

respect to the terms, conditions or privileges of employment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, marital status or political affiliation. Discrimination on these bases is prohibited by one or more of the following statutes: 5 U.S.C. 2302(b)(1), 29 U.S.C. 206(d), 29 U.S.C. 631, 29 U.S.C. 633a, 29 U.S.C. 791 and 42 U.S.C. 2000e-16.

If you believe that you have been the victim of unlawful discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin or disability, you must contact an Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) counselor within 45 calendar days of the alleged discriminatory action, or, in the case of a personnel action, within 45 calendar days of the effective date of the action, before you can file a formal complaint of discrimination with your agency. See, e.g., 29 CFR part 1614. If you believe that you have been the victim of unlawful discrimination on the basis of age, you must either contact an EEO counselor as noted above or give notice of intent to sue to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) within 180 days of the alleged discriminatory action. If you are alleging discrimination based on marital status or political affiliation, you may file a written complaint with the U.S. Office of Special Counsel (OSC) (see contact information below). In the alternative (or in some cases, in addition), you may pursue a discrimination complaint by filing a grievance through your agency's administrative or negotiated grievance procedures, if such procedures apply and are available.

Whistleblower Protection Laws

A Federal employee with authority to take, direct others to take, recommend or approve any personnel action must not use that authority to take or fail to take, or threaten to take or fail to take, a personnel action against an employee or applicant because of disclosure of information by that individual that is reasonably believed to evidence violations of law, rule or regulation; gross mismanagement; gross waste of funds; an abuse of authority; or a substantial and specific danger to public health or safety, unless disclosure of such information is specifically prohibited by law and such information is specifically required by Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or the conduct of foreign affairs. Retaliation against an employee or applicant for making a protected disclosure is prohibited by 5 U.S.C. 2302(b)(8). If you believe that you have been the victim of whistleblower retaliation, you may file a written

complaint (Form OSC-11) with the U.S. Office of Special Counsel at 1730 M Street NW., Suite 218, Washington, DC 20036-4505 or online through the OSC Web site—<http://www.osc.gov>.

Retaliation for Engaging in Protected Activity

A Federal agency cannot retaliate against an employee or applicant because that individual exercises his or her rights under any of the Federal antidiscrimination or whistleblower protections laws listed above. If you believe that you are the victim of retaliation for engaging in protected activity, you must follow, as appropriate, the procedures described in the Antidiscrimination Laws and Whistleblower Protection Laws sections or, if applicable, the administrative or negotiated grievance procedures in order to pursue any legal remedy.

Disciplinary Actions

Under the existing laws, each agency retains the right, where appropriate, to discipline a Federal employee who has engaged in discriminatory or retaliatory conduct, up to and including removal. If OSC has initiated an investigation under 5 U.S.C. 1214, however, according to 5 U.S.C. 1214(f), agencies must seek approval from the Special Counsel to discipline employees for, among other activities, engaging in prohibited retaliation. Nothing in the No FEAR Act alters existing laws or permits an agency to take unfounded disciplinary action against a Federal employee or to violate the procedural rights of a Federal employee who has been accused of discrimination.

Additional Information

For further information regarding the No FEAR Act regulations, refer to 5 CFR part 724, as well as the appropriate offices within your agency (e.g., EEO/civil rights office, human resources office or legal office). Additional information regarding Federal antidiscrimination, whistleblower protection and retaliation laws can be found at the EEOC Web site—<http://www.eeoc.gov> and the OSC Web site—<http://www.osc.gov>.

Existing Rights Unchanged

Pursuant to section 205 of the No FEAR Act, neither the Act nor this notice creates, expands or reduces any rights otherwise available to any employee, former employee or applicant under the laws of the United States,

including the provisions of law specified in 5 U.S.C. 2302(d).

J. Michael Trujillo,

Director, Departmental Office of Civil Rights,
United States Department of Transportation.

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BILLING CODE 4910-9X-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

Aviation Rulemaking Advisory Committee Meeting on Transport Airplane and Engine Issues

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a public meeting of the FAA's Aviation Rulemaking Advisory Committee (ARAC) to discuss transport airplane and engine (TAE) issues.

DATES: The meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 29, 2006, starting at 9 a.m. Pacific Standard Time. Arrange for oral presentations by November 15, 2006.

ADDRESSES: Courtyard Marriott, 400 Andover Park West, Tukwila, Washington 98118 (Room to be determined).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Nicanor Davidson, Office of Rulemaking, ARM-207, FAA, 800 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20591, Telephone (202) 267-5174, FAX (202) 267-5075, or e-mail at [nicador.davidson@faa.gov](mailto:nicanor.davidson@faa.gov).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to Section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463; 5 U.S.C. app. III), notice is given of an ARAC meeting to be held November 29, 2006, at the Courtyard Marriott, 400 Andover Park West, Tukwila, Washington 98118.

The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

- Opening Remarks.
- FAA Report.
- Transport Canada Report.
- European Aviation Safety Agency Report.
- ARAC Executive Committee Report.
- Ice Protection Harmonization Working Group (HWG) Report.
- Avionics HWG Report.
- Airplane-level Safety Analysis Working Group Report.
- Airworthiness Assurance WG (AAWG) Report.
- FAA discussion on the Widespread Fatigue Damage Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, and differences with the AAWG ARAC recommendation.

- Action Item Review.

Attendance is open to the public, but will be limited to the availability of meeting room space. Please confirm your attendance with the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section no later than November 15, 2006. Please provide the following information: Full legal name, country of citizenship, and name of your industry association, or applicable affiliation. If you are attending as a public citizen, please indicate so.

For persons participating by telephone, the call-in number is (202) 366-3920; the Passcode is "1158". To insure that sufficient telephone lines are available, please notify the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of your intent to participate by telephone by November 15, 2006. Anyone calling from outside the Washington, DC metropolitan area will be responsible for paying long-distance charges.

The public must make arrangements by November 15, 2006, to present oral statements at the meeting. Written statements may be presented to the committee at any time by providing 25 copies to the Assistant Executive Director for Transport Airplane and Engine Issues or by providing copies at the meeting. Copies of the document to be presented to ARAC for decision by the FAA may be made available by contacting the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section.

If you need assistance or require a reasonable accommodation for the meeting or meeting documents, please contact the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section. Sign and oral interpretation, as well as a listening device, can be made available if requested 10 calendar days before the meeting.

Issued in Washington, DC, on October 23, 2006.

Eve Adams,

Acting Director, Office of Rulemaking.

[FR Doc. E6-18146 Filed 10-27-06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

Notice of Meeting of the National Parks Overflights Advisory Group Aviation Rulemaking Committee

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the National Park Service (NPS), in accordance with the National Parks Air Tour

Management Act of 2000, announce the next meeting of the National Parks Overflights Advisory Group Aviation Rulemaking Committee (ANPOAG ARC). This notice informs the public of the date, location, and agenda for the meeting.

Date and Location: The NPOAG ARC will meet from November 28-30, 2006, at the Zion National Park Lodge, Zion National Park, Springdale, Utah 84767, phone number (435) 772-0211. The meeting will begin at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, November 28, 2006.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Barry Brayer, Manager, Executive Resource Staff, Western-Pacific Region, Federal Aviation Administration, 15000 Aviation Blvd., Hawthorne, CA 90250, telephone: (310) 725-3800, *Barry.Brayer@faa.gov*, or Karen Trevino, National Park Service, Natural Sounds Program, 1201 Oakridge Dr., Suite 100, Ft. Collins, CO 80525, telephone (970) 225-3563, *Karen_Trevino@nps.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The National Parks Air Tour Management Act of 2000, enacted on April 5, 2000, as Public Law 106-181 (Pub. L. 106-181), required the establishment of a National Parks Overflights Advisory Group (NPOAG) within one year after its enactment. The NPOAG was to be a balanced group representative of general aviation, commercial air tour operations, environmental concerns, and Indian tribes. The duties of the NPOAG include providing advice, information, and recommendations to the NPS Director and the FAA Administrator, on implementation of Public Law 106-181, quiet aircraft technology, other measures that might accommodate interests to visitors to national parks, and, at the request of the Director and Administrator, on safety, environmental, and other issues related to commercial air tour operations over national parks or tribal lands.

On March 12, 2001, the FAA and NPS announced the establishment of the NPOAG (48 FR 14429). On October 10, 2003, the Administrator signed Order No. 1110-138 establishing the NPOAG as an aviation rulemaking committee (ARC) and on January 20, 2006, the Administrator updated Order No. 1110.138 and signed Order No. 1110.138A (71 FR 16610). The advisory group has held nine meetings. The current members of the NPOAG ARC are Heidi Williams (general aviation), Matthew Zuccaro, Elling Halvorson, and Alan Stephen (commercial air tour operations), Don Barger, Chip

Dennerlein, Dr. Gregory A. Miller and Mark Peterson (environmental interests), and Rory Majenty and Richard Deertrack (Native American tribes).

Agenda for the November 28-30, 2006 Meeting

The agenda for the meeting will include, but is not limited to, the following review and approval of previous meeting minutes; discussion of Interim Operating Authority (IOA) issues; update on ongoing Air Tour Management Program (ATMP) projects; NPOAG Subgroup assignments and reports; discussion of Mt. Rushmore Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

Attendance at the Meeting

Although this is not a public meeting, interested persons may attend. Because seating is limited, if you plan to attend, please contact one of the persons listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** so that meeting space may be made to accommodate all attendees.

Record of the Meeting

If you cannot attend the meeting, a summary record of the meeting will be made available under the program information section of the FAA ATMP Web site at <http://www.atmp.faa.gov> or through the Executive Resource Staff, Western-Pacific Region, Federal Aviation Administration, 15000 Aviation Blvd., Hawthorne, CA 90250, telephone: (310) 725-3800.

Issued on October 20, 2006.

Barry S. Brayer,

Executive Resource Manager, Western-Pacific Region.

[FR Doc. 06-8950 Filed 10-27-06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[Docket No. FMCSA-2006-26066]

Qualification of Drivers; Exemption Applications; Vision

AGENCY: Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of applications for exemptions; request for comments.

SUMMARY: FMCSA announces receipt of applications from 75 individuals for exemptions from the vision requirement in the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations. If granted, the exemptions would enable these individuals to qualify as drivers of commercial motor vehicles (CMVs) in interstate commerce