Seismic—Related to or caused by earthquakes.

* * * * *

4. Sections 1792.103 and 1792.104 are revised to read as follows:

§ 1792.103 Seismic design and construction standards for new buildings.

(a) In the design and construction of federally assisted buildings, the borrowers and grant recipients must utilize the seismic provisions of the most recent edition of those standards and practices that are substantially equivalent to or exceed the seismic safety level in the most recent or immediately preceding edition of the NEHRP Recommended Provisions for the Development of Seismic Regulation for New Buildings.

(b) Each of the following model codes or standards has been found to provide a level of seismic safety substantially equivalent to that provided by the use of the 1994 NEHRP Recommended Provisions and appropriate for federally assisted new building construction:

(1) 1997 International Conference of Building Officials (ICBO) Uniform Building Code. Copies are available from ICBO, Austin Regional Office, 9300 Jollyville Road., Suite 101, Austin, Texas 78759–7455.

(2) 1995 American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) 7, *Minimum Design Loads for Buildings and Other Structures.* Copies are available from ASCE, 345 East 47th Street, New York, New York 10017–2398.

(c) The NEHRP Recommended Provisions for the Development of Seismic Regulations for New Buildings is available from the Office of Earthquakes and Natural Hazards, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 500 C Street, SW., Washington, DC 20472.

§ 1792.104 Seismic acknowledgments.

For each applicable building, borrowers and grant recipients must provide RUS a written acknowledgment from a registered architect or engineer responsible for the design stating that seismic provisions pursuant to § 1792.103(b) will be used in the design of the building. This acknowledgement will include the identification and date of the model code or standard that is used for the seismic design of the building project and the seismic factor for the building location.

Dated: May 15, 2000.

Jill Long Thompson,

Under Secretary, Rural Development.

[FR Doc. 00–13295 Filed 5–25–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–15–P

FEDERAL HOUSING FINANCE BOARD

12 CFR Parts 900, 940, 950, 955 and 956

[No. 2000–20]

RIN 3069–AA98

Federal Home Loan Bank Acquired Member Assets, Core Mission Activities, Investments and Advances

AGENCY: Federal Housing Finance Board.

ACTION: Proposed rule; extension of public comment period.

SUMMARY: On May 3, 2000, the Federal Housing Finance Board (Finance Board) published a proposed rule in the **Federal Register** (65 FR 25676 (May 3, 2000)) that would: add a new part 955 to the Finance Board's regulations to authorize the Federal Home Loan Banks (Banks) to hold acquired member assets; amend the Finance Board's recently adopted part 940 to enumerate the types of core mission assets that must be addressed in the Banks' strategic business plans; and make related changes to the Finance Board's regulations governing the Banks' investment and advances authorities.

The Finance Board has received a number of requests for an extension of the June 2, 2000 deadline for written comments on the proposed rule. In order to provide interested parties ample opportunity to participate in the rulemaking process, the Finance Board is extending the comment period for the proposed rule from June 2, 2000 to June 15, 2000.

DATES: The comment period on the proposed rule is extended until June 15, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be mailed to: Elaine L. Baker, Secretary to the Board, by electronic mail at *bakere@fhfb.gov*, or by regular mail at the Federal Housing Finance Board, 1777 F Street, NW, Washington, DC 20006. Comments will be available for public inspection at this address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: James L. Bothwell, Director and Chief Economist, (202) 408–2821; Scott L. Smith, Deputy Director, (202) 408–2991; Ellen E. Hancock, Senior Financial Analyst, (202) 408–2906; Christina K. Muradian, Senior Financial Analyst, (202) 408–2584, Office of Policy, Research and Analysis; or Eric M. Raudenbush, Senior Attorney-Advisor, (202) 408–2932; Office of General Counsel, Federal Housing Finance Board, 1777 F Street, NW, Washington, DC 20006.

Dated: May 22, 2000.

By the Board of Directors of the Federal Housing Finance Board.

Bruce A. Morrison,

Chairman.

[FR Doc. 00–13254 Filed 5–25–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6725–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 165

[CGD05–00–015]

RIN 2115–AA97

Safety Zone; Atlantic Ocean, Virginia Beach, VA

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard proposes establishing temporary safety zones for the Virginia Beach Fireworks displays, north of the Virginia Beach Fishing Pier, in the Atlantic Ocean. This action would restrict vessel traffic on the Atlantic Ocean within a 2500-foot radius of a fireworks=laden barge. The safety zone is necessary to protect mariners and spectators from the hazards associated with the fireworks display.

DATES: Comments and related material must reach the Coast Guard on or before June 5, 2000.

ADDRESSES: You may mail comments and related material to USCG Marine Safety Office Hampton Roads, 200 Granby Street, Norfolk, VA, or deliver them to the same address between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. USCG Marine Safety Office Hampton Roads maintains the public docket for this rulemaking. Comments and materials received from the public, as well as documents indicated in this preamble as being available in the docket, will become part of this docket and will be available for inspection or copying at the above address between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Chief Petty Officer Roddy Corr, project officer, USCG Marine Safety Office Hampton Roads, telephone number (757) 441–3290.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Request for Comments

We encourage you to participate in this rulemaking by submitting comments and related material. If you do so, please include your name and