

Overflights Advisory Group (NPOAG). The NPOAG is formed to provide continuing advice and counsel with respect to commercial air tour operations over and near national parks. This notice informs the public of the members initially selected to serve on the advisory group and next actions of the advisory group.

DATES: The National Parks Overflights Advisory Group was established on April 5, 2001; this notice announces those members initially selected to serve as the Advisory Group.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Howard Nesbitt, Flight Standards Service, Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20591, telephone: (202) 493-4981, or Marvin Jensen, Soundscapes Office, National Park Service, 1201 Oak Ridge Drive, Suite 200, Ft. Collins, Colorado, 80525, telephone: (970) 225-3563.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The National Parks Air Tour Management Act of 2000 (the Act) was enacted on April 5, 2000, as Public Law 106-181. The Act applies to "commercial air tour operations" occurring over a unit of the national park system or tribal lands within or abutting a national park. The Act defines a commercial air tour operation and lists the factors that the Administrator may consider in determining whether or not an operator is conducting a commercial air tour operation. See Section 803 of the Act, to be codified at 49 U.S.C. section 40128(f)(4)(B). Once defined as a commercial air tour operation, that operation would be subject to the air tour management plan (ATMP) for that park. The process for the development of an ATMP will be delineated in future rulemaking which will codify the Act. In the meantime, to meet the mandate of the public law, the FAA and NPS publish this notice announcing the initial selections of membership on the Advisory Group who will serve to advise and counsel the persons implementing the regulations when they are adopted.

Advisory Group Requirements of Pub. L. 106-181

The Act requires the establishment of the advisory group within 1 year after its enactment. The advisory group is to be comprised of a balanced group of representatives of general aviation; commercial air tour operations; environmental concerns; and Indian tribes. The Administrator and the

Director (or their designees) are to serve as ex officio members of the group. Representatives of the Administrator and Director will serve alternating 1-year terms as chairman of the advisory group. The Administrator's representative will serve the first term, which will terminate at the end of the calendar year following the year in which the advisory group is established.

The advisory group will "provide advice, information, and recommendations to the Administrator and the Director—

(1) on the implementation of this title [the Act] and the amendments made by this title;

(2) on commonly accepted quiet aircraft technology for use in commercial air tour operations over a national park or tribal lands, which will receive preferential treatment in a given air tour management plan;

(3) on other measures that might be taken to accommodate the interests of visitors to national parks; and

(4) at the request of the Administrator and the Director, safety, environmental, and other issues related to commercial air tour operations over a national park or tribal lands."

Members of the advisory group may be allowed certain travel expenses as authorized by section 5703 of title 5, United States Code, for intermittent Government service.

Request for Public Participation in the Advisory Group

On March 12, 2001, the FAA and NPS invited members of the public who are interested in serving on the advisory group to contact persons listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**. Eleven requests were received. The FAA and NPS have selected the following persons to serve initially on the Advisory Group: Joseph Corrao, Helicopter Association International; Andrew Cebula, Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association; David Kennedy, National Air Transportation Association; Chip Dennerlein, National Parks Conservation Association; Charles Maynard, Friends of the Great Smoky Mountain National Park; and Boyd Evison, former National Park Superintendent and Regional Director. Ms. Germane White will represent the Confederated Salish and Kootani.

After the issuance of a final regulation implementing the Act, the agencies will consider other requests for membership on the Advisory Group. This may include persons who may, after the issuance of final rules implementing the Act, find that they have an interest to serve in an advisory role in the implementation of the regulations. At

this time, however, the agencies find that the persons selected will serve as a balanced representation of the various interests of the national parks.

Next Actions of the Advisory Group

The FAA and NPS anticipate the Advisory Group may wish to hold at least one session before the issuance of final regulations on the legislation to establish organizational and administrative rules of conduct. The public will be informed of any such meetings by notice in the **Federal Register**.

Issued in Washington, DC on June 12, 2001.

Jane F. Garvey,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 01-15419 Filed 6-18-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

[Summary Notice No. PE-2001-45]

Petitions for Exemption; Summary of Petitions Received

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of petitions for exemption received.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to FAA's rulemaking provisions governing the application, processing, and disposition of petitions for exemption part 11 of Title 14, Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR), this notice contains a summary of certain petitions seeking relief from specified requirements of 14 CFR. The purpose of this notice is to improve the public's awareness of, and participation in, this aspect of FAA's regulatory activities. Neither publication of this notice nor the inclusion or omission of information in the summary is intended to affect the legal status of any petition or its final disposition.

DATES: Comments on petitions received must identify the petition docket number involved and must be received on or before July 10, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Send comments on any petition to the Docket Management System, U.S. Department of Transportation, Room Plaza 401, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001. You must identify the docket number FAA-2000-XXXX at the beginning of your comments. If you wish to receive confirmation that FAA received your comments, include a self-addressed, stamped postcard.

