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Title 3—

The President

Proclamation 10779 of June 21, 2024

To Further Facilitate Positive Adjustment to Competition From Imports of Certain Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells (Whether or Not Partially or Fully Assembled Into Other Products)

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

1. On January 23, 2018, pursuant to section 203 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (the ''Trade Act'') (19 U.S.C. 2253), the President issued Proclamation 9693, imposing a safeguard measure for a period of 4 years that included both a tariff-rate quota (TRQ) on imports of certain crystalline silicon photovoltaic (CSPV) cells, not partially or fully assembled into other products, provided for in subheading 8541.40.60 (currently 8541.42.00) of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS), and an increase in duties (safeguard tariff) on imports of CSPV cells exceeding the TRQ and all imports of other CSPV products, including modules provided for in subheading 8541.40.60 (currently 8541.43.00) of the HTS. Proclamation 9693 exempted imports from certain designated beneficiary countries under the Generalized System of Preferences from the application of the safeguard measure.

2. Clause (4) and Annex I of Proclamation 9693 directed the United States Trade Representative (USTR) to establish procedures for interested persons to request the exclusion of particular products from the safeguard measure. Pursuant to the procedures that the USTR enacted, effective June 13, 2019, the USTR excluded bifacial solar panels that absorb light and generate electricity on each side of the panel and that consist of only bifacial solar cells that absorb light and generate electricity on both sides of the cells (bifacial modules). Exclusion of Particular Products From the Solar Products Safeguard Measure, 84 FR 27684 (June 13, 2019).

3. After taking into account the United States International Trade Commission's (USITC) report on the results of its monitoring of developments with respect to the domestic solar industry (USITC, Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells, Whether or Not Partially or Fully Assembled Into Other Products: Monitoring Developments in the Domestic Industry, No. TA–201–075 (Monitoring)) and the USITC's report regarding the probable economic effect on the domestic CSPV cell and module manufacturing industry of modifying the safeguard measure (USITC, Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells, Whether or Not Partially or Fully Assembled Into Other Products: Advice on the Probable Economic Effect of Certain Modifications to the Safeguard Measure, No. TA–201–075 (Modification)), and after receiving a petition from a majority of the representatives of the domestic industry with respect to each of the following modifications, on October 10, 2020, the President issued Proclamation 10101 under section 204(b)(1)(B) of the Trade Act (19 U.S.C. 2254(b)(1)(B)). In Proclamation 10101, the President determined that the domestic industry had begun to make a positive adjustment to import competition, as shown by the increases in domestic module production capacity, production, and market share. Proclamation 10101 also:

(a) revoked the exclusion of bifacial modules from application of the safeguard measure on the basis that it had impaired and was likely to continue to impair the effectiveness of the safeguard action; and

(b) adjusted the safeguard tariff for the fourth year of the safeguard measure from 15 percent to 18 percent on the basis that the exclusion of bifacial modules from application of the safeguard tariff had impaired the remedial effectiveness of the 4-year action proclaimed in Proclamation 9693, and to achieve the full remedial effect envisaged in that action.

4. On November 16, 2021, the United States Court of International Trade (CIT) held in *Solar Energy Industries Association et al.* v. *United States* that the President acted outside of his statutory authority in issuing Proclamation 10101, and enjoined the Government from enforcing that proclamation. However, in November 2023, a panel of the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit reversed the CIT's decision.

5. After receiving the USITC's December 8, 2021, determination and report pursuant to section 204(c) of the Trade Act (19 U.S.C. 2254(c)), which found that the safeguard action continues to be necessary to prevent or remedy the serious injury to the domestic industry and that there was evidence that the domestic industry was making a positive adjustment to import competition (USITC, Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells, Whether or Not Partially or Fully Assembled Into Other Products, Investigation No. TA–201–75 (Extension)), and after taking into account the information provided in the USITC's report and the information received from the public through the process published in the *Federal Register* on September 30, 2021 (86 FR 54279), pursuant to section 203(e)(1)(B) of the Trade Act (19 U.S.C. 2253(e)(1)(B)), I issued Proclamation 10339 on February 4, 2022. In Proclamation 10339, I determined that the safeguard action on imports of CSPV cells, whether or not partially or fully assembled into other products, continued to be necessary to prevent or remedy the serious injury to the domestic industry, and that there was evidence that the domestic industry was making a positive adjustment to import competition. I further determined to extend the safeguard measure proclaimed in Proclamation 9693, as modified by Proclamation 10101, in relevant part, as follows:

(a) continuation of the increase in duties on imports of modules described in paragraph 1 of Proclamation 10339 for an additional period of 4 years, with annual reductions in the fifth, sixth, seventh, and eighth years, as described in Annex I to Proclamation 10339; and

(b) exclusion of bifacial panels from the extension of duties proclaimed in paragraph 9 of Proclamation 10339.

6. If an extension of an action taken under section 203 of the Trade Act (19 U.S.C. 2253) exceeds 3 years, section 204(a)(2) of the Trade Act (19 U.S.C. 2254(a)(2)) requires the USITC to issue a report to the President and the Congress on its monitoring of developments with respect to the domestic industry, including the progress and specific efforts made by workers and firms in the domestic industry to make a positive adjustment to import competition, no later than the midpoint of the period of the extension.

7. On February 6, 2024, the USITC issued its second midterm report pursuant to section 204(a)(2) of the Trade Act (19 U.S.C. 2254(a)(2)) on its monitoring of developments within the industry producing CSPV products since the President's imposition of the safeguard measure (USITC, Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells, Whether or Not Partially or Fully Assembled Into Other Products: Monitoring Developments in the Domestic Industry, No. TA–201–075 (Second Monitoring)). In its report, the USITC found that the safeguard measure has resulted in positive adjustments from the domestic industry in light of increased actual and planned module production; various announcements of planned domestic cell production; and improvements in several of the domestic industry's financial, trade, and employment indicators. The USITC's report also noted a shift in imports from non-bifacial CSPV cells and panels toward primarily bifacial CSPV cells and modules from 2020–2022 and, when comparing the first half of 2023 with the first half of 2022, with bifacial cells and panels increasingly used in traditionally non-bifacial applications.

8. On February 23, 2024, a majority of the representatives of the domestic industry submitted a petition under section 204(b) of the Trade Act (19 U.S.C. 2254(b)(1)(B)) to modify the safeguard measure by revoking the exclusion of bifacial products from safeguard relief proclaimed in Proclamation 10339, thus subjecting bifacial modules to the remedy under section 201 of the Trade Act (19 U.S.C. 2251). The petition explains how the domestic industry has continued to make a positive adjustment to import competition. It also explains how the exclusion of bifacial panels has led to large import volumes of bifacial modules competing in all sectors of the United States market, thus negatively impacting the domestic industry's efforts to increase substantially its market share notwithstanding the increase in apparent United States consumption.

9. Section 204(b)(1)(B) of the Trade Act (19 U.S.C. 2254(b)(1)(B)) authorizes the President, upon submission of a petition from a majority of the representatives of the domestic industry, to reduce, modify, or terminate an action taken under section 203 of the Trade Act when the President determines that the domestic industry has made a positive adjustment to import competition.

10. After taking into account the information provided in the USITC's second midterm report, and after receiving a petition from a majority of the representatives of the domestic industry with respect to the aforementioned modification, I have determined that the domestic industry has been making and is continuing to make a positive adjustment to import competition, shown by increased actual and planned module production; various announcements of planned domestic cell production; and improvements in several of the domestic industry's financial, trade, and employment indicators. Furthermore, I have determined that imports of bifacial panels have surged in recent years, such that the exclusion of bifacial panels proclaimed in Proclamation 10339 has impaired the effectiveness of the action taken in Proclamation 9693, as extended by Proclamation 10339, and that to achieve the full remedial effect envisaged for that action, it is necessary to modify the section 201 action by revoking the exclusion of bifacial panels and applying the safeguard tariff to bifacial panels.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOSEPH R. BIDEN JR., President of the United States of America, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, including sections 203, 204, and 604 of the Trade Act, do proclaim that:

(1) In order to modify the action applicable to imports of CSPV cells under HTS subheading 8541.42.0010 and other CSPV products, such as modules under HTS subheading 8541.43.0010, subchapter III of chapter 99 of the HTS is modified as set forth in Annex I to this proclamation.

(2) The modifications to the HTS made by this proclamation, including Annex I hereto, shall be effective with respect to goods entered for consumption, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after 12:01 a.m. eastern daylight time 5 days after the date of this proclamation, and shall continue in effect as provided in Annex I to this proclamation, unless such actions are earlier expressly reduced, modified, or terminated.

(3) Bifacial panels that are subject to the modifications described in clause (1) of this proclamation shall be exempt from the safeguard tariff, provided that:

(i) the imported bifacial panels are fulfilling in whole or in part a contract for sale, purchase, or delivery in the United States that was in effect and dated as executed prior to May 17, 2024, that provides for importation to or delivery within the United States within 90 days after the effective date of this proclamation, and that has not been modified on or later than May 17, 2024, with regard to importation or delivery date;

(ii) the bifacial panels are entered into the United States within 90 days after the effective date of this proclamation;

(iii) the bifacial panels are declared and entered under heading 9903.45.29 of the HTS, and meet the conditions thereof; and

(iv) the importer completes the certification in Annex II to this proclamation and provides the completed certification as part of the importer's electronic entry summary to U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) by uploading it to the Document Imaging System in the Automated Commercial Environment at the time that classification is declared under heading 9903.45.29 of the HTS.

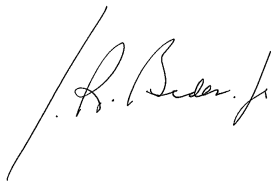
(4) Where bifacial panels that are subject to the modifications described in clause (1) of this proclamation are entered for consumption, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after the effective date of this proclamation and do not satisfy the requirements specified in clause (3) of this proclamation, such bifacial panels shall be subject to the safeguard tariff.

(5) CBP shall take such actions as are necessary to ensure compliance with the requirements in clauses (3) and (4) of this proclamation. Such actions may include requiring the provision of any additional information deemed necessary by CBP, including a copy of the pre-existing contract described in subsection (i) of clause (3) of this proclamation, in order to verify such compliance.

(6) One year from the termination of the safeguard measure referenced in this proclamation, as modified by this proclamation, the U.S. note and tariff provisions established in Annex I to this proclamation shall be deleted from the HTS.

(7) Any provision of previous proclamations and Executive Orders that is inconsistent with the actions taken in this proclamation is superseded to the extent of such inconsistency.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-first day of June, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-eighth.



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ANNEX I

TO MODIFY CHAPTER 99 OF THE HARMONIZED TARIFF SCHEDULE OF THE UNITED STATES

Effective with respect to goods entered for consumption, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after 12:01 a.m. eastern standard time on June 26, 2024, subchapter III of chapter 99 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States is modified as set forth herein:

1. U.S. note 18 to such subchapter III is modified by deleting the following from subdivision (c)(iii) "(17) bifacial solar panels that absorb light and generate electricity on each side of the panel and that consist of only bifacial solar cells that absorb light and generate electricity on each side of the cells."

2. The article description of heading 9903.45.25 is modified by adding "or heading 9903.45.29" after the phrase "except as provided in heading 9903.45.27".

3. The following new heading is inserted in numerical sequence in such subchapter, with the material inserted in the columns titled "Heading/Subheading", "Article Description", "Rates of Duty 1-General", and "Rates of Duty 1-Special", respectively:

"9903.45.29	: Bifacial solar panels, as defined in and : meeting the conditions of U.S. note 18(j) to this : subchapter, that absorb light and : generate electricity on each side of the panel : and that consist of only bifacial solar cells : that absorb light and generate electricity on : each side of the cells……	: No change	: No change"	: No change"	:

4. U.S. note 18 is modified by deleting from subdivisions (a) and (b) thereof the number "9903.45.27" and by inserting in lieu thereof "9903.45.29".

5. U.S. note 18 is further modified by adding at the end thereof the following subdivision:

"(j) For purposes of heading 9903.45.29, "bifacial solar panels" applies only to bifacial solar panels that absorb light and generate electricity on each side of the panel and that consist of only bifacial solar cells that absorb light and generate electricity on each side of the cells, provided that (i) the imported bifacial panels are fulfilling in whole or in part a contract for sale, purchase, or delivery in the United States that was in effect and dated as executed prior to May 17, 2024, that provides for importation to or delivery within the United States within 90 days after June 26, 2024, and that has not been modified on or later than May 17, 2024, with regard to importation or delivery date; (ii) the bifacial panels are entered into the United States within 90 days after June 26, 2024; (iii) the bifacial panels are declared and entered under heading 9903.45.29, and meet all conditions therefor; and (iv) the importer completes the certification required by U.S. Customs and Border Protection and provides the completed certification as part of the importer's electronic entry summary to CBP by upload to the Document Imaging System in the Automated Commercial Environment at the time that classification is declared under heading 9903.45.29.

ANNEX II

IMPORTER CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that:

(A) My name is [IMPORTER OF RECORD OFFICIAL'S NAME] and I am an official of [NAME OF IMPORTER OF RECORD], located at [ADDRESS OF IMPORTER OF RECORD].

(B) I hereby certify that the bifacial panels that were entered into the Customs territory of the United States under the entry summary number(s) identified below are fulfilling in whole or in part a contract for sale, purchase, or delivery in the United States of such panels that was in effect and dated as executed prior to May 17, 2024, that specifies that the bifacial panels are to be imported to or delivered within the United States within 90 days after the effective date of the Proclamation of June 21, 2024 , and that has not been modified on or later than May 17, 2024, with regard to delivery date.

(C) This certification applies to the following entries (repeat this block as many times as necessary):

Entry Number:

Applicable Line Item Number of the Entry (Declared Under 9903.45.29, HTSUS):

(D) I understand that [NAME OF IMPORTER OF RECORD] is required to provide U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) with this certification at the time the entry summary is filed and that any additional supporting documentation must be provided upon request by CBP.

Signature

[NAME OF COMPANY OFFICIAL]

[TITLE OF COMPANY OFFICIAL]

Date

[FR Doc. 2024–14143
Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 7020–02–C

Rules and Regulations

Federal Register
Vol. 89, No. 123
Wednesday, June 26, 2024

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains regulatory documents having general applicability and legal effect, most of which are keyed to and codified in the Code of Federal Regulations, which is published under 50 titles pursuant to 44 U.S.C. 1510.

The Code of Federal Regulations is sold by the Superintendent of Documents.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

7 CFR Part 51

[Doc. No. AMS–SC–21–0039]

U.S. Grade Standards for Pecans in the Shell and Shelled Pecans

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) is revising the U.S. Standards for Grades of Pecans in the Shell and the U.S. Standards for Grades of Shelled Pecans by replacing the current grades with U.S. Extra Fancy, U.S. Fancy, U.S. Choice, and U.S. Standard grades. In addition, AMS is updating terminology, definitions, and defect scoring guides.

DATES: Effective July 26, 2024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Olivia L. Banks, USDA, Specialty Crops Inspection Division, 100 Riverside Parkway, Suite 101, Fredericksburg, VA 22406; by phone (540) 361–1120; fax (540) 361–1199; or, email *SCIStandards@usda.gov.* Copies of the revised U.S. Standards for Grades for Pecans in the Shell and U.S. Standards for Grades of Shelled Pecans are available at *http://www.ams.usda.gov/nuts.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This action, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553, amends regulations at 7 CFR part 51 issued under the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1621–1627), as amended. These revisions do not affect the Federal marketing order, 7 CFR part 986, (Marketing Order 986) issued under the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937 (7 U.S.C. 601–674) or applicable imports.

Executive Orders 12866, 13563, and 14094

AMS is issuing this rule in conformance with Executive Orders 12866, 13563, and 14094. Executive Orders 12866 and 13563 direct agencies to assess all costs and benefits of available regulatory alternatives and, if regulation is necessary, to select regulatory approaches that maximize net benefits (including potential economic, environmental, public health and safety effects, distributive impacts, and equity). Executive Order 13563 emphasizes the importance of quantifying both costs and benefits, reducing costs, harmonizing rules, and promoting flexibility. Executive Order 14094 reaffirms, supplements, and updates Executive Order 12866 and further directs agencies to solicit and consider input from a wide range of affected and interested parties through a variety of means. This action falls within a category of regulatory actions that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has exempted from review under Executive Order 12866.

Executive Order 13175

This rule has been reviewed under Executive Order 13175—Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments, which requires agencies to consider whether their rulemaking actions would have Tribal implications.

AMS has determined that this rule is unlikely to have substantial direct effects on one or more Indian Tribes, on the relationship between the Federal Government and Indian Tribes, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities between the Federal Government and Indian Tribes.

Executive Order 12988

This rule has been reviewed under Executive Order 12988—Civil Justice Reform. This action is not intended to have retroactive effect. There are no administrative procedures that must be exhausted prior to any judicial challenge to the provisions of this rule.

Background

AMS continually reviews fruit and vegetable grade standards to ensure their effectiveness in the industry and to modernize language.

On June 12, 2020, the American Pecan Council (APC) petitioned AMS to revise the U.S. Standards for Grades of Pecans in the Shell and the U.S. Standards for Grades of Shelled Pecans (standards). The APC was established by, and is regulated under, the Federal marketing order for the pecan industry, Marketing Order 986, and represents all 15 major U.S. pecan-growing states.

The APC noted that the pecan standards have not been substantially updated since 1969 and the terminology of the standards no longer reflect current industry descriptions and practices. The National Pecan Shellers Association (NPSA) directed the initiative to update the standards for the APC. The APC voted unanimously to submit their proposed revisions to the AMS. AMS and the APC have since collaborated to refine the revisions.

The changes to the standards will replace current grades with new ones, revise scoring guides for defects, create new sizes, and revise definitions. AMS revised the U.S. Standards for Grades of Pecans in the Shell and the U.S. Standards for Grades of Shelled Pecans by replacing the current grades with U.S. Extra Fancy, U.S. Fancy, U.S. Choice, and U.S. Standard grades. These changes represent current industry descriptions and practices.

These revisions do not affect Marketing Order 986 or applicable imports since there are no grade, size, or quality standards currently applied under the marketing order.

The first proposed rule was published in the **Federal Register** of June 1, 2022, (87 FR 33064) inviting comments on the proposed revisions to the U.S. Standards for Grades of Pecans in the Shell and the U.S. Standards for Grades of Shelled Pecans. The public was invited to review and comment on the proposed rule, which was to be accompanied by copies of the proposed standards on *https://www.regulations.gov.*

On June 28, 2022, AMS noted that the proposed U.S. Standards for Grades of Pecans in the Shell and the U.S. Standards for Grades of Shelled Pecans failed to upload to *https://www.regulations.gov,* however, the supporting documents were uploaded to *https://www.regulations.gov* on that date. To provide all interested persons a full 60-day comment period to view copies of the proposed standards and facilitate review of the proposed rule, AMS extended the public comment period by 30 days (87 FR 48091) to

September 7, 2022. To pursue clarification and based on the feedback AMS received during the comment period, Specialty Crop Inspection Division (SCI) invited interested parties to meet on February 28, 2023, and May 2, 2023, to provide an opportunity to clarify language and discuss specific sections of the proposed standards to ensure there are no misinterpretations on how any proposed language would be applied before moving forward with this rulemaking. Based on comments received, SCI refined the language in the standards.

A second proposed rule was published in the **Federal Register** on October 11, 2023, (88 FR 70379) providing a 60-day comment period on these changes to the proposed revisions to the U.S. Standards for Grades of Pecans in the Shell and the U.S. Standards for Grades of Shelled Pecans. The public was invited to review and comment on the proposed rule, which was accompanied by copies of the proposed standards on *https://www.regulations.gov.*

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Pursuant to requirements set forth in the Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA) (5 U.S.C. 601–612), AMS has considered the economic impact of this rule on small entities. Accordingly, AMS has prepared this final regulatory flexibility analysis.

The purpose of the RFA is to fit regulatory actions to the scale of businesses subject to such actions so that small businesses will not be unduly or disproportionately burdened.

The Small Business Administration (SBA) defines small growers engaging in tree nut farming as those having annual receipts of no more than $3.75 million (NAICS Code 111335)(13 CFR 121.201). Handlers, which can be defined as those engaging in postharvest crop activities (except cotton-ginning), have a small business size standard of annual receipts not exceeding $34 million (NAICS Code 115114)(13 CFR 121.201).[1]

In the 2017 Census of Agriculture, the most recent to date, the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) reports that of the 19,008 pecan farms counted nationwide, 440 of them had annual sales valued at $1 million or more. This means that 18,568 pecan farms, or 98 percent of the census, had annual receipts of less than $1 million. As the threshold for meeting the definition of a small business, per the SBA, is $3.75 million, nearly four-times the $1 million maximum reported by NASS, the portion of pecan farms that may be considered small by the SBA standard is likely even higher than 98 percent.

According to the Census Bureau, there were 910 firms classified as those engaging in postharvest crop activities (except cotton-ginning) in 2017. Total sales for all 910 firms were valued at more than $6.4 billion. The Census Bureau survey[2] which yielded these results for 2017 is the most recent to date. The APC estimates that there are 115 handlers subject to regulation under Marketing Order 986. Of these, the APC estimates that nine handlers have annual sales exceeding $34 million, thus surpassing the threshold of a small business as defined by the SBA. This means that 106 handlers, or 92 percent of the total, had annual receipts not exceeding $34 million and would, therefore, be designated as small per the SBA definition.

Food grading standards provide important quality information to buyers and sellers that contribute to the efficient marketing of agricultural commodities. Because the revisions of the grade standards represent current industry grading practices, these changes will not require any significant changes in grower or handler business operations nor any significant industry educational effort. As the standards are voluntary, handlers are not required to use the new terms or make any changes. Neither large nor small handlers will incur additional costs. No small businesses will be unduly or disproportionately burdened.

Comments

AMS received seven comments on the proposed changes. Of the seven, three of the comments were from the National Pecan Shellers Association, the American Pecan Council, and one pecan grower. All commented with strong support for the changes to the standards as written. AMS acknowledges these comments.

One commentor supported the changes and would like to see the United States Department of Agriculture and other agencies work toward a lower threshold for aflatoxin in the standards that apply to pecans. AMS acknowledges this comment and recognizes that the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulates levels of contaminants in human food and animal feed.

One commentor stated that as a consumer the new standards are confusing, and terms like ''fancy'' and ''extra fancy'' may be industry jargon but are relative and otherwise meaningless. AMS acknowledges this comment and maintains that the changes to descriptive language are based on the APC petition which sought to revise the standards to reflect current industry descriptions and practices. AMS believes that standardized language used across various commodity industries leads to the uniform description of commodities intended for consumers.

One commentor supported the changes as a welcome improvement which will provide more clarity, flexibility, and specificity, but preferred letter grades or numbers to allow consumers to more readily understand what quality of product they are buying. AMS acknowledges this comment and believes the revisions provide uniform descriptions of quality and reflect current industry practices.

One commentor stated that AMS may not have considered all the relevant factors that Congress intended it to in the proposed rule because it did not carefully estimate the likely impact of the promulgation of this new voluntary labeling standard on the market. AMS acknowledges this comment and clarifies that the revisions discussed in this final rule are to the U.S. Standards for Grades of Pecans in the Shell and the U.S. Standards for Grades of Shelled Pecans and not to a labeling standard.

Regarding the likely impact of the promulgation of these revised grade standards on the market, AMS acted on a petition from the APC, which represents all 15 major U.S. pecan-growing states, to revise the grade standards to represent current industry descriptions and practices. Uniformity in these descriptions and practices provides consumers stability in the marketplace. AMS also provided open public comment periods throughout the entirety of the revision process. AMS did not make any changes to the October 11, 2023 (88 FR 70379) proposed rule in this final rule. Additionally, AMS provided the Regulatory Flexibility Analysis which determined neither large nor small handlers will incur additional costs. No small businesses will be unduly or disproportionately burdened based on the economic impact of this final rule on small entities. These actions are standard processes performed by AMS during the revision of any grade standards.

AMS has determined that this rule is consistent with and will effectuate the purpose of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946. Therefore, AMS is revising

[1] Version December 2022 size standards.

[2] Economic Surveys Annual Business Survey: Statistics for Employer Firms by Industry, Sex, Ethnicity, Race, and Veteran Status for the U.S., State, Metro Areas, Counties, and Places: 2017.

the voluntary U.S. Standards for Grades of Pecans in the Shell and the U.S. Standards for Shelled Pecans issued under the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946.

List of Subjects in 7 CFR Part 51

Food grades and standards, Fruits, Nuts, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Vegetables.

For reasons set forth in the preamble, the Agricultural Marketing Service amends 7 CFR part 51 as follows:

PART 51—FRESH FRUITS, VEGETABLES, AND OTHER PRODUCTS (INSPECTION, CERTIFICATION, AND STANDARDS)

■ 1. The authority citation for part 51 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 1621–1627.

■ 2. Subpart M is revised to read as follows:

Subpart M—United States Standards for Grades of Pecans in the Shell

Sec.

Grades

51.1400 U.S. Extra Fancy.
51.1401 U.S. Fancy.
51.1402 U.S. Choice.
51.1403 U.S. Standard.

Size Classification

51.1404 Size classification.

Kernel Color Classification

51.1405 Kernel color classification.

Tolerances

51.1406 Tolerances.

Application of Tolerances

51.1407 Application of tolerances.

Sample for Grade or Size Determination

51.1408 Sample for grade or size determination.

Definitions

51.1409 Loose extraneous or foreign material.
51.1410 Well cured.
51.1411 Well developed.
51.1412 Fairly well developed.
51.1413 Poorly developed.
51.1414 Uniform in color.
51.1415 Fairly uniform in color.
51.1416 Damage.
51.1417 Serious damage.
51.1418 Inedible kernels.

Subpart M—United States Standards for Grades of Pecans in the Shell

Grades

§ 51.1400 U.S. Extra Fancy.

