as authorized by FAA Order 8000.51C. In accordance with that order, issuance of ADs is normally a function of the Compliance and Airworthiness Division, but during this transition period, the Executive Director has delegated the authority to issue ADs applicable to engines, propellers, and associated appliances to the Manager, Engine and Propeller Standards Branch, Policy and Innovation Division.

Regulatory Findings

This AD will not have federalism implications under Executive Order 13132. This AD will not have a substantial direct effect on the States, on the relationship between the national government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government.

For the reasons discussed above, the FAA certifies that this AD:

(1) Is not a "significant regulatory action" under Executive Order 12866, and
(2) Will not affect intrastate aviation in Alaska.

List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 39


Adoption of the Amendment

Accordingly, under the authority delegated to me by the Administrator, the FAA amends 14 CFR part 39 as follows:

PART 39—AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVES

§ 39.13 [Amended]

1. The authority citation for part 39 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 106(g), 40113, 44701.

§ 39.13 [Amended]

2. The FAA amends § 39.13 by adding the following new airworthiness directive (AD):


(a) Effective Date

This AD is effective December 6, 2019 to all persons except those persons to whom it was made immediately effective by Emergency AD 2019–21–51, issued on October 23, 2019, which contained the requirements of this amendment.

(b) Affected ADs

None.

(c) Applicability

This AD applies to all General Electric Company (GE) GE90–115B model turbofan engines with engine serial numbers 907451, 907464, 907504, 907564, 907574, 907599, 907601, and 907618.

(d) Subject

Joint Aircraft System Component (JASC) Code 7250, Turbine Section.

(e) Unsafe Condition

This AD was prompted by a recent event involving an uncontained high-pressure turbine (HPT) failure, resulting in an aborted takeoff, debris penetrating the aircraft’s fuselage and the other engine. The FAA is issuing this AD to prevent failure of the HPT. The unsafe condition, if not addressed, could result in uncontained HPT failure, release of high-energy debris, damage to the engine, damage to the airplane, and loss of the airplane.

(f) Compliance

Comply with this AD within the compliance times specified, unless already done.

(g) Required Action

Within 25 flight cycles after the effective date of this AD, remove from service the Interstage Seal, part number 2505M72P01 with serial numbers GW00TCL3, NCE062LD, NCE254LC, NCE314KU, NCE374LB, NCE527KT, NCE777LD, or NCE994KW.

Note 1 to paragraph (g): GE Alert Service Bulletin GE90–100 S/B 72–A0826, dated October 23, 2019, contains guidance for replacing the Interstage Seal.

(h) Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs)

(1) The Manager, ECO Branch, FAA, has the authority to approve AMOCs for this AD, if requested using the procedures found in 14 CFR 39.19. In accordance with 14 CFR 39.19, send your request to your principal inspector or local Flight Standards District Office, as appropriate. If sending information directly to the manager of the certification office, send it to the attention of the person identified in paragraph (i) of this AD. You may email your request to ANE-AD-AMOC@faa.gov.

(2) Before using any approved AMOC, notify your appropriate principal inspector, or lacking a principal inspector, the manager of the local Flight Standards district office/certificate holding district office.

(i) Related Information

For more information about this AD, contact Herman Mak, Aerospace Engineer, ECO Branch, FAA, 1200 District Avenue, Burlington, MA 01803; phone: 781–238–7147; fax: 781–238–7199; Email: herman.mak@faa.gov.

(j) Material Incorporated by Reference

None.

Issued in Burlington, Massachusetts, on November 14, 2019.

Robert J. Ganley,
Manager, Engine and Propeller Standards Branch, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 2019–25129 Filed 11–20–19; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–13–P

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Office of Workers’ Compensation Programs

20 CFR Part 725

RIN 1240–AA11

Black Lung Benefits Act: Medical Benefit Payments

AGENCY: Office of Workers’ Compensation Programs, Labor.

ACTION: Final rule; delay of applicability date.

SUMMARY: The Office of Workers’ Compensation Programs (OWCP) has encountered unforeseen delays in implementing a new computer system to process payments for professional medical and hospital outpatient services made by the Black Lung Disability Trust Fund (Trust Fund) under the Black Lung Benefits Act (BLBA). This action delays the applicability date of two rules relevant to these payments, which were published in the Federal Register on June 14, 2018.

DATES:

Effective date: This rule is effective November 21, 2019.

Applicability date: The applicability date for 20 CFR 725.708(a) and (b) and 725.710 is delayed from November 30, 2019 to April 26, 2020.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

The Trust Fund pays for covered medical services and treatments provided to certain miners who are entitled to BLBA disability benefits. See generally 33 U.S.C. 907, as incorporated by 30 U.S.C. 932(a); 83 FR 27690 (June 14, 2018). On June 14, 2018, OWCP published a final rule revising its regulations governing the payment of medical benefits by the Trust Fund. 83 FR 27690–27699. The revised rules adopt payment formulas that accurately reflect prevailing community rates for authorized treatments and services.

While the revised regulations became effective on August 31, 2018, 83 FR 27690, the Department set a separate applicability date for the rules governing payments for professional medical and outpatient services. Id.; see
also 20 CFR 725.708(c) and 725.710(d).

