Freedom of Information Act

AGENCY: Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission (Commission).

ACTION: Final rulemaking.

SUMMARY: The Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission is revising its regulations implementing the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), to reflect recent changes to the FOIA as a result of the Electronic Freedom of Information Act Amendments of 1996. This revision also implements certain changes in the manner in which FOIA requests are processed by the Commission, and in the rates charged to certain categories of requesters for time spent by Commission employees searching for and reviewing documents.

DATES: This rule is effective October 24, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Norman Gleichman, General Counsel, Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission, 1730 K Street, NW., 6th Floor, Washington DC 20006–3867, telephone (202) 653–5610, FAX (202) 653–5030; or Richard L. Baker, Executive Director, Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission, 1730 K Street, NW., 6th Floor, Washington DC 20006–3867, telephone (202) 653–5625, FAX (202) 653–5030.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

On October 2, 1996, the President signed into law the Electronic Freedom of Information Act Amendments of 1996

(EFOIA), Pub. L. 104–231, 110 Stat. 3048 (1996), which amends the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. 552. Among other things, EFOIA requires agencies to promulgate regulations that provide for expedited processing of requests for records. In addition, EFOIA changes the time limit for responding to a FOIA request from ten to twenty days and specifies the circumstances in which an agency may extend the time within which it will respond to a FOIA request, and enables a requester to request ''expedited processing'' of a FOIA request where he can demonstrate a ''compelling need'' for the information requested. EFOIA also contains provisions regarding the availability of documents in electronic form, the treatment of electronic records, and the establishment of ''electronic reading rooms.''

The Commission issues amendments to its regulations implementing the Freedom of Information Act, 29 CFR part 2702, in order to comply with EFOIA. In addition, the Commission is making some minor adjustments in its procedures for responding to FOIA requests and in the fees charged to certain categories of requesters for time spent by Commission employees searching for and reviewing documents responsive to requests.

II. Analysis of the Regulations

Section 2702.1 Purpose and Scope

The Commission is adding new language to this section to refer to EFOIA. In addition, the Commission is adding new language to indicate that additional guidance on obtaining information from the Commission can be found in the document entitled ''Reference Guide for Obtaining Information from the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission,'' and that this document is available upon request from the Commission.

Section 2702.2 Location of Offices

This section has been modified to provide updated information concerning the addresses of the Commission's headquarters and regional offices, and to include a new address for the Commission's regional office in Denver, Colorado.

Section 2702.3 Requests for Information

Paragraph (a) contains language from the previous § 2702.3 regarding the procedure for submitting a FOIA request to the Commission. Paragraph (a) also contains new language directing requesters to describe the record requested to the fullest extent possible and specify the preferred form or format of the response, including an electronic format. In addition, paragraph (a) contains language indicating the Commission will accommodate requesters as to the form or format requested if the record is readily reproducible in that form or format, and that the Commission will respond in the most accessible form or format if the requester does not specify the preferred form or format of the response.

Paragraph (b) contains language derived from the previous section § 2702.3 concerning determinations by the Commission whether to respond to a FOIA request and appeals of adverse determinations. The language in previous paragraph (b) has been modified to indicate that where it is not possible to obtain the consent of a majority of the Commissioners to the initial determination made by the Executive Director as the result of a tie vote, the recommendation of the Executive Director would control and be deemed to be approved by the Commission. In addition, the language of paragraph (b) has been modified to indicate that the time periods for making the initial determination whether to comply with a request, and for appealing from an adverse determination, have been extended from 10 to 20 working days.

Paragraph (c) contains new language, based on provisions of EFOIA, providing that the Commission may propose extending the 20-day time period for responding to a FOIA request for up to 10 additional days in the case of ''unusual circumstances.'' Paragraph (c) defines ''unusual circumstances'' that may justify such a delay as:

(i) The need to search for and collect requested records from other facilities separate from the office processing the request;

(ii) The need to search for, collect, and appropriately examine a voluminous amount of separate and distinct records that are requested in a single request;

(iii) The need for consultation, which shall be conducted with all practicable speed, with another agency having a substantial interest in the determination of the request, or among two or more components of the agency having substantial subject matter interest in the request; or

(iv) The need to consult with the submitter of requested information.