''U.S. Extra Fancy'' consists of pecans in the shell which meet the following requirements:

(a) Free from loose extraneous or foreign material.

(b) Shells are:

(1) Uniform in color; and

(2) Free from damage by any cause.

(c) Kernels are:

(1) Well developed;

(2) Well cured;

(3) Moisture content shall be not more than 6 percent, unless otherwise specified;

(4) Uniform in color and not darker than ''light;'' and

(5) Free from damage by any cause.

(d) For tolerances see § 51.1406.

§ 51.1401 U.S. Fancy.

''U.S. Fancy'' consists of pecans in the shell which meet the following requirements:

(a) Free from loose extraneous or foreign material.

(b) Shells are:

(1) Uniform in color; and

(2) Free from damage by any cause.

(c) Kernels are:

(1) Fairly well developed;

(2) Well cured;

(3) Moisture content shall be not more than 6 percent, unless otherwise specified;

(4) Uniform in color;

(5) Not darker than ''light amber,'' unless specified to a lighter color classification; and

(6) Free from damage by any cause.

(d) For tolerances see § 51.1406.

§ 51.1402 U.S. Choice.

''U.S. Choice'' consists of pecans in the shell which meet the following requirements:

(a) Free from loose extraneous or foreign material.

(b) Shells are:

(1) Fairly uniform in color; and

(2) Free from damage by any cause.

(c) Kernels are:

(1) Not poorly developed;

(2) Well cured;

(3) Moisture content shall be not more than 6 percent, unless otherwise specified;

(4) Fairly uniform in color;

(5) Not darker than ''amber,'' unless specified to a lighter color classification; and

(6) Free from damage by any cause.

(d) For tolerances see § 51.1406.

§ 51.1403 U.S. Standard.

''U.S. Standard'' consists of pecans in the shell which meet the following requirements:

(a) Free from loose extraneous or foreign material;

(b) Kernels well cured;

(c) Moisture content shall be not more than 6 percent, unless otherwise specified;

(d) No requirement for fullness of kernel;

(e) No requirement for uniformity of color of shells or kernels;

(f) May contain kernels that are ''dark amber'' or darker, unless specified to a lighter color classification; and

(g) Shells and kernels are free from damage by any cause.

(h) For tolerances see § 51.1406.

Size Classification

§ 51.1404 Size classification.

Size of pecans may be specified in connection with the grade in accordance with one of the following classifications. To meet the requirements for any one of the classifications in Table 1 to this section, the lot must conform to both the specified number of nuts per pound and the weight of the 10 smallest nuts per 100-nut sample.

TABLE 1 TO § 51.1404

Size classification	Number of nuts per pound	Minimum weight of the 10 smallest nuts per 100-nut sample
Jumbo	55 or less	In each classification, the 10 smallest nuts per 100 must weigh at least 7% of the total weight of the 100-nut sample.
Extra Large	56 to 63	
Large	64 to 77	
Medium	78 to 100	
Small	101 or more	

Kernel Color Classification

§ 51.1405 Kernel color classification.

(a) The skin color of the pecan kernels are described in terms of the color classifications provided in this section. When specified to a lighter color classification, that color may be used to describe the lot in connection with the grade.

(1) Light means that the kernel is mostly golden color or lighter, with not more than 25 percent of the surface darker than golden, and none of the surface darker than light brown.

(2) Light amber means that more than 25 percent of the kernel is light brown, with not more than 25 percent of the surface darker than light brown, none of which is darker than medium brown.

(3) Amber means that more than 25 percent of the kernel is medium brown, with not more than 25 percent of the surface darker than medium brown, none of which is darker than dark brown (very dark brown or blackish-brown discoloration).

(4) Dark amber means that more than 25 percent of the kernel is dark brown, with not more than 25 percent of the surface darker than dark brown (very dark brown or blackish-brown discoloration).

(b) U.S. Department of Agriculture kernel color standards, PEC–MC–1, illustrate the color intensities implied by the terms ''golden,'' ''light brown,'' ''medium brown,'' and ''dark brown'' referred to in paragraph (a) of this section. The color standards are available at *https://www.ams.usda.gov/grades-standards.*

Tolerances

§ 51.1406 Tolerances.

In order to allow for variations incident to proper grading and handling in each of the foregoing grades, the following tolerances are provided as specified:

(a) *U.S. Extra Fancy, U.S. Fancy, and U.S. Choice grades.* (1) For shell defects, by count: 5 percent for pecans with damaged shells, including therein not more than 2 percent for shells which are seriously damaged.

(2) For kernel defects, by count: 12 percent for pecans with kernels which fail to meet the requirements for the grade or any specified color classification, including therein not more than 7 percent for kernels which are seriously damaged: *Provided,* That not more than 6 percent shall be allowed for kernels which are rancid, moldy, decayed, or injured by insects: *Provided further,* That included in this 6 percent tolerance not more than 0.5 percent (one-half of 1 percent) shall be allowed for pecans with live insects inside the shell.

(3) For loose extraneous or foreign material, by weight: 0.5 percent (one-half of 1 percent).

(b) *U.S. Standard grade.* (1) For shell defects, by count: 10 percent for pecans with damaged shells, including therein not more than 3 percent for shells which are seriously damaged.

(2) For kernel defects, by count: 30 percent for pecans with kernels which fail to meet the requirements for the grade or any specified color classification, including therein not more than 10 percent for kernels which are seriously damaged: *Provided,* That not more than 7 percent shall be allowed for kernels which are rancid, moldy, decayed, or injured by insects: *Provided further,* That included in this 7 percent tolerance not more than 0.5 percent (one-half of 1 percent) shall be allowed for pecans with live insects inside the shell.

(3) For loose extraneous or foreign material, by weight: 0.5 percent (one-half of 1 percent).

Application of Tolerances

§ 51.1407 Application of tolerances.

Individual 100-count samples shall have not more than one and one-half times a specified tolerance of 5 percent or more and not more than double a tolerance of less than 5 percent, except that at least one pecan which is seriously damaged by live insects inside the shell is permitted: *Provided,* That the averages for the entire lot are within the tolerances specified for the grade.

Sample for Grade or Size Determination

§ 51.1408 Sample for grade or size determination.

Each sample shall consist of 100 pecans. The individual sample shall be drawn at random from a sufficient number of packages to form a 100-count composite sample. The number of such individual 100-count samples drawn for grade or size determination will vary with the size of the lot. When practicable, at point of packaging the sample may be obtained from the grading belt after sorting has been completed.

Definitions

§ 51.1409 Loose extraneous or foreign material.

Loose extraneous or foreign material means loose hulls, empty broken shells, rocks, wood, glass, plastic, or any substance other than pecans in the shell or pecan kernels.

§ 51.1410 Well cured.

Well cured means the kernel separates freely from the shell, breaks cleanly when bent without splintering, shattering, or loosening the skin; and the kernel appears to be in good shipping or storage condition as to moisture content.

§ 51.1411 Well developed.

Well developed means that the kernel is full-meated throughout its width and length.

§ 51.1412 Fairly well developed.

Fairly well developed means that the kernel is full-meated in over 50 percent of its width and length.

§ 51.1413 Poorly developed.

Poorly developed means that the kernel is full-meated in less than 25 percent of its width and length.

§ 51.1414 Uniform in color.

Uniform in color means that the shells do not show sufficient variation in color to detract from the general appearance of the lot and that 95 percent or more of the kernels in the lot have skin color within the range of one or two color classifications.

§ 51.1415 Fairly uniform in color.

Fairly uniform in color means that the shells do not show sufficient variation in color to materially detract from the general appearance of the lot and that 85 percent or more of the kernels in the lot have skin color within the range of one or two color classifications.

§ 51.1416 Damage.

Damage means any specific defect described in this section; or an equally objectionable variation of any one of these defects, or any other defect, or any combination of defects, which materially detracts from the appearance or the edible or marketing quality of the individual pecan or the general appearance of the pecans in the lot. The following defects shall be considered as damage:

(a) Adhering hull material or dark stains affecting an aggregate of more than 5 percent of the surface of the individual shell;

(b) Adhering material from inside the shell when firmly attached to more than one-third of the outer surface of the kernel and contrasting in color with the skin of the kernel;

(c) Broken shells when any portion of the shell is missing;

(d) Internal flesh discoloration of a medium shade of gray or brown extending more than one-fourth inch lengthwise beneath the center ridge, or any equally objectionable amount in

other portions of the kernel; or lesser areas of dark discoloration affecting the appearance to an equal or greater extent;

(e) Kernels which are dark amber in color;

(f) Kernels which are not well cured;

(g) Kernel spots when more than one dark spot is present on either half of the kernel, or when any such spot is more than one-eighth inch in greatest dimension;

(h) Poorly developed kernels;

(i) Shriveling when the surface of the kernel is very conspicuously wrinkled; and

(j) Split or cracked shells when the shell is spread apart or will spread upon application of slight pressure.

§ 51.1417 Serious damage.

Serious damage means any specific defect described in this section; or an equally objectionable variation of any one of these defects, or any other defect, or any combination of defects, which seriously detracts from the appearance or the edible or marketing quality of the individual pecan. The following defects shall be considered as serious damage:

(a) Adhering hull material or dark stains affecting an aggregate of more than 20 percent of the individual shell;

(b) Broken shells when the missing portion of shell is greater in area than a circle one-fourth inch in diameter;

(c) Dark discoloration of the skin which is darker than dark amber over more than 25 percent of the surface of the kernel;

(d) Decay affecting any portion of the kernel;

(e) Insects, web, frass, or the kernel shows distinct evidence of insect feeding on the kernel;

(f) Internal flesh discoloration of a dark shade extending more than one-third the length of the kernel beneath the ridge, or an equally objectionable amount of dark discoloration in other portions of the kernel;

(g) Kernel spots when more than three dark spots on either half of the kernel, or when any spot or the aggregate of two or more spots on one of the halves of the kernel affects more than 10 percent of the surface;

(h) Mold, on the surface or inside the kernel, which is plainly visible without magnification;

(i) Rancidity when the kernel is distinctly rancid to the taste. Staleness of flavor shall not be classed as rancidity;

Note 1 to § 51.1417(i): Rancidity refers to the tendency of the oil in a pecan kernel to become tainted as a result of oxidation or hydrolysis. Industry measures to determine the tendency of a kernel to become rancid include testing the kernel's peroxide and free fatty acid values. Peroxide values should be less than 5 mEq/kg and free fatty acids acid value should be less than 1 percent. These analyses are not performed in determination of grade.

(j) Undeveloped kernels which are blank (complete shell containing no kernel); and

(k) Worm holes when penetrating the shell.

§ 51.1418 Inedible kernels.

Inedible kernels means that the kernel or pieces of kernels are rancid, moldy, decayed, injured by insects or otherwise unsuitable for human consumption.

■ 3. Subpart N is revised to read as follows:

Subpart N—United States Standards for Grades of Shelled Pecans

Grades

Sec.
51.1430 U.S. Extra Fancy.
51.1431 U.S. Fancy.
51.1432 U.S. Choice.
51.1433 U.S. Standard.

Color Classifications

51.1434 Color classifications.

Size Classifications

51.1435 Size classifications for halves.
51.1436 Size classifications for pieces.

Tolerances for Defects

51.1437 Tolerances for defects.

Applications of Standards

51.1438 Application of standards.

Definitions

51.1439 Premier half-kernel (Premier halves).
51.1440 Half-kernel (Halves).
51.1441 Piece.
51.1442 Meal and flour.
51.1443 Well dried.
51.1444 Well developed.
51.1445 Fairly well developed.
51.1446 Poorly developed.
51.1447 Uniform in color.
51.1448 Fairly uniform in color.
51.1449 Uniform in size.
51.1450 Fairly uniform in size.
51.1451 Foreign material.
51.1452 Damage.
51.1453 Serious damage.

Subpart N—United States Standards for Grades of Shelled Pecans

Grades

§ 51.1430 U.S. Extra Fancy.

''U.S. Extra Fancy'' consists of pecan kernels which meet the following requirements:

(a) For quality:

(1) Well dried;

(2) Moisture content shall not be more than 4.5 percent, unless otherwise specified;

(3) Well developed;

(4) Uniform in color;

(5) Not darker than ''light;''

(6) Free from damage by any cause; and

(7) Comply with tolerances for defects (see § 51.1437).

(b) For size:

(1) Uniform in size; and

(2) Conform to size classification or count specified.

§ 51.1431 U.S. Fancy.

''U.S. Fancy'' consists of pecan kernels which meet the following requirements:

(a) For quality:

(1) Well dried;

(2) Moisture content shall not be more than 4.5 percent, unless otherwise specified;

(3) Fairly well developed;

(4) Uniform in color;

(5) Not darker than ''light amber,'' unless specified to a lighter color classification;

(6) Free from damage by any cause; and

(7) Comply with tolerances for defects (see § 51.1437).

(b) For size:

(1) Uniform in size; and

(2) Conform to size classification or count specified.

§ 51.1432 U.S. Choice.

''U.S. Choice'' consists of pecan kernels which meet the following requirements:

(a) For quality:

(1) Well dried;

(2) Moisture content shall not be more than 4.5 percent, unless otherwise specified;

(3) Not poorly developed;

(4) Fairly uniform in color;

(5) Not darker than ''amber,'' unless specified to a lighter color classification;

(6) Free from damage by any cause; and

(7) Comply with tolerances for defects (see § 51.1437).

(b) For size:

(1) Fairly uniform in size; and

(2) Conform to size classification or count specified.

§ 51.1433 U.S. Standard.

''U.S. Standard'' consists of pecan kernels which meet the following requirements:

(a) For quality:

(1) Well dried;

(2) Moisture content shall not be more than 4.5 percent, unless otherwise specified;

(3) No requirement for fullness of kernel;

(4) No requirement for uniformity of color;

(5) May contain kernels ''dark amber'' or darker, unless specified to a lighter color classification;

(6) Free from damage by any cause; and

(7) Comply with tolerances for defects (see § 51.1437).

(b) For size:

(1) No uniformity in size; and

(2) Conform to size classification or count specified.

Color Classifications

§ 51.1434 Color classifications.

(a) The skin color of pecan kernels is described in terms of the color classifications provided in this section. When specified to a lighter color classification, that color may be used to describe the lot in connection with the grade.

(1) Light means that the kernel is mostly golden color or lighter, with not more than 25 percent of the surface darker than golden, and none of the surface darker than light brown.

(2) Light amber means that the kernel has more than 25 percent of the surface light brown, but not more than 25 percent of surface darker than light brown, and none of the surface darker than medium brown.

(3) Amber means that the kernel has more than 25 percent of the surface medium brown, but not more than 25 percent of surface darker than medium brown, and none of the surface darker than dark brown (very dark brown or blackish-brown discoloration).

(4) Dark amber means that the kernel has more than 25 percent of the surface dark brown, but not more than 25 percent of surface darker than dark brown (very dark brown or blackish-brown discoloration).

(b) U.S. Department of Agriculture kernel color standards, PEC–MC–1, illustrate the color intensities implied by the terms ''golden,'' ''light brown,'' ''medium brown,'' and ''dark brown'' referred to in paragraph (a) of this section. The color standards are available at: *https://www.ams.usda.gov/grades-standards.*

Size Classifications

§ 51.1435 Size classifications for halves.

The size of pecan halves in a lot may be specified in accordance with one of the size classifications shown in table 1 to this section.

(a) *Halves per pound.* The number of halves per pound shall be based upon the weight of half-kernels after all pieces, meal and flour, shell, center wall, and foreign material have been removed.

(b) *Tolerance for count per pound.* In order to allow for variations incident to proper sizing, a tolerance shall be permitted as follows:

(1) When an exact number of halves per pound is specified, the actual count per pound may vary not more than 5 percent from the specified number, and

(2) When any size classification shown in table 1 to this section or a range in count per pound is specified, no tolerance shall be allowed for counts outside of the specified range.

(c) *Tolerances for pieces, meal, and flour.* In order to allow for variations incident to proper sizing and handling, tolerances are provided for pieces, meal, and flour in any lot of halves. The tolerances, by weight, are as shown in table 2 to this section.

TABLE 1 TO § 51.1435

Size classification for halves	Number of halves @per pound
Mammoth	250 or less.
Junior Mammoth	251–350.
Jumbo	351–450.
Large	451–550.
Medium	551–650.
Topper	651–750.
King Topper	751 or more.

In lieu of the size classifications in this table, the size of pecan halves in a lot may be specified in terms of the number of halves or a range of number of halves per pound. For example, ''400'' or ''600–700.''

TABLE 2 TO § 51.1435

Tolerances for pieces, meal, and flour	U.S. extra fancy premier halves (%)	U.S. extra fancy halves (%)	U.S. fancy halves (%)	U.S. choice halves (%)	U.S. standard halves (%)
A. Less than 7/8 half-kernel	10	.....	.....	.....	.....
B. Less than 3/4 half-kernel	.....	10	15	20	20
C. Less than 1/2 half-kernel (included in A.—U.S. Extra Fancy Premier Halves) (included in B.—U.S. Extra Fancy Halves, U.S. Fancy Halves, U.S. Choice Halves, and U.S. Standard Halves)	3	3	5	5	5
D. Less than 4/64″ (included in C.)	1	1	1	1	1

§ 51.1436 Size classifications for pieces.

The size of pecan pieces in a lot may be specified in accordance with one of the size classifications shown in table 1 to this section. Sizes are measured using a round-hole screen.

(a) *Tolerances for size of pieces.* In order to allow for variations incident to proper sizing, tolerances are provided for pieces in a lot which fail to meet the requirements of any size specified. The tolerances, by weight, are as follows:

(1) *U.S. Extra Fancy pieces and U.S. Fancy pieces.* Not more than 15 percent of the lot may fall outside of the size range in Table 1 to this section. Further, not more than 1 percent of the pieces, excluding Topping Pieces and Granules, may pass through an eight sixty-fourths of an inch round hole screen.

(2) *U.S. Choice pieces.* Not more than 20 percent of the lot may fall outside of the size range in Table 1 to this section. Further, not more than 2 percent of the pieces, excluding Topping Pieces and Granules, may pass through an eight

sixty-fourths of an inch round hole screen.

(3) *U.S. Standard pieces.* Not more than 25 percent of the lot may fall outside of the size range in table 1 to this section. Further, not more than 2 percent of the pieces, excluding Topping Pieces and Granules, may pass through an eight sixty-fourths of an inch round hole screen.

(b) [Reserved]

TABLE 1 TO § 51.1436

Size classification	Maximum diameter (will pass through round opening of the following diameter)	Minimum diameter (will not pass through round opening of the following diameter)
Extra-Large Pieces	No limitation	32/64 inch.
Large Pieces	32/64 inch	24/64 inch.
Halves and Pieces	No limitation	20/64 inch.
Medium Pieces	24/64 inch	16/64 inch.
Small Pieces	16/64 inch	12/64 inch.
Topping Pieces	12/64 inch	8/64 inch.
Granules	8/64 inch	4/64 inch.

In lieu of the size classifications in this table, the size of pieces in a lot may be specified in terms of minimum diameter, or as a range described in terms of minimum and maximum diameters expressed in sixty-fourths of an inch.

Tolerances for Defects

§ 51.1437 Tolerances for defects.

In order to allow for variations incident to proper grading and handling in each of the foregoing grades, the following tolerances, by weight, are as follows:

(a) U.S. Extra Fancy grade:

(1) No foreign material;

(2) 0.01 percent for shell, and center wall;

(3) Zero tolerance is provided for pecan weevil larvae;

(4) 3 percent for portions of kernels which are ''light amber'' or darker color, or darker than any specified lighter color classification, but which are not otherwise defective; and

(5) 3 percent for portions of kernels which fail to meet the remaining requirements of the grade, including therein not more than 0.50 percent (one-half of 1 percent) for defects causing serious damage: *Provided,* That any unused portion of this tolerance may be applied to increase the tolerance for kernels which are ''light amber'' or darker color, or darker than any specified lighter color classification.

(b) U.S. Fancy grade:

(1) No foreign material;

(2) 0.01 percent for shell and center wall;

(3) No more than 2 pecan weevil larvae;

(4) 5 percent for portions of kernels which are ''amber'' or darker color, or darker than any specified lighter color classification, but which are not otherwise defective; and

(5) 5 percent for portions of kernels which fail to meet the remaining requirements of the grade, including therein not more than 0.50 percent (one-half of 1 percent) for defects causing serious damage, including pecan weevil larvae: *Provided,* That any unused portion of this tolerance may be applied to increase the tolerance for kernels which are ''amber'' or darker color, or darker than any specified lighter color classification.

(c) U.S. Choice grade:

(1) No foreign material;

(2) 0.01 percent for shell and center wall;

(3) No more than 5 pecan weevil larvae;

(4) 15 percent for portions of kernels which are ''dark amber'' or darker color, or darker than any specified lighter color classification, but which are not otherwise defective; and

(5) 8 percent for portions of kernels which fail to meet the remaining requirements of the grade, including therein not more than 1 percent for defects causing serious damage, including pecan weevil larvae.

(d) U.S. Standard grade:

(1) No foreign material;

(2) 0.01 percent for shell and center wall;

(3) 25 percent for portions of kernels which are darker than a specified color classification, but which are not otherwise defective; and

(4) 15 percent for portions of kernels which fail to meet the remaining requirements of the grade, including therein not more than 1 percent for defects causing serious damage, including pecan weevil larvae.

Application of Standards

§ 51.1438 Application of standards.

The grade of a lot of shelled pecans shall be determined on the basis of a composite sample drawn at random from containers in various locations in the lot. However, any identifiable container or number of containers in which the pecans are obviously of a quality or size materially different from that in the majority of containers, shall be considered as a separate lot, and shall be sampled and graded separately.

Definitions

§ 51.1439 Premier half-kernel (Premier halves).

Premier half-kernel (Premier halves) means one of the separated halves of an entire pecan kernel with not more than one-eighth of its original volume missing, exclusive of the portion which formerly connected the two halves of the kernel.

§ 51.1440 Half-kernel (Halves).

Half-kernel (Halves) means one of the separated halves of an entire pecan kernel with not more than one-fourth of its original volume missing, exclusive of the portion which formerly connected the two halves of the kernel.

§ 51.1441 Piece.

Piece means a portion of a kernel which is less than three-fourths of a half-kernel, but which will not pass through a round opening four sixty-fourths (4/64) of an inch in diameter.

§ 51.1442 Meal and flour.

Meal and flour means fragments of kernels which will pass through a round opening four sixty-fourths (4/64) of an inch in diameter.

§ 51.1443 Well dried.

Well dried means that the portion of kernel is firm and crisp, not pliable, or leathery.

§ 51.1444 Well developed.

Well developed means that the kernel is full-meated through its width and length.

§ 51.1445 Fairly well developed.

Fairly well developed means that the kernel is full-meated in over 50 percent of its width and length.

§ 51.1446 Poorly developed.

Poorly developed means that the kernel is full-meated in less than 25 percent of its width and length.

§ 51.1447 Uniform in color.

Uniform in color means that 95 percent or more of the kernels in the lot have skin color within the range of one or two color classifications.

§ 51.1448 Fairly uniform in color.

Fairly uniform in color means that 85 percent or more of the kernels in the lot have skin color within the range of one or two color classifications.

§ 51.1449 Uniform in size.

Uniform in size means that, in a representative sample of 100 halves, the 10 smallest halves weigh not less than 25 percent as much as the 10 largest halves.

§ 51.1450 Fairly uniform in size.

Fairly uniform in size means that, in a representative sample of 100 halves, the 10 smallest halves weigh not less than 50 percent as much as the 10 largest halves.

§ 51.1451 Foreign material.

Foreign material includes rocks, wood, glass, plastic, or any similar material. It does not include hard shell, center wall, or pecan weevil larvae.

§ 51.1452 Damage.

Damage means any specific defect described in this section; or an equally objectionable variation of any one of these defects, or any other defect, or any combination of defects, which materially detracts from the appearance or the edible or marketing quality of the individual portion of the kernel or of the lot as a whole. The following defects shall be considered as damage:

(a) Adhering material from inside the shell when attached to more than one-fourth of the surface on one side of the half-kernel or piece;

(b) Dust or dirt adhering to the kernel when conspicuous;

(c) Internal flesh discoloration of a medium shade of gray or brown extending more than one-fourth the length of the half-kernel or piece, or lesser areas of dark discoloration affecting the appearance to an equal or greater extent;

(d) Kernel which is not well dried;

(e) Kernel which is ''dark amber'' or darker color;

(f) Kernel having more than one dark kernel spot, or one dark kernel spot more than one-eighth inch in greatest dimension;

(g) Poorly developed kernel; and

(h) Shriveling when the surface of the kernel is very conspicuously wrinkled.

§ 51.1453 Serious damage.

Serious damage means any specific defect described in this section; or an equally objectionable variation of any one of these defects, or any other defect, or any combination of defects, which seriously detracts from the appearance or the edible or marketing quality of the individual portion of kernel or of the lot as a whole. The following defects shall be considered as serious damage:

(a) Adhering material from inside the shell when attached to more than one-half of the surface on one side of the half-kernel or piece;

(b) Any plainly visible mold;

(c) Dark kernel spots when more than three are on the kernel, or when any dark kernel spot or the aggregate of two or more spots affect an area of more than 10 percent of the surface of the half-kernel or piece;

(d) Dark skin discoloration, darker than ''dark brown,'' when covering more than one-fourth of the surface of the half-kernel or piece;

(e) Decay affecting any portion of the kernel;

(f) Insects, web, or frass or any distinct evidence of insect feeding on the kernel;

(g) Internal discoloration, which is dark gray, dark brown, or black and extends more than one-third the length of the half-kernel or piece; and

(h) Rancidity when the kernel is distinctly rancid to taste. Staleness of flavor shall not be classed as rancidity.

