DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Parts 5 and 119
[Docket No. FAA–2009–0671; Amendment Nos. 5–1 and 119–17]
RIN 2120–AJ86

Safety Management Systems for Domestic, Flag, and Supplemental Operations Certificate Holders

Correction

In rule document 2015–00143 appearing on pages 1307–1328 in the issue of January 8, 2015, make the following correction:

§ 5.1 [Corrected]

On page 1326, in § 5.1, in the second column, in the second line from the top, “January 8, 2018” should read “March 9, 2018”.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The RESTORE Act, Public Law 112–141 (July 6, 2012), codified at 33 U.S.C. 1321(t) and note, makes funds available for the restoration and protection of the Gulf Coast Region through a new trust fund in the Treasury of the United States, known as the Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund (Trust Fund). The Trust Fund will contain 80 percent of the administrative and civil penalties paid by the responsible parties after July 6, 2012, under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act in connection with the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. These funds will be invested and made available through five components of the RESTORE Act. On August 15, 2014, the Department of Treasury (Treasury) issued regulations (79 FR 48039) applicable to all five components, and which generally describe the responsibilities of the Federal and State entities that administer RESTORE Act programs and carry out restoration activities in the Gulf Coast Region.

Two of the five components, the Comprehensive Plan and Spill Impact Components, are administered by the Council, an independent federal entity created by the RESTORE Act. Under the Spill Impact Component (33 U.S.C. 1321(t)(3)), the subject of this final rule, 30 percent of funds in the Trust Fund will be disbursed to the five Gulf Coast States (Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas) or their administrative agents based on an allocation formula established by the Council by regulation based on criteria in the RESTORE Act. The RESTORE Act establishes a statutory minimum under which each of the five Gulf Coast States is guaranteed five percent of the funds made available under this component. In order for funds to be disbursed to a Gulf Coast State, the RESTORE Act requires each Gulf Coast State to develop a SEP and submit it to the Council for approval. The RESTORE Act specifies the particular entity within each Gulf Coast State that will prepare the individual SEPs: In Alabama, the Alabama Gulf Coast Recovery Council; in Florida, a consortium of local political subdivisions that includes a minimum of one representative of each affected county (officially named the “Gulf Consortium” as organized under Florida law); in Louisiana, the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority of Louisiana; in Mississippi, the Office of the Governor or an appointee of the Office of the Governor; and in Texas, the Office of the Governor or an appointee of the Office of the Governor. 33 U.S.C. 1321(t)(3)(B)(iii).

On August 22, 2014, the Council issued an interim final rule to permit the five eligible entities responsible for drafting SEPs to have access to amounts up to the statutory minimum to help draft a SEP that meets all statutory requirements. 79 FR 49690. The Council opened this interim final rule up for public comment for 30 days. The Council received substantive comments from three separate commenters.

After considering public comments, the Council now issues the regulations as a final rule. The rule will take effect on January 13, 2015. The Council will separately make available a guidance document that details the content and process requirements of both the planning SEP that is required to get access to the planning grants authorized under this rule and the full SEP that is required to get access to the entire amount of funds made available to each Gulf Coast State under the Spill Impact Component of the RESTORE Act. The Council is also currently developing another set of regulations to more fully implement the Spill Impact Component of the RESTORE Act. These regulations will be published in the Federal Register at a later date and will establish how funds made available from the Trust Fund will be allocated between the five Gulf Coast States based on the allocation formula.

II. Public Comments and Summary of Final Rule

Each of the five Gulf Coast States, Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas, are statutorily guaranteed a minimum of five percent of amounts made available from the Trust Fund under the Spill Impact Component. 33 U.S.C.

1 SEPs must meet the statutory requirements of the RESTORE Act, including: (1) all projects, programs and activities included in the SEP are eligible activities as defined by the RESTORE Act; (2) all projects, programs and activities included in the SEP contribute to the overall economic and ecological recovery of the Gulf Coast; (3) the SEP takes the Council’s Comprehensive Plan into consideration and is consistent with the goals and objectives of the Comprehensive Plan; and (4) no more than 25 percent of the allotted funds are used for infrastructure projects unless the SEP contains certain certifications from the Gulf Coast State submitting the SEP.

2 A Gulf Coast State may receive more than the statutory minimum depending on the calculation of each Gulf Coast State’s share under an allocation formula established by the Council by regulation based on criteria specified in the Act. 33 U.S.C. 1321(t)(3)(A)(iii). The Council is developing a regulation to be published in the Federal Register at a later date establishing this allocation formula.