

Issued in Renton, Washington, on February 13, 2001.

Vi L. Lipski,

*Manager, Transport Airplane Directorate,
Aircraft Certification Service.*

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Parts 413, 415 and 417

[Docket No. FAA-2000-7953; Notice No. 00-10]

RIN 2120-AG37

Licensing and Safety Requirements for Launch

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

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

SUMMARY: This action extends the comment period for an NPRM that was published on October 25, 2000. In that document, the FAA proposed to amend its regulations to codify its license application process for launch from a non-federal launch site, and to codify its safety requirements for all licensed launches. This extension is a result of requests from International Launch Services, Lockheed Martin Corporation, Orbital Sciences Corporation, Sea Launch Company, LLC and The Boeing Company to extend the comment period to the proposal.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before April 23, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Comments on this document should be mailed or delivered, in duplicate, to: U.S. Department of Transportation Dockets, Docket No. FAA-2000-7953, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Room Plaza 401, Washington, DC 20590. Comments may be filed and examined in Room Plaza 401, Washington, DC 20590. Comments may be filed and examined in Room Plaza 401 between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. weekdays, except Federal holidays. Comments also may be sent electronically to the Dockets Management System (DMS) at the following Internet address: <http://dms.dot.gov> at any time. Commenters who wish to file comments electronically, should follow the instructions on the DMS web site.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael Dook, Licensing and Safety Division (AST-200), Associate Administrator for Commercial Space Transportation, Federal Aviation

Administration, DOT, Room 331, 800 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20591; telephone (202) 267-8462; or Laura Montgomery, Office of the Chief Counsel (AGC-200), Federal Aviation Administration, DOT, Room 915, 800 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20591; telephone (202) 267-3150.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Comments Invited

Interested persons are invited to participate in this rulemaking by submitting such written data, views, or arguments, as they may desire. Comments relating to the environmental, energy, federalism, or economic impact that might result from adopting the proposals in this document are also invited. Substantive comments should be accompanied by cost estimates. Comments should identify the regulatory docket or notice number and should be submitted in duplicate to the Rules Docket address specified above.

All comments received, as well as a report summarizing each substantive public contact with FAA personnel on this rulemaking, will be filed in the docket. The docket is available for public inspection before and after the comment closing date.

The Administrator will consider all comments received on or before the closing date before taking action on this proposed rulemaking. Comments filed late will be considered as far as possible without incurring expense or delay. The proposals contained in this rulemaking may be changed in light of the comments received.

Commenters wishing the FAA to acknowledge receipt of their comments submitted in response to this notice must include a pre-addressed, stamped postcard with those comments on which the following statement is made: "Comments to Docket No. FAA-2000-7953." The postcard will be date stamped and mailed to the commenters.

Availability of NPRMs

An electronic copy is available on the Internet by taking the following steps:

(1) Go to the search function of the Department of Transportation's electronic Docket Management System (DMS) Web page (<http://dms.dot.gov/search>).

(2) On the search page type in the last four digits of the Docket number shown at the beginning of this notice. Click on "search."

(3) On the next page, which contains the Docket summary information for the Docket selected, click on the proposed rule.

An electronic copy is also available on the Internet through FAA's web page at <http://www.faa.gov/avr/arm/nprm/nprm.htm> or the **Federal Register's** web page at http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/aces/aces140.html.

Further, a copy may be obtained by submitting a written request to the Federal Aviation Administration, Office of Rulemaking, ARM-1, 800 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20591, or by calling (202) 267-9680. Make sure to identify the notice number or docket number of this proposed rule.

Background

The Associate Administrator for Commercial Space Transportation of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Department of Transportation (DOT), published a notice proposing to amend the FAA's commercial space transportation regulations (October 25, 2000, 65 FR 63921). The FAA proposes to amend its regulations to codify its license application process for launch from a non-federal launch site. A non-federal launch site is a launch site not located on a federal launch range. The proposed regulations are also intended to codify the safety requirements for launch operators regarding license requirements, criteria, and responsibilities in order to protect the public from the hazards of launch for launch from a federal launch range or a non-federal launch site.

Extension of Comment Period

In accordance with § 404.13 of Title 14, Code of Federal Regulations, the FAA has reviewed the petitions made by International Launch Services, Lockheed Martin Corporation, Orbital Sciences Corporation, Sea Launch Company, LLC and The Boeing Company for extension of the comment period to Notice No. 00-10. These petitioners jointly requested an extension of time of 180 days to permit more time to address substantial issues in the notice of proposed rulemaking. To allow additional time for a more thorough review of applicable issues and drafting of responsive comments, the FAA finds that there is good cause and it is in the public interest to extend the comment period for an additional 60 days beyond the 120 already provided. Accordingly, the comment period for Notice No. 00-10 is extended until April 23, 2001.

Issued in Washington, DC, on February 15, 2001.

Patricia Grace Smith,

Associate Administrator for Commercial Space Transportation.