Note 1 to § 1453(h): Rancidity refers to the tendency of the oil in a pecan kernel to become tainted as a result of oxidation or hydrolysis. Industry measures to determine the tendency of a kernel to become rancid include testing the kernel's peroxide and free fatty acid values. Peroxide values should be less than 5 mEq/kg and free fatty acids acid value should be less than 1 percent. These analyses are not performed in determination of grade.

Erin Morris,

Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 2024–13584 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA–2024–1688; Project Identifier MCAI–2024–00299–T; Amendment 39–22772; AD 2024–12–08]

RIN 2120–AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Embraer S.A. (Type Certificate Previously Held by Yaborã Indústria Aeronáutica S.A.; Embraer S.A.) Airplanes

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Final rule; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The FAA is adopting a new airworthiness directive (AD) for certain Embraer S.A. Model ERJ 170 airplanes. This AD was prompted by a report of a landing gear not locked indication during the final approach, which led the flight crew to declare an emergency. This AD requires reviewing maintenance records of the main landing gear (MLG) assemblies to determine whether the MLG was modified according to a certain service bulletin or restored during overhaul maintenance; inspecting the left and right MLG locking-stay bracket assemblies to verify that the correct attaching hardware is correctly installed on the brackets; replacing nuts having certain part numbers (P/Ns); replacing the locking-stay bracket assembly, if necessary; and prohibits the installation of affected parts on the MLG locking-stay bracket assembly; as specified in an Agência Nacional de Aviação Civil (ANAC) AD, which is incorporated by reference. The FAA is issuing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

DATES: This AD is effective July 11, 2024.

The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of a certain publication listed in this AD as of July 11, 2024.

The FAA must receive comments on this AD by August 12, 2024.

ADDRESSES: You may send comments, using the procedures found in 14 CFR 11.43 and 11.45, by any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to *regulations.gov.* Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- *Fax:* 202–493–2251.
- *Mail:* U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M–30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590.

• *Hand Delivery:* Deliver to Mail address above between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

AD Docket: You may examine the AD docket at *regulations.gov* under Docket No. FAA–2024–1688; or in person at Docket Operations between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The AD docket contains this final rule, the mandatory continuing airworthiness information (MCAI), any comments received, and other information. The street address for Docket Operations is listed above.

Material Incorporated by Reference:

• For ANAC material, contact National Civil Aviation Agency (ANAC), Aeronautical Products Certification Branch (GGCP), Rua Dr. Orlando Feirabend Filho, 230—Centro Empresarial Aquarius—Torre B—Andares 14 a 18, Parque Residencial Aquarius, CEP 12.246–190—São José dos Campos—SP, Brazil; telephone 55 (12) 3203–6600; email *pac@anac.gov.br;* website *anac.gov.br/en/.* You may find this material on the ANAC website at *sistemas.anac.gov.br/certificacao/DA/DAE.asp.*

• You may view this material at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety Branch, 2200 South 216th St., Des Moines, WA. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 206–231–3195. It is also available at *regulations.gov* under Docket No. FAA–2024–1688.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Krista Greer, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; telephone 206–231–3221; email *krista.greer@faa.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Comments Invited

The FAA invites you to send any written data, views, or arguments about this final rule. Send your comments to an address listed under the **ADDRESSES** section. Include the ''Docket No. FAA–2024–1688; Project Identifier MCAI–2024–00299–T'' at the beginning of your comments. The most helpful comments reference a specific portion of the final rule, explain the reason for any recommended change, and include supporting data. The FAA will consider all comments received by the closing date and may amend this final rule because of those comments.

Except for Confidential Business Information (CBI) as described in the following paragraph, and other information as described in 14 CFR 11.35, the FAA will post all comments received, without change, to *regulations.gov*, including any personal information you provide. The agency will also post a report summarizing each substantive verbal contact received about this final rule.

Confidential Business Information

CBI is commercial or financial information that is both customarily and actually treated as private by its owner. Under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 U.S.C. 552), CBI is exempt from public disclosure. If your comments responsive to this AD contain commercial or financial information that is customarily treated as private, that you actually treat as private, and that is relevant or responsive to this AD, it is important that you clearly designate the submitted comments as CBI. Please mark each page of your submission containing CBI as ''PROPIN.'' The FAA will treat such marked submissions as confidential under the FOIA, and they will not be placed in the public docket of this AD. Submissions containing CBI should be sent to Krista Greer, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; telephone 206–231–3221; email *krista.greer@faa.gov.* Any commentary that the FAA receives which is not specifically designated as CBI will be placed in the public docket for this rulemaking.

Background

ANAC, which is the aviation authority for Brazil, has issued ANAC Emergency AD E2024–05–09R01, effective May 29, 2024 (ANAC AD E2024–05–09R01) (also referred to as the MCAI), to correct an unsafe condition for certain Embraer S.A. Model ERJ 170 airplanes. The MCAI states that a landing gear not locked indication during the final approach led the flight crew to declare an emergency. Although the event did not result in serious consequences, it was found that a failure could occur in the MLG locking-stay bracket assembly, due to the installation of a particular self-locking nut (P/N MS17826–5) installed during modification according to Embraer Service Bulletin 170–32–0089 or during restoration in overhaul maintenance.

The FAA is issuing this AD to address failure of the MLG locking-stay bracket assembly due to failure of this self-locking nut, which can result in uncommanded retraction of the landing gear and consequent loss of directional control of the airplane on the ground if the landing gear collapses.

You may examine the MCAI in the AD docket at *regulations.gov* under Docket No. FAA–2024–1688.

Related Material Under 1 CFR Part 51

ANAC AD E2024–05–09R01 specifies checking the airplane maintenance records to identify whether the MLG was modified according to a certain service bulletin or restored during overhaul maintenance. ANAC AD E2024–05–09R01 also specifies procedures for a general visual inspection of the left and right MLG locking-stay bracket assemblies to verify that the correct screws, washers, nuts, and cotter pins are correctly installed on the bracket; replacement of nuts having certain part numbers; and replacement of the locking-stay bracket assembly if any anomaly (looseness, missing parts, bending, cracking, or other damage) is detected in any attachment parts installed on the bracket. ANAC AD E2024–05–09R01 further prohibits the installation of nuts having P/N MS17826–5 on the MLG locking-stay bracket. This material is reasonably available because the interested parties have access to it through their normal course of business or by the means identified in the **ADDRESSES** section.

FAA's Determination

This product has been approved by the aviation authority of another country and is approved for operation in the United States. Pursuant to the FAA's bilateral agreement with this State of Design Authority, it has notified the FAA of the unsafe condition described in the MCAI referenced above. The FAA is issuing this AD after determining that the unsafe condition described previously is likely to exist or develop on other products of the same type design.

Requirements of This AD

This AD requires accomplishing the actions specified in ANAC AD E2024–05–09R01 described previously, except for any differences identified as exceptions in the regulatory text of this AD.

Explanation of Required Compliance Information

In the FAA's ongoing efforts to improve the efficiency of the AD process, the FAA developed a process to use some civil aviation authority (CAA) ADs as the primary source of information for compliance with requirements for corresponding FAA ADs. The FAA has been coordinating this process with manufacturers and CAAs. As a result, ANAC AD E2024–05–09R01 is incorporated by reference in this AD. This AD requires compliance with ANAC AD E2024–05–09R01 in its entirety through that incorporation, except for any differences

identified as exceptions in the regulatory text of this AD. Service information required by ANAC AD E2024–05–09R01 for compliance will be available at *regulations.gov* under Docket No. FAA–2024–1688 after this AD is published.

Justification for Immediate Adoption and Determination of the Effective Date

Section 553(b)(3)(B) of the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) (5 U.S.C. 551 *et seq.*) authorizes agencies to dispense with notice and comment procedures for rules when the agency, for ''good cause,'' finds that those procedures are ''impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest.'' Under this section, an agency, upon finding good cause, may issue a final rule without providing notice and seeking comment prior to issuance. Further, section 553(d) of the APA authorizes agencies to make rules effective in less than thirty days, upon a finding of good cause.

An unsafe condition exists that requires the immediate adoption of this AD without providing an opportunity for public comments prior to adoption. The FAA has found that the risk to the flying public justifies forgoing notice and comment prior to adoption of this rule because failure of the locking-stay bracket assembly due to failure of a certain self-locking nut can result in uncommanded retraction of the landing gear and consequent loss of directional control of the airplane on the ground if the landing gear collapses. Accordingly, notice and opportunity for prior public comment are impracticable and contrary to the public interest pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(3)(B).

In addition, the FAA finds that good cause exists pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(d) for making this amendment effective in less than 30 days, for the same reasons the FAA found good cause to forgo notice and comment.

Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA)

The requirements of the RFA do not apply when an agency finds good cause pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553 to adopt a rule without prior notice and comment. Because the FAA has determined that it has good cause to adopt this rule without notice and comment, RFA analysis is not required.

Costs of Compliance

The FAA estimates that this AD affects 728 airplanes of U.S. registry. The FAA estimates the following costs to comply with this AD:

ESTIMATED COSTS FOR REQUIRED ACTIONS

Labor cost	Parts cost	Cost per product	Cost on U.S. operators
1 work-hour × $85 per hour = $85	$0	$85	$61,880

The FAA estimates the following costs to do any on-condition actions that would be required based on the results of any required actions. The FAA has no way of determining the number of aircraft that might need these on-condition actions:

ESTIMATED COSTS OF ON-CONDITION ACTIONS

Labor cost	Parts cost	Cost per product
Up to 3 work-hours × $85 per hour = $255	Up to $3,740	Up to $3,995.

Authority for This Rulemaking

Title 49 of the United States Code specifies the FAA's authority to issue rules on aviation safety. Subtitle I, section 106, describes the authority of the FAA Administrator. Subtitle VII: Aviation Programs, describes in more detail the scope of the Agency's authority.

The FAA is issuing this rulemaking under the authority described in Subtitle VII, Part A, Subpart III, Section 44701: General requirements. Under that section, Congress charges the FAA with promoting safe flight of civil aircraft in air commerce by prescribing regulations for practices, methods, and procedures the Administrator finds necessary for safety in air commerce. This regulation is within the scope of that authority because it addresses an unsafe condition that is likely to exist or develop on products identified in this rulemaking action.

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, I certify 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

Air transportation, Aircraft, Aviation safety, Incorporation by reference, Safety.

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

■ 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:

2024–12–08 Embraer S.A. (Type Certificate Previously Held by Yaborã Indústria Aeronáutica S.A.; Embraer S.A.): Amendment 39–22772; Docket No. FAA–2024–1688; Project Identifier MCAI–2024–00299–T.

(a) Effective Date

This airworthiness directive (AD) is effective July 11, 2024.

(b) Affected ADs

None.

(c) Applicability

This AD applies to Embraer S.A. (Type Certificate previously held by Yaborã Indústria Aeronáutica S.A.; Embraer S.A.) Model ERJ 170–100 LR, –100 STD, –100 SE, and –100 SU airplanes, and Model ERJ 170–200 LR, –200 SU, –200 STD, and –200 LL airplanes, certificated in any category, as identified in Agência Nacional de Aviação Civil (ANAC) Emergency AD E2024–05–09R01, effective May 29, 2024 (ANAC AD E2024–05–09R01).

(d) Subject

Air Transport Association (ATA) of America Code 32, Landing gear.

(e) Unsafe Condition

This AD was prompted by a report of a landing gear not locked indication during the final approach, which led the flight crew to declare an emergency. The FAA is issuing this AD to address failure of the main landing gear (MLG) locking-stay bracket assembly due to failure of this self-locking nut, which can result in uncommanded retraction of the landing gear and consequent loss of directional control of the airplane on the ground if the landing gear collapses.

(f) Compliance

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

(g) Requirements

Except as specified in paragraph (h) of this AD: Comply with all required actions and compliance times specified in, and in accordance with, ANAC AD E2024–05–09R01.

(h) Exceptions to ANAC AD E2024–05–09R01

(1) Where ANAC AD E2024–05–09R01 refers to May 21, 2024, the effective date of ANAC Emergency AD E2024–05–09, this AD requires using the effective date of this AD.

(2) Where ANAC AD E2024–05–09R01 refers to its effective date, this AD requires using the effective date of this AD.

(3) ANAC AD E2024–05–09R01 does not specify a compliance time for the actions specified in paragraphs (b)(2)(i), (b)(2)(i)(I), (c)(2)(i), and (c)(2)(i)(I) of ANAC AD E2024–05–09R01. For this AD, after accomplishing the inspection required by paragraph (b)(2) or (c)(2), as applicable, of ANAC AD E2024–05–09R01, the actions required by paragraphs (b)(2)(i), (b)(2)(i)(I), (c)(2)(i), and (c)(2)(i)(I) of ANAC AD E2024–05–09R01 must be done before further flight, if there is no anomaly in the hardware installation on the bracket P/N 1840A0700–03 or 1840A0700–04, or nut having P/N MS17826–5 installed, as applicable.

(4) Where paragraph (e) of ANAC AD E2024–05–09R01 refers to ''After the effective date of this AD,'' for this AD, replace that text with ''As of the effective date of this AD.''

(5) This AD does not adopt paragraph (g) of ANAC AD E2024–05–09R01.

(i) Additional AD Provisions

The following provisions also apply to this AD:

(1) *Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs):* The Manager, International Validation 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 responsible Flight Standards Office, as appropriate. If sending information directly to the manager of the International Validation Branch, mail it to the address identified in paragraph (j) of this AD. Information may be emailed to: *9-AVS-AIR-730-AMOC@faa.gov.* Before using any approved AMOC, notify your appropriate principal inspector, or lacking a principal inspector, the manager of the responsible Flight Standards Office.

(2) *Contacting the Manufacturer:* For any requirement in this AD to obtain instructions from a manufacturer, the instructions must be accomplished using a method approved by the Manager, International Validation Branch, FAA; or ANAC; or ANAC's authorized Designee. If approved by the ANAC Designee, the approval must include the Designee's authorized signature.

(j) Additional Information

For more information about this AD, contact Krista Greer, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; telephone 206–231–3221; email *krista.greer@faa.gov.*

(k) Material Incorporated by Reference

(1) The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of the material listed in this paragraph under 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51.

(2) You must use this material as applicable to do the actions required by this AD, unless this AD specifies otherwise.

(i) Agência Nacional de Aviação Civil (ANAC) Emergency AD E2024–05–09R01, effective May 29, 2024.

(ii) [Reserved]

(3) For ANAC AD E2024–05–09R01, contact National Civil Aviation Agency (ANAC), Aeronautical Products Certification Branch (GGCP), Rua Dr. Orlando Feirabend Filho, 230—Centro Empresarial Aquarius—Torre B—Andares 14 a 18, Parque Residencial Aquarius, CEP 12.246–190—São José dos Campos—SP, Brazil; telephone 55 (12) 3203–6600; email: *pac@anac.gov.br;* website *anac.gov.br/en/.* You may find this ANAC AD on the ANAC website at *sistemas.anac.gov.br/certificacao/DA/DAE.asp.*

(4) You may view this material at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety Branch, 2200 South 216th St., Des Moines, WA. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 206–231–3195.

(5) You may view this material at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at NARA, visit *www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibr-locations* or email *fr.inspection@nara.gov.*

Issued on June 11, 2024.

Suzanne Masterson,

Deputy Director, Integrated Certificate Management Division, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 2024–13938 Filed 6–21–24; 11:15 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–13–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA–2024–1687; Project Identifier AD–2024–00253–T; Amendment 39–22771; AD 2024–12–07]

RIN 2120–AA64

Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Final rule; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The FAA is adopting a new airworthiness directive (AD) for The Boeing Company Model 757–200 airplanes modified by particular supplemental type certificates. This AD was prompted by reports of cracking in the structure in and around the lavatory service panel. This AD requires repetitively inspecting the lavatory service panel, access pan, and attaching structure for cracks; reinforcing the attaching structure; and if necessary, replacing the access pan or repairing cracked parts. The FAA is issuing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

DATES: This AD is effective July 11, 2024.

The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of a certain publication listed in this AD as of July 11, 2024.

The FAA must receive comments on this AD by August 12, 2024.

ADDRESSES: You may send comments, using the procedures found in 14 CFR 11.43 and 11.45, by any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to *regulations.gov.* Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- *Fax:* 202–493–2251.
- *Mail:* U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M–30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590.
- *Hand Delivery:* Deliver to Mail address above between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

AD Docket: You may examine the AD docket at *regulations.gov* by searching for and locating Docket No. FAA–2024–1687; or in person at Docket Operations between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The AD docket contains this final rule, any comments received, and other information. The street address for Docket Operations is listed above.

Material Incorporated by Reference:

- For Precision Conversions LLC material, contact Precision Conversions LLC, 9800 SW Nimbus Ave., Beaverton, OR 97008; ATTN: Brent VanFossen; phone 503–601–3001; email *brent.vanfossen@precisionaircraft.com.*
- You may view this material at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety Branch, 2200 South 216th Street, Des Moines, WA. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 206–231–3195. It is also available at *regulations.gov* under Docket No. FAA–2024–1687.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joseph Zuklic, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 2200 South 216th Street, Des Moines, WA 98198; phone 206–231–3858; email *joseph.r.zuklic@faa.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Comments Invited

The FAA invites you to send any written data, views, or arguments about this final rule. Send your comments to an address listed under the **ADDRESSES** section. Include Docket No. FAA–2024–1687 and Project Identifier AD–2024–00253–T at the beginning of your comments. The most helpful comments reference a specific portion of the final rule, explain the reason for any recommended change, and include supporting data. The FAA will consider all comments received by the closing date and may amend this final rule because of those comments.

Except for Confidential Business Information (CBI) as described in the following paragraph, and other information as described in 14 CFR 11.35, the FAA will post all comments received, without change, to *regulations.gov*, including any personal information you provide. The agency will also post a report summarizing each substantive verbal contact received about this final rule.

Confidential Business Information

CBI is commercial or financial information that is both customarily and actually treated as private by its owner. Under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 U.S.C. 552), CBI is exempt from public disclosure. If your comments responsive to this AD contain commercial or financial information that is customarily treated as private, that you actually treat as private, and that is relevant or responsive to this AD, it is important that you clearly designate the submitted comments as CBI. Please mark each page of your submission containing CBI as ''PROPIN.'' The FAA will treat such marked submissions as confidential under the FOIA, and they will not be placed in the public docket of this AD. Submissions containing CBI should be sent to Joseph Zuklic, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 2200 South 216th Street, Des Moines, WA 98198; phone 206–231–3858; email *joseph.r.zuklic@faa.gov.* Any commentary that the FAA receives that is not specifically designated as CBI will be placed in the public docket for this rulemaking.

Background

The FAA has received several reports of cracking in the structure in and around the lavatory service panel. The stress concentrations in the lavatory service panel access pan, the fuselage skin, and the stringer 22 (S–22R) attachment to the service panel are too high causing fatigue cracking. This condition, if not addressed, could result in an in-flight depressurization of the airplane, and reduced structural integrity of the aircraft. The FAA is issuing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

FAA's Determination

The FAA is issuing this AD because the agency has determined the unsafe condition described previously is likely to exist or develop in other products of the same type design.

Related Material Under 1 CFR Part 51

The FAA reviewed Precision Conversions LLC Service Bulletin PC–757–53A0005, Revision 2, dated May 7, 2024. This material specifies procedures for a detailed visual and eddy current inspection of the lavatory service panel, access pan, and attaching structure for cracks. In addition, this material specifies procedures for reinforcing the attaching structure including the following repetitive inspections for cracks: repetitive detailed visual inspections of access pan corners; internal low-frequency eddy current (LFEC) inspections of the external skin around all fastener holes common to the access pan; and internal high-frequency eddy current (HFEC) or external LFEC inspections of the doubler-to-skin fastener holes, skin trim area, and lavatory service panel cover plate fastener holes. Corrective actions specified in this material include replacing the access pan and obtaining and following repair instructions, if necessary. This material is reasonably available because the interested parties have access to it through their normal course of business or by the means identified in the **ADDRESSES** section.

AD Requirements

This AD requires accomplishing the actions specified in the material already described, except as discussed under ''Differences Between this AD and the Referenced Material,'' and except for any differences identified as exceptions in the regulatory text of this AD.

Difference Between This AD and the Referenced Material

Precision Conversions Service Bulletin PC–757–53A0005, Revision 2, dated May 7, 2024, allows repetitive inspections as an option if no crack is found during the detailed visual inspection of the lavatory service panel, access pan fastener holes, S–22R stringer, and external skin (Condition 2, Option 1). However, the FAA received numerous reports of cracking in the structure in and around the lavatory service panel, necessitating reinforcement of the area within 2,000 flight cycles. Long-term inspections may not provide the degree of safety necessary for the affected fleet; thus, this AD does not allow for this inspection to be repeated and instead requires installing the reinforcement within 2,000 flight cycles after the initial inspection.

Justification for Immediate Adoption and Determination of the Effective Date

Section 553(b)(3)(B) of the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) (5 U.S.C. 551 *et seq.*) authorizes agencies to dispense with notice and comment procedures for rules when the agency, for ''good cause,'' finds that those procedures are ''impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest.'' Under this section, an agency, upon finding good cause, may issue a final rule without providing notice and seeking comment prior to issuance. Further, section 553(d) of the APA authorizes agencies to make rules effective in less than thirty days, upon a finding of good cause.

An unsafe condition exists that requires the immediate adoption of this AD without providing an opportunity for public comments prior to adoption. The FAA has found that the risk to the flying public justifies forgoing notice and comment prior to adoption of this rule because fatigue cracking in the lavatory service panel, the fuselage skin, and/or stringer 22 could result in an in-flight depressurization of the airplane and reduced structural integrity of the aircraft. Several affected airplanes have already exceeded the flight cycle inspection threshold. In addition, the FAA received numerous reports of cracking in the structure in and around

the lavatory service panel, supporting an increased likelihood of a decompression event on aircraft that are not reinforced. Because of the urgency of the unsafe condition, affected airplanes must be inspected within the grace period (3 months) allowed after the effective date of this AD. Accordingly, notice and opportunity for prior public comment are impracticable and contrary to the public interest pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(3)(B).

Regulatory Flexibility Act

The requirements of the Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA) do not apply when an agency finds good cause pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553 to adopt a rule without prior notice and comment. Because the FAA has determined that it has good cause to adopt this rule without notice and comment, RFA analysis is not required.

Costs of Compliance

The FAA estimates that this AD affects 13 airplanes of U.S. registry. The FAA estimates the following costs to comply with this AD:

ESTIMATED COSTS

Action	Labor cost	Parts cost	Cost per product	Cost on U.S. operators
Inspection	8 work-hours × $85 per hour = $680 per inspection cycle.	$0	$680 per inspection cycle.	$8,840 per inspection cycle.
Reinforcement installation	38 work-hours × $85 per hour = $3,230	3,910	7,140	92,820.

The FAA estimates the following costs to do any replacement that would be required based on the results of the inspection. The FAA has no way of determining the number of aircraft that might need this replacement:

Action	Labor cost	Parts cost	Cost per product
Service pan replacement	10 work-hours × $85 per hour = $850	$250	$1,100

The FAA has received no definitive data on which to base the cost estimates for the on-condition repairs specified in this AD.

Authority for This Rulemaking

Title 49 of the United States Code specifies the FAA's authority to issue rules on aviation safety. Subtitle I, section 106, describes the authority of the FAA Administrator. Subtitle VII: Aviation Programs describes in more detail the scope of the Agency's authority.

The FAA is issuing this rulemaking under the authority described in Subtitle VII, Part A, Subpart III, Section 44701: General requirements. Under that section, Congress charges the FAA with promoting safe flight of civil aircraft in air commerce by prescribing regulations for practices, methods, and procedures the Administrator finds necessary for safety in air commerce. This regulation is within the scope of that authority because it addresses an unsafe condition that is likely to exist or develop on products identified in this rulemaking action.

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, I certify 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

Air transportation, Aircraft, Aviation safety, Incorporation by reference, Safety.

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

■ 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:

2024–12–07 The Boeing Company: Amendment 39–22771; Docket No. FAA–2024–1687; Project Identifier AD–2024–00253–T.

(a) Effective Date

This airworthiness directive (AD) is effective July 11, 2024.

(b) Affected ADs

None.

(c) Applicability

This AD applies to The Boeing Company Model 757–200 airplanes, certificated in any category, modified by supplemental type certificate ST01529SE or ST02278SE.

(d) Subject

Air Transport Association (ATA) of America Code 53, Fuselage.

(e) Unsafe Condition

This AD was prompted by reports of cracking in the structure in and around the lavatory service panel. The FAA is issuing this AD to address cracks in and around the lavatory service panel. The unsafe condition, if not addressed, could result in an in-flight depressurization of the airplane and reduced structural integrity of the aircraft.

(f) Compliance

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

(g) Requirements

Except as specified in paragraph (h) of this AD: Comply with all required actions and compliance times specified in, and in accordance with the Accomplishment Instructions of Precision Conversions Service Bulletin PC–757–53A0005, Revision 2, dated May 7, 2024.

(h) Exceptions to Service Information Specifications

(1) Where the table in the ''Compliance'' paragraph of Precision Conversions Service Bulletin PC–757–53A0005, Revision 2, dated May 7, 2024, refers to the original issue date of this service bulletin, this AD requires using the effective date of this AD.

(2) Where the table in the ''Compliance'' paragraph of Precision Conversions Service

Bulletin PC–757–53A0005, Revision 2, dated May 7, 2024, specifies in Condition 2 Option 1 to repetitively inspect if no cracks are found, this AD does not allow repetitive inspections and requires installing reinforcement within 2,000 flight cycles after the initial inspection in accordance with Paragraph III, Part 3, Reinforcement, of Precision Conversions Service Bulletin PC–757–53A0005, Revision 2, dated May 7, 2024.

(3) Where Precision Conversions Service Bulletin PC–757–53A0005, Revision 2, dated May 7, 2024, specifies contacting Precision Engineering for instructions when specific conditions are found, this AD requires complying with those instructions by using a method approved in accordance with the procedures specified in paragraph (i) of this AD.

