

statute clearly authorizes), but they would not be able to *solicit, receive, direct, transfer or spend* non-Federal funds, including Levin funds, at the party fundraising event. This proposed rule would interpret section 441i(e)(3) as an exception that makes clear that the mere attendance or speaking by a candidate in this circumstance should not be equated with a solicitation prohibited by section 441i(e)(1). However, this safe harbor would not apply to a candidate or Federal officeholder who uses words that solicit or direct non-Federal funds. See 11 CFR 300.2(m) (definition of “to solicit”) and 300.2(n) (definition of “to direct”).

The district court in *Shays v. FEC* held that this interpretation is another permissible reading of the statute. See 337 F. Supp.2d at 89–90. The Commission seeks public comment on this alternative approach.

The alternative approach raises an issue about interpreting BCRA in light of *Shays v. FEC*. In that opinion, the district court stated: “the plain reading of [BCRA] makes clear that Levin funds are funds ‘subject to [FECA’s] limitations, prohibitions, and reporting requirements.’” *Shays v. FEC*, 337 F. Supp.2d at 118. Does this mean that 2 U.S.C. 441i(e)(1) does not prohibit covered persons from soliciting Levin funds? Although 2 U.S.C. 441i(b)(2)(B)(iii) and (C) nonetheless generally prohibit State parties from treating funds raised by covered persons as Levin funds, do the cross-references between subsection (e)(3) and subparagraph (b)(2)(C) create an exception permitting State party committees to treat funds solicited by covered persons at fundraising events as Levin funds? The Commission seeks comment on how it should interpret 2 U.S.C. 441i(b)(2), (e)(1), and (e)(3), in light of *Shays v. FEC*.

In addition, if the Commission were to adopt this alternative approach, would it be appropriate to permit written notices or oral disclaimers similar to those discussed in Advisory Opinions 2003–03 and 2003–36 for other fundraising events? The opinions addressed appearances, speeches, and solicitations by covered persons at fundraising events where non-Federal funds were being raised. Those opinions permitted covered persons to solicit funds and comply with 2 U.S.C. 441i(e)(1) by using either written notices or oral disclaimers. Alternatively, would another type of notice or disclaimer be more appropriate?

Certification of No Effect Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 605(b) [Regulatory Flexibility Act]

The Commission certifies that the attached proposed rule, if promulgated, would not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. The basis for this certification is that the proposed rule is an exception from the requirements of a general rule applicable to Federal officeholders and candidates. In addition, the other organizations affected by this rule are State, district and local party committees of the two major political parties, which are not “small entities” under 5 U.S.C. 601 because they are not small businesses, small organizations, or small governmental jurisdictions. To the extent that any of these political party committees may fall within the definition of “small entities,” their number is not substantial.

List of Subjects in 11 CFR Part 300

Campaign funds, nonprofit organizations, political committees and parties, political candidates, reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

For reasons set out in the preamble, Subchapter C of Chapter 1 of title 11 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* would be amended to read as follows:

PART 300—NON-FEDERAL FUNDS

1. The authority citation for part 300 would continue to read as follows:

Authority: 2 U.S.C. 434(e), 438(a)(8), 441a(a), 441i, 453.

2. Section 300.64 would be revised to read as follows:

§ 300.64 Exception for attending, speaking, or appearing as a featured guest at fundraising events (2 U.S.C. 441i(e)(3)).

(a) Notwithstanding the provisions of 11 CFR 100.24, 300.61 and 300.62, a Federal candidate or individual holding Federal office may attend, speak, or be a featured guest at a fundraising event for a State, district, or local committee of a political party, including but not limited to a fundraising event at which Levin funds are raised, or at which non-Federal funds are raised. Such candidate or individual holding Federal office shall not solicit, receive, direct, transfer or spend non-Federal funds, including Levin funds, at any such event.

(b) State, district, or local committees of a political party may advertise, announce or otherwise publicize that a Federal candidate or individual holding Federal office will attend, speak, or be a featured guest at a fundraising event, including, but not limited to, publicizing such appearance in pre-

event invitation materials and in other party committee communications.

Dated: February 17, 2005.

Scott E. Thomas,

Chairman, Federal Election Commission.

[FR Doc. 05–3471 Filed 2–23–05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6715–01–U

FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION

12 CFR Parts 611, 612, 614, 615, 618, 619, 620, 630

RIN 3052–AC19

Organization; Standards of Conduct and Referral of Known or Suspected Criminal Violations; Loan Policies and Operations; Funding and Fiscal Affairs, Loan Policies and Operations, and Funding Operations; General Provisions; Definitions; Disclosure to Shareholders; Disclosure to Investors in Systemwide and Consolidated Bank Debt Obligations of the Farm Credit System

AGENCY: Farm Credit Administration.

ACTION: Proposed rule; extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: The Farm Credit Administration (FCA, we, us, or our) is extending the comment period for 60 days on our proposed rule affecting the governance of the Farm Credit System so all parties will have more time to respond.

DATES: Please send your comments to us on or before May 20, 2005.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be sent by electronic mail to reg-comm@fca.gov, through the Pending Regulations section of our Web site at <http://www.fca.gov>, or through the Government-wide <http://www.regulations.gov> portal. You may also send written comments to S. Robert Coleman, Director, Regulation and Policy Division, Office of Policy and Analysis, Farm Credit Administration, 1501 Farm Credit Drive, McLean, Virginia 22102–5090, or by facsimile transmission to (703) 734–5784.