Paragraph (c) also contains language providing that when the Commission determines it cannot make a response determination within an additional 10 working day period, it will notify the requester and provide him with an opportunity to limit the scope of the request so that it may be processed within the extended time limit, or an opportunity to arrange an alternative time frame for processing the request or a modified request. Paragraph (c) further provides that a refusal by a requester to reasonably modify the request or arrange for an alternative time frame shall be considered as a factor in determining whether ''exceptional circumstances'' exist for purposes of paragraph (d) of § 2702.3, described below. In addition, paragraph (c) contains new language providing that, whenever it reasonably appears that certain requests by the same requester, or a group of requesters acting in concert, actually constitute a single request that would otherwise satisfy the ''unusual circumstances'' specified in the paragraph, and the requests involve clearly related matters, such requests may be aggregated for purposes of this paragraph, but that multiple requests involving unrelated matters will not be aggregated.

Paragraph (d) contains new language providing that if the Commission is unable to comply with the extended time limit for responding to a request set forth in paragraph (c) of § 2702.3, it may request additional time to complete its review of the records, and request a court to retain jurisdiction and allow it such additional time to complete its review, if it can show that exceptional circumstances exist and that it is exercising due diligence in responding to the request. Paragraph (d) further states that, for the purposes set forth herein, ''exceptional circumstances'' do not include a delay that results from a predictable workload of requests, unless the Commission demonstrates reasonable progress in reducing its backlog of pending requests. Paragraph (d) also provides that refusal by a requester to reasonably modify the scope of a request or arrange an alternative time frame for processing the request (or a modified request) under paragraph (c) shall be considered as a factor in determining whether exceptional circumstances exist.

Paragraph (e) contains new language, based upon a provision of EFOIA, authorizing a person requesting records from the Commission to request expedited processing of his request in cases in which he can demonstrate a compelling need for the records requested. A ''compelling need'' is defined in paragraph (e) to mean:

(i) That a failure to obtain the requested records on an expedited basis could reasonably be expected to pose an imminent threat to the life or physical safety of an individual; or

(ii) The information is urgently needed by a person primarily engaged in disseminating information in order to inform the public concerning actual or alleged Federal Government activity.

Paragraph (e) further provides that a person making a request for expedited processing shall make a showing of compelling need by means of a statement certified by that person to be true and correct to the best of his knowledge and belief. In addition, paragraph (e) provides that the Commission will provide notice to a requester of its determination whether to grant expedited processing in response to a requester's claim of compelling need within 10 calendar days after receipt of the request. Paragraph (e) also provides that the Commission will provide expeditious consideration of administrative appeals of determinations whether to provide expedited processing, and will process the request as soon as practicable once a determination has been made to grant expedited processing.

Paragraph (f) contains new language, based upon a provision of EFOIA, providing that when the Commission denies a request for records, in whole or in part, it will make a reasonable effort to estimate the volume of the records denied and provide this estimate to the person making the request, unless providing such an estimate would harm an interest protected by the exemption pursuant to which the request is denied.

Paragraph (g) contains new language providing that the Commission will provide any reasonably segregable portion of a record to the person requesting it after the deletion of any exempt portions of the record. Paragraph (g) also contains language, based upon a provision of EFOIA, providing that the Commission will indicate the amount of information deleted on the released portion of the record, at the place in the record the deletion is made, if technically feasible, unless indicating the extent of the deletion would harm an interest protected by the exemption pursuant to which the deletion is made.

Section 2702.4 Materials Available

The language of previous § 2702.4 has been modified to indicate the availability of the Commission's reference guide for requesting records or publicly available information from the Commission, and to make other minor clarifying changes in the description of the materials available from the Commission.

Section 2702.5 Fee Applicable—Categories of Requesters

The language of § 2702.5 has been revised slightly to clarify the circumstances under which a series of FOIA requests from a requester, or a group of requesters acting in concert, will be aggregated for the purpose of assessing fees.

Section 2702.6 Fee Schedule

Paragraph (a) has been revised to reflect adjustments in the fees charged to certain categories of requesters for time spent by Commission employees in searching for information and records. The fees have been raised from $10 to $15 per hour for clerical time, and from $20 to $30 per hour for professional time.

Paragraph (b) has been revised slightly, primarily to reflect an adjustment in the fee charged to certain categories of requesters for the initial examination by the Commission's Executive Director of documents located in response to a request to determine if they may be withheld from disclosure. This fee has been raised from $30 to $45 per hour.