(i) Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs)

(1) The Manager, West Certification 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 responsible Flight Standards 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 (j) of this AD. Information may be emailed to: *AMOC@faa.gov.*

(2) Before using any approved AMOC, notify your appropriate principal inspector, or lacking a principal inspector, the manager of the responsible Flight Standards Office.

(3) An AMOC that provides an acceptable level of safety may be used for any repair, modification, or alteration required by this AD if it is approved by The Boeing Company Organization Designation Authorization (ODA) that has been authorized by the Manager, AIR–520, Continued Operational Safety Branch, FAA, to make those findings. To be approved, the repair method, modification deviation, or alteration deviation must meet the certification basis of the airplane, and the approval must specifically refer to this AD.

(4) Except as required by paragraph (h) of this AD: For material that contains steps that are labeled as Required for Compliance (RC), the provisions of paragraphs (i)(4)(i) and (ii) of this AD apply.

(i) The steps labeled as RC, including substeps under an RC step and any figures identified in an RC step, must be done to comply with the AD. If a step or substep is labeled ''RC Exempt,'' then the RC requirement is removed from that step or substep. An AMOC is required for any deviations to RC steps, including substeps and identified figures.

(ii) Steps not labeled as RC may be deviated from using accepted methods in accordance with the operator's maintenance or inspection program without obtaining approval of an AMOC, provided the RC steps, including substeps and identified figures, can still be done as specified, and the airplane can be put back in an airworthy condition.

(j) Related Information

For more information about this AD, contact Joseph Zuklic, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 2200 South 216th Street, Des Moines, WA 98198; phone 206–231–3858; email *joseph.r.zuklic@faa.gov.*

(k) Material Incorporated by Reference

(1) The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference (IBR) of the service information listed in this paragraph under 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51.

(2) You must use this material as applicable to do the actions required by this AD, unless the AD specifies otherwise.

(i) Precision Conversions Service Bulletin PC–757–53A0005, Revision 2, dated May 7, 2024.

(ii) [Reserved]

(3) For Precision Conversions LLC material, contact Precision Conversions LLC, 9800 SW Nimbus Ave, Beaverton, OR 97008; ATTN: Brent VanFossen; phone 503–601–3001; email *brent.vanfossen@precisionaircraft.com.*

(4) You may view this material at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety Branch, 2200 South 216th Street, Des Moines, WA. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 206–231–3195.

(5) You may view this material at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at NARA, visit *www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibr-locations* or email *fr.inspection@nara.gov.*

Issued on June 11, 2024.

Suzanne Masterson,

Deputy Director, Integrated Certificate Management Division, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 2024–13936 Filed 6–21–24; 11:15 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–13–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 71

[Docket No. FAA–2023–2567; Airspace Docket No. 23–ANM–32]

RIN 2120–AA66

Establishment of United States Area Navigation Routes Q–143 and T–467 in Southern Utah

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This action establishes United States Area Navigation Routes (RNAV) Q–143 and T–467 in southern Utah. The FAA is taking this action to provide alternative routing around the TIPET and SEVIER Air Traffic Control Assigned Airspaces (ATCAA) and the White Elk and Gandy Military Operations Areas (MOA).

DATES: Effective date 0901 UTC, September 5, 2024. The Director of the Federal Register approves this incorporation by reference action under 1 CFR part 51, subject to the annual revision of FAA Order JO 7400.11 and publication of conforming amendments.

ADDRESSES: A copy of the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM), all comments received, this final rule, and all background material may be viewed online at *www.regulations.gov* using the FAA Docket number. Electronic retrieval help and guidelines are available on the website. It is available 24 hours each day, 365 days each year.

FAA Order JO 7400.11H, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, and subsequent amendments can be viewed online at *www.faa.gov/air_traffic/publications/.* You may also contact the Rules and Regulations Group, Office of Policy, Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20591; telephone: (202) 267–8783.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Steven Roff, Rules and Regulations Group, Office of Policy, Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20591; telephone: (202) 267–8783.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority for This Rulemaking

The FAA's authority to issue rules regarding aviation safety is found in Title 49 of the United States Code. Subtitle I, Section 106 describes the authority of the FAA Administrator. Subtitle VII, Aviation Programs, describes in more detail the scope of the agency's authority. This rulemaking is promulgated under the authority described in Subtitle VII, Part A, Subpart I, Section 40103. Under that section, the FAA is charged with prescribing regulations to assign the use of the airspace necessary to ensure the safety of aircraft and the efficient use of airspace. This regulation is within the scope of that authority as it would increase the efficiency and safety of the flow of air traffic within the National Airspace System (NAS).

History

The FAA published a NPRM for Docket No. FAA–2023–2567 in the **Federal Register** (89 FR 1854; January 11, 2024), proposing to establish RNAV routes Q–143 and T–467 in southern Utah. Interested parties were invited to participate in this rulemaking effort by submitting comments on the proposal. One comment was received which

expressed several concerns, most of which are beyond the scope of this action. However, the commentor did raise a specific issue with regards to aircraft overflying wilderness areas. The FAA conducted an environmental review in accordance with Department of Transportation Order 5610.1, Procedures for Considering Environmental Impacts, FAA Order 1050.1, Environmental Impacts: Policies and Procedures, and FAA Order JO 7400.2, Procedures for Handling Airspace Matters. Impacts to wilderness areas are a type of extraordinary circumstance found in FAA Order 1050.1F. The proposed airways were found to fly over three wilderness areas. The review determined that: regarding Q–143, it will have no impact on these wilderness areas due to Q routes are flown at flight level 180 or higher. regarding T–467, T routes are flown between 1,200 ft Above Ground Level (AGL) and up to, but not including, 18,000 ft AGL. Past flight data shows that 19 aircraft per year fly a similar path the three wilderness areas, any effects due to noise or visual impacts will be insignificant and therefore the proposed action does not constitute an extraordinary circumstance. Since the FAA does not expect an increase in operations from a similar path, the FAA projects same number of aircraft to fly T–467. Additionally, none of the Minimum Enroute Altitudes for this route are lower than 2,000 ft AGL. Considering this small number of aircraft per year flying over the three wilderness areas, any effects due to noise or visual impacts will be insignificant, and therefore the proposed action does not constitute an extraordinary circumstance.

This meets the current guidance for aircraft operating over charted United States wildlife refuges, parks and forest areas as published in section 7–5–6(b) of the Aeronautical Information Manual (AIM).

Incorporation by Reference

United States Area Navigation routes are published in paragraph 2006 (Q routes) and paragraph 6011 (T routes) of FAA Order JO 7400.11, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, which is incorporated by reference in 14 CFR 71.1 on an annual basis. This document amends the current version of that order, FAA Order JO 7400.11H, dated August 11, 2023, and effective September 15, 2023. FAA Order JO 7400.11H is publicly available as listed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this document. These amendments will be published in the next update to FAA Order JO 7400.11.

FAA Order JO 7400.11H lists Class A, B, C, D, and E airspace areas, air traffic service routes, and reporting points.

The Rule

This action amends 14 CFR part 71 by establishing RNAV routes Q–143 and T–467 in southern Utah. The FAA is taking this action to provide alternative routing around the TIPET and SEVIER ATCAAs and the White Elk and Gandy MOAs when active. The amendment is described below.

Q–143: Q–143 extends between the WINEN, UT WP to the BROPH, ID, WP and provides alternate routing to Q–73 when the TIPET and SEVIER ATCAAs are active.

T–467: T–467 extends between the BERYL, UT, Fix and the BROPH, ID, WP and provides alternative routing when the White Elknd Gandy MOAs are active.

Regulatory Notices and Analyses

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. Since this is a routine matter that only affects air traffic procedures and air navigation, it is certified that this rule, when promulgated, does not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

Environmental Review

The FAA has determined that this airspace action of establishing RNAV routes Q–143 and T–467 qualifies for categorical exclusion under the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) and its implementing regulations at 40 CFR part 1500, and in accordance with FAA Order 1050.1F, Environmental Impacts: Policies and Procedures, paragraph 5–6.5a, which categorically excludes from further environmental impact review rulemaking actions that designate or modify classes of airspace areas, airways, routes, and reporting points (see 14 CFR part 71, Designation of Class A, B, C, D, and E Airspace Areas; Air Traffic Service Routes; and Reporting Points), and paragraph 5–6.5i, which categorically excludes from further environmental review the establishment of new or revised air traffic control procedures conducted at 3,000 feet or more above ground level (AGL); procedures conducted below 3,000 feet AGL that do not cause traffic to be routinely routed over noise sensitive areas; modifications to currently approved procedures conducted below 3,000 feet AGL that do not significantly increase noise over noise sensitive areas; and increases in minimum altitudes and landing minima. As such, this action is not expected to result in any potentially significant environmental impacts. In accordance with FAA Order 1050.1F, paragraph 5–2 regarding Extraordinary Circumstances, the FAA has reviewed this action for factors and circumstances in which a normally categorically excluded action may have a significant environmental impact requiring further analysis. Accordingly, the FAA has determined that no extraordinary circumstances exist that warrant preparation of an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 71

Airspace, Incorporation by reference, Navigation (air).

The Amendment

In consideration of the foregoing, the Federal Aviation Administration amends 14 CFR part 71 as follows:

PART 71—DESIGNATION OF CLASS A, B, C, D, AND E AIRSPACE AREAS; AIR TRAFFIC SERVICE ROUTES; AND REPORTING POINTS

■ 1. The authority citation for 14 CFR part 71 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 106(f), 106(g); 40103, 40113, 40120; E.O. 10854, 24 FR 9565, 3 CFR, 1959–1963 Comp., p. 389.

§ 71.1 [Amended]

■ 2. The incorporation by reference in 14 CFR 71.1 of FAA Order JO 7400.11H, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, dated August 11, 2023, and effective September 15, 2023, is amended as follows:

Paragraph 2006 United States Area Navigation Routes

* * * * *

Q–143 WINEN, UT to BROPH, ID [New]

WINEN, UT	WP	(Lat. 37°56′00.00″ N, long. 113°30′00.00″ W)
TESSA, NV	WP	(Lat. 39°39′15.04″ N, long. 115°16′15.97″ W)
RUBII, NV	WP	(Lat. 40°27′03.58″ N, long. 115°16′15.97″ W)
CLEIN, NV	WP	(Lat. 41°53′37.36″ N, long. 114°52′51.96″ W)
BROPH, ID	WP	(Lat. 42°43′15.71″ N, long. 114°52′31.80″ W)

* * * * *

Paragraph 6011 United States Area Navigation Routes.

T–467 BERYL, UT to BROPH, ID [New]

BERYL, UT	FIX	(Lat. 37°54′00.17″ N, long. 113°23′08.58″ W)
ELY, NV (ELY)	VOR/DME	(Lat. 39°17′53.25″ N, long. 114°50′53.90″ W)
TESSA, NV	WP	(Lat. 39°39′15.04″ N, long. 115°16′15.97″ W)
RUBII, NV	WP	(Lat. 40°27′03.58″ N, long. 115°16′15.97″ W)
WELLS, NV (LWL)	VOR/DME	(Lat. 41°08′41.29″ N, long. 114°58′39.04″ W)
YIKUK, NV	FIX	(Lat. 41°59′05.16″ N, long. 114°51′49.12″ W)
BROPH, ID	WP	(Lat. 42°43′15.71″ N, long. 114°52′31.80″ W)

Issued in Washington, DC, on June 18, 2024.

Frank Lias,

Manager, Rules and Regulations Group.

[FR Doc. 2024–13784 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–13–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 165

[Docket Number USCG–2024–0530]

RIN 1625–AA00

Safety Zone; Provincetown Harbor, Provincetown, MA

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Temporary final rule.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is establishing a temporary safety zone for a fireworks display on certain waters of the Provincetown Harbor near Provincetown, MA. The safety zone is needed to protect personnel, spectators, and vessels from potential hazards created by the fireworks display. This rulemaking will prohibit persons and vessels from entering the safety zone unless authorized by the Captain of the Sector Southeastern New England or a designated representative.

DATES: This rule is effective from 9 p.m. on July 4, 2024, through 10 p.m. on July 5, 2024. The rule will be enforced from 9 p.m. through 10 p.m. on July 4, 2024, unless the event time is changed because of weather conditions in which case it may be subject to enforcement those same hours on July 5, 2024.

ADDRESSES: To view documents mentioned in this preamble as being available in the docket, go to *https://www.regulations.gov,* type USCG–2024–0530 in the search box and click ''Search.'' Next, in the Document Type column, select ''Supporting & Related Material.''

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions about this rule, call or email MST2 Christopher Matthews, Waterways Management Division, Sector Southeastern New England, U.S. Coast Guard; telephone 571–610–4969, email *SENEWWM@uscg.mil.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Table of Abbreviations

CFR Code of Federal Regulations
COTP Captain of the Port Sector Southeastern New England
DHS Department of Homeland Security
FR Federal Register
NPRM Notice of proposed rulemaking
§ Section
U.S.C. United States Code

II. Background Information and Regulatory History

On April 24, 2024, the City of Provincetown notified the Coast Guard that they will be conducting a firework show from 9 p.m. through 10 p.m. on July 4, 2024. The firework show will take place in the vicinity of the Provincetown Harbor near Provincetown, MA.

The Captain of the Port Sector Southeastern New England (COTP) has determined that potential hazards associated with the firework show will be a safety concern for anyone attempting to transit the Provincetown Harbor. The Coast Guard is issuing this temporary rule under the authority in 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B). This statutory provision authorizes an agency to issue a rule without prior notice and opportunity to comment when the agency for good cause finds that those procedures are ''impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest.'' The Coast Guard finds that good cause exists for not publishing a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) with respect to this rule because doing so would be impracticable and contrary to the public interest. We must establish the temporary safety zone by July 4, 2024, to ensure the safety of spectators and the general public from hazards associated with the fireworks display.

Also, under 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3), the Coast Guard finds that good cause exists for making this rule effective less than 30 days after publication in the **Federal Register**. Delaying the effective date of this rule would be impracticable and contrary to the public interest because the temporary safety zone must be established by July 4, 2024, to ensure the safety of spectators and vessels during the fireworks display.

III. Legal Authority and Need for Rule

The Coast Guard is issuing this rule under the authority in 46 U.S.C. 70034. The COTP has determined that potential hazards associated with the fireworks event occurring July 4, 2024, will be a safety concern for anyone within 500 yards of the pier where the fireworks will be launched. This rule is needed to protect personnel, vessels, and the marine environment in the navigable waters within the safety zone while the fireworks event occurs.

IV. Discussion of the Rule

This rule establishes a temporary safety zone on the navigable waters of the Provincetown Harbor during fireworks display from a pier. The event is scheduled to take place between 9 p.m. and 10 p.m. on July 4, 2024, unless the event is delayed because of weather

conditions in which case it may take place between 9 p.m. and 10 p.m. on July 4, 2024. The safety zone will cover all navigable waters of the Provincetown Harbor within 500 yards of the pier positioned at approximately 42°02′58″ N, 070°10′52″ W. The duration of the zone is intended to protect personnel, vessels, and the marine environment in these navigable waters during the fireworks display. No vessel or person will be permitted to enter the safety zone without obtaining permission from the COTP or a designated representative.

V. Regulatory Analyses

We developed this rule after considering numerous statutes and Executive orders related to rulemaking. Below we summarize our analyses based on a number of these statutes and Executive orders, and we discuss First Amendment rights of protestors.

A. Regulatory Planning and Review

Executive Orders 12866 and 13563 direct agencies to assess the costs and benefits of available regulatory alternatives and, if regulation is necessary, to select regulatory approaches that maximize net benefits. This rule has not been designated a ''significant regulatory action,'' under section 3(f) of Executive Order 12866, as amended by Executive Order 14094 (Modernizing Regulatory Review). Accordingly, this rule has not been reviewed by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

This regulatory action determination is based on size, location, duration, and time-of-day of the safety zone. This rule involves a safety zone that will be enforced for approximately 1 hour and impact a limited area of the Provincetown Harbor during a fireworks event. Moreover, the Coast Guard will issue a Broadcast Notice to Mariners via VHF–FM marine channel 16 about the safety zone and the rule will allow vessels to seek permission to enter the area.

B. Impact on Small Entities

The Regulatory Flexibility Act of 1980, 5 U.S.C. 601–612, as amended, requires Federal agencies to consider the potential impact of regulations on small entities during rulemaking. The term ''small entities'' comprises small businesses, not-for-profit organizations that are independently owned and operated and are not dominant in their fields, and governmental jurisdictions with populations of less than 50,000. The Coast Guard certifies under 5 U.S.C. 605(b) that this rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

While some owners or operators of vessels intending to transit the safety zone may be small entities, for the reasons stated in section V.A above, this rule will not have a significant economic impact on any vessel owner or operator.

Under section 213(a) of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 (Pub. L. 104–121), we want to assist small entities in understanding this rule. If the rule would affect your small business, organization, or governmental jurisdiction and you have questions concerning its provisions or options for compliance, please call or email the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section.

Small businesses may send comments on the actions of Federal employees who enforce, or otherwise determine compliance with, Federal regulations to the Small Business and Agriculture Regulatory Enforcement Ombudsman and the Regional Small Business Regulatory Fairness Boards. The Ombudsman evaluates these actions annually and rates each agency's responsiveness to small business. If you wish to comment on actions by employees of the Coast Guard, call 1–888–REG–FAIR (1–888–734–3247). The Coast Guard will not retaliate against small entities that question or complain about this rule or any policy or action of the Coast Guard.

C. Collection of Information

This rule will not call for a new collection of information under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501–3520).

D. Federalism and Indian Tribal Governments

A rule has implications for federalism under Executive Order 13132, Federalism, if it has 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. We have analyzed this rule under that Order and have determined that it is consistent with the fundamental federalism principles and preemption requirements described in Executive Order 13132.

Also, this rule does not have tribal implications under Executive Order 13175, Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments, because it does not have a substantial direct effect on one or more Indian tribes, on the relationship between the Federal Government and Indian tribes, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities between the Federal Government and Indian tribes.

E. Unfunded Mandates Reform Act

The Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1531–1538) requires Federal agencies to assess the effects of their discretionary regulatory actions. In particular, the Act addresses actions that may result in the expenditure by a State, local, or tribal government, in the aggregate, or by the private sector of $100,000,000 (adjusted for inflation) or more in any one year. Though this rule will not result in such an expenditure, we do discuss the effects of this rule elsewhere in this preamble.

F. Environment

We have analyzed this rule under Department of Homeland Security Directive 023–01, Rev. 1, associated implementing instructions, and Environmental Planning COMDTINST 5090.1 (series), which guide the Coast Guard in complying with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321–4370f), and have determined that this action is one of a category of actions that do not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment. This rule involves a safety zone lasting only 1 hour that will prohibit entry within 500 yards of the pier in Provincetown Harbor, Provincetown, MA, positioned at 42°02′58″ N, 070°10′52″ W. It is categorically excluded from further review under paragraph L60(a) of Appendix A, Table 1 of DHS Instruction Manual 023–01–001–01, Rev. 1. A Record of Environmental Consideration supporting this determination is available in the docket. For instructions on locating the docket, see the **ADDRESSES** section of this preamble.

G. Protest Activities

The Coast Guard respects the First Amendment rights of protesters. Protesters are asked to call or email the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section to coordinate protest activities so that your message can be received without jeopardizing the safety or security of people, places, or vessels.

List of Subjects in 33 CFR Part 165

Harbors, Marine safety, Navigation (water), Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Security measures, Waterways.

For the reasons discussed in the preamble, the Coast Guard amends 33 CFR part 165 as follows:

PART 165—REGULATED NAVIGATION AREAS AND LIMITED ACCESS AREAS

■ 1. The authority citation for part 165 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 46 U.S.C. 70034, 70051, 70124; 33 CFR 1.05–1, 6.04–1, 6.04–6, and 160.5; Department of Homeland Security Delegation No. 00170.1, Revision No. 01.3.

■ 2. Add § 165.T01–0530 to read as follows:

§ 165.T01–0530 Safety Zone; Provincetown Harbor, Provincetown, MA.

(a) *Location.* The following area is a safety zone: All navigable waters of the Provincetown Harbor within 500 yards of the pier located at approximately 42°02′58″ N, 070°10′52″ W. These coordinates are based on NAD 83.

(b) *Definitions.* As used in this section, *designated representative* means a Coast Guard Patrol Commander, including a Coast Guard coxswain, petty officer, or other officer operating a Coast Guard vessel and a Federal, State, and local officer designated by or assisting the Captain of the Port Sector Southeastern New England (COTP) in the enforcement of the safety zone.

(c) *Regulations.* (1) Under the general safety zone regulations in subpart C of this part, you may not enter the safety zone described in paragraph (a) of this section unless authorized by the COTP or the COTP's designated representative.

(2) To seek permission to enter, contact the COTP or the COTP's representative on VHF–FM channel 16 or by telephone at 866–819–9128. Those in the safety zone must comply with all lawful orders or directions given to them by the COTP or the COTP's designated representative.

(d) *Effective and enforcement period.* This section is effective from 9 p.m. on July 4, 2024, through 10 p.m. on July 5, 2024. The section will only be subject to enforcement from 9 p.m. through 10 p.m. on July 4, 2024, unless the event time is changed because of weather conditions in which case it may be subject to enforcement those same hours on July 5, 2024.

Clinton J. Prindle,

Captain, U.S. Coast Guard, Captain of the Port Sector Southeastern New England.

[FR Doc. 2024–13917 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9110–04–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 180

[EPA–HQ–OPP–2023–0639; FRL–11977–01–OCSPP]

Spiromesifen; Pesticide Tolerances

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This regulation establishes tolerances for residues of spiromesifen in or on Oranges and Orange, oil. Bayer CropScience, LP requested these tolerances under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA).

DATES: This regulation is effective June 26, 2024. Objections and requests for hearings must be received on or before August 26, 2024 and must be filed in accordance with the instructions provided in 40 CFR part 178 (see also Unit I.C. of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**).

ADDRESSES: The docket for this action, identified by docket identification (ID) number EPA–HQ–OPP–2023–0639, is available at *https://www.regulations.gov* or at the Office of Pesticide Programs Regulatory Public Docket (OPP Docket) in the Environmental Protection Agency Docket Center (EPA/DC), West William Jefferson Clinton Bldg., Rm. 3334, 1301 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20460–0001. The Public Reading Room is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The telephone number for the Public Reading Room and OPP Docket is (202) 566–1744. For the latest status information on EPA/DC services, docket access, visit *https://www.epa.gov/.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Charles Smith, Director, Registration Division (7505T), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20460–0001; main telephone number: (202) 566–1030; email address: *RDFRNotices@epa.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. General Information

A. Does this action apply to me?

You may be potentially affected by this action if you are an agricultural producer, food manufacturer, or pesticide manufacturer. The following list of North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) codes is not intended to be exhaustive, but rather provides a guide to help readers determine whether this document applies to them. Potentially affected entities may include:

- Crop production (NAICS code 111).
- Animal production (NAICS code 112).
- Food manufacturing (NAICS code 311).
- Pesticide manufacturing (NAICS code 32532).

B. How can I get electronic access to other related information?

You may access a frequently updated electronic version of EPA's tolerance regulations at 40 CFR part 180 through the Office of the Federal Register's e-CFR site at *https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-40.*

C. How can I file an objection or hearing request?

Under FFDCA section 408(g), 21 U.S.C. 346a(g), any person may file an objection to any aspect of this regulation and may also request a hearing on those objections. You must file your objection or request a hearing on this regulation in accordance with the instructions provided in 40 CFR part 178. To ensure proper receipt by EPA, you must identify docket ID number EPA–HQ–OPP–2023–0639 in the subject line on the first page of your submission. All objections and requests for a hearing must be in writing and must be received by the Hearing Clerk on or before August 26, 2024. Addresses for mail and hand delivery of objections and hearing requests are provided in 40 CFR 178.25(b).

EPA's Office of Administrative Law Judges (OALJ), in which the Hearing Clerk is housed, urges parties to file and serve documents by electronic means only, notwithstanding any other particular requirements set forth in other procedural rules governing those proceedings. See ''Revised Order Urging Electronic Service and Filing'', dated June 22, 2023, which can be found at *https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2023-06/2023-06-22%20-%20revised%20order%20urging%20electronic%20filing%20and%20service.pdf.*

Although EPA's regulations require submission via U.S. Mail or hand delivery, EPA intends to treat submissions filed via electronic means as properly filed submissions; therefore, EPA believes the preference for submission via electronic means will not be prejudicial. When submitting documents to the OALJ electronically, a person should utilize the OALJ e-filing system at *https://yosemite.epa.gov/oa/eab/eab-alj_upload.nsf.*

In addition to filing an objection or hearing request with the Hearing Clerk as described in 40 CFR part 178, please submit a copy of the filing (excluding

any Confidential Business Information (CBI)) for inclusion in the public docket. Information not marked confidential pursuant to 40 CFR part 2 may be disclosed publicly by EPA without prior notice. Submit the non-CBI copy of your objection or hearing request, identified by docket ID number EPA–HQ–OPP–2023–0639, by one of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal: https://www.regulations.gov.* Follow the online instructions for submitting comments. Do not submit electronically any information you consider to be CBI or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute.
- *Mail:* OPP Docket, Environmental Protection Agency Docket Center (EPA/DC), (28221T), 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20460–0001.
- *Hand Delivery:* To make special arrangements for hand delivery or delivery of boxed information, please follow the instructions at *https://www.epa.gov/dockets/where-send-comments-epa-dockets.*

Additional instructions on commenting or visiting the docket, along with more information about dockets generally, is available at *https://www.epa.gov/dockets.*

II. Summary of Petitioned-For Tolerance

In the **Federal Register** of February 9, 2024 (89 FR 9103) (FRL–10579–12–OCSPP), EPA issued a document pursuant to FFDCA section 408(d)(3), 21 U.S.C. 346a(d)(3), announcing the filing of pesticide petition (PP 2E9039) by Bayer CropScience, AG, 800 N Lindbergh Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63141. The petition requested that 40 CFR 180.607 be amended by establishing tolerances for residues of the miticide spiromesifen, in or on orange at 0.15 parts per million (ppm); orange, oil at 40.0 ppm. That document referenced a summary of the petition prepared by Bayer CropScience, the registrant, which is available in the docket, *https://www.regulations.gov.* Two comments were received on the notice of filing. EPA's response to these comments is discussed in Unit IV.C.