You may review copies of comments we receive at our office in McLean, Virginia, or from our Web site at <http://www.fca.gov>. Once you are in the Web site, select “Legal Info,” and then select “Public Comments.” We will show your comments as submitted, but for technical reasons we may omit items such as logos and special characters. Identifying information you provide, such as phone numbers and addresses, will be publicly available. However, we will attempt to remove electronic-mail addresses to help reduce Internet spam.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert R. Andros, Policy Analyst, Office of Policy and Analysis, Farm Credit Administration, McLean, VA 22102-5090, (703) 883-4017, TTY (703) 883-4434; or Laura D. McFarland, Senior Attorney, Office of General Counsel, Farm Credit Administration, McLean, VA 22102-5090, (703) 883-4020, TTY (703) 883-4020.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On January 19, 2005, FCA published a proposed rule in the *Federal Register* seeking public comment on amendments to its regulations affecting the governance of the Farm Credit System. The comment period expires on March 21, 2005. See 70 FR 2963, January 19, 2005.

The Farm Credit Council requested that we extend the comment period for an additional 60 days. In response to this request, we are extending the comment period until May 20, 2005 so all interested parties have more time to respond. The FCA supports public involvement and participation in its regulatory process and invites all interested parties to review and provide comments on the proposed rule.

Dated: February 17, 2005.

Jeanette C. Brinkley,
Secretary, Farm Credit Administration Board.
[FR Doc. 05-3475 Filed 2-23-05; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 6705-01-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 52

[R06-OAR-2005-TX-0020; FRL-7877-2]

Proposed Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Texas; Low-Emission Diesel Fuel Compliance Date

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The EPA proposes to approve revisions to the Texas State Implementation Plan (SIP). We are proposing approval, through parallel processing, of a revision to the SIP that would change the compliance date for Texas Low-Emission Diesel (TXLED) fuel from April 1, 2005, to October 1, 2005. In addition, we are requesting comments on a refinement to the State's proposed revision. The refinement contemplated by the State is a phased schedule which would extend the compliance date from April 1, 2005 to October 1, 2005 for producers and importers, from April 1, 2005 to November 15, 2005 for bulk plant

distribution facilities, and from April 1, 2005 to January 1, 2006 for retail fuel dispensing outlets, wholesale bulk purchaser/consumer facilities, and all other affected persons. The change is being made to address fuel supply uncertainty in the April 2005 time frame.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before March 28, 2005.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, identified by Regional Material in EDocket (RME) ID No. R06-OAR-2005-TX-0020, by one of the following methods:

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the on-line instructions for submitting comments.

- Agency Web site: <http://docket.epa.gov/rmepub/> Regional Material in EDocket (RME), EPA's electronic public docket and comment system, is EPA's preferred method for receiving comments. Once in the system, select "quick search," then key in the appropriate RME Docket identification number. Follow the on-line instructions for submitting comments.

- U.S. EPA Region 6 "Contact Us" Web site: <http://epa.gov/region6/r6coment.htm> Please click on "6PD" (Multimedia) and select "Air" before submitting comments.

- E-mail: Mr. Thomas Diggs at diggs.thomas@epa.gov. Please also cc the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section below.

- Fax: Mr. Thomas Diggs, Chief, Air Planning Section (6PD-L), at fax number 214-665-7263.

- Mail: Mr. Thomas Diggs, Chief, Air Planning Section (6PD-L), Environmental Protection Agency, 1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200, Dallas, Texas 75202-2733.

- Hand or Courier Delivery: Mr. Thomas Diggs, Chief, Air Planning Section (6PD-L), Environmental Protection Agency, 1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200, Dallas, Texas 75202-2733. Such deliveries are accepted only between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. weekdays except for legal holidays. Special arrangements should be made for deliveries of boxed information.

Instructions: Direct your comments to Regional Material in EDocket (RME) ID No. R06-OAR-2005-TX-0020. EPA's policy is that all comments received will be included in the public file without change, and may be made available online at <http://docket.epa.gov/rmepub/>, including any personal information provided, unless the comment includes information claimed to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information

the disclosure of which is restricted by statute. Do not submit information through Regional Material in EDocket (RME), <http://www.regulations.gov>, or e-mail if you believe that it is CBI or otherwise protected from disclosure. The EPA RME website and the Federal <http://www.regulations.gov> are "anonymous access" systems, which means EPA will not know your identity or contact information unless you provide it in the body of your comment. If you send an e-mail comment directly to EPA without going through RME or <http://www.regulations.gov>, your e-mail address will be automatically captured and included as part of the comment that is placed in the public file and made available on the Internet. If you submit an electronic comment, EPA recommends that you include your name and other contact information in the body of your comment and with any disk or CD-ROM you submit. If EPA cannot read your comment due to technical difficulties and cannot contact you for clarification, EPA may not be able to consider your comment. Electronic files should avoid the use of special characters, any form of encryption, and be free of any defects or viruses.

Docket: All documents in the electronic docket are listed in the Regional Material in EDocket (RME) index at <http://docket.epa.gov/rmepub/>. Although listed in the index, some information is not publicly available, i.e., CBI or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Certain other material, such as copyrighted material, is not placed on the Internet and will be publicly available only in hard copy form. Publicly available docket materials are available either electronically in RME or in the official file which is available at the Air Planning Section (6PD-L), Environmental Protection Agency, 1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 700, Dallas, Texas 75202-2733. The file will be made available by appointment for public inspection in the Region 6 FOIA Review Room between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays except for legal holidays. Contact the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** paragraph below or Mr. Bill Deese at (214) 665-7253 to make an appointment. If possible, please make the appointment at least two working days in advance of your visit. There will be a 15 cent per page fee for making photocopies of documents. On the day of the visit, please check in at the EPA Region 6 reception area at 1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 700, Dallas, Texas.

The State submittal is also available for public inspection at the State Air