You may also submit comments through the Internet to <http://dms.dot.gov>. You may review the public docket containing the petition, any comments received, and any final disposition in person in the Dockets Office between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The Dockets Office (telephone 1-800-647-5527) is on the plaza level of the NASSIF Building at the Department of Transportation at the above address. Also, you may review public dockets on the Internet at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Forest Rawls (202) 267-8033, Sandy Buchanan-Sumter (202) 267-7271, or Vanessa Wilkins (202) 267-8029, Office of Rulemaking (ARM-1), Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20591.

This notice is published pursuant to 14 CFR 11.85 and 11.91.

Issued in Washington, DC, on June 14, 2001.

Donald P. Byrne,

Assistant Chief Counsel for Regulations.

Petitions for Exemption

Docket No.: FAA-2001-9679.

Petitioner: Lufthansa Technik AG.

Section of 14 CFR Affected: 14 CFR 25.785(j).

Description of Relief Sought: To provide relief from that portion of 14 CFR 25.785(j) which requires a firm handhold along each aisle to enable persons to steady themselves while using the aisles in moderately rough air. The petitioner requests this exemption for the Boeing Model 737-700IGW, equipped with an executive interior, to be used in a private, not for hire, operation.

Docket No.: ANM-2001-6919.

Petitioner: Dassault Falcon Jet Corporation.

Section of 14 CFR Affected: 14 CFR 25.813(e).

Description of Relief Sought: To allow the petitioner to install a latchable sliding door which can be stored in a cabin partition during takeoffs, landings and emergency conditions on its Falcon 900 and 900EX aircraft operated in accordance with part 91 and part 135. When latched, the door permits totally free access to the cabin aisle and emergency exits.

[FR Doc. 01-15420 Filed 6-18-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

Notice of Public Hearing

In accordance with 49 CFR 211.9 and 211.41, notice was published January 18, 2001 that the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) has received a request for a waiver of compliance with certain requirements of the Federal safety laws and regulations. (See Docket Number FRA-2000-8268, Item 3, available for inspection on the Internet at the docket facility's Web site at <http://dms.dot.gov>) It has subsequently been determined that a Public Hearing should be held relative to this request. The petition is described below, including the party seeking relief, the regulatory provisions involved, the nature of the relief being requested, and the petitioner's arguments in favor of relief.

Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway Company

[Waiver Petition Docket Number FRA-2000-8268]

Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway (BNSF) seeks a permanent waiver of compliance from certain requirements of 49 CFR Part 229 (Railroad Locomotive Safety Standards) for a select group of C-44-9W locomotives, road numbers BNSF 700-799, 960-1123, 4300-4999, and 5370-5499. Specifically, BNSF requests a waiver from 49 CFR 229.23(a), which requires that the interval between any two periodic inspections may not exceed 92 days. BNSF proposes to extend this interval to 122 days on this group of locomotives.

In support of this proposal BNSF states: "These locomotives contain the industry's latest technology in the areas of safety and reliability, are microprocessor controlled and equipped with New York Air Brake Corporation computer controlled brakes." They cite calendar day inspections and other inspections that are done every 3 to 4 days which will help ensure safe operation. Since April 1, 1999 they have been performing periodic inspections every 61 days. They estimate that they have had a 0.87 % defect rate after 61 days. In conclusion BNSF states: "Extending the periodic maintenance interval from 92 to 122 days will not adversely effect the safety or performance of C44-9W locomotives."

Interested parties were invited to participate in these proceedings by submitting written views, data, or comments. Although the formal comment period closed on March 5, 2001, written comments received after

that date will be considered as far as practicable. In addition, the FRA has determined that a public hearing is necessary before a final decision is made on this proposal.

Accordingly, a public hearing is hereby set for 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, July 18, 2001, at the National Weather Service, National Training Center Auditorium, 7220 NW 101st Terrace, Kansas City, Missouri 64153. Interested parties are invited to present oral statements at the hearing.

The hearing will be an informal one and will be conducted in accordance with Rule 25 of the FRA Rules of Practice (49 CFR 211.25), by a representative designated by the FRA.

The hearing will be a nonadversary proceeding and, therefore, there will be no cross-examination of persons presenting statements. The FRA representative will make an opening statement outlining the scope of the hearing. After all initial statements have been completed, those persons wishing to make brief rebuttal statements will be given the opportunity to do so in the same order in which they made their initial statements. Additional procedures, if necessary for the conduct of the hearing, will be announced at the hearing.

All communications concerning these proceedings should identify the appropriate docket number, (e.g., Waiver Petition Docket Number FRA-2000-8268) and must be submitted to the DOT Docket Management Facility, Room PL-401 (Plaza Level), 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, D.C. 20590. All written communications concerning these proceedings are available for examination during regular business hours (9 a.m.-5 p.m.) at the above facility. All documents in the public docket are also available for inspection and copying on the Internet at the docket facility's web site at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

Issued in Washington, DC on June 13, 2001.

Grady C. Cothen, Jr.,

Deputy Associate Administrator for Safety Standards and Program Development.

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