Based upon review of the data supporting the petition and in accordance with its authority under FFDCA section 408(d)(4)(A)(i), EPA is establishing tolerances that vary from what is requested. The reason for these changes is explained in Unit IV.D.

III. Aggregate Risk Assessment and Determination of Safety

Section 408(b)(2)(A)(i) of FFDCA allows EPA to establish a tolerance (the legal limit for a pesticide chemical residue in or on a food) only if EPA determines that the tolerance is ''safe.'' Section 408(b)(2)(A)(ii) of FFDCA defines ''safe'' to mean that ''there is a reasonable certainty that no harm will result from aggregate exposure to the pesticide chemical residue, including all anticipated dietary exposures and all other exposures for which there is reliable information.'' This includes exposure through drinking water and in residential settings but does not include occupational exposure. Section 408(b)(2)(C) of FFDCA requires EPA to give special consideration to exposure of infants and children to the pesticide chemical residue in establishing a tolerance and to ''ensure that there is a reasonable certainty that no harm will result to infants and children from aggregate exposure to the pesticide chemical residue. . . .''

Consistent with FFDCA section 408(b)(2)(D), and the factors specified in FFDCA section 408(b)(2)(D), EPA has reviewed the available scientific data and other relevant information in support of this action. EPA has sufficient data to assess the hazards of and to make a determination on aggregate exposure for spiromesifen including exposure resulting from the tolerances established by this action. EPA's assessment of exposures and risks associated with spiromesifen follows.

In an effort to streamline its publications in the **Federal Register**, EPA is not reprinting sections that repeat what has been previously published for tolerance rulemaking of the same pesticide chemical. Where scientific information concerning a particular chemical remains unchanged, the content of those sections would not vary between tolerance rulemaking, and EPA considers referral back to those sections as sufficient to provide an explanation of the information EPA considered in making its safety determination for the new rulemaking.

EPA has previously published a tolerance rulemaking for spiromesifen in which EPA concluded, based on the available information, that there is a reasonable certainty that no harm would result from aggregate exposure to spiromesifen and established tolerances for residues of that chemical. EPA is incorporating previously published sections from this rulemaking as described further in this rulemaking, as they remain unchanged.

A. Toxicological Profile

For a discussion of the Toxicological Profile of spiromesifen, see Unit III.A. of the spiromesifen tolerance rulemaking published in the **Federal Register** of September 11, 2018 (83 FR 45844) (FRL–9982–21).

B. Toxicological Points of Departure/Levels of Concern

For a summary of the toxicity endpoint and point of departure selections for spiromesifen, please reference Unit III.B. of the September 11, 2018, rulemaking.

C. Exposure Assessment Updates

EPA's exposure assessments have been updated to include the additional dietary exposure of spiromesifen on oranges and orange, oil. EPA's aggregate exposure assessment incorporated this additional dietary exposure, as well as exposure in drinking water and from residential sources, although the latter exposures are not impacted by the new import tolerance on oranges and thus have not changed since the last assessment. The registered residential uses and exposures that are incorporated into the aggregate assessment are described in Unit III.C.3 of the September 11, 2018, final rule.

Further information about EPA's risk assessment and determination of safety can be found at *https://www.regulations.gov* in the document titled ''Spiromesifen. Section 3 Human Health Risk Assessment for Tolerances without U.S. Registration on Oranges from Brazil'' dated December 20, 2023, in docket ID EPA–HQ–OPP–2023–0639.

D. Safety Factor for Infants and Children

Section 408(b)(2)(C) of FFDCA provides that EPA shall apply an additional tenfold (10X) margin of safety for infants and children to account for potential prenatal and postnatal toxicity. In applying this provision, EPA either retains the default value of 10X, or uses a different safety factor supported by the completeness and reliability of the toxicity database and exposure considerations that is considered protective of infants and children. For spiromesifen, the risk assessment supports the reduction of the Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA) Safety Factor (SF) to 1X based on the following: (1) there was no evidence of increased susceptibility observed in the developmental toxicity studies in rats and rabbits, (2) while there was susceptibility observed in the 2-generation reproduction study in rats, the current PODs are based on these effects, with clear NOAELs/LOAELs established, and are therefore considered protective, (3) while the dog appears to be the more sensitive species in regards to thyroid toxicity in the spiromesifen database, the current PODs

based on offspring effects in rats are 2.5X lower than the lowest dose where thyroid effects occurred in dogs, (4) label changes have been made that result in MOEs at least 10X above the LOC and lower %cPAD estimates based on a less refined dietary assessment, which adds an additional built in margin of safety. Based on the overall weight of evidence, EPA concludes that the current endpoints and PODs, along with the additional built in safety margins from the recent label changes, result in risk estimates that are protective of any potential thyroid effects that may occur at sensitive lifestages in humans, including infants and children. For more details about the FQPA Safety Factor and the justification for lowering the margin from 10X to 1X, see the December 20, 2023, human health risk assessment, in docket ID EPA–HQ–OPP–2023–0639.

E. Aggregate Risks and Determination of Safety

EPA determines whether acute and chronic dietary pesticide exposures are safe by comparing aggregate exposure estimates to the acute population-adjusted dose (aPAD) and chronic population-adjusted dose (cPAD). Short-, intermediate-, and chronic-term risks are evaluated by comparing the estimated aggregate food, water, and residential exposure to the appropriate points of departure to ensure that an adequate margin of exposure (MOE) exists. For linear cancer risks, EPA calculates the lifetime probability of acquiring cancer given the estimated aggregate exposure.

1. *Acute risk.* No acute dietary endpoint was selected as no appropriate toxicological effects attributable to a single dose were observed. As a result, spiromesifen is not expected to pose an acute risk.

2. *Chronic risk.* Chronic dietary risk estimates are below the Agency's level of concern of 100% of the cPAD; which were 11% of the cPAD for the general U.S. population and 21% of the cPAD for children 1 to 2 years old, the most highly exposed population subgroup. As no long-term residential exposures are expected based on the use pattern for spiromesifen, the Agency is confident that the assessment does not underestimate risk to the general U.S. population or any population subgroup.

3. *Short- and Intermediate-term risk.* EPA has concluded the highest anticipated short-/intermediate term aggregate risk estimates for children and adults did not present risks of concern, with margins of exposure of 580 for adults, and 750 for children 6 to 11 years old, which are all above the level of concern of 100. Long-term aggregate exposure is not anticipated for residential uses. Therefore, chronic aggregate risk estimates for spiromesifen include food and drinking water only, and are equivalent to the chronic dietary risk estimates, which are below the level of concern.

4. *Aggregate cancer risk for U.S.* Based on the lack of evidence of carcinogenicity in two adequate rodent carcinogenicity studies, spiromesifen is not expected to pose a cancer risk to humans.

5. *Determination of safety.* Therefore, based on the risk assessments and information described above, EPA concludes there is a reasonable certainty that no harm will result to the general population, or to infants and children from aggregate exposure to spiromesifen residues. More detailed information on the subject action to establish a tolerance on oranges and orange, oil can be found in the document entitled, ''Spiromesifen. Human Health Risk Assessment for Tolerances without U.S. Registration on Oranges from Brazil'' in docket ID EPA–HQ–OPP–2023–0639.

IV. Other Considerations

A. Analytical Enforcement Methodology

For a discussion of the available analytical enforcement method, see Unit IV.A. of the September 11, 2018, rulemaking.

B. International Residue Limits

In making its tolerance decisions, EPA seeks to harmonize U.S. tolerances with international standards whenever possible, consistent with U.S. food safety standards and agricultural practices. EPA considers the international maximum residue limits (MRLs) established by the Codex Alimentarius Commission (Codex), as required by FFDCA section 408(b)(4). The Codex Alimentarius is a joint United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization/World Health Organization food standards program, and it is recognized as an international food safety standards-setting organization in trade agreements to which the United States is a party. EPA may establish a tolerance that is different from a Codex MRL; however, FFDCA section 408(b)(4) requires that EPA explain the reasons for departing from the Codex level.

The Codex has not established a MRL for spiromesifen on oranges or orange, oil.

C. Response to Comments

The Agency received two comments from anonymous sources, both expressing dislike for pesticide tolerances in general, and requesting that EPA eliminate all pesticide tolerances. While the Agency recognizes that some people do not like pesticides, it nevertheless has a statutory obligation to review pesticide applications and determine whether use of a pesticide meets the FIFRA and FFDCA/FQPA safety standards of causing no unreasonable adverse effects to people or the environment, and to ensure a reasonable certainty of no harm from potential dietary exposure (including drinking water), respectively. Here, the Agency has evaluated the aggregate risk of spiromesifen and has determined that there is a reasonable certainty that no harm will result to the general population, or to infants and children from aggregate exposure to spiromesifen residues. The commentors offered no relevant information that would warrant a reconsideration of the Agency's determination.

D. Revisions to Petitioned-For Tolerances

The Agency-recommended tolerance in/on orange is identical to that proposed by the petitioner. However, the Agency has determined that the proposed tolerance for orange, oil at 40 ppm should instead be set for the correct commodity definition, orange subgroup 10–10A, oil and at 10 ppm. The revised tolerance level addresses an error in the petitioner's calculations, as it appears the petitioner calculated a proposed tolerance level of 40 ppm for oil using the proposed tolerance level for orange of 0.15 ppm, multiplied by the median processing factor. However, the Agency uses the average residue for a blended commodity multiplied by the median processing factor. Using the OECD Rounding Class Practice, the recommended tolerance level for residues in/on orange subgroup 10–10A, oil is 10 ppm. For more detailed information on this revision see ''Spiromesifen. Human Health Risk Assessment for Tolerances without U.S. Registration on Oranges from Brazil'' in docket ID EPA–HQ–OPP–2023–0639.

V. Conclusion

Therefore, tolerances are established for residues of spiromesifen on orange at 0.15 parts per million and orange subgroup 10–10A, oil at 10 parts per million.

VI. Statutory and Executive Order Reviews

This action establishes tolerances under FFDCA section 408(d) in response to a petition submitted to the Agency. The Office of Management and

Budget (OMB) has exempted these types of actions from review under Executive Order 12866, entitled ''Regulatory Planning and Review'' (58 FR 51735, October 4, 1993). Because this action has been exempted from review under Executive Order 12866, this action is not subject to Executive Order 13211, entitled ''Actions Concerning Regulations That Significantly Affect Energy Supply, Distribution, or Use'' (66 FR 28355, May 22, 2001), or Executive Order 13045, entitled ''Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks'' (62 FR 19885, April 23, 1997). This action does not contain any information collections subject to OMB approval under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), nor does it require any special considerations under Executive Order 12898, entitled ''Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations'' (59 FR 7629, February 16, 1994).

Because tolerances and exemptions that are established on the basis of a petition under FFDCA section 408(d), such as the tolerance in this final rule, do not require the issuance of a proposed rule, the requirements of the Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA) (5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*), do not apply.

This action directly regulates growers, food processors, food handlers, and food retailers, not States or Tribes, nor does this action alter the relationships or distribution of power and responsibilities established by Congress in the preemption provisions of FFDCA section 408(n)(4). As such, the Agency has determined that this action will not have a substantial direct effect on States or Tribal governments, on the relationship between the National Government and the States or Tribal governments, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government or between the Federal Government and Indian tribes. Thus, the Agency has determined that Executive Order 13132, entitled ''Federalism'' (64 FR 43255, August 10, 1999), and Executive Order 13175, entitled ''Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments'' (65 FR 67249, November 9, 2000), do not apply to this action. In addition, this action does not impose any enforceable duty or contain any unfunded mandate as described under Title II of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) (2 U.S.C. 1501 *et seq.*).

This action does not involve any technical standards that would require Agency consideration of voluntary consensus standards pursuant to section 12(d) of the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act (NTTAA) (15 U.S.C. 272 note).

VII. Congressional Review Act

Pursuant to the Congressional Review Act (5 U.S.C. 801 *et seq.*), EPA will submit a report containing this rule and other required information to the U.S. Senate, the U.S. House of Representatives, and the Comptroller General of the United States prior to publication of the rule in the **Federal Register**. This action is not a ''major rule'' as defined by 5 U.S.C. 804(2).

List of Subjects in 40 CFR Part 180

Environmental protection, Administrative practice and procedure, Agricultural commodities, Pesticides and pests, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Dated: June 21, 2024.

Charles Smith,

Director, Registration Division, Office of Pesticide Programs.

Therefore, for the reasons stated in the preamble, EPA amends 40 CFR chapter 1 as follows:

PART 180—TOLERANCES AND EXEMPTIONS FOR PESTICIDE CHEMICAL RESIDUES IN FOOD

■ 1. The authority citation for part 180 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 21 U.S.C. 321(q), 346a and 371.

■ 2. In § 180.607, amend the table in paragraph (a)(1) by:
■ a. Adding the table heading ''Table 1 to paragraph (a)(1)''; and
■ b. Adding in alphabetical order the entries ''Orange[2]''; and ''Orange subgroup 10–10A, oil[2]''.

The additions read as follows:

§ 180.607 Spiromesifen; tolerances for residues.

(a) * * *
(1) * * *

TABLE 1 TO PARAGRAPH (a)(1)

Commodity	Parts per million
* * * * *	
Orange[2]	0.15
Orange subgroup 10–10A, oil[2]	10
* * * * *	

[1] This use has not been registered in the United States as of August 28, 2018.

[2] There are no U.S. registrations for these commodities as of June 26, 2024.

* * * * *

[FR Doc. 2024–14001 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration for Children and Families

45 CFR Part 410

[Docket #2024–08329]

RIN 0970–AC93

Unaccompanied Children Program Foundational Rule; Correction

AGENCY: Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR), Administration for Children and Families (ACF), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

ACTION: Final rule; correction.

SUMMARY: The ORR is correcting a final rule that appeared in the **Federal Register** on April 30, 2024. The final rule adopted and replaced regulations relating to key aspects of the placement, care, and services provided to unaccompanied children referred to the ORR, pursuant to ORR's responsibilities for coordinating and implementing the care and placement of unaccompanied children who are in Federal custody by reason of their immigration status under the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (HSA) and the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (TVPRA). The final rule established a foundation for the Unaccompanied Children Bureau Program (UC Bureau Program) that is consistent with ORR's statutory duties, for the benefit of unaccompanied children and to enhance public transparency as to the policies governing the operation of the UC Bureau.

DATES: Effective July 1, 2024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Toby Biswas, Director of Policy, Unaccompanied Children Bureau Program, Office of Refugee Resettlement, Administration for Children and Families, Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, DC, (202) 205–4440 or *UCPolicy-RegulatoryAffairs@acf.hhs.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In the final rule published April 30, 2024 (89 FR 34384), there were a number of technical errors that are identified and corrected in this document. The provisions in this correction document are effective as if they had been included in the document published April 30, 2024. Accordingly, the following corrections are effective July 1, 2024.

In FR Doc. 2024–08329, appearing on page 34384 in the **Federal Register** of

Tuesday, April 30, 2024, the following corrections are made:

Corrections to Preamble

1. On page 34407, in the third column, above the heading ''Section 410.1102 Care Provider Facility Types'', add a paragraph to read ''ORR also made technical revisions to § 410.1101(e) to replace 'takes' with 'shall take' and to delete the word 'begin'.''

2. On page 34408, in the third column, in the third full paragraph, the phrase ''Currently, under existing policy, a child is a candidate for long-term home care if the child is expected to have a protracted stay in ORR and is under the age of 17 and 6 months at the time of placement'' is corrected to read, ''Currently, under existing policy, a child is a candidate for long-term home care if the child is expected to have a protracted stay in ORR care and is under the age of 17 years and 6 months at the time of placement''.

3. On page 34419, in the first column, in the top paragraph continuing from the previous page, the sentence ''Further, as discussed in section III.B.3 of the proposed rule and this final rule, the 2019 Final Rule is currently subject to an injunction.'' is corrected to read ''Further, as discussed in section IV.B.3 of the proposed rule and section III.B.3 of this final rule, the 2019 Final Rule is currently subject to an injunction.''

4. On page 34419, in the second column, in the first full paragraph, the third sentence ''Thus, as noted in the NPRM, ORR exceeds the statutory requirement by requiring at § 410.1103(d), consistent with its existing policy, that all restrictive placements be reviewed at least every 30 days to determine whether a new level of care is appropriate (88 FR 68998).'' is corrected to read, ''Thus, as noted in the NPRM, ORR exceeds the statutory requirement by requiring at § 410.1103(d), consistent with its existing policy, that all restrictive placements be reviewed at least every 30 days to determine whether a new level of care is appropriate (88 FR 68921).''.

5. On page 34421, in the third column, the last sentence of the continuing paragraph, ''These exceptions are consistent with placement considerations described in the TVPRA at 8 U.S.C. 1232(c)(2)(A) (noting, for example, that in making placements HHS 'may consider danger to self, danger to the community, and risk of flight'), and exceptions provided for in section paragraph 19 of the FSA.'' is corrected to read, ''These exceptions are consistent with placement considerations described in the TVPRA at 8 U.S.C. 1232(c)(2)(A) (noting, for example, that in making placements HHS 'may consider danger to self, danger to the community, and risk of flight'), and exceptions provided for in paragraph 19 of the FSA.''.

6. On page 34427, in the second column, in the second sentence of the first full paragraph, the phrase ''The standards at subpart D include many of the protections that commenters have requested, including significant ones addressing minimum standards applicable at standard and secure facilities,'' is corrected to read, ''The standards at subpart D include many of the protections that commenters have requested, including significant ones addressing minimum standards applicable at standard programs and secure facilities,''.

7. On page 34455, in the third column, the first sentence of the second full paragraph, ''After consideration of public comments, ORR is making the following modifications to regulatory language at §§ 410.1204(b) and 410.1204(e).'' is corrected to read, ''After consideration of public comments, ORR is making the following modifications to regulatory language at § 410.1204(b), (d), and (e).''.

8. On page 34499, in the third column, the second sentence of the last paragraph, ''Section 410.1303(g) as proposed in the NPRM (redesignated to § 410.1303(h)(4) in the final rule) has no bearing on whistleblower policy and protections in any way and does not intend to infringe upon them.'' is corrected to read, ''Section 410.1303(g)(4) as proposed in the NPRM (redesignated to § 410.1303(h)(4) in the final rule) has no bearing on whistleblower policy and protections in any way and does not intend to infringe upon them.''.

9. On page 34506, in the third column, the first two sentences of the second full paragraph are corrected, and a new third sentence is added, to read, ''After consideration of public comments, ORR is revising § 410.1304(a) by replacing 'must,' as used in the NPRM, to 'shall' and 'care provider facilities shall' instead of 'the behavior management strategies must.' ORR is revising § 410.1304(a)(1) to replace 'family/sponsor' with 'sponsor.' In addition, ORR is revising § 410.1304(a)(2)(ii) to include 'religious observation and services' as one of the activities that care providers are prohibited from denying to unaccompanied children and is otherwise finalizing this section as proposed. ORR is also revising § 410.1304(c) to remove the phrase 'as a behavioral intervention.' ''.

10. On page 34511, in the third column, the first sentence of the last paragraph, ''Lastly, ORR notes that it is finalizing language access requirements related to education services at § 410.1306(e), healthcare services at § 410.1306(g), and legal services at § 410.1306(h), so that unaccompanied children understand the services that are being offered and/or provided.'' is corrected to read, ''Lastly, ORR notes that it is finalizing language access requirements related to education services at § 410.1306(d), healthcare services at § 410.1306(g), and legal services at § 410.1306(h), so that unaccompanied children understand the services that are being offered and/or provided.''.

11. On page 34518, in the third column, in third full paragraph, the citation ''8 CFR 68946'' is corrected to read ''88 FR 68946''.

12. On page 34529, in the third column, at the beginning of the third full paragraph, add the heading ''*Comment:*''.

13. On page 34545, in the first column, in the last sentence in the first full paragraph, the CFR citation ''§ 410.1307(b)'' is corrected to read, ''§ 410.1307(c)''.

14. On page 34547, in the first column, the first sentence of the fourth full paragraph, ''ORR notes that pursuant to § 410.1902 as proposed in the NPRM and finalized, an unaccompanied child transferred to a restrictive placement (secure, heightened supervision or Residential Treatment Center) will be able to request reconsideration of such placement.'' is corrected to read, ''ORR notes that pursuant to § 410.1902 as proposed in the NPRM and finalized in this final rule, an unaccompanied child transferred to a restrictive placement (secure, heightened supervision or Residential Treatment Center) will be able to request reconsideration of such placement.''.

15. On page 34547, in the third column, the third paragraph, ''*Comment:* One commenter recommended the Group Transfer proposal include language to protect the individual rights of an unaccompanied child within a group of unaccompanied children being transferred so that timelines or due process rights of each unaccompanied child is recognized.'' is corrected to read, ''*Comment:* One commenter recommended the Group Transfer proposal include language to protect the individual rights of an unaccompanied child within a group of unaccompanied children being transferred so that timelines or due

process rights of each unaccompanied child are recognized.''.

16. On page 89 FR 34547, in the third column, the second sentence of the fourth paragraph, ''As previously discussed in § 410.1302, care provider facilities, as discussed previously in § 410.1302, will continue to follow ORR policy to ensure that the best interests of unaccompanied children are met.'' is corrected to read, ''As previously discussed in § 410.1302, care provider facilities will continue to follow ORR policy to ensure that the best interests of unaccompanied children are met.''.

17. On page 34561, in the third column, beginning on the 22nd line, the sentence ''ORR is also replacing 'arrested' with 'apprehended' at § 410.1801(c)(7).'' is corrected to read, ''ORR is also replacing 'arrested' with 'apprehended' at § 410.1801(c)(8).''.

18. On page 34562, in the third column, the last sentence of the paragraph continuing from the second column, ''If a child is placed into an EIF as an initial placement and as a result lacks records sufficient to indicate particular vulnerability (*i.e.,* immediately upon transfer into ORR custody from another Federal agency), ORR screens such children for the particular vulnerabilities within 5 days of EIS placement and continues to monitor children for particular vulnerabilities thereafter.'' is corrected to read, ''If a child is placed into an EIF as an initial placement and as a result lacks records sufficient to indicate particular vulnerability (*i.e.,* immediately upon transfer into ORR custody from another Federal agency), ORR screens such children for the particular vulnerabilities within 5 days of EIF placement and continues to monitor children for particular vulnerabilities thereafter.''.

19. On page 34564, in the first column, in the paragraph continuing from the previous page, beginning on the eighth line, the sentence ''ORR proposed in the NPRM, at § 410.1901(d), to establish regular administrative reviews for restrictive placements (88 FR 68960).'' is corrected to read, ''ORR proposed in the NPRM, at § 410.1901(d), to establish regular administrative reviews for restrictive placements (88 FR 68959).''.

Corrections to Regulations

§ 410.1000 [Corrected]

■ 20. On page 34584, in the third column, in § 410.1000, in paragraph (a), ''(UC Program)'' is corrected to read ''(UC Bureau)''.

§ 410.1001 [Corrected]

■ 21. On page 34586, in the third column, in § 410.1001, in the definition of *Mechanical restraint,* ''Unaccompanied Children Program'' is corrected to read ''Unaccompanied Children Bureau''.

§ 410.1003 [Corrected]

■ 22. On page 34588, in the third column, in § 410.1003, at the end of paragraph (e), ''UC Program'' is corrected to read ''UC Bureau''.

§ 410.1104 [Corrected]

■ 23. On page 34590, in the third column, § 410.1105(b)(2)(iv) is corrected to read:

''(iv) Has a non-violent criminal or delinquent history not warranting placement in a secure facility, such as isolated or petty offenses as described in paragraph (a)(3)(i) of this section;''

§ 410.1302 [Corrected]

■ 24. On page 34597, in the second column, in § 410.1302, the second paragraph (c)(2)(iv) is redesignated as paragraph (c)(2)(ix).

Elizabeth J. Gramling,

Executive Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services.

[FR Doc. 2024–13560 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4184–45–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 300

[Docket No. 240327–0090; RTID 0648–XE043]

Pacific Halibut Fisheries of the West Coast; 2024 Catch Sharing Plan; Inseason Action

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Temporary rule; inseason adjustment; request for comments.

SUMMARY: NMFS announces inseason action for the Oregon Central Coast subarea in the Pacific halibut recreational fishery in the International Pacific Halibut Commission's (IPHC) regulatory Area 2A. Specifically, this action announces that the Oregon Central Coast subarea's spring all-depth fishery will be open 7 days per week from July 1 through July 31. This action is intended to provide opportunity for anglers to achieve the catch limit in the Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) 2024 Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan.

DATES:

Effective date: July 1, 2024, through July 31, 2024.

Comment date: Comments will be accepted on or before July 11, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, identified by NOAA–NMFS–2024–0014, by either of the following methods:

- *Electronic Submission:* Submit all electronic public comments via the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal. Go to *https://www.regulations.gov* and enter NOAA–NMFS–2024–0014 in the Search box. Click on the ''Comment'' icon, complete the required fields, and enter or attach your comments.
- *Mail:* Submit written comments to Jennifer Quan, Regional Administrator, c/o Melissa Mandrup, West Coast Region, NMFS, 501 W Ocean Blvd., Long Beach, CA 90802.