Language has been added to paragraph (c) to indicate that the fee charged for copying computer tapes or discs, photographs, and other nonstandard documents will be the actual direct cost incurred by the Commission.

Section 2702.7 No Fees; Waiver or Reduction of Fees

The language of § 2702.7 is essentially unchanged. Minor, non-substantive revisions have been made to the language of paragraph (b).

Matters of Regulatory Procedure

E.O. 12866, Regulatory Planning and Review

The Commission has determined that these revised rules are not subject to Office of Management and Budget review because they do not constitute ''significant regulatory action'' within the meaning of Executive Order 12866.

Regulatory Flexibility Act

The Commission has determined under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601–611) that these rules will not have a substantial economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. This rule implements the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552), a statute concerning the release of Federal Government records, and does not economically impact Federal Government relations with the private sector. Therefore, a Regulatory Flexibility Statement and Analysis has not been prepared.

Paperwork Reduction Act

The Commission has determined that the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. chapter 35) does not apply because these revised rules do not contain any information collection requirements or recordkeeping requirements that require the approval of the Office of Management and Budget.

List of Subjects in 29 CFR Part 2702

Administrative practice and procedure, Freedom of information.

For the reasons set out in the preamble, 29 CFR 2702 is amended as follows:

PART 2702—REGULATIONS IMPLEMENTING THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

1. The authority citation for part 2704 is revised to read as follows:

Authority: Sec. 113, Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977, Pub. L. 95–165 (30 U.S.C. 801 et seq.); 5 U.S.C. 552; Pub. L. 104–231, October 2, 1996, 110 Stat. 3048.

2. Section 2702.1 is revised to read as follows:

§ 2702.1 Purpose and scope.

The Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission (Commission) is an independent agency with authority to adjudicate contests between the Mine Safety and Health Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor and private parties, as well as certain disputes solely between private parties, arising under the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977, 30 U.S.C. 801 *et seq.* The purpose of these rules is to establish procedures for implementing the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552, as amended by the Electronic Freedom of Information Act Amendments of 1996, Pub. L. No. 104–231, 110 Stat. 3048; to provide guidance for those seeking to obtain information from the Commission; and to make all designated information readily available to the public. Additional guidance on obtaining information from the Commission can be found in the document entitled ''Reference Guide for Obtaining Information from the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission,'' which is available upon request from the Commission. The scope of these rules may be limited to requests for information that is not presently the subject of litigation before the Commission and that is not otherwise governed by the Commission's Procedural Rules at 29 CFR part 2700.

3. Section 2702.2 is revised to read as follows:

§ 2702.2 Location of offices.

The Commission maintains its central office at 1730 K Street NW., 6th Floor, Washington DC 20006–3867. It has two regional offices for Administrative Law Judges, one at Skyline Towers No. 2, Tenth Floor, 5203 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, Virginia 22041–3474, and the other at 1244 Speer Boulevard, Suite 280, Denver, Colorado 80204–3582.

4. Section 2702.3 is revised to read as follows:

§ 2702.3 Requests for information.

(a) All requests for information should be in writing and should be mailed or delivered to Executive Director, Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission, 6th Floor, 1730 K Street NW., Washington, DC 20006–3867. The words ''Freedom of Information Act Request'' should be printed on the face of the envelope. Requests for information shall describe the particular record requested to the fullest extent possible and specify the preferred form or format (including electronic formats) of the response. The Commission shall accommodate requesters as to form or format if the record is readily reproducible in the requested form or format. When requesters do not specify the preferred form or format of the response, the Commission shall respond in the form or format in which the record is most accessible to the Commission.

(b) A determination whether to comply with the request will be made by the Executive Director, with the consent of a majority of the Commissioners. In the event of a tie vote of the Commissioners regarding the Executive Director's determination whether to comply with a request, the Executive Director's recommendation will be deemed approved by the Commission. Except in unusual circumstances, as described in paragraph (c) of this section the determination will be made within 20 working days of receipt. Appeals of adverse decisions may be made, in writing, to the Chairman of the Commission, at the same address, within 20 working days. Determination of appeals will be made by the Chairman within 20 working days after receipt. If the records to be disclosed are not provided with the initial letter setting forth the determination as to the request, the records will be sent as soon as possible thereafter.