In adopting this approach, the Department explained that payment of these bills “would require extensive modifications to the existing computer processes for full implementation. The Department is currently transitioning to a new computer system and will realize cost-savings by building the new payment methodologies into that system rather than modifying the existing one.” 83 FR 27691.

The Department has been diligently working toward developing and deploying a new computer system to implement the new payment formulas but has encountered unforeseen delays. While many of the issues causing these delays have been resolved, OWCP cannot complete development of the new computer system without shifting significant resources from other critical workloads in time to process professional and outpatient bills by the current November 30, 2019 applicability date. As an alternative, OWCP considered, but rejected, manually processing these bills in the interim. Based on black lung program data from FY 2015 through FY 2017, OWCP estimates it receives an average of approximately 69,000 requests annually for payment of professional medical services alone. OWCP does not have the staff necessary to manually process this volume of bills. Thus, without an adequate computer system, it would be impractical for OWCP to timely process and pay professional and outpatient bills due to the volume. As a result, the Department is delaying the applicability date of the rules governing payment of these bills until April 26, 2020, the day before the new computer system is now scheduled to become operational.

The Department’s implementation of this action without opportunity for public comment, effective immediately upon publication, is based on the good cause exceptions in the Administrative Procedure Act, 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B) and 553(d)(3). Section 553(b)(B) provides that an agency may issue a rule without notice and comment when the agency for “good cause” finds “that notice and public procedure thereon are impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest.” Section 553(d) provides that final rules may not become effective less than thirty days after publication in the Federal Register “except . . . as otherwise provided by the agency for good cause,” among other exceptions.

Under these standards, the Department has determined that there is good cause for making this rule final without notice and comment procedures, and effective immediately upon Federal Register publication. As already noted, OWCP does not have the capacity to manually process the volume of bills it receives for professional and outpatient medical services. Thus, delaying the rule’s application is a necessity: Without the delay, OWCP would no longer be able to promptly pay medical professionals and hospitals who provide treatment services to totally disabled coal miners. That result is contrary to the interests of miners and medical providers alike.

Delaying the rules’ application also does not impose any additional procedural burdens on the treatment providers. They will continue to seek payment in the same manner they do now no matter when the rules become applicable. See generally 20 CFR 725.714 and 725.715.

Finally, neither medical professionals nor outpatient services providers will be harmed economically by the delay in any significant way. The Department summarized its economic impact analysis of the new payment formulas in its notice of proposed rulemaking. 82 FR 739, 745–765 (Jan. 4, 2017). The Department compared payments it actually made from the Trust Fund in FY 2014 with payments it would have made if the new payment formulas in the proposed (and eventually final) rules applied. For both medical professionals and outpatient services, total annual Trust Fund payments decreased, in the aggregate, under the new payment formulas: $8,493 for professionals and $1,719,543 for outpatient services. 82 FR 746–748.

Thus, delaying application of the new payment formulas will not, in the aggregate, harm the providers of either professional or outpatient services.

List of Subjects in 20 CFR Part 725

Adjudicative and procedural, Black lung benefits, Claims, Coal miners’ entitlement to benefits, Health care, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Survivors’ entitlement to benefits, Total disability due to pneumoconiosis, Vocational rehabilitation, Workers’ compensation.

For the reasons set forth in the preamble, the Department of Labor amends 20 CFR part 725 as follows:

PART 725—CLAIMS FOR BENEFITS UNDER PART C OF TITLE IV OF THE FEDERAL MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH ACT, AS AMENDED

§ 725.708 [Amended]
2. In § 725.708, amend paragraph (c) by removing the date “November 30, 2019” and adding in its place “April 26, 2020”.

§ 725.710 [Amended]
3. In § 725.710, amend paragraph (d) by removing the date “November 30, 2019” and adding in its place “April 26, 2020”.

Julia K. Hearthway,
Director, Office of Workers’ Compensation Programs.

[FR Doc. 2019–25282 Filed 11–18–19; 4:15 pm]
BILLING CODE 4510–CR–P

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

28 CFR Part 16

[CPCL Order No. 11–2019]

Privacy Act of 1974; Implementation

AGENCY: Executive Office for Immigration Review, United States Department of Justice.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR), a component within the United States Department of Justice (DOJ or Department), is finalizing without changes its Privacy Act exemption regulations for the system of records titled, Office of the Chief Administrative Hearing Officer (OCAHO) Case Management System (CMS), JUSTICE/EOIR–002, which were published as a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) on August 16, 2019. Specifically, the Department’s regulations will exempt the records maintained in JUSTICE/EOIR–002 from one or more provisions of the Privacy Act. The exemptions are necessary to ensure the integrity of investigatory and adjudicatory records in cases before OCAHO. The Department received two comments and neither comments were substantive.

DATES: This final rule is effective December 23, 2019.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michelle Curry, Associate General Counsel and Senior Component Official for Privacy, Office of the General Counsel, Executive Office for Immigration Review, 5107 Leesburg Pike, Suite 2600, Falls Church, VA 22041, by email at michele.curry@usdoj.gov, or by facsimile at 703–305–0443.