Instructions: NMFS may not consider comments if they are sent by any other method, to any other address or individual, or received after the comment period ends. All comments received are a part of the public record and NMFS will post them for public viewing on *https://www.regulations.gov* without change. All personal identifying information (*e.g.,* name, address, *etc.*), confidential business information, or otherwise sensitive information submitted voluntarily by the sender is publicly accessible. NMFS will accept anonymous comments (enter ''N/A'' in the required fields if you wish to remain anonymous).

Docket: This rule is accessible via the internet at the Office of the Federal Register website at *https://www.federalregister.gov/.* Background information and documents are available at the NOAA Fisheries website at *https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/action/2024-pacific-halibut-recreational-fishery* and at the Council's website at *https://www.pcouncil.org.* Other comments received may be accessed through *https://www.regulations.gov.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Melissa Mandrup, phone: 562–980–3231 or email: *melissa.mandrup@noaa.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On April 4, 2024, NMFS published a final rule approving changes to the Pacific halibut Area 2A Catch Sharing Plan and implementing recreational (sport) management measures for the 2024 Area 2A recreational fisheries (89 FR 22966), as authorized by the Northern Pacific Halibut Act of 1982 (16 U.S.C. 773–

773(k)). The Council's 2024 Catch Sharing Plan provides a recommended framework for NMFS' annual management measures and subarea allocations based on the 2024 Area 2A Pacific halibut catch limit, also known as the fishery constant exploitation yield (FCEY), of 1.47 million pounds (lb; 666.8 metric tons (mt)) set by the IPHC. The Area 2A FCEY and recreational fishery allocations were adopted by the IPHC and were published in the **Federal Register** on March 18, 2024 (89 FR 19275), after acceptance by the Secretary of State, with concurrence from the Secretary of Commerce, in accordance with 50 CFR 300.62. The final rule published on April 3, 2024 (89 FR 22966), implementing recreational management measures for the 2024 Area 2A Pacific halibut fisheries, stated that if in the event that there is remaining Oregon Central Coast spring all-depth subarea allocation remaining after June 30, NMFS may take inseason action to reopen the fishery, up to 7 days a week, during the month of July.

NMFS has determined that, due to lower than expected landings in the Oregon Central Coast subarea, inseason action to open the spring all-depth recreational fishery 7 days a week in July is warranted at this time to provide additional opportunity for fishery participants to achieve the Area 2A subarea allocations. As stated above, taking inseason action to reopen the Oregon Central Coast spring-all depth fishery and modify fishing season dates is authorized by the final rule (89 FR 22966) and Federal regulations at 50 CFR 300.63(c)(6). After consulting with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) and other appropriate entities, NMFS determined the following inseason action is necessary to meet the management objective of attaining the subarea allocation and is consistent with the inseason management provisions allowing for the modification of recreational fishing periods and recreational fishing days per calendar week. Federal regulations at 50 CFR 300.63(c)(6), allow the NMFS Regional Administrator to modify annual regulations during the season. These inseason provisions allow the Regional Administrator to modify recreational (sport) fishing periods, bag limits, size limits, days per calendar week, and subarea allocations, if it is determined it is necessary to meet the allocation objectives and the action will not result in exceeding the FCEY.

Notice of these additional dates are announced in accordance with Federal regulations at 50 CFR 300.63(c) and also on the NMFS hotline at (206) 526–6667 or (800) 662–9825. Weekly catch monitoring reports for the recreational fishery in Oregon are available on the ODFW website. NMFS will continue to monitor recreational catch obtained via state sampling procedures until NMFS has determined there is not sufficient allocation for another full day of fishing in the Oregon Central Coast spring all-depth fishery, and the area is closed by NMFS, or the season closes on July 31, 2024, whichever is earlier.

Inseason Action

Oregon Central Coast Subarea

Description of the action: This inseason action opens additional fishing days in the Oregon Central Coast subarea. Specifically, this action opens the Oregon Central Coast subarea's spring all-depth fishery 7 days a week from July 1 through July 31, 2024, or until there is not sufficient subarea allocation for another full day of fishing and the area is closed.

Reason for the action: The purpose of this inseason action is to provide additional opportunity for anglers in the Oregon Central Coast subarea to achieve the subarea allocation. NMFS has determined that additional fishing days are warranted due to lower than expected landings from smaller than anticipated halibut being caught and poor weather conditions from May through early-June. The expectation is that a substantial amount of the Oregon combined allocation will go unharvested without the spring all-depth fishery open in the month of July. The recreational fishery in this subarea opened on May 1, 2024, and as of early-June, anglers in the Oregon Central Coast subarea's spring all-depth fishery have only harvested 57,540 lb (26.1 mt) of the 167,681 lb (76 mt) spring all-depth fishery allocation (34.3 percent), leaving 110,141 lb (49.6 mt) remaining (65.7 percent of the spring all-depth and 21.6 percent of the overall Oregon Central Coast subarea allocation of 266,161 lb (120.7 mt)). Additionally, ODFW reported to NMFS that the average weight of individual halibut caught by anglers in the Central Oregon Coast subarea spring all-depth season in 2024 is 13.5 lb (0.0061 mt) compared to 16.0 lbs (0.0073 mt) in 2023, 15.2 lb (0.069 mt) in 2022 and 14.2 lb (0.0064 mt) in 2021. During pre-season planning, projections used to develop Oregon Central Coast's season structure were based on the average weight caught by anglers being similar to that of what was observed in 2023, in anticipation of larger fish from the 2012-year class recruiting to the fishery. However, results from sampling efforts, to date, indicate there has been an approximately 16 percent reduction in average weight caught in 2024 compared to average weight caught in 2023, possibly due to a younger year class recruiting to the fishery. Further, it was reported by ODFW that Oregon Central Coast experienced stronger spring winds in 2024 compared to 2023, limiting the number of days anglers were able to fish for Pacific halibut offshore. These two factors, low average weight and poor weather conditions, likely have contributed to the lower catches seen in the Oregon Central Coast subarea.

After consulting with ODFW, it was determined that in order for anglers to have the opportunity to achieve the overall Central Coast subarea allocation, with little risk of the subarea, state, or coastwide allocation being exceeded, opening the spring all-depth fishery for the month of July is warranted. Therefore, through this action, NMFS is announcing the opening of Oregon Central Coast subarea's spring all-depth fishery, up to 7 days a week, during the month of July, as noticed in the April 4, 2024 final rule (89 FR 22966).

Notice of these additional dates are announced in accordance with Federal regulations at 50 CFR 300.63(c) and also on the NMFS hotline at (206) 526–6667 or (800) 662–9825.

Classification

NMFS issues this action pursuant to the Northern Pacific Halibut Act of 1982. This action is taken under the regulatory authority at 50 CFR 300.63(c)(6), and is exempt from review under Executive Order 12866.

Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(3)(B), and consistent with 50 CFR 300.63(c)(6)(B), there is good cause to waive prior notice and an opportunity for public comment on this action, as notice and comment would be impracticable and contrary to the public interest. ODFW provided updated Pacific halibut landings data to NMFS on June 13, 2024, showing that through June 9, fishery participants in the Oregon Central Coast subarea's spring all-depth fishery off the had caught only 34.3 percent of the spring all-depth fishery allocation, which is only 21.6 percent of the total Oregon Central Coast subarea allocation, and 21.1 percent of the total Oregon recreational allocation. NMFS uses fishing rates from previous years to determine the number of recreational fishing dates needed to attain subarea allocations. Given the lower than expected catch rates in the Oregon Central Coast subarea, additional dates are considered necessary to increase angler opportunity to reach the overall

Oregon Central Coast subarea allocation. This action should be implemented as soon as possible to allow Oregon Central Coast subarea's spring all-depth fishery participants to be able to plan for and take advantage of the additional season dates. As the Oregon Central Coast subarea's spring all-depth fishery closes on June 30, 2024, implementing this action through proposed and final rulemaking would limit the benefit this action would provide to fishery participants. Without implementation of additional season dates for the Oregon Central Coast, the Oregon allocations are unlikely to be harvested, limiting economic benefits to the participants and not meeting the goals of the 2024 Catch Sharing Plan. It is necessary that this rulemaking be implemented in a timely manner so that planning for additional season dates can take place, and for business and personal decision making by the regulated public impacted by this action, which includes recreational charter fishing operations, associated port businesses, and private anglers who do not live near the coastal access points for this fishery, among others. To ensure the regulated public is fully aware of this action, notice of this regulatory action will also be provided to anglers through a telephone hotline, news release, and by ODFW. NMFS will receive public comments for 15 days after publication of this action, in accordance with 50 CFR 300.63(c)(6)(iv). No aspect of this action is controversial, and changes of this nature were anticipated in the process described in regulations at 50 CFR 300.63(c).

For the reasons discussed above, there is also good cause under 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3) to waive the 30-day delay in effective date and make this action effective immediately upon filing for public inspection, as a delay in effectiveness of this action would constrain fishing opportunity and be inconsistent with the goals of the 2024 Catch Sharing Plan, as well as potentially limit the economic opportunity intended by this rule to the associated fishing communities. This inseason action is not expected to result in exceeding the allocation for the Oregon Central Coast subarea. NMFS regulations allow the Regional Administrator to modify sport fishing periods, bag limits, size limits, days per calendar week, and subarea allocations, provided that the action allows allocation objectives to be met and will not result in exceeding the catch limit for the subarea. NMFS recently received information on the progress of landings in the recreational fisheries in the Oregon subareas, indicating additional fishing dates in Oregon should be implemented in the fishery this season to ensure optimal harvest of the subarea allocations. As stated above, it is in the public interest that this action is not delayed, because a delay in the effectiveness of these new dates would not allow the allocation objectives of the recreational Pacific halibut fishery to be met.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 773–773k.

Dated: June 20, 2024.

Karen H. Abrams,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2024–13985 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

Proposed Rules

Federal Register
Vol. 89, No. 123
Wednesday, June 26, 2024

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains notices to the public of the proposed issuance of rules and regulations. The purpose of these notices is to give interested persons an opportunity to participate in the rule making prior to the adoption of the final rules.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA–2024–1694; Project Identifier MCAI–2024–00016–T]

RIN 2120–AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

SUMMARY: The FAA proposes to supersede Airworthiness Directive (AD) 2023–12–03 and AD 2023–04–05, which apply to certain Airbus SAS Model A350–941 and –1041 airplanes. AD 2023–12–03 and AD 2023–04–05 require revising the existing maintenance or inspection program, as applicable, to incorporate new or more restrictive airworthiness limitations. Since the FAA issued AD 2023–12–03 and AD 2023–04–05, the FAA has determined that new or more restrictive airworthiness limitations are necessary. This proposed AD would continue to require all actions in AD 2023–12–03 and certain actions in AD 2023–04–05 and would require revising the existing maintenance or inspection program, as applicable, to incorporate new or more restrictive airworthiness limitations, as specified in a European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) AD, which is proposed for incorporation by reference (IBR). The FAA is proposing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

DATES: The FAA must receive comments on this proposed AD by August 12, 2024.

ADDRESSES: You may send comments, using the procedures found in 14 CFR 11.43 and 11.45, by any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to *regulations.gov.* Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- *Fax:* 202–493–2251.
- *Mail:* U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M–30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590.
- *Hand Delivery:* Deliver to Mail address above between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

AD Docket: You may examine the AD docket at *regulations.gov* under Docket No. FAA–2024–1694; or in person at Docket Operations between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The AD docket contains this NPRM, the mandatory continuing airworthiness information (MCAI), any comments received, and other information. The street address for Docket Operations is listed above.

Material Incorporated by Reference:

- For EASA material, contact EASA, Konrad-Adenauer-Ufer 3, 50668 Cologne, Germany; telephone +49 221 8999 000; email *ADs@easa.europa.eu;* website *easa.europa.eu.* You may find this material on the EASA website at *ad.easa.europa.eu.*
- You may view this service information at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety Branch, 2200 South 216th St., Des Moines, WA. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 206–231–3195. It is also available at *regulations.gov* under Docket No. FAA–2024–1694.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dat Le, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; telephone 516–228–7917; email *dat.v.le@faa.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Comments Invited

The FAA invites you to send any written relevant data, views, or arguments about this proposal. Send your comments to an address listed under **ADDRESSES**. Include ''Docket No. FAA–2024–1694; Project Identifier MCAI–2024–00016–T'' at the beginning of your comments. The most helpful comments reference a specific portion of the proposal, explain the reason for any recommended change, and include supporting data. The FAA will consider all comments received by the closing date and may amend this proposal because of those comments.

Except for Confidential Business Information (CBI) as described in the following paragraph, and other information as described in 14 CFR 11.35, the FAA will post all comments received, without change, to *regulations.gov*, including any personal information you provide. The agency will also post a report summarizing each substantive verbal contact received about this NPRM.

Confidential Business Information

CBI is commercial or financial information that is both customarily and actually treated as private by its owner. Under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 U.S.C. 552), CBI is exempt from public disclosure. If your comments responsive to this NPRM contain commercial or financial information that is customarily treated as private, that you actually treat as private, and that is relevant or responsive to this NPRM, it is important that you clearly designate the submitted comments as CBI. Please mark each page of your submission containing CBI as ''PROPIN.'' The FAA will treat such marked submissions as confidential under the FOIA, and they will not be placed in the public docket of this NPRM. Submissions containing CBI should be sent to Dat Le, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; telephone 516–228–7317; email *dat.v.le@faa.gov.* Any commentary that the FAA receives that is not specifically designated as CBI will be placed in the public docket for this rulemaking.

Background

The FAA issued AD 2023–12–03, Amendment 39–22461 (88 FR 42598, July 3, 2023; corrected August 7, 2023 (88 FR 52024)) (AD 2023–12–03), for certain Airbus SAS Model A350–941 and –1041 airplanes. AD 2023–12–03 was prompted by an MCAI originated by EASA, which is the Technical Agent for the Member States of the European Union. EASA issued AD 2023–0004, dated January 6, 2023 (EASA AD 2023–0004) (which corresponds to FAA AD 2023–12–03), to correct an unsafe condition.

AD 2023–12–03 requires revising the existing maintenance or inspection program, as applicable, to incorporate new or more restrictive airworthiness limitations. The FAA issued AD 2023–12–03 to address reduced structural integrity of the airplane. AD 2023–12–03 specifies that accomplishing the

revision required by that AD terminates certain requirements of AD 2023–04–05, Amendment 39–22352 (88 FR 13668, March 6, 2023) (AD 2023–04–05). This proposed AD would therefore continue to allow that terminating action. AD 2023–04–05 corresponds to EASA AD 2022–0125, dated June 28, 2022 (EASA AD 2022–0125) and requires revising the existing maintenance or inspection program, as applicable, to incorporate new or more restrictive airworthiness limitations. The FAA issued AD 2023–04–05 to address reduced structural integrity of the airplane.

Actions Since ADs 2023–12–03 and 2023–04–05 Were Issued

Since the FAA issued ADs 2023–12–03 and 2023–04–05, EASA superseded ADs 2023–0004 and 2022–0125 and issued EASA AD 2024–0005, dated January 5, 2024 (EASA AD 2024–0005) (referred to after this as the MCAI), for all Airbus SAS Model A350–941 and –1041 airplanes. The MCAI states that new or more restrictive airworthiness limitations have been developed.

Airplanes with an original airworthiness certificate or original export certificate of airworthiness issued after November 30, 2023, must comply with the airworthiness limitations specified as part of the approved type design and referenced on the type certificate data sheet; this proposed AD therefore does not include those airplanes in the applicability.

The FAA is proposing this AD to address reduced structural integrity of the airplane. You may examine the MCAI in the AD docket at *regulations.gov* under Docket No. FAA–2024–1694.

Related Service Information Under 1 CFR Part 51

The FAA reviewed EASA AD 2024–0005. This service information specifies new or more restrictive airworthiness limitations for airplane structures and safe life limits.

This proposed AD would also require EASA AD 2023–0004, which the Director of the Federal Register approved for incorporation by reference as of August 7, 2023 (88 FR 42598, July 3, 2023; corrected August 7, 2023 (88 FR 52024)).

This proposed AD would also require EASA 2022–0125, which the Director of the Federal Register approved for incorporation by reference as of April 10, 2023 (88 FR 13668, March 6, 2023).

This material is reasonably available because the interested parties have access to it through their normal course of business or by the means identified in **ADDRESSES**.

FAA's Determination

This product has been approved by the aviation authority of another country and is approved for operation in the United States. Pursuant to the FAA's bilateral agreement with this State of Design Authority, it has notified the FAA of the unsafe condition described in the MCAI referenced above. The FAA is issuing this NPRM after determining that the unsafe condition described previously is likely to exist or develop in other products of the same type design.

Proposed AD Requirements in This NPRM

This proposed AD would retain all requirements of AD 2023–12–03 and certain requirements of AD 2023–04–05. This proposed AD would also require revising the existing maintenance or inspection program, as applicable, to incorporate additional new or more restrictive airworthiness limitations, which are specified in EASA AD 2024–0005 already described, as proposed for incorporation by reference. Any differences with EASA AD 2024–0005 are identified as exceptions in the regulatory text of this AD.

This proposed AD would require revisions to certain operator maintenance documents to include new actions (*e.g.,* inspections). Compliance with these actions is required by 14 CFR 91.403(c). For airplanes that have been previously modified, altered, or repaired in the areas addressed by this proposed AD, the operator may not be able to accomplish the actions described in the revisions. In this situation, to comply with 14 CFR 91.403(c), the operator must request approval for an alternative method of compliance (AMOC) according to paragraph (q)(1) of this proposed AD.

Explanation of Required Compliance Information

In the FAA's ongoing efforts to improve the efficiency of the AD process, the FAA developed a process to use some civil aviation authority (CAA) ADs as the primary source of information for compliance with requirements for corresponding FAA ADs. The FAA has been coordinating this process with manufacturers and CAAs. As a result, the FAA proposes to retain the IBR of EASA AD 2022–0125 and EASA AD 2023–0004 and incorporate EASA AD 2024–0005 by reference in the FAA final rule. This proposed AD would, therefore, require compliance with EASA AD 2022–0125, EASA AD 2023–0004, and EASA AD 2024–0005 through that incorporation, except for any differences identified as exceptions in the regulatory text of this proposed AD. Using common terms that are the same as the heading of a particular section in EASA AD 2022–0125, EASA AD 2023–0004, or EASA AD 2024–0005 does not mean that operators need comply only with that section. For example, where the AD requirement refers to ''all required actions and compliance times,'' compliance with this AD requirement is not limited to the section titled ''Required Action(s) and Compliance Time(s)'' in EASA AD 2024–0005. Service information required by EASA AD 2024–0005 for compliance will be available at *regulations.gov* by searching for and locating Docket No. FAA–2024–1694 after the FAA final rule is published.

Airworthiness Limitation ADs Using the New Process

The FAA's process of incorporating by reference MCAI ADs as the primary source of information for compliance with corresponding FAA ADs has been limited to certain MCAI ADs (primarily those with service bulletins as the primary source of information for accomplishing the actions required by the FAA AD). However, the FAA is now expanding the process to include MCAI ADs that require a change to airworthiness limitation documents, such as airworthiness limitation sections.

For these ADs that incorporate by reference an MCAI AD that changes airworthiness limitations, the FAA requirements are unchanged. Operators must revise the existing maintenance or inspection program, as applicable, to incorporate the information specified in the new airworthiness limitation document. The airworthiness limitations must be followed according to 14 CFR 91.403(c) and 91.409(e).

The previous format of the airworthiness limitation ADs included a paragraph that specified that no alternative actions (*e.g.,* inspections) or intervals may be used unless the actions and intervals are approved as an AMOC in accordance with the procedures specified in the AMOCs paragraph under ''Additional AD Provisions.'' This new format includes a ''New Provisions for Alternative Actions and Intervals'' paragraph that does not specifically refer to AMOCs, but operators may still request an AMOC to use an alternative action or interval.

Costs of Compliance

The FAA estimates that this AD, if adopted as proposed, would affect 31 airplanes of U.S. registry. The FAA

estimates the following costs to comply with this proposed AD:

The FAA estimates the total cost per operator for the retained actions from AD 2023–12–03 to be $7,650 (90 work-hours × $85 per work-hour).

The FAA has determined that revising the existing maintenance or inspection program takes an average of 90 work-hours per operator, although the agency recognizes that this number may vary from operator to operator. Since operators incorporate maintenance or inspection program changes for their affected fleet(s), the FAA has determined that a per-operator estimate is more accurate than a per-airplane estimate.

The FAA estimates the total cost per operator for the new proposed actions to be $7,650 (90 work-hours × $85 per work-hour).

Authority for This Rulemaking

Title 49 of the United States Code specifies the FAA's authority to issue rules on aviation safety. Subtitle I, section 106, describes the authority of the FAA Administrator. Subtitle VII: Aviation Programs, describes in more detail the scope of the Agency's authority.

The FAA is issuing this rulemaking under the authority described in Subtitle VII, Part A, Subpart III, Section 44701: General requirements. Under that section, Congress charges the FAA with promoting safe flight of civil aircraft in air commerce by prescribing regulations for practices, methods, and procedures the Administrator finds necessary for safety in air commerce. This regulation is within the scope of that authority because it addresses an unsafe condition that is likely to exist or develop on products identified in this rulemaking action.

Regulatory Findings

The FAA determined that this proposed AD would not have federalism implications under Executive Order 13132. This proposed AD would 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, I certify this proposed regulation:

(1) Is not a ''significant regulatory action'' under Executive Order 12866,

(2) Would not affect intrastate aviation in Alaska, and

(3) Would not have a significant economic impact, positive or negative, on a substantial number of small entities under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 39

Air transportation, Aircraft, Aviation safety, Incorporation by reference, Safety.

The Proposed Amendment

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

PART 39—AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVES

■ 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:

■ a. Removing Airworthiness Directive (AD) 2023–04–05, Amendment 39–22352 (88 FR 13668, March 6, 2023); and AD 2023–12–03, Amendment 39–22461 (88 FR 42598, July 3, 2023; corrected August 7, 2023 (88 FR 52024)); and

■ b. Adding the following new AD:

Airbus SAS: Docket No. FAA–2024–1694; Project Identifier MCAI–2024–00016–T.

(a) Comments Due Date

The FAA must receive comments on this airworthiness directive (AD) by August 12, 2024.

(b) Affected ADs

This AD replaces AD 2023–04–05, Amendment 39–22352 (88 FR 13668, March 6, 2023) (AD 2023–04–05); and AD 2023–12–03, Amendment 39–22461 (88 FR 42598, July 3, 2023; corrected August 7, 2023 (88 FR 52024)) (AD 2023–12–03).

(c) Applicability

This AD applies to Airbus SAS Model A350–941 and –1041 airplanes, certificated in any category, with an original airworthiness certificate or original export certificate of airworthiness issued on or before November 30, 2023.

(d) Subject

Air Transport Association (ATA) of America Code 05, Time Limits/Maintenance Checks.

(e) Unsafe Condition

This AD was prompted by a determination that new or more restrictive airworthiness limitations are necessary. The FAA is issuing this AD to address reduced structural integrity of the airplane. The unsafe condition, if not addressed, could result in loss of structural integrity of the airplane.

(f) Compliance

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

(g) Retained Revision of the Existing Maintenance or Inspection Program From AD 2023–04–05, With New Terminating Action

This paragraph restates the requirements of paragraph (j) of AD 2023–04–05, with new terminating action. For airplanes with an original airworthiness certificate or original export certificate of airworthiness issued on or before May 2, 2022: Except as specified in paragraph (h) of this AD: Comply with all required actions and compliance times specified in, and in accordance with, European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) AD 2022–0125, dated June 28, 2022 (EASA AD 2022–0125). Accomplishing the revision of the existing maintenance or inspection program required by paragraph (n) of this AD terminates the requirements of this paragraph.

(h) Retained Exceptions to EASA AD 2022–0125

This paragraph restates the exceptions specified in paragraph (k) of AD 2023–04–05, with no changes.

(1) Where EASA AD 2022–0125 refers to its effective date, this AD requires using April 10, 2023 (the effective date of AD 2023–04–05).

(2) The requirements specified in paragraphs (1) and (2) of EASA AD 2022–0125 do not apply to this AD.

(3) Paragraph (3) of EASA AD 2022–0125 specifies revising ''the approved AMP'' within 12 months after its effective date, but this AD requires revising the existing maintenance or inspection program, as applicable, within 90 days after April 10, 2023 (the effective date of AD 2023–04–05).

(4) The initial compliance time for doing the tasks specified in paragraph (3) of EASA AD 2022–0125 is at the applicable ''thresholds'' as incorporated by the requirements of paragraph (3) of EASA AD 2022–0125, or within 90 days after April 10, 2023 (the effective date of AD 2023–04–05), whichever occurs later.

(5) The provisions specified in paragraphs (4) and (5) of EASA AD 2022–0125 do not apply to this AD.

(6) The ''Remarks'' section of EASA AD 2022–0125 does not apply to this AD.

(i) Retained Provisions for Alternative Actions and Intervals From AD 2023–04–05, With No Changes

This paragraph restates the requirements of paragraph (l) of AD 2023–04–05, with no changes. Except as required by paragraphs (j) and (n) of this AD, after the existing maintenance or inspection program has been revised as required by paragraph (g) of this AD, no alternative actions (*e.g.,* inspections) and intervals are allowed unless they are approved as specified in the provisions of the ''Ref. Publications'' section of EASA AD 2022–0125.

(j) Retained Revision of the Existing Maintenance or Inspection Program From AD 2023–12–03, With New Terminating Action

This paragraph restates the requirements of paragraph (g) of AD 2023–12–03, with new terminating action. For airplanes with an

original airworthiness certificate or original export certificate of airworthiness issued on or before November 1, 2022: Except as specified in paragraph (k) of this AD, comply with all required actions and compliance times specified in, and in accordance with, EASA AD 2023–0004, dated January 6, 2023 (EASA AD 2023–0004). Accomplishing the revision of the existing maintenance or inspection program required by paragraph (n) of this AD terminates the requirements of this paragraph.