(c)(1) In unusual circumstances as described in this paragraph, when additional time is needed to respond to the initial request, the Commission shall acknowledge the request in writing within the 20-day period, describe the circumstances requiring the delay, and indicate the anticipated date for a substantive response that may not exceed 10 additional working days, except as provided in paragraph (d) of this section. With respect to a request for which a written notice has extended the time limit by 10 additional working days, and the Commission determines that it cannot make a response determination within that additional 10 working day period, the requester will be notified and provided an opportunity to limit the scope of the request so that it may be processed within the extended time limit, or an opportunity to arrange an alternative time frame for processing the request or a modified request. Refusal by the requester to reasonably modify the request or arrange for an alternative time frame shall be considered as a factor in determining whether exceptional circumstances exist for purposes of paragraph (d) of this section. For purposes of this paragraph, ''unusual circumstances'' that may justify a delay are:

(i) The need to search for and collect the requested records from other facilities that are separate from the office processing the request;

(ii) The need to search for, collect, and appropriately examine a voluminous amount of separate and distinct records that are requested in a single request;

(iii) The need for consultation, which shall be conducted with all practicable speed, with another agency having a substantial interest in the determination of the request, or among two or more components of the agency having substantial subject matter interest in the request; or

(iv) The need to consult with the submitter of requested information.

(2)Whenever it reasonably appears that certain requests by the same requester, or a group of requesters acting in concert, actually constitute a single request that would otherwise satisfy the unusual circumstances specified in this paragraph, and the requests involve clearly related matters, such requests may be aggregated for purposes of this paragraph. Multiple requests involving unrelated matters will not be aggregated.

(d) In the event that the Commission is unable to comply with the time limits for responding to a request specified in paragraphs (a) and (c) of this section, it may request additional time to complete its review of the records, and request a court to retain jurisdiction and allow it such additional time to complete its review, if it can show that exceptional circumstances exist and that it is exercising due diligence in responding to the request. For purposes of this paragraph, ''exceptional circumstances'' do not include a delay that results from a predictable workload of requests, unless the agency demonstrates reasonable progress in reducing its backlog of pending requests. Refusal by a person to reasonably modify the scope of a request or arrange an alternative time frame for processing the request (or a modified request) under paragraph (c) of this section shall be considered as a factor in determining whether exceptional circumstances exist for purposes of this paragraph.

(e)(1) A person requesting records from the Commission pursuant to this section may request expedited processing of his request in cases in which he can demonstrate a compelling need for the records requested. For purposes of this paragraph a compelling need means:

(i) That a failure to obtain the requested records on an expedited basis could reasonably be expected to pose an imminent threat to the life or physical safety of an individual; or

(ii) The information is urgently needed by a person primarily engaged in disseminating information in order to inform the public concerning actual or alleged Federal Government activity.

(2) A demonstration of compelling need by a person making a request for expedited processing shall be made by a statement certified by such person to be true and correct to the best of his knowledge and belief. Notice of the determination whether to grant expedited processing in response to a requester's claim of compelling need shall be provided to the person making the request within 10 calendar days after receipt of the request. The Commission will provide expeditious consideration of administrative appeals of determinations whether to provide expedited processing. Once a determination has been made to grant expedited processing, the Commission will process the request as soon as practicable.

(f) In denying a request for records, in whole or in part, the Commission shall make a reasonable effort to estimate the volume of the records denied, and provide this estimate to the person making the request, unless providing such an estimate would harm an interest protected by the exemption pursuant to which the request is denied.

(g) Any reasonably segregable portion of a record shall be provided to the person requesting it after the deletion of any exempt portions of the record. The amount of information deleted shall be

indicated on the released portion of the record, at the place in the record the deletion is made if technically feasible, unless indicating the extent of the deletion would harm an interest protected by the exemption pursuant to which the deletion is made.

5. Section 2702.4 is revised to read as follows:

§ 2702.4 Materials available.

Materials which may be made promptly available from the Commission include, but are not limited to:

(a) A guide for requesting records or publicly available information from the Commission;

(b) Final opinions, including concurring and dissenting opinions, as well as orders, made in the adjudication of cases;

(c) Indices providing identifying information to the public as to the opinions described in the preceding paragraph which may be relied upon, used, or cited as precedent;

(d) Statements of policy and interpretations which have been adopted by the Commission and are not published in the **Federal Register**.

