

The following areas have been determined to be adversely affected by the disaster:

**Primary Counties:** Matanuska-Susitna Borough.  
**Contiguous Counties:**  
*Alaska:*  
 Chugach Reaa (10), Copper River Reaa (11), Delta/Greely Reaa (03), Denali Borough, Iditarod Area Reaa (21), Kenai Peninsula Borough, Municipality Of Anchorage.

The Interest Rates are:

	Percent
Homeowners with Credit Available Elsewhere .....	6.250
Homeowners without Credit Available Elsewhere .....	3.125
Businesses with Credit Available Elsewhere .....	7.934
Businesses & Small Agricultural Cooperatives without Credit Available Elsewhere .....	4.000
Other (Including Non-Profit Organizations) with Credit Available Elsewhere .....	5.000
Businesses And Non-Profit Organizations without Credit Available Elsewhere .....	4.000

The number assigned to this disaster for physical damage is 10648 6 and for economic injury is 10649 0.

The State which received an EIDL Declaration # is Alaska.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Numbers 59002 and 59008).

Dated: October 19, 2006.

**Steven C. Preston,**  
*Administrator.*

[FR Doc. E6-18194 Filed 10-27-06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8025-01-P**

**SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**

[Disaster Declaration # 10646 and # 10647]

**Illinois Disaster # IL-00004**

**AGENCY:** U.S. Small Business Administration.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This is a notice of an Administrative declaration of a disaster for the State of Illinois dated 10/18/2006.

*Incident:* Tornadoes, Severe Storms and Flooding.

*Incident Period:* 7/19/2006 through 7/21/2006.

*Effective Date:* 10/18/2006.

*Physical Loan Application Deadline Date:* 12/18/2006.

*Economic Injury (Eidl) Loan Application Deadline Date:* 7/18/2007.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit completed loan applications to : U.S. Small Business

Administration, Processing And Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** A. Escobar, Office of Disaster Assistance, U.S. Small Business Administration, 409 3rd Street, SW., Suite 6050, Washington, DC 20416.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notice is hereby given that as a result of the Administrator's disaster declaration, applications for disaster loans may be filed at the address listed above or other locally announced locations.

The following areas have been determined to be adversely affected by the disaster:

**Primary Counties:** Jefferson, St. Clair.  
**Contiguous Counties:**  
*Illinois:* Clinton, Franklin, Hamilton, Madison, Marion, Monroe, Perry, Randolph, Washington, Wayne.  
*Missouri:* St. Louis, St. Louis City.

The Interest Rates are:

	Percent
Homeowners with Credit Available Elsewhere .....	5.875
Homeowners without Credit Available Elsewhere .....	2.937
Businesses with Credit Available Elsewhere .....	7.763
Businesses & Small Agricultural Cooperatives without Credit Available Elsewhere .....	4.000
Other (Including Non-Profit Organizations) with Credit Available Elsewhere .....	5.000
Businesses and Non-Profit Organizations without Credit Available Elsewhere .....	4.000

The number assigned to this disaster for physical damage is 10646 C and for economic injury is 10647 0.

The States which received an EIDL Declaration # are Illinois, Missouri.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Numbers 59002 and 59008).

Dated: October 18, 2006.

**Steven C. Preston,**  
*Administrator.*

[FR Doc. E6-18182 Filed 10-27-06; 8:45 am]

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**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Office of the Secretary**

[Docket No. OST-2006-26169]

**Notice of Rights and Protections Available Under the Federal Antidiscrimination and Whistleblower Protection Laws**

**AGENCY:** Office of the Secretary, DOT.

**ACTION:** No FEAR Act Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) is publishing its Notice under Title II of the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (Pub. L. 107-174), as required by the Act and 5 CFR part 724. This Notice describes the obligation of DOT and other Federal agencies to notify all employees, former employees, and applicants for Federal employment of the rights and protections available to them under the Federal Antidiscrimination Laws and Whistleblower Protection Laws.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Caffin Gordon, Chief, Compliance Operations Division, S-34, Departmental Office of Civil Rights, Office of the Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590, (202) 366-9370 or (TTY) 202-366-0663.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Electronic Access**

You may retrieve this document online through the Document Management System (DMS) at: <http://dmses.dot.gov>. The DMS is available 24 hours each day, 365 days each year. Electronic retrieval help and guidelines are available under the help section of the Web site. An electronic copy of this document may be downloaded by using a computer, modem and suitable communications software from the Government Printing Office's Electronic Bulletin Board home page at: <http://www.nara.gov/fedreg> and the Government Printing Office's Web page at: <http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara>.

**No FEAR Act Notice**

On May 15, 2002, Congress enacted the "Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002," Public Law 107-174, which is now known as the No FEAR Act. One purpose of the Act is to "require that Federal agencies be accountable for violations of antidiscrimination and whistleblower protection laws." In support of this purpose, Congress found that "agencies cannot be run effectively if those agencies practice or tolerate discrimination." The Act also requires this agency to provide this notice to Federal employees, former Federal employees and applicants for Federal employment to inform you of the rights and protections available to you under Federal antidiscrimination, whistleblower protection and retaliation laws.

**Antidiscrimination Laws**

A Federal agency cannot discriminate against an employee or applicant with

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.*

[FR Doc. E6-18209 Filed 10-27-06; 8:45 am]

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.