(k) Retained Exceptions to EASA AD 2023–0004, With No Changes

This paragraph restates the exceptions specified in paragraph (h) of AD 2023–12–03, with no changes.

(1) This AD does not adopt the requirements specified in paragraphs (1) and (2) of EASA AD 2023–0004.

(2) Paragraph (3) of EASA AD 2023–0004 specifies revising ''the approved AMP'' within 12 months after its effective date, but this AD requires revising the existing maintenance or inspection program, as applicable, within 90 days after August 7, 2023 (the effective date of AD 2023–12–03).

(3) The initial compliance time for doing the tasks specified in paragraph (3) of EASA 2023–0004 is on or before the applicable ''associated thresholds'' as incorporated by the requirements of paragraph (3) of EASA AD 2023–0004, or within 90 days after August 7, 2023 (the effective date of AD 2023–12–03), whichever occurs later.

(4) This AD does not adopt the provisions specified in paragraphs (4) of EASA AD 2023–0004.

(5) This AD does not adopt the ''Remarks'' section of EASA AD 2023–0004.

(l) Retained Provisions for Alternative Actions and Intervals From AD 2023–12–03, With No Changes

This paragraph restates the requirements of paragraph (i) of AD 2023–12–03, with no changes. Except as required by paragraph (n) of this AD, after the existing maintenance or inspection program has been revised as required by paragraph (j) of this AD, no alternative actions (*e.g.,* inspections) and intervals are allowed unless they are approved as specified in the provisions of the ''Ref. Publications'' section of EASA AD 2023–0004.

(m) Retained Terminating Action From AD 2023–12–03, With No Changes

This paragraph restates the terminating action specified in paragraph (j) of AD 2023–12–03, with no changes. Accomplishing the actions required by paragraph (j) of this AD terminates the corresponding requirements of paragraph (g) of this AD, for the tasks identified in the service information referenced in EASA AD 2023–0004 only.

(n) New Revision of the Existing Maintenance or Inspection Program

Except as specified in paragraph (o) of this AD: Comply with all required actions and compliance times specified in, and in accordance with, EASA AD 2024–0005, dated January 5, 2024 (EASA AD 2024–0005). Accomplishing the revision of the existing maintenance or inspection program required by this paragraph terminates the requirements of paragraphs (g) and (j) of this AD.

(o) Exceptions to EASA AD 2024–0005

(1) This AD does not adopt the requirements specified in paragraphs (1) and (2) of EASA AD 2024–0005.

(2) Paragraph (3) of EASA AD 2024–0005 specifies revising ''the approved AMP,'' within 12 months after its effective date, but this AD requires revising the existing maintenance or inspection program, as applicable, within 90 days after the effective date of this AD.

(3) The initial compliance time for doing the tasks specified in paragraph (3) of EASA AD 2024–0005 is at the applicable ''limitations'' and ''associated thresholds'' as incorporated by the requirements of paragraph (3) of EASA AD 2024–0005, or within 90 days after the effective date of this AD, whichever occurs later.

(4) This AD does not adopt the provisions specified in paragraphs (4) and (5) of EASA AD 2024–0005.

(5) This AD does not adopt the ''Remarks'' section of EASA AD 2024–0005.

(p) New Provisions for Alternative Actions and Intervals

After the existing maintenance or inspection program has been revised as required by paragraph (n) of this AD, no alternative actions (*e.g.,* inspections) and intervals are allowed unless they are approved as specified in the provisions of the ''Ref. Publications'' section of EASA AD 2024–0005.

(q) Additional AD Provisions

The following provisions also apply to this AD:

(1) *Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs):* The Manager, International Validation 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 responsible Flight Standards Office, as appropriate. If sending information directly to the manager of the International Validation Branch, mail it to the address identified in paragraph (r) of this AD. Information may be emailed to: *9-AVS-AIR-730-AMOC@faa.gov.* Before using any approved AMOC, notify your appropriate principal inspector, or lacking a principal inspector, the manager of the responsible Flight Standards Office.

(2) *Contacting the Manufacturer:* For any requirement in this AD to obtain instructions from a manufacturer, the instructions must be accomplished using a method approved by the Manager, International Validation Branch, FAA; or EASA; or Airbus SAS's EASA Design Organization Approval (DOA). If approved by the DOA, the approval must include the DOA-authorized signature.

(r) Additional Information

For more information about this AD, contact Dat Le, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; telephone 516–228–7317; email *dat.v.le@faa.gov.*

(s) Material Incorporated by Reference

(1) The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference (IBR) of the service information listed in this paragraph under 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51.

(2) You must use this service information as applicable to do the actions required by this AD, unless this AD specifies otherwise.

(3) The following service information was approved for IBR on [DATE 35 DAYS AFTER PUBLICATION OF THE FINAL RULE].

(i) European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) AD 2024–0005, dated January 5, 2024.

(ii) [Reserved]

(4) The following service information was approved for IBR on August 7, 2023 (88 FR 42598, July 3, 2023; corrected August 7, 2023 (88 FR 52024)).

(i) EASA AD 2023–0004, dated January 6, 2023.

(ii) [Reserved]

(5) The following service information was approved for IBR on April 10, 2023 (88 FR 13668, March 6, 2023).

(i) EASA 2022–0125, dated June 28, 2022.

(ii) [Reserved]

(6) For EASA ADs 2022–0125, 2023–0004, and 2024–0005 contact EASA, Konrad-Adenauer-Ufer 3, 50668 Cologne, Germany; telephone +49 221 8999 000; email *ADs@easa.europa.eu;* website *easa.europa.eu.* You may find these EASA ADs on the EASA website at *ad.easa.europa.eu.*

(7) You may view this material at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety Branch, 2200 South 216th St., Des Moines, WA. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 206–231–3195.

(8) You may view this material at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at NARA, visit *www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibr-locations* or email *fr.inspection@nara.gov.*

Issued on June 18, 2024.

Suzanne Masterson,

Deputy Director, Integrated Certificate Management Division, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 2024–13780 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–13–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA–2024–1699; Project Identifier AD–2023–01084–T]

RIN 2120–AA64

Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

SUMMARY: The FAA proposes to adopt a new airworthiness directive (AD) for certain The Boeing Company Model 767–200, –300, and –400ER series airplanes. This proposed AD was prompted by a report of multiple engine indicating and crew alerting system messages during the potable water servicing for a Model 777 freighter airplane after the water leaked onto the electronics equipment cooling air filter. Since the Model 767 passenger airplanes are similar in design, we are issuing an AD against the Model 767 passenger airplanes. This proposed AD would require installation of hoseducts around the left-side section 43 potable water supply hoses and connections, a potable water system leakage test, and applicable corrective actions. The FAA is proposing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

DATES: The FAA must receive comments on this proposed AD by August 12, 2024.

ADDRESSES: You may send comments, using the procedures found in 14 CFR 11.43 and 11.45, by any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to *regulations.gov.* Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- *Fax:* 202–493–2251.
- *Mail:* U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M–30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590.
- *Hand Delivery:* Deliver to Mail address above between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

AD Docket: You may examine the AD docket at *regulations.gov* under Docket No. FAA–2024–1699; or in person at Docket Operations between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The AD docket contains this NPRM, any comments received, and other information. The street address for Docket Operations is listed above.

Material Incorporated by Reference:

- For service information, contact Boeing Commercial Airplanes, Attention: Contractual & Data Services (C&DS), 2600 Westminster Blvd., MC 110–SK57, Seal Beach, CA 90740–5600; telephone 562–797–1717; website *myboeingfleet.com.*
- You may view this service information at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety Branch, 2200 South 216th St., Des Moines, WA. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 206–231–3195. It is also available at *regulations.gov* under Docket No. FAA–2024–1699.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brandon Lucero, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 2200 South 216th St., Des Moines, WA 98198; phone: 206–231–3569; email: *Brandon.Lucero@faa.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Comments Invited

The FAA invites you to send any written relevant data, views, or arguments about this proposal. Send your comments to an address listed under **ADDRESSES**. Include ''Docket No. FAA–2024–1699; Project Identifier AD–2023–01084–T'' at the beginning of your comments. The most helpful comments reference a specific portion of the proposal, explain the reason for any recommended change, and include supporting data. The FAA will consider all comments received by the closing date and may amend this proposal because of those comments.

Except for Confidential Business Information (CBI) as described in the following paragraph, and other information as described in 14 CFR 11.35, the FAA will post all comments received, without change, to *regulations.gov*, including any personal information you provide. The agency will also post a report summarizing each substantive verbal contact received about this NPRM.

Confidential Business Information

CBI is commercial or financial information that is both customarily and actually treated as private by its owner. Under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 U.S.C. 552), CBI is exempt from public disclosure. If your comments responsive to this NPRM contain commercial or financial information that is customarily treated as private, that you actually treat as private, and that is relevant or responsive to this NPRM, it is important that you clearly designate the submitted comments as CBI. Please mark each page of your submission containing CBI as ''PROPIN.'' The FAA will treat such marked submissions as confidential under the FOIA, and they will not be placed in the public docket of this NPRM. Submissions containing CBI should be sent to Brandon Lucero, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 2200 South 216th St., Des Moines, WA 98198; phone: 206–231–3569; email: *Brandon.Lucero@faa.gov.* Any commentary that the FAA receives that is not specifically designated as CBI will be placed in the public docket for this rulemaking.

Background

The FAA has received a report of multiple engine indicating and crew alerting system messages during the potable water servicing for a Model 777 freighter airplane. The cause was found to be the separation of a fitting and steel water supply tube at a location above an electronics equipment cooling air filter, behind the forward cargo compartment left sidewall. The water from the soaked filter was then blown by the equipment cooling system onto multiple line replaceable units in the main electronics center. Model 767 passenger airplanes are similar in design to Model 777 freighter airplane. Model 767 passenger airplanes pull air with a fan from the area behind the forward cargo compartment left sidewall through an inlet screen and duct to cool main electronics center components. Model 767 passenger airplanes use potable water supply hoses with inner tubes made of flexible silicone-lined polymer and outer tubes made of steel braid at locations typically below the equipment cooling supply air inlet. Also, some Model 767 passenger airplane configurations have potable water system fitting connections and water supply hose routing near the equipment cooling supply air inlet and/or water supply hose routing at locations above it. The water leakage from the potable water system near the equipment cooling supply air inlet, if not addressed, could damage main electronics center components and result in loss of continued safe flight and landing.

FAA's Determination

The FAA is issuing this NPRM after determining that the unsafe condition described previously is likely to exist or develop on other products of the same type design.

Related Service Information Under 1 CFR Part 51

The FAA reviewed Boeing Alert Requirements Bulletin 767–38A0076 RB, dated December 1, 2023. This service information specifies procedures for the following actions at the lower lobe section 43 potable water system plumbing on left side:

- Installing hoseducts and support clamps.
- Installing spray shields, new tie straps on the supply hose, and tee fitting shrouds, depending on the airplane configuration.
- Replacing the supply hoses and tee fittings for certain airplane configurations.
- Doing a potable water system leakage test and, for any leakage found,

repeating the test until no leakage is found.

This service information is reasonably available because the interested parties have access to it through their normal course of business or by the means identified in **ADDRESSES**.

Proposed AD Requirements in This NPRM

This proposed AD would require accomplishing the actions specified in the service information already described, and except for any differences identified as exceptions in the regulatory text of this proposed AD. For information on the procedures and compliance times, see this service information at *regulations.gov* under Docket No. FAA–2024–1699.

Costs of Compliance

The FAA estimates that this AD, if adopted as proposed, would affect 397 airplanes of U.S. registry. The FAA estimates the following costs to comply with this proposed AD:

ESTIMATED COSTS

Action	Labor cost	Parts cost	Cost per product	Cost on U.S. operators
Install hose ducts, connections, and leakage test.	Up to 19 work-hours × $85 per hour = $1,615	Up to $1,130 ...	$2,745	$1,089,765

The FAA has included all known costs in its cost estimate. According to the manufacturer, however, some or all of the costs of this proposed AD may be covered under warranty, thereby reducing the cost impact on affected operators.

Authority for This Rulemaking

Title 49 of the United States Code specifies the FAA's authority to issue rules on aviation safety. Subtitle I, section 106, describes the authority of the FAA Administrator. Subtitle VII: Aviation Programs, describes in more detail the scope of the Agency's authority.

The FAA is issuing this rulemaking under the authority described in Subtitle VII, Part A, Subpart III, Section 44701: General requirements. Under that section, Congress charges the FAA with promoting safe flight of civil aircraft in air commerce by prescribing regulations for practices, methods, and procedures the Administrator finds necessary for safety in air commerce. This regulation is within the scope of that authority because it addresses an unsafe condition that is likely to exist or develop on products identified in this rulemaking action.

Regulatory Findings

The FAA determined that this proposed AD would not have federalism implications under Executive Order 13132. This proposed AD would 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, I certify this proposed regulation:

(1) Is not a ''significant regulatory action'' under Executive Order 12866,

(2) Would not affect intrastate aviation in Alaska, and

(3) Would not have a significant economic impact, positive or negative, on a substantial number of small entities under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 39

Air transportation, Aircraft, Aviation safety, Incorporation by reference, Safety.

The Proposed Amendment

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

PART 39—AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVES

■ 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:

The Boeing Company: Docket No. FAA–2024–1699; Project Identifier AD–2023–01084–T.

(a) Comments Due Date

The FAA must receive comments on this airworthiness directive (AD) by August 12, 2024.

(b) Affected ADs

None.

(c) Applicability

This AD applies to The Boeing Company Model 767–200, –300, and –400ER series airplanes, as identified in Boeing Alert Requirements Bulletin 767–38A0076 RB, dated December 1, 2023.

(d) Subject

Air Transport Association (ATA) of America Code 38, Water/waste.

(e) Unsafe Condition

This AD was prompted by a report of multiple engine indicating and crew alerting system messages during the potable water servicing for a Model 777 freighter airplane after the water leaked onto the electronics equipment cooling air filter. The FAA is issuing this AD to address water leakage from the potable water system near the equipment cooling supply air inlet. The unsafe condition, if not addressed, could damage main electronics center components and result in loss of continued safe flight and landing.

(f) Compliance

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

(g) Required Actions

Except as specified by paragraph (h) of this AD: At the applicable time specified in the ''Compliance'' paragraph of Boeing Alert Requirements Bulletin 767–38A0076 RB, dated December 1, 2023, do all applicable actions identified in, and in accordance with, the Accomplishment Instructions of Boeing Alert Requirements Bulletin 767–38A0076 RB, dated December 1, 2023.

Note 1 to paragraph (g): Guidance for accomplishing the actions required by this AD can be found in Boeing Alert Service Bulletin 767–38A0076, dated December 1, 2023, which is referred to in Boeing Alert Requirements Bulletin 767–38A0076 RB, dated December 1, 2023.

(h) Exception to Service Information Specifications

Where the Boeing Recommended Compliance Time columns of the tables in the ''Compliance'' paragraph of Boeing Alert Requirements Bulletin 767–38A0076 RB, dated December 1, 2023, refer to ''the Original Issue date of Requirements Bulletin 767–38A0076 RB,'' this AD requires using the effective date of this AD.

(i) Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs)

(1) The Manager, AIR–520, Continued Operational Safety 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 responsible Flight Standards 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 (j) of this AD. Information may be emailed to: *AMOC@faa.gov.*

(2) Before using any approved AMOC, notify your appropriate principal inspector, or lacking a principal inspector, the manager of the responsible Flight Standards Office.

(3) An AMOC that provides an acceptable level of safety may be used for any repair, modification, or alteration required by this AD if it is approved by The Boeing Company Organization Designation Authorization (ODA) that has been authorized by the Manager, AIR–520, Continued Operational Safety Branch, FAA, to make those findings. To be approved, the repair method, modification deviation, or alteration deviation must meet the certification basis of the airplane, and the approval must specifically refer to this AD.

(j) Related Information

For more information about this AD, contact Brandon Lucero, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 2200 South 216th St., Des Moines, WA 98198; phone: 206–231–3569; email: *Brandon.Lucero@faa.gov.*

(k) Material Incorporated by Reference

(1) The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference (IBR) of the service information listed in this paragraph under 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51.

(2) You must use this service information as applicable to do the actions required by this AD, unless the AD specifies otherwise.

(i) Boeing Alert Requirements Bulletin 767–38A0076 RB, dated December 1, 2023.

(ii) [Reserved]

(3) For service information, contact Boeing Commercial Airplanes, Attention: Contractual & Data Services (C&DS), 2600 Westminster Blvd., MC 110–SK57, Seal Beach, CA 90740–5600; telephone 562–797–1717; website *myboeingfleet.com.*

(4) You may view this material at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety Branch, 2200 South 216th St., Des Moines, WA. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 206–231–3195.

(5) You may view this material at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at NARA, visit *www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibr-locations* or email *fr.inspection@nara.gov.*

Issued on June 20, 2024.

Suzanne Masterson,

Deputy Director, Integrated Certificate Management Division, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 2024–13994 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–13–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA–2024–1698; Project Identifier AD–2024–00005–T]

RIN 2120–AA64

Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

SUMMARY: The FAA proposes to adopt a new airworthiness directive (AD) for certain The Boeing Company Model 767–300F series airplanes. This proposed AD was prompted by a determination that certain cargo compartment insulation blankets do not adequately fit some locations and allow smoke to migrate past the cargo compartment sidewall liners and upward into the main cabin. This proposed AD would require replacing cargo compartment insulation blankets. The FAA is proposing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

DATES: The FAA must receive comments on this proposed AD by August 12, 2024.

ADDRESSES: You may send comments, using the procedures found in 14 CFR 11.43 and 11.45, by any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to *regulations.gov.* Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- *Fax:* 202–493–2251.
- *Mail:* U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M–30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590.
- *Hand Delivery:* Deliver to Mail address above between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

AD Docket: You may examine the AD docket at *regulations.gov* under Docket No. FAA–2024–1698; or in person at Docket Operations between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The AD docket contains this NPRM, any comments received, and other information. The street address for Docket Operations is listed above.

Material Incorporated by Reference:

- For service information identified in this NPRM, contact Boeing Commercial Airplanes, Attention: Contractual & Data Services (C&DS), 2600 Westminster Blvd., MC 110–SK57, Seal Beach, CA 90740–5600; telephone 562–797–1717; website *myboeingfleet.com.*
- You may view this service information at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety Branch, 2200 South 216th St., Des Moines, WA. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 206–231–3195. It is also available at *regulations.gov* under Docket No. FAA–2024–1698.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Julie Linn, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 2200 South 216th St., Des Moines, WA 98198; phone: 206–231–3684; email: *julie.linn@faa.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Comments Invited

The FAA invites you to send any written relevant data, views, or arguments about this proposal. Send your comments to an address listed under **ADDRESSES**. Include ''Docket No. FAA–2024–1698; Project Identifier AD–2024–00005–T'' at the beginning of your comments. The most helpful comments reference a specific portion of the proposal, explain the reason for any recommended change, and include supporting data. The FAA will consider all comments received by the closing date and may amend this proposal because of those comments.

Except for Confidential Business Information (CBI) as described in the following paragraph, and other information as described in 14 CFR 11.35, the FAA will post all comments received, without change, to *regulations.gov*, including any personal information you provide. The agency will also post a report summarizing each substantive verbal contact received about this NPRM.

Confidential Business Information

CBI is commercial or financial information that is both customarily and actually treated as private by its owner. Under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 U.S.C. 552), CBI is exempt from public disclosure. If your comments responsive to this NPRM contain commercial or financial information that is customarily treated as private, that you actually treat as private, and that is relevant or responsive to this NPRM, it is important that you clearly designate the submitted comments as CBI. Please mark each page of your submission containing CBI as ''PROPIN.'' The FAA will treat such marked submissions as confidential under the FOIA, and they will not be placed in the public docket of this

NPRM. Submissions containing CBI should be sent to Julie Linn, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 2200 South 216th St., Des Moines, WA 98198; phone: 206–231–3684; email: *julie.linn@faa.gov.* Any commentary that the FAA receives that is not specifically designated as CBI will be placed in the public docket for this rulemaking.

Background

The FAA issued AD 2021–12–11, Amendment 39–21598 (86 FR 33112, June 24, 2021) (AD 2021–12–11), for certain The Boeing Company Model 767–200, –300, –300F, and –400ER series airplanes. AD 2021–12–11 was prompted by a report of a fire in the bilge area of the cargo compartment that burned through the insulation blankets that were intended to prevent smoke from migrating behind the cargo compartment sidewall liners and upward into the main cabin. AD 2021–12–11 requires replacing the cargo compartment insulation blankets with new insulation blankets that incorporate fire stops by complying with Boeing Special Attention Service Bulletin 767–25–0550, Revision 1, dated December 4, 2019. The FAA issued AD 2021–12–11 to address fire in the bilge area of the cargo compartment, which if not contained could lead to a smoke and fire event in the passenger compartment.

Since the FAA issued AD 2021–12–11, the agency determined that for Model 767–300F series airplanes, certain cargo compartment insulation blankets installed by complying with Boeing Special Attention Service Bulletin 767–25–0550, dated January 30, 2015, and Boeing Special Attention Service Bulletin 767–25–0550, Revision 1, dated December 4, 2019, do not adequately fit some locations and allow smoke to migrate past the cargo compartment. Boeing issued Special Attention Service Bulletin 767–25–0550, Revision 2, dated December 18, 2023, which reduced the affected airplanes and changed the design of the cargo compartment blankets. The FAA is issuing this NPRM to require replacing the cargo compartment insulation blankets with newly designed blankets.

FAA's Determination

The FAA is issuing this NPRM after determining that the unsafe condition described previously is likely to exist or develop on other products of the same type design.

Related Service Information Under 1 CFR Part 51

The FAA reviewed Boeing Special Attention Service Bulletin 767–25–0550, Revision 2, dated December 18, 2023. This service information specifies procedures for replacing insulation blankets in the cargo compartment with insulation blankets with integrated fire stops.

This service information is reasonably available because the interested parties have access to it through their normal course of business or by the means identified in **ADDRESSES.**

Proposed AD Requirements in This NPRM

This proposed AD would require accomplishing the actions identified as ''RC'' (required for compliance) in the Accomplishment Instructions of Boeing Special Attention Service Bulletin 767–25–0550, Revision 2, dated December 18, 2023, already described, except for any differences identified as exceptions in the regulatory text of this proposed AD. For information on the procedures, see this service information at *regulations.gov* under Docket No. FAA–2024–1698.

Costs of Compliance

The FAA estimates that this AD, if adopted as proposed, would affect 32 airplanes of U.S. registry. The FAA estimates the following costs to comply with this proposed AD:

ESTIMATED COSTS

Action	Labor cost	Parts cost	Cost per product	Cost on U.S. operators
Replacement	270 work-hours × $85 per hour = $22,950	$35,900	$58,850	$1,883,200

The FAA has included all known costs in its cost estimate. According to the manufacturer, however, some or all the costs of this proposed AD may be covered under warranty, thereby reducing the cost impact on affected operators.

Authority for This Rulemaking

Title 49 of the United States Code specifies the FAA's authority to issue rules on aviation safety. Subtitle I, section 106, describes the authority of the FAA Administrator. Subtitle VII: Aviation Programs, describes in more detail the scope of the Agency's authority.

The FAA is issuing this rulemaking under the authority described in Subtitle VII, Part A, Subpart III, Section 44701: General requirements. Under that section, Congress charges the FAA with promoting safe flight of civil aircraft in air commerce by prescribing regulations for practices, methods, and procedures the Administrator finds necessary for safety in air commerce. This regulation is within the scope of that authority because it addresses an unsafe condition that is likely to exist or develop on products identified in this rulemaking action.

Regulatory Findings

The FAA determined that this proposed AD would not have federalism implications under Executive Order 13132. This proposed AD would 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, I certify this proposed regulation:

(1) Is not a ''significant regulatory action'' under Executive Order 12866,

(2) Would not affect intrastate aviation in Alaska, and

(3) Would not have a significant economic impact, positive or negative, on a substantial number of small entities under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 39

Air transportation, Aircraft, Aviation safety, Incorporation by reference, Safety.

The Proposed Amendment

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

PART 39—AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVES

■ 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:

The Boeing Company: Docket No. FAA–2024–1698; Project Identifier AD–2024–00005–T.

(a) Comments Due Date

The FAA must receive comments on this airworthiness directive (AD) by August 12, 2024.

(b) Affected ADs

None.

(c) Applicability

This AD applies to The Boeing Company Model 767–300F series airplanes, certificated in any category, identified as Group 7, 11 through 15, and 18 in Boeing Special Attention Service Bulletin 767–25–0550, Revision 2, dated December 18, 2023.

(d) Subject

Air Transport Association (ATA) of America Code 25, Equipment/Furnishings.

(e) Unsafe Condition

This AD was prompted by a determination that certain cargo compartment insulation blankets do not adequately fit some locations and allow smoke to migrate past the cargo compartment. The FAA is issuing this AD to require replacing these cargo compartment insulation blankets. The unsafe condition, if not addressed, could result in a fire in the bilge area of the cargo compartment, which if not contained could lead to a smoke and fire event in the passenger compartment.

(f) Compliance

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

(g) Required Actions

Within 36 months after the effective date of this AD, do all applicable actions identified as ''RC'' (required for compliance) in, and in accordance with, the Accomplishment Instructions of Boeing Special Attention Service Bulletin 767–25–0550, Revision 2, dated December 18, 2023.

(h) Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs)

(1) The Manager, AIR–520, Continued Operational Safety 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 responsible Flight Standards 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. Information may be emailed to: *AMOC@faa.gov.*

(2) Before using any approved AMOC, notify your appropriate principal inspector, or lacking a principal inspector, the manager of the responsible Flight Standards Office.

(3) An AMOC that provides an acceptable level of safety may be used for any repair, modification, or alteration required by this AD if it is approved by The Boeing Company Organization Designation Authorization (ODA) that has been authorized by the Manager, AIR–520, Continued Operational Safety Branch, FAA, to make those findings. To be approved, the repair method, modification deviation, or alteration deviation must meet the certification basis of the airplane, and the approval must specifically refer to this AD.