[FR Doc. 01-4378 Filed 2-20-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

18 CFR Part 284

[Docket No. RM96-1-015]

Standards For Business Practices Of Interstate Natural Gas Pipelines

February 14, 2001.

AGENCY: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Energy.

ACTION: Notice of staff conference organization.

SUMMARY: This document establishes the organizational format for the staff conference to be held on February 27, 2001 to discuss standards to permit shippers to designate and rank the contracts under which gas will flow on a pipeline's system.

DATES: The conference will be held February 27, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington DC 20426.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael Goldenberg, Office of the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Notice Organizing Staff Conference

This notice provides the organizational format for the February 27, 2001, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission staff conference to discuss cross-contract ranking and confirmation standards, as directed by the Commission in Order No. 587-M.¹ The conference will begin at 9:30 a.m. at the Commission's offices, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC. All interested persons are invited to attend.

The December 21, 2000, Notice of Conference² requested those interested in making presentations or participating in the discussions to indicate their interest by January 16, 2001. Ten

¹ Standards For Business Practices Of Interstate Natural Gas Pipelines, Order No. 587-M, 65 FR 77285 (Dec. 11, 2000), 93 FERC ¶ 61,223 (November 30, 2000), III FERC Stats. & Regs. Regulations Preambles ¶ 31,114 (Nov. 30, 2000).

² 65 FR 82961 (Dec. 29, 2000).

requests to make presentations or participate in discussions were received. The conference will be organized in the following format. Members of the audience also will be permitted to participate in the discussions.

I. Introduction to Nomination and Confirmation Practices and the Current GISB Standards

Presentations:

Sylvia Munson, Co-Chairman of GISB Confirmation and Cross-Contract Ranking Subcommittee
James Buccigross, Chairman of GISB Executive Committee

II. Presentations and Discussion on Downstream Issues Related to Cross-Contract Ranking

Presentations:

Representative of Consolidated Edison Co. of NY, Inc. and Orange and Rockland Utilities, Inc.
Representative of the Interstate Natural Gas Association of America
Michael E. Novak, National Fuel Gas Distribution Corp.
Greg Lander, Principal, Skipping Stone, Inc.

Discussion:

Mark A. Scheel, Manager Regulatory Affairs, Dynegy, Inc.
Diane McVicker, Principal Analyst, Salt River Project Representative of Wisconsin Distributor Group

III. Presentations and Discussion on Upstream Issues Related to Cross-Contract Ranking

Presentations:

Lauren Kaestner, Natural Gas Supply Association
Representative of the Interstate Natural Gas Association of America

Discussion:

Tommie Hartmann, Natural Gas Supply Association

The Commission has the capability to provide overhead projectors and to display computer generated slide presentations. Presenters must inform Michael Goldenberg either by mail, or E-Mail at the addresses below if they intend to use overheads.³ Presenters can bring their presentations on their own laptops which will be connected to the Commission's display system.

Presenters also can use a Commission computer to display their presentation. The Commission has the capability to display presentations in the following formats, MS Powerpoint 2000 and Corel

Presentations 8. Those wanting to use a Commission computer must notify Michael Goldenberg by February 21, 2001. In order to facilitate such presentations, presenters are encouraged to provide their files in advance by sending an E-Mail, with the slide presentation as an attachment, by February 21, 2001, to Michael Goldenberg, so that the presentation can be tested on the Commission computer and available at the conference. If presentations are not provided in advance, the presenter should bring the presentation to the conference on a diskette in one of the specified formats.

In addition, all presentations must be officially filed with the Commission by March 5, 2001 according to the instructions given below regardless whether an advance copy of the presentation was provided by E-Mail. As discussed below, the Commission cannot currently accept Powerplant or Presentation files electronically, but the presentations can be filed electronically if they are converted to one of the accepted formats.

The conference will be transcribed, so those not attending can review the proceedings. Additional comments on the issues raised by the conference can be filed by March 29, 2001.

Presentations and after-conference comments may be filed either in paper format or electronically. Those filing electronically do not need to make a paper filing. For paper filings, the original and 14 copies of such comments should be submitted to the Office of the Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington DC 20426 and should refer to Docket No. RM96-1-015.

Presentations and comments filed via the Internet must be prepared in WordPerfect, MS Word, Portable Document Format, or ASCII format. To file the document, access the Commission's website at www.ferc.fed.us and click on "Make An E-Filing," and then follow the instructions for each screen. First time users will have to establish a user name and password. The Commission will send an automatic acknowledgment to the sender's E-Mail address upon receipt of comments.

User assistance for electronic filing is available at 202-208-0258 or by E-Mail to efiling@ferc.fed.us. Comments should not be submitted to the E-Mail address. All comments will be placed in the Commission's public files and will be available for inspection in the Commission's Public Reference Room at 888 First Street, NE., Washington DC 20426, during regular business hours. Additionally, all comments may be

³ Upon receipt of each E-Mail, a reply acknowledgment will be sent to the sender's E-Mail address. If a sender does not receive a reply, the sender should call to make sure his/her E-Mail was received.