

Rules and Regulations

Federal Register

Vol. 77, No. 91

Thursday, May 10, 2012

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 95

[Docket No. 30841; Amdt. No. 500]

IFR Altitudes; Miscellaneous Amendments

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This amendment adopts miscellaneous amendments to the required IFR (instrument flight rules) altitudes and changeover points for certain Federal airways, jet routes, or direct routes for which a minimum or maximum en route authorized IFR altitude is prescribed. This regulatory action is needed because of changes occurring in the National Airspace System. These changes are designed to provide for the safe and efficient use of the navigable airspace under instrument conditions in the affected areas.

DATES: Effective Date: 0901 UTC, May 31, 2012.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rick Dunham, Flight Procedure Standards Branch (AMCAFS-420), Flight Technologies and Programs Division, Flight Standards Service, Federal Aviation Administration, Mike

Monroney Aeronautical Center, 6500 South MacArthur Blvd. Oklahoma City, OK 73169 (Mail Address: P.O. Box 25082 Oklahoma City, OK 73125) telephone: (405) 954-4164.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This amendment to part 95 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR part 95) amends, suspends, or revokes IFR altitudes governing the operation of all aircraft in flight over a specified route or any portion of that route, as well as the changeover points (COPs) for Federal airways, jet routes, or direct routes as prescribed in part 95.

The Rule

The specified IFR altitudes, when used in conjunction with the prescribed changeover points for those routes, ensure navigation aid coverage that is adequate for safe flight operations and free of frequency interference. The reasons and circumstances that create the need for this amendment involve matters of flight safety and operational efficiency in the National Airspace System, are related to published aeronautical charts that are essential to the user, and provide for the safe and efficient use of the navigable airspace. In addition, those various reasons or circumstances require making this amendment effective before the next scheduled charting and publication date of the flight information to assure its timely availability to the user. The effective date of this amendment reflects those considerations. In view of the close and immediate relationship between these regulatory changes and safety in air commerce, I find that notice and public procedure before adopting this amendment are impracticable and contrary to the public interest and that good cause exists for making the amendment effective in less than 30 days.

Conclusion

The FAA has determined that this regulation only involves an established body of technical regulations for which frequent and routine amendments are necessary to keep them operationally current. It, therefore—(1) is not a “significant regulatory action” under Executive Order 12866; (2) is not a “significant rule” under DOT Regulatory Policies and Procedures (44 FR 11034; February 26, 1979); and (3) does not warrant preparation of a regulatory evaluation as the anticipated impact is so minimal. For the same reason, the FAA certifies that this amendment will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 95

Airspace, Navigation (air).

Issued in Washington, DC, on April 27, 2012.

John M. Allen,
Deputy Director, Flight Standards Service.

Adoption of the Amendment

Accordingly, pursuant to the authority delegated to me by the Administrator, part 95 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR part 95) is amended as follows effective at 0901 UTC, May 31, 2012.

PART 95—[AMENDED]

■ 1. The authority citation for part 95 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 106(g), 40103, 40106, 40113, 40114, 40120, 44502, 44514, 44719, 44721.

■ 2. Part 95 is amended to read as follows:

REVISIONS TO IFR ALTITUDES & CHANGEOVER POINTS

[Amendment 500 effective date, May 31, 2012]

From	To	MEA
Color Routes		
§ 95.4 Green Federal Airway G9 Is Amended To Read in Part		
Oscarville, AK NDB	Zekeg, AK FIX.	
NE BND	*6000
SW BND	*3000
*2100—MOCA		
Zekeg, AK FIX	Cairn Mountain, AK NDB	6000

REVISIONS TO IFR ALTITUDES & CHANGEOVER POINTS—Continued

[Amendment 500 effective date, May 31, 2012]

From	To	MEA	
§ 95.6 Blue Federal Airway B27 Is Amended To Read in Part			
Chinook, AK NDB *7500—MOCA	Wanix, AK FIX		*8000
Wanix, AK FIX NW BND	Oscarville, AK NDB.		4000
SE BND		8000
From	To	MEA	MAA

§ 95.3000 Low Altitude RNAV Routes
§ 95.3212 RNAV Route T212 Is Added To Read

Weard, NY FIX	Weets, NY FIX	4600	17500
Weets, NY FIX	Tresa, NY FIX	3200	17500
Tresa, NY FIX	Stuby, CT FIX	3200	17500
Stuby, CT FIX	Veers, CT FIX	3400	17500
Veers, CT FIX	Ronge, CT FIX	3500	17500
Ronge, CT FIX	Nelie, CT FIX	3500	17500
Nelie, CT FIX	Darth, CT FIX	2800	17500
Darth, CT FIX	Putnam, CT VOR/DME	3000	17500