(4) For service information that contains steps that are labeled as Required for Compliance (RC), the provisions of paragraphs (h)(4)(i) and (ii) of this AD apply.

(i) The steps labeled as RC, including substeps under an RC step and any figures identified in an RC step, must be done to comply with the AD. If a step or substep is labeled ''RC Exempt,'' then the RC requirement is removed from that step or substep. An AMOC is required for any deviations to RC steps, including substeps and identified figures.

(ii) Steps not labeled as RC may be deviated from using accepted methods in accordance with the operator's maintenance or inspection program without obtaining approval of an AMOC, provided the RC steps, including substeps and identified figures, can still be done as specified, and the airplane can be put back in an airworthy condition.

(i) Related Information

For more information about this AD, contact Julie Linn, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 2200 South 216th St., Des Moines, WA 98198; phone: 206–231–3684; email: *julie.linn@faa.gov.*

(j) Material Incorporated by Reference

(1) The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of the service information listed in this paragraph under 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51.

(2) You must use this material as applicable to do the actions required by this AD, unless the AD specifies otherwise.

(i) Boeing Special Attention Service Bulletin 767–25–0550, Revision 2, dated December 18, 2023.

(ii) [Reserved]

(3) For Boeing material, contact Boeing Commercial Airplanes, Attention: Contractual & Data Services (C&DS), 2600 Westminster Blvd., MC 110–SK57, Seal Beach, CA 90740–5600; telephone 562–797–1717; website *myboeingfleet.com.*

(4) You may view this material at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety Branch, 2200 South 216th St., Des Moines, WA. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 206–231–3195.

(5) You may view this material at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at NARA, visit *www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibr-locations* or email *fr.inspection@nara.gov.*

Issued on June 20, 2024.

Suzanne Masterson,

Deputy Director, Integrated Certificate Management Division, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 2024–13943 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–13–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 52

[EPA–R09–OAR–2024–0005; 11919–03–R9]

Partial Approval and Disapproval of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Arizona; Regional Haze State Implementation Plan for the Second Implementation Period and Prong 4 (Visibility) for the 2015 Ozone and 2012 Particulate Matter Standards; Extension of Comment Period

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule; extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is extending the comment period for a proposed rule published May 31, 2024. The current comment period for the proposed rule was set to end on July 1, 2024. In response to requests from commenters, the EPA is extending the comment period for the proposed action to July 15, 2024.

DATES: The comment period for the proposed rule published on May 31, 2024, at 89 FR 47398 is extended. Comments must be received on or before July 15, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA–R09–OAR–2024–0005 at *https://www.regulations.gov.* For comments submitted at *Regulations.gov*, follow the online instructions for submitting comments. Once submitted, comments cannot be edited or removed from *Regulations.gov.* The EPA may publish any comment received to its public docket. Do not submit electronically any information you consider to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Multimedia submissions (audio, video, etc.) must be accompanied by a written comment. The written comment is considered the official comment and should include discussion of all points you wish to make. The EPA will generally not consider comments or comment contents located outside of the primary submission (*i.e.,* on the web, cloud, or other file sharing system). For

additional submission methods, please contact the person identified in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section. For the full EPA public comment policy, information about CBI or multimedia submissions, and general guidance on making effective comments, please visit *https://www.epa.gov/dockets/commenting-epa-dockets.* If you need assistance in a language other than English or if you are a person with a disability who needs a reasonable accommodation at no cost to you, please contact the person identified in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Khoi Nguyen, Geographic Strategies & Modeling Section (AIR–2–2), Planning & Analysis Branch, Air and Radiation Division, EPA Region IX, 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA 94105, (415) 947–4120, or by email at *nguyen.khoi@epa.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On May 31, 2024 (89 FR 47398), the EPA published the proposed rule ''Partial Approval and Disapproval of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Arizona; Regional Haze State Implementation Plan for the Second Implementation Period and Prong 4 (Visibility) for the 2015 Ozone and 2012 Particulate Matter Standards'' in the **Federal Register**. The original deadline to submit comments was July 1, 2024. This action extends the comment period for 14 days in response to requests from commenters. Written comments must now be received by July 15, 2024.

Dated: June 17, 2024.

Matthew Lakin,

Director, Air and Radiation Division, Region IX.

[FR Doc. 2024–13901 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 84

[EPA–HQ–OAR–2021–0643; FRL–11739–01–OAR]

Phasedown of Hydrofluorocarbons: Restrictions on the Use of HFCs Under the AIM Act in Variable Refrigerant Flow Air Conditioning Subsector

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is proposing to amend a provision of the Technology Transitions regulations promulgated under the American Innovation and Manufacturing Act. This action allows one additional year, until January 1, 2027, solely for the installation of new residential and light commercial air conditioning and heat pump variable refrigerant flow systems that are 65,000 British thermal units per hour or greater using components manufactured in the U.S. or imported prior to January 1, 2026. The existing January 1, 2026, compliance date for the installation of certain variable refrigerant flow systems may result in significant stranded inventory that was intended for new construction. EPA is promulgating this action to mitigate the potential for significant stranded inventory in this subsector.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before July 26, 2024.

ADDRESSES: You may send comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA–HQ–OAR–2021–0643, by any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal: https://www.regulations.gov* (our preferred method). Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
- *Email: a-and-r-docket@epa.gov.* Include Docket ID No. EPA–HQ–OAR–2021–0643 in the subject line of the message.
- *Mail:* U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, EPA Docket Center, Air and Radiation Docket, Mail Code 28221T, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20460.
- *Hand Delivery or Courier:* EPA Docket Center, WJC West Building, Room 3334, 1301 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20004. The Docket Center's hours of operations are 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Monday–Friday (except Federal Holidays).

Instructions: All submissions received must include the Docket ID number for this rulemaking. Comments received may be posted without change to *https://www.regulations.gov,* including any personal information provided.

Do not submit any information you consider to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) through *https://www.regulations.gov.* For submission of confidential comments, please work with the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section. For additional submission methods, the full EPA public comment policy, information about CBI or multimedia submissions, and general guidance on making effective comments, please visit *https://www.epa.gov/dockets/commenting-epa-dockets.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joshua Silver, Stratospheric Protection Division, Office of Atmospheric Protection (Mail Code 6205A), Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (202) 564–2473; email address: *silver.joshua@epa.gov.* You may also visit EPA's website at *https://www.epa.gov/climate-hfcs-reduction* for further information.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Throughout this document, whenever ''we,'' ''us,'' ''the Agency,'' or ''our'' is used, we mean EPA. Acronyms that are used in this rulemaking that may be helpful include:

AC—Air Conditioning
AHRI—Air-Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute
AIM Act—American Innovation and Manufacturing Act of 2020
The Alliance—Alliance for Responsible Atmospheric Policy
APA—Administrative Procedure Act
BTU/h—British thermal units per hour
CAA—Clean Air Act
EPA—U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
FR—Federal Register
GWP—Global Warming Potential
HARDI—Heating, Air-conditioning & Refrigeration Distributors International
HFC—Hydrofluorocarbon
OEM—Original Equipment Manufacturer
RACHP—Refrigeration, Air Conditioning, and Heat Pumps
SNAP—Significant New Alternatives Policy
VRF—Variable Refrigerant Flow
VRV—Variable Refrigerant Volume

I. General Information

A. Does this action apply to me?

You may be potentially affected by this proposed rule if you manufacture, import, export, sell or otherwise distribute, or install residential and light commercial air conditioning and heat pump equipment. Potentially affected categories, by North American Industry Classification System code, include:

- Plumbing, Heating, and Air Conditioning Contractors (238220).
- Air Conditioning and Warm Air Heating Equipment and Commercial and Industrial Refrigeration Equipment Manufacturing (333415).
- Plumbing and Heating Equipment and Supplies (Hydronics) Merchant Wholesalers (423720).
- Warm Air Heating and Air Conditioning Equipment and Supplies Merchant Wholesalers (423730).

This list is not intended to be exhaustive, but rather provides a guide for readers regarding entities that EPA expects could potentially be affected by this action. Other types of entities not listed could also be affected. To determine whether your entity may be affected by this action, you should carefully examine the regulatory text at the end of this document. If you have questions regarding the applicability of this action to a particular entity, consult

the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section.

B. What action is the Agency taking?

This proposed rule would provide one additional year, until January 1, 2027, for the installation of new residential and light commercial air conditioning and heat pump systems using variable refrigerant volume (VRV) or variable refrigerant flow (VRF) technology that are 65,000 British thermal units per hour (BTU/h) or larger when using components that were manufactured in the U.S. or imported into the U.S. before January 1, 2026. Specifically, this proposed rule would allow for pre-2026 condensing units, evaporators, and air handlers using R–410A, a blend of two regulated hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) listed in the American Innovation and Manufacturing Act of 2020 (AIM Act), or other regulated substances and blends of regulated substances not meeting the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule's restrictions, to be assembled into new systems (*i.e.,* installed), so long as those systems are assembled prior to January 1, 2027.

C. What is the Agency's authority for taking this action?

On December 27, 2020, the AIM Act was enacted as section 103 in Division S, Innovation for the Environment, of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (codified at 42 U.S.C. 7675). Subsection (k)(1)(A) of the AIM Act provides EPA with the authority to promulgate necessary regulations to carry out EPA's functions under the Act, including its obligations to ensure that the Act's requirements are satisfied. Subsection (k)(1)(C) of the AIM Act also provides that CAA sections 113, 114, 304, and 307 apply to the AIM Act and any regulations EPA promulgates under the AIM Act as though the AIM Act were part of title VI of the CAA.

The AIM Act authorizes EPA to address HFCs by providing new authorities in three main areas: phasing down the production and consumption of listed HFCs; managing these HFCs and their substitutes; and facilitating the transition to next-generation technologies by restricting use of these HFCs in the sector or subsectors in which they are used. This rulemaking focuses on the third area: the transition to next-generation technologies by restricting use of these HFCs in the sector or subsectors in which they are used. Subsection (i) of the AIM Act, ''Technology Transitions,'' provides that ''the Administrator may by rule restrict, fully, partially, or on a graduated schedule, the use of a regulated substance in the sector or subsector in which the regulated substance is used.'' 42 U.S.C. 7675(i)(1). The AIM Act lists 18 HFCs, and by reference any of their isomers not so listed, that are covered by the statute's provisions, referred to as ''regulated substances'' under the Act.[1] (42 U.S.C. 7675(c)(1)). EPA is proposing to amend restrictions on the use of certain HFCs in the residential and light commercial air conditioning and heat pump subsector for large equipment that use VRV or VRF technology.

D. What are the incremental costs and benefits of this action?

This proposed rule would reduce regulatory burden associated with the Technology Transitions program while having a negligible environmental impact. Original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) have indicated that large quantities of manufactured inventory of VRF equipment could go unsold without an extension of the installation date. Stranding equipment that does not meet the new restrictions is counter to the overall approach EPA has taken in the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule. Extending the installation date for these systems will not have an impact on the benefits modeled in the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule because EPA is limiting the extension to equipment manufactured in the U.S. or imported into the U.S. before the existing compliance date of January 1, 2026 (88 FR 73098). Furthermore, EPA did not analyze this subsector separately from the broader residential and light commercial air conditioning and heat pump sector for which EPA has already provided similar regulatory relief.

II. Background

A. Previous Technology Transitions Rules

On October 24, 2023, EPA's final rule establishing the Technology Transitions program was published in the **Federal Register** (88 FR 73098, hereafter ''2023 Technology Transitions Rule''). That rule restricted the use of certain HFCs in over 40 subsectors in which they are used by establishing limits for those subsectors based on global warming potential (GWP). It also prohibited, among other things, the manufacture and import of factory-completed products and the installation of certain refrigeration, air conditioning, and heat pump systems that use HFCs above specified GWP limits. The compliance dates for these restrictions vary by subsector and range from January 1, 2025, to January 1, 2028. The rule also prohibited the sale, distribution, and export of factory-completed products that do not comply with the relevant restrictions three years after the prohibition on manufacture and import.

After issuance of the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule, manufacturers, importers, and distributors of residential and light commercial air conditioning and heat pump equipment requested clarification of the provisions of the rule regarding two categories of equipment: residential and light commercial air conditioning and heat pump systems and variable refrigerant flow (VRF) systems. The November 13, 2023, letter to EPA from the Air-Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute (AHRI), the Alliance for Responsible Atmospheric Policy (the Alliance), and Heating, Air-conditioning & Refrigeration Distributors International (HARDI) states that these organizations understand that components for systems in these two categories manufactured in the U.S. or imported into the U.S. before January 1, 2025, and January 1, 2026, respectively, using a regulated substance with a GWP of 700 or more, cannot be installed as new systems after each such compliance date.[2] The letter states that this would be ''particularly problematic for residential new construction, including both single-family and multi-family dwellings, where builders order heating and cooling equipment well in advance of knowing the exact date of install. Such equipment is not installed until construction is nearly complete, but at time of order builders do not know when this date will be.'' The letter further articulates that allowing the use of components manufactured in the U.S. or imported into the U.S. prior to the compliance date to be installed as part of new systems for one year after the compliance date would provide some relief to the economic and practical burdens.

On December 26, 2023, EPA issued an interim final rule (88 FR 88825) that reevaluated the specific circumstances for residential and light commercial air conditioning and heat pumps and extended the installation compliance date for that subsector from January 1, 2025, to January 1, 2026, when using components that were manufactured in the U.S. or imported into the U.S. prior to January 1, 2025. EPA separately considered comments on that rule. The Agency is proposing a similar adjustment to the restrictions on the installation of VRF systems.

[1] ''Regulated substance'' and ''HFC'' are used interchangeably in this document.

[2] This letter can be found in the docket at EPA Docket ID No. EPA–HQ–OAR–2021–0643.

Specifically, EPA is proposing to extend the installation compliance date for the VRF subsector from January 1, 2026, to January 1, 2027, when using components that were manufactured in the U.S. or imported into the U.S. prior to January 1, 2026.

B. Variable Refrigerant Flow Subsector

Variable refrigerant flow (VRF) and variable refrigerant volume (VRV) systems are direct expansion multi-split systems that incorporate the following: a split system air conditioner or heat pump incorporating a single refrigerant circuit that is a common piping network to two or more indoor evaporators, each capable of independent control, or compressor units. VRF split systems contain a single module outdoor unit or combined module outdoor units with at least one variable capacity compressor that has three or more steps of capacity, with air or water as the heat source. This design is generally more energy efficient than unitary split systems without VRF. In this rule, EPA is considering only those VRF systems that are larger than 65,000 BTU/h and are used for air conditioning.

While this technology is used in air conditioning and heat pump equipment of any size, the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule limited its restrictions for this subsector to air-source VRF systems with capacities of 65,000 BTU/h (19 kW) or more and water-source VRF systems of any capacity. EPA proposed, and finalized, a compliance date that provided one additional year compared to the rest of the residential and light commercial air conditioning and heat pump subsector due to the complexity of the design and installation for large VRF systems. Data released annually by AHRI show that equipment with capacities of 65,000 BTU/h or more constitute roughly three percent of all residential and light commercial equipment sold. VRF equipment of that size are a subset of that three percent. EPA has summarized this publicly available data and included it in the docket for this proposed rule.

C. Avoiding Stranded Inventory

An important consideration in the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule was to avoid stranding inventory of existing equipment. This includes systems that are already installed and operating as well as unsold equipment in the manufacturing and distribution chain. EPA stated that ''[w]e recognize that the production and purchase of products or components that are unable to be sold to consumers is an economic and environmental outcome no parties desire, and the proposed rule's forward-looking compliance dates were intended to allow all parties in the market supply chain sufficient time to avoid that outcome'' (88 FR 73123). EPA's goal of avoiding the stranding of inventory is consistent with the requirement in subsection (i)(6) that Technology Transition restrictions may not take effect sooner than one year from the date of promulgation; this provision also serves to ensure that regulated parties have sufficient time to prepare for and comply with restrictions under this provision. In response to concerns about stranded inventory raised during the public comment period on the proposed rule, EPA made two significant adjustments in the final 2023 Technology Transitions Rule.

First, EPA removed the applicability of the rule's use restrictions to components. EPA explained that components are pieces of equipment that do not function independently and must be assembled together in the field in order to function for its intended purpose. Components are replaceable and a faulty component can be swapped out to avoid replacing an entire system. Recognizing the ongoing need for servicing and updating previously installed systems, EPA allowed for the continued manufacture, import, sale, distribution, offer for sale and distribution, and export of components that rely on regulated substances that would not meet the new restrictions. Aside from reporting requirements, components are therefore not subject to the restrictions in the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule, except insofar as those components may not be installed in new systems on or after the installation compliance dates.

Second, the proposed rule set a compliance date, one year after the manufacture and import compliance date, by which factory-completed products could no longer be distributed, sold, and offered for sale or distribution (*i.e.,* the ''sell-through'' date). For the purposes of the refrigeration, air conditioning, and heat pump (RACHP) sector, factory-completed products are equipment which are charged at the factory with the full and proper amount of refrigerant needed to function. Since the Agency received many comments on this topic, including from those commenters that considered one year to be insufficient especially for certain seasonal products, EPA extended the sell-through period for factory-completed products in the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule to be three years after the manufacture and import compliance date.

Through these two modifications in the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule, EPA determined it had minimized the potential for stranded inventory. Specifically with respect to components, the Agency's view was that there would continue to be a market for components not meeting the GWP limit thresholds for new systems, because those components could continue to enter the market to service existing systems.

Additionally, in the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule, EPA extended the compliance dates, or raised the GWP limit, for the installation of most field-assembled refrigeration systems (as compared to its proposed compliance dates), recognizing, in part, that refrigeration systems would require manufacturers and importers to make component equipment available and that such systems can be specifically designed for an individual facility and would need more time to transition.[3] EPA did not finalize later compliance dates for the installation of systems in the residential and light commercial air conditioning and heat pump, and VRF, subsectors in that rule.[4] Subsequent to promulgating the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule, EPA learned that additional time, which had already been extended to nearly all of the subsectors covering field-assembled refrigeration systems, was needed for those air conditioning subsectors. EPA responded by issuing an interim final rule reevaluating the specific circumstances for residential and light commercial air conditioning and heat pumps and extending the installation compliance date for that subsector by one year (88 FR 88825) and by undertaking this proposed rulemaking.

[3] *See* 88 FR 73143 (industrial process refrigeration systems—proposed January 1, 2025, compliance date, finalized January 1, 2026 compliance date (January 1, 2028, for some subsectors); 88 FR 73149 (data centers, ITEF, computer room cooling equipment—proposed January 1, 2025, compliance date, finalized January 1, 2027 compliance date); 88 FR 73150 (systems in retail food refrigeration subsector—proposed January 1, 2025, compliance date, finalized a range of compliance dates from January 1, 2026 to January 1, 2028); 88 FR 73162 (cold storage warehouses—proposed January 1, 2025, compliance date, finalized January 1, 2026, compliance date); 88 FR 73163 (ice rinks—retained proposed January 1, 2025, compliance date in final rule but increased GWP limit from 150 to 700); 88 FR 73175 (chillers-industrial process refrigeration—proposed January 1, 2025 compliance date, finalized compliance dates of January 1, 2026, and January 1, 2028 depending on the system).

[4] *See* 88 FR 73178 (residential and light commercial air conditioning and heat pumps—proposed January 1, 2025, compliance date, finalized January 1, 2025, compliance date); *id.* (VRF systems—proposed January 1, 2026, compliance date, finalized January 1, 2026, compliance date).

EPA is reevaluating the planning, purchasing, and installation timeframes for new construction using VRF equipment as referenced in the November 13, 2023, letter from industry stakeholders and is proposing an extension of one additional year, which would align with the additional time already provided for many refrigeration subsectors in the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule and in the interim final rule for installation of certain residential and light commercial air conditioning and heat pumps.

Multi-unit residential and commercial new construction buildings must be planned well in advance, including plans for the heating and cooling systems intended to be installed in that new construction. Builders may order those planned heating and cooling systems in concert with the planning process without knowing when those systems will be installed. As noted by stakeholders, installation of these systems is often one of the final steps in construction. EPA acknowledges that it may therefore be the case that for new construction planned to occur in 2026, builders may have already designed and received a permit ahead of the issuance of the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule, for a building that contains a heating and cooling system that is planned to be installed in that new construction. Specifically, EPA recognizes that for construction planned to occur in 2026, components of residential and light commercial air conditioning and heat pump systems using VRF with regulated substances may have already been incorporated into the design of the building, received a permit from the appropriate authority having jurisdiction, and ordered by builders, such that the VRF system equipment associated with these projects are at risk of being stranded. EPA also recognizes that as one of the first subsectors facing a system installation compliance date under the new Technology Transitions program, the ability of the VRF subsector to comply with this deadline relies on manufacturers, importers, and distributors to quickly make commercially available component parts that comply with the GWP thresholds. For this reason, as well, EPA has determined it is appropriate to propose this limited extension for compliance.

As discussed in the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule, EPA established the compliance date of January 1, 2026, based on consideration of the AIM Act's subsection (i)(4) factors, and in particular, the assessment that the VRF subsector will be able to meet the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule's GWP limit of 700, and transition from the current use of HFCs in the subsector. EPA's consideration of the statutory factors continues to support a speedy transition for this subsector. However, as discussed above, the Agency recognizes that the January 1, 2026, installation compliance date could result in builders of new construction being left with stranded inventory that could not be used. Stranding inventory is an economically and environmentally undesirable outcome, and the issue addressed in this proposed rule was not brought to the Agency's attention until after the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule was finalized. This action therefore proposes to extend the January 1, 2026, new installation compliance date to January 1, 2027, provided the new installation uses components that were manufactured in the U.S. or imported into the U.S. prior to January 1, 2026.

Stakeholders, including the authors of the November 13, 2023, letter, have indicated that extending the installation compliance date by one year would alleviate their concerns about stranded inventory.[5] EPA also heard from one stakeholder that its concerns would be alleviated by exempting the installation of VRF systems in buildings from the restrictions of the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule if those buildings received a permit prior to finalization of the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule (*i.e.,* October 24, 2023).[6]

EPA recognized in the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule that some buildings had already been permitted prior to finalization of that rule. While permits may not always specify the refrigerant to be used in a refrigeration or air conditioning technology in a building, some permits may require a particular regulated substance or blend of regulated substances. Recognizing that where earlier issued permits required a particular regulated substance or blend, and where such permitted systems were likely to be highly complex and costly to redesign, the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule provided one additional year beyond the final rule compliance dates for the installation of certain field-assembled systems. Specifically, for the installation of refrigeration systems in four subsectors (certain industrial process refrigeration systems; retail food refrigeration—supermarkets; cold storage warehouses; and ice rinks) if an approved building permit was issued before the signature date of the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule (*i.e.,* October 5, 2023), and the permit specified the use of a system containing a particular regulated substance or blend of regulated substances with a GWP above the relevant GWP threshold for that subsector (88 FR 73120; 40 CFR 84.54(d)).

EPA intended this limited flexibility in the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule to prevent the need to redesign these systems and, in some cases, the facility that houses these systems. EPA granted this permit-based extension selectively, as most systems are not typically designed specifically for an individual facility and/or most systems have a later compliance date and thus can make any necessary changes with the GWP restrictions in mind.

The stakeholder that requested an exemption of VRF systems from the restrictions of the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule where such systems were covered by a building permit issued prior to finalization of the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule, is a developer of buildings which are hundreds of thousands of square feet. The stakeholder described, in information it provided to EPA, how the time from initial permitting to final construction can take several years.[7] One of its buildings received an approved permit in June of 2023, and the developer expects the building to be completed in 2028. This stakeholder would like the VRF system in this building to be exempted from the restrictions of the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule, which would otherwise have required installation of GWP-compliant VRF systems starting on January 1, 2026.

Included in the information this stakeholder provided to EPA was an attachment from the manufacturer of VRF equipment that the developer intends to install in its building. In this attachment, dated March 4, 2024, the manufacturer states that while it ''has not made available selection software or complete engineering data for the upcoming R–32 product to satisfy the project'' indicated by the developer, the manufacturer ''can confirm that on or before the date of the mandated transition to A2L refrigerants, equipment will be available for design,

[5] The letter dated November 13, 2023, can be found in the docket at EPA Docket ID No. EPA–HQ–OAR–2021–0643. Another letter from a stakeholder, dated October 17, 2023, can be found in the docket for this proposed rule.

[6] The letter from this stakeholder, dated March 5, 2024, and supporting documentation that accompanied that letter, are included in the docket for this proposed rule.

[7] *See* letter from stakeholder, dated March 5, 2024, included in the docket for this proposed rule.

manufacture, and sale in North America.'' [8]

EPA does not agree that it would be appropriate and consistent with subsection (i)(4) to provide a broad, unlimited exemption from the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule to any project where the system had received a building permit prior to finalization of the rule. EPA is cognizant in establishing these restrictions, and in considering requested flexibilities from stakeholders, that in some instances, the individual costs to some regulated entities to accommodate updated regulations in their planning must be balanced with the national priorities established in the AIM Act of phasing down HFCs on a set schedule and transitioning away from the use of HFCs where practicable. In this case, EPA's analysis under the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule was that lower-GWP substitutes for HFCs will be available for the component equipment needed for these VRF installations in time for the January 1, 2026, compliance date. One of the primary manufacturers of this equipment has confirmed EPA's assessment about availability in the materials provided to the Agency. The fact that such equipment may not be available for purchase in early 2024 does not mean that projects planned for 2028 should not be expected to comply with restrictions promulgated in 2023.

However, EPA recognizes that a permit-based flexibility is an alternative way to accommodate potential concerns about compliance. We are therefore proposing in the alternative a similar one-year extension that