6. Section 2702.5(e) is revised to read as follows:

§ 2702.5 Fees applicable—categories of requesters.

* * * * *

(e) For purposes of paragraphs (b) through (d) of this section, whenever it reasonably appears that a requester, or a group of requesters acting in concert, is attempting to break down a single request into a series of requests relating to the same subject matter for the purpose of evading the assessment of fees, such requests will be aggregated and fees assessed accordingly.

7. In Section 2702.6 the first sentence of paragraph (a) and paragraphs (b) and (c) are revised to read as follows:

§ 2702.6 Fee schedule.

(a) *Search fee.* The fee for searching for information and records shall be $15 per hour for clerical time and $30 per hour for professional time. * * *

(b) *Review fee.* The review fee shall be charged for the initial examination by the Executive Director of documents located in response to a request in order to determine if they may be withheld from disclosure, and for the deletion of portions that are exempt from disclosure, but shall not be charged for review by the Chairman or the Commissioners. See § 2702.3. The review fee is $45 per hour.

(c) *Duplicating fee.* The copy fee for each page of paper up to 8½″ x 14″ shall be $.15 per copy per page. Any private section services required will be assessed at the charge to the Commission. The fee for copying computer tapes or discs, photographs, and other nonstandard documents will be the actual direct cost incurred by the Commission. If duplication charges are likely to exceed $25, the requester shall be notified of the estimated amount of fees, unless the requester has indicated in advance his willingness to pay fees as high as those anticipated.

8. Section 2702.7(b) is revised to read as follows:

§ 2702.7 No fees; waiver or reduction of fees.

* * * * *

(b) Documents shall be furnished without any charge, or at a charge reduced below the fees otherwise applicable, if disclosure of the information is determined to be in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the government and is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester.

* * * * *

Issued this 15th day of October, 1997 at Washington, D.C.

Mary Lu Jordan,

Chairman, Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission.

[FR Doc. 97–28206 Filed 10–23–97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6735–01–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 52

[CT–7202a; FRL–5902–2]

Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Connecticut

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Direct final rule.

SUMMARY: The EPA today is approving State Implementation Plan (SIP) revisions submitted by the State of Connecticut. These revisions consist of 1990 base year ozone emission inventories, and establishment of a Photochemical Assessment Monitoring System (PAMS) network.

The inventories were submitted by Connecticut to satisfy a Clean Air Act (CAA) requirement that States containing ozone nonattainment areas submit inventories of actual ozone precursor emissions in accordance with guidance from the EPA. The ozone emission inventories submitted by Connecticut are for the State's portion of the New York, New Jersey, Connecticut severe area, and the greater Hartford serious area. The PAMS SIP revision was submitted to satisfy the requirements of the CAA and the PAMS regulations. The intended effect of this action is to approve as a revision to the Connecticut SIP the state's 1990 base year ozone emission inventories, and to approve the PAMS network into the State's SIP.

DATES: This action is effective on December 23, 1997 unless EPA receives adverse or critical comments by November 24, 1997. If the effective date is delayed, timely notice will be published in the **Federal Register**.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on this action should be addressed to Susan Studlien, Deputy Director, Office of Ecosystem Protection, Environmental Protection Agency, Region I, JFK Federal Building, Boston, Massachusetts, 02203. Copies of the documents relevant to this action are available for public inspection during normal business hours at the EPA Region I office, and at the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Air Management, 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106–1630. Persons interested in examining these documents should make an appointment with the appropriate office at least 24 hours before the visiting day.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert F. McConnell, Air Quality Planning Group, EPA Region I, JFK Federal Building, Boston, Massachusetts, 02203; telephone (617) 565–9266.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Connecticut submitted its 1990 base year emission inventories of ozone precursors to the EPA on January 13, 1994, as a revision to the State's SIP. Revisions to the inventories were received on February 3, 1994, and February 16, 1995. Connecticut submitted a SIP revision establishing a PAMS network into the State's overall ambient air quality monitoring network on March 2, 1995. This notice is divided into four parts:

I. Background Information
II. Analysis of State Submission
III. Final Action
IV. Administrative Requirements

I. Background Information

1. Emission Inventory

Under the CAA as amended in 1990, States have the responsibility to inventory emissions contributing to NAAQS nonattainment, to track these emissions over time, and to ensure that control strategies are being implemented