§ 95.3255 RNAV Route T255 Is Added To Read

Marthas Vineyard, MA VOR/DME	Falma, RI FIX	2000	17500
Falma, RI FIX	Providence, RI VORTAC	2000	17500
Providence, RI VORTAC	Noxse, RI FIX	2500	17500
Noxse, RI FIX	Blatt, CT FIX	2500	17500
Blatt, CT FIX	Nelie, CT FIX	2800	17500

§ 95.3300 RNAV Route T300 Is Added To Read

Albany, NY VORTAC	Canan, NY FIX	3400	17500
Canan, NY FIX	Shigy, MA FIX	3900	17500
Shigy, MA FIX	Stela, MA FIX	4000	17500
Stela, MA FIX	Molds, MA FIX	3900	17500
Molds, MA FIX	Tomes, MA FIX	3400	17500
Tomes, MA FIX	Cobol, MA FIX	3400	17500
Cobol, MA FIX	Nelie, CT FIX	3300	17500
Nelie, CT FIX	Wipor, CT FIX	2600	17500
Wipor, CT FIX	Norwich, CT VOR/DME	2400	17500
Norwich, CT VOR/DME	Lafay, RI FIX	2300	17500
Lafay, RI FIX	Minnk, RI FIX	2100	17500
Minnk, RI FIX	Falma, RI FIX	1800	17500
Falma, RI FIX	Marthas Vineyard, MA VOR/DME	2000	17500

§ 95.4000 High Altitude RNAV Routes
§ 95.4140 RNAV Route Q140 Is Added To Read

Wobed, WA FIX *18000—GNSS MEA *DME/DME/IRU MEA	Getng, WA FIX	*25000	45000
Getng, WA FIX *18000—GNSS MEA *DME/DME/IRU MEA	Cordu, ID FIX	*25000	45000
Cordu, ID FIX *18000—GNSS MEA *DME/DME/IRU MEA	Petiy, MT FIX	*30000	45000
Petiy, MT FIX *18000—GNSS MEA *DME/DME/IRU MEA	Chote, MT FIX	*32000	45000
Chote, MT FIX *18000—GNSS MEA *DME/DME/IRU MEA	Lewit, MT FIX	*26000	45000
Lewit, MT FIX *18000—GNSS MEA *GNSS MEA	Sayor, MT FIX	*24000	45000
Sayor, MT FIX *GNSS MEA	Wilt, ND FIX	*18000	45000
Wilt, ND FIX *GNSS MEA	Ttail, MN FIX	*18000	45000

From	To	MEA	MAA
Ttail, MN FIX	Cesna, WI FIX	*18000	45000
*GNSS MEA			
Cesna, WI FIX	Eege, WI FIX	*18000	45000
*GNSS MEA			
§ 95.4142 RNAV Route Q142 Is Added To Read			
Metow, WA FIX	Mullan Pass, ID VOR/DME	*26000	45000
*18000—GNSS MEA			
*DME/DME/IRU MEA			
Mullan Pass, ID VOR/DME	Keeta, MT FIX	*26000	45000
*18000—GNSS MEA			
*DME/DME/IRU MEA			
Keeta, MT FIX	Okvuj, MT FIX	*24000	45000
*18000—GNSS MEA			
*DME/DME/IRU MEA			
Okvuj, MT FIX	Kixco, MT FIX	*22000	45000
*18000—GNSS MEA			
*DME/DME/IRU MEA			
§ 95.4144 RNAV Route Q144 Is Added To Read			
Ziran, WA FIX	Zoomr, WA FIX	*18000	45000
*GNSS MEA			
Zoomr, WA FIX	Blows, MT FIX	*21000	45000
*18000—GNSS MEA			
*DME/DME/IRU MEA			
Blows, MT FIX	Keeta, MT FIX	*21000	45000
*18000—GNSS MEA			
*DME/DME/IRU MEA			
Keeta, MT FIX	Lewit, MT FIX	*21000	45000
*18000—GNSS MEA			
*DME/DME/IRU MEA			
§ 95.4146 RNAV Route Q146 Is Added To Read			
Cashs, WA FIX	Blunt, WA FIX	*24000	45000
*18000—GNSS MEA			
*DME/DME/IRU MEA			
Blunt, WA FIX	Diphu, MT FIX	*24000	45000
*18000—GNSS MEA			
*DME/DME/IRU MEA			
Diphu, MT FIX	Cusda, MT FIX	*24000	45000
*18000—GNSS MEA			
*DME/DME/IRU MEA			
Cusda, MT FIX	Zerzo, MT FIX	*24000	45000
*18000—GNSS MEA			
*DME/DME/IRU MEA			
Zerzo, MT FIX	Kixco, MT FIX	*22000	45000
*18000—GNSS MEA			
*DME/DME/IRU MEA			
Kixco, MT FIX	Timmr, ND FIX	*20000	45000
*18000—GNSS MEA			
*DME/DME/IRU MEA			
Timmr, ND FIX	Smerf, SD FIX	*20000	45000
*18000—GNSS MEA			
*DME/DME/IRU MEA			
Smerf, SD FIX	Huffr, MN FIX	*18000	45000
*GNSS MEA			
§ 95.4148 RNAV Route Q148 Is Added To Read			
Stevs, WA FIX	Zaxul, WA FIX	*26000	45000
*18000—GNSS MEA			
*DME/DME/IRU MEA			
Zaxul, WA FIX	Finut, WA FIX	*26000	45000
*18000—GNSS MEA			
*DME/DME/IRU MEA			
Finut, WA FIX	Wedak, MT FIX	*26000	45000
*18000—GNSS MEA			
*DME/DME/IRU MEA			
Wedak, MT FIX	Waide, MT FIX	*26000	45000
*18000—GNSS MEA			
*DME/DME/IRU MEA			
Waide, MT FIX	Jugiv, WY FIX	*26000	45000

From	To	MEA	MAA
*18000—GNSS MEA *DME/DME/IRU MEA Jugiv, WY FIX	Medicine Bow, WY VOR/DME	*26000	45000
*18000—GNSS MEA *DME/DME/IRU MEA Medicine Bow, WY VOR/DME	Moctu, WY FIX	*26000	45000
*18000—GNSS MEA *DME/DME/IRU MEA Moctu, WY FIX	Lewoy, CO FIX	*26000	45000
*18000—GNSS MEA *DME/DME/IRU MEA Lewoy, CO FIX	Cugga, KS FIX	*26000	45000
*18000—GNSS MEA *DME/DME/IRU MEA Cugga, KS FIX	Penut, KS FIX	*26000	45000
*18000—GNSS MEA *DME/DME/IRU MEA Penut, KS FIX	Kirke, KS FIX	*26000	45000
*18000—GNSS MEA *DME/DME/IRU MEA Kirke, KS FIX	Morr, KS FIX	*26000	45000
*18000—GNSS MEA *DME/DME/IRU MEA Morr, KS FIX	Bartlesville, OK VOR/DME	*26000	45000
§ 95.4150 RNAV Route Q150 Is Added To Read			
Stevs, WA FIX	Zaxul, WA FIX	*24000	45000
*18000—GNSS MEA *DME/DME/IRU MEA Zaxul, WA FIX	Lezle, WA FIX	*24000	45000
*18000—GNSS MEA *DME/DME/IRU MEA Lezle, WA FIX	Baxgo, ID FIX	*24000	45000
*18000—GNSS MEA *DME/DME/IRU MEA Baxgo, ID FIX	Lamon, ID FIX	*24000	45000
*18000—GNSS MEA *DME/DME/IRU MEA Lamon, ID FIX	Ganne, WY FIX	*24000	45000
*18000—GNSS MEA *DME/DME/IRU MEA Ganne, WY FIX	Oppee, WY FIX	*24000	45000
§ 95.4152 RNAV Route Q152 Is Added To Read			
Suned, WA FIX	Lezle, WA FIX	*24000	45000
*18000—GNSS MEA *DME/DME/IRU MEA Lezle, WA FIX	Wedak, MT FIX	*24000	45000
*18000—GNSS MEA *DME/DME/IRU MEA Wedak, MT FIX	Ikfom, WY FIX	*24000	45000
*18000—GNSS MEA *DME/DME/IRU MEA Ikfom, WY FIX	Wuvut, WY FIX	*24000	45000
*18000—GNSS MEA *DME/DME/IRU MEA Wuvut, WY FIX	O'Neill, NE VORTAC	*24000	45000
§ 95.4154 RNAV Route Q154 Is Added To Read			
Wanta, WA FIX	Jelti, OR FIX	*24000	45000
*18000—GNSS MEA *DME/DME/IRU MEA Jelti, OR FIX	Hovel, ID FIX	*24000	45000
*18000—GNSS MEA *DME/DME/IRU MEA			

From	To	MEA	MAA
Hovel, ID FIX *18000—GNSS MEA *DME/DME/IRU MEA	Veluy, ID FIX	*24000	45000
Veluy, ID FIX *18000—GNSS MEA *DME/DME/IRU MEA	Burley, ID VOR/DME	*24000	45000
Burley, ID VOR/DME *18000—GNSS MEA *DME/DME/IRU MEA	Pimie, UT FIX	*24000	45000
Pimie, UT FIX *18000—GNSS MEA *DME/DME/IRU MEA	Nagne, UT FIX	*24000	45000
Nagne, UT FIX *18000—GNSS MEA *DME/DME/IRU MEA	Bongo, UT FIX	*24000	45000
Bongo, UT FIX *18000—GNSS MEA *DME/DME/IRU MEA	Pitmn, CO FIX	*24000	45000
Pitmn, CO FIX *18000—GNSS MEA *DME/DME/IRU MEA	Taylr, CO FIX	*24000	45000
Taylr, CO FIX *18000—GNSS MEA *DME/DME/IRU MEA	Gosp, CO FIX	*24000	45000
Gosp, CO FIX *18000—GNSS MEA *DME/DME/IRU MEA	Kento, NM FIX	*24000	45000
Kento, NM FIX *18000—GNSS MEA *DME/DME/IRU MEA	Nosew, TX FIX	*24000	45000
Nosew, TX FIX *18000—GNSS MEA *DME/DME/IRU MEA	Bowie, TX VORTAC	*24000	45000

§ 95.4156 RNAV Route Q156 Is Added To Read

Stevs, WA FIX *GNSS MEA	Zaxul, WA FIX	*18000	45000
Zaxul, WA FIX *18000—GNSS MEA *#DME/DME/IRU MEA	Finut, WA FIX	*24000	45000
Finut, WA FIX *18000—GNSS MEA *DME/DME/IRU MEA	Tuffy, MT FIX	*24000	45000
Tuffy, MT FIX *18000—GNSS MEA *DME/DME/IRU MEA	Upuge, MT FIX	*24000	45000
Upuge, MT FIX *18000—GNSS MEA *DME/DME/IRU MEA	Hexol, MT FIX	*24000	45000
Hexol, MT FIX *18000—GNSS MEA *DME/DME/IRU MEA	Tough, MT FIX	*24000	45000
Tough, MT FIX *18000—GNSS MEA *DME/DME/IRU MEA	Jelro, SD FIX	*24000	45000
Jelro, SD FIX *18000—GNSS MEA #DME/DME/IRU MEA	Kekpe, SD FIX	*24000	45000
Kekpe, SD FIX *18000—GNSS MEA #DME/DME/IRU MEA	Uffda, MN FIX	*24000	45000
Uffda, MN FIX *18000—GNSS MEA #DME/DME/IRU MEA	Hstin, MN FIX	*24000	45000
Hstin, MN FIX *GNSS MEA	Zzipr, IA FIX	*18000	45000

From

To

MEA

§ 95.6001 Victor Routes—U.S.

§ 95.6004 VOR Federal Airway V4 Is Amended To Read in Part

Tatoosh, WA VORTAC	#Jawbn, WA FIX	5800
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From	To	MEA
Falko, VA FIX *1700—MOCA *2000—GNSS MEA	Brooke, VA VORTAC	*6000
§ 95.6165 VOR Federal Airway V165 Is Amended To Read in Part		
Olympia, WA VORTAC *4000—MRA **2000—MOCA *CARRO, WA FIX *4000—MRA **5000—MOCA	*Carro, WA FIX	**4000
Diggn, WA FIX *2600—MOCA	Diggn, WA FIX	**6000
	Penn Cove, WA VOR/DME	*5000
§ 95.6203 VOR Federal Airway V203 Is Amended by Adding		
Stela, MA FIX *4000—GNSS MEA	Albany, NY VORTAC	*6000
§ 95.6205 VOR Federal Airway V205 Is Amended To Delete		
Coate, NJ FIX *3300—MOCA	Huguenot, NY VOR/DME	*4000
Huguenot, NY VOR/DME *3500—MOCA	Weard, NY FIX	*4000
Weard, NY FIX *6000—MRA	*Weets, NY FIX	6000
Weets, NY FIX *5000—GNSS MEA	Stuby, CT FIX	MAA—14500 *8500
Stuby, CT FIX	Veers, CT FIX	3500
Veers, CT FIX	Ronge, CT FIX	3500
Bradley, CT VORTAC	Putnam, CT VOR/DME	3000
§ 95.6215 VOR Federal Airway V215 Is Amended To Read in Part		
White CLOUD, MI VOR/DME	Gaylord, MI VOR/DME	4000
§ 95.6233 VOR Federal Airway V233 Is Amended To Read in Part		
Carga, MI FIX	Gaylord, MI VOR/DME	4000
§ 95.6253 VOR Federal Airway V253 Is Amended To Read in Part		
Twin Falls, ID VORTAC	Litke, ID FIX	6200
Litke, ID FIX SE BND	Alkal, ID FIX	6000
NW BND	9500
§ 95.6287 VOR Federal Airway V287 Is Amended To Read in Part		
Olympia, WA VORTAC *4000—MRA **2000—MOCA	*Carro, WA FIX	**4000
*Carro, WA FIX *4000—MRA **5000—MCA LOFAL, WA FIX, SW BND **5000—MOCA	**Lofal, WA FIX	***6000
Lofal, WA FIX *1900—MOCA	Paine, WA VOR/DME	*3000
§ 95.6311 VOR Federal Airway V311 Is Amended To Read in Part		
Dubbs, TN FIX *6400—MOCA	Nello, GA FIX	*7000
§ 95.6327 VOR Federal Airway V327 Is Amended To Read in Part		
Oates, AZ FIX *11000—MCA FLAGSTAFF, AZ VOR/DME, NE BND *MTA V327 N TO V291 E 11000	*Flagstaff, AZ VOR/DME	10500
§ 95.6330 VOR Federal Airway V330 Is Amended To Read in Part		
Idaho Falls, ID VOR/DME	*Osity, ID FIX	8000

From	To	MEA
*9500—MCA OSITY, ID FIX, E BND Osity, ID FIX *13400—MCA JACKSON, WY VOR/DME, W BND *MTA V330 E TO V520 W 16000	*Jackson, WY VOR/DME	14000
§ 95.6361 VOR Federal Airway V361 Is Amended To Read in Part		
Kremmling, CO VOR/DME *16000—MRA **15400—MOCA *CHART: MTA V361 SW TO V85 SE 14700. *CHART: MTA V361 SW TO V15 NW 16500.	*Allan, CO FIX	**16000
*Allan, CO FIX *16000—MRA **11800—MCA BARGR, CO FIX, SW BND	**Bargr, CO FIX	#15000
§ 95.6374 VOR Federal Airway V374 Is Amended To Read in Part		
Gayel, NY FIX *4400—MOCA *4400—GNSS MEA	Binghamton, NY VORTAC	*10000
§ 95.6405 VOR Federal Airway V405 Is Amended by Deleting		
Pawling, NY VOR/DME *3500—MOCA	Veers, CT FIX	*4000
Veers, CT FIX	Bradley, CT VORTAC	3500
Bradley, CT VORTAC *2200—MOCA	Providence, RI VORTAC	*3000
§ 95.6405 VOR Federal Airway V405 Is Amended To Read in Part		
Pawling, NY VOR/DME *3500—MOCA	Cobol, MA FIX	*4000
Cobol, MA FIX	Barnes, MA VORTAC	3500
Barnes, MA VORTAC *2500—MOCA	Putnam, CT VOR/DME	*3000
Putnam, CT VOR/DME *2100—MOCA	Providence, RI VORTAC	*3000
Providence, RI VORTAC *1400—MOCA	Falma, RI FIX	*3000
§ 95.6407 VOR Federal Airway V407 Is Amended To Read in Part		
Harlingen, TX VOR/DME N BND S BND *1700—GNSS MEA	Jimie, TX FIX.	*6000 *1700
Jimie, TX FIX *1800—MOCA *2000—GNSS MEA	Jetty, TX FIX	*6000
Jetty, TX FIX N BND S BND *2100—GNSS MEA	Corpus Christi, TX VORTAC.	*2100 *3800
§ 95.6419 VOR Federal Airway V419 Is Amended To Delete		
Carmel, NY VOR/DME Bradley, CT VORTAC *2500—MOCA *3000—GNSS MEA	Bradley, CT VORTAC Boston, MA VOR/DME	3000 *4000
§ 95.6419 VOR Federal Airway V419 Is Amended To Read in Part		
Carmel, NY VOR/DME	Briss, CT FIX	3000
§ 95.6495 VOR Federal Airway V495 Is Amended To Read in Part		
U.S. Canadian Border *4300—MOCA #V495 SE TO V4 W 8000	#Jawbn, WA FIX	*5400
Jawbn, WA FIX *4300—MOCA	Lofal, WA FIX	*5800

From		To		MEA	MAA
§ 95.7001 Jet Routes					
§ 95.7084 Jet Route J84 Is Amended To Read in Part					
Sidney, NE VORTAC		Wolbach, NE VORTAC		18000	45000
§ 95.7095 Jet Route J95 Is Amended To Read in Part					
Gayel, NY FIX		Binghamton, NY VORTAC		18000	45000
§ 95.7100 Jet Route J100 Is Amended To Read in Part					
Sidney, NE VORTAC		Wolbach, NE VORTAC		18000	45000
Airway segment				Changeover points	
From		To		Distance	From
§ 95.8003 VOR Federal Airway Changeover Points					
V155 Is Amended To Add Changeover Point					
Flat Rock, VA VORTAC		Brooke, VA VORTAC		43	Flat Rock.
V419 Is Amended To Delete					
Boston, MA VOR/DME		Bradley, CT VORTAC		49	Boston.

[FR Doc. 2012-11017 Filed 5-9-12; 8:45 am]
 BILLING CODE 4910-13-P

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

14 CFR Part 1240

[Document Number NASA-2012-0002]

RIN 2700-AD51

Inventions and Contributions

AGENCY: National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

ACTION: Direct final rule.

SUMMARY: NASA is amending its regulations to clarify and update the procedures for board recommended awards, and the procedures and requirements for recommended special initial awards, including patent application awards, software release awards, and Tech Brief awards, and to update citations and the information on the systems used for reporting inventions and issuing award payments. The revisions to this rule are part of NASA's retrospective plan under EO 13563 completed in August 2011. NASA's full plan can be accessed at: http://www.nasa.gov/pdf/581545main_Final%20Plan%20for%20Retrospective%20Analysis%20of%20Existing%20Regulations.pdf.

DATES: This rule is effective July 9, 2012 without further action, unless adverse comment is received by June 11, 2012. If adverse comment is received, NASA will publish a timely withdrawal of the rule in the **Federal Register**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Helen M. Galus, Office of the General Counsel, NASA Headquarters, telephone (202) 358-3437, fax (202) 358-4341.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Final regulations relating to Invention and Contributions Board Awards for Scientific and Technical Contributions [14 CFR part 1240, Subpart 1], were published at 25 FR 1312 on February 13, 1960. These regulations were written under the National Aeronautics and Space Act of 1958, As Amended, 42 U.S.C. 2457(f), 2458 and 2473(b)(1) (now, National Aeronautics and Space Act, 51 U.S.C. 20135(g), 20136 and 20112 (b)(1)). This subpart prescribes the regulations for the granting of monetary awards by the NASA Administrator, for scientific and technical contributions of significant value in the conduct of aeronautical and space activities. Final amendments to these regulations were published at 67 FR 31119 on May 9, 2002, to provide definitions, add new category of initial awards for release of software, to provide initial awards for the issuance of patents based upon continuation-in-part and divisional patent applications, to increase the amount of certain awards, and to change delegations of authority from the NASA Administrator.

NASA is now again revising its regulations at 14 CFR part 1240, subpart 1, to clarify the eligibility requirements for certain awards and clarify that the awards are recommended by the Inventions and Contributions Board (hereinafter "the Board"), but final terms and conditions of the awards are

at the discretion of the Administrator or his designee, the revisions also provide the Board more flexibility in the amount of the special awards to be recommended. Additionally, the National Aeronautics and Space Act (hereinafter "the Space Act"), is now codified in Title 51 of the United States Code, so citations to this Act have been updated accordingly. The regulations have also been revised, in part, to make them conform closer to the terms of the Space Act, and to reflect current accounting techniques used at the Agency. Additional revisions include rendering the terminology consistent within the regulations and the sentence structure grammatically complete and easier to understand. Finally, the revisions reflect organizational management changes that have taken place within the agency and the respective resulting responsibilities.

Direct Final Rule and Significant Adverse Comments

NASA has determined this rulemaking meets the criteria for a direct final rule because it involves clarifications, updating, and minor substantive changes to the existing regulations. NASA does not anticipate this direct final rule will result in any major changes to its current awards program. NASA expects no opposition to the changes and no significant adverse comments. However, if NASA receives a significant adverse comment, the Agency will withdraw this direct final rule by publishing a document in the **Federal Register**. A significant adverse comment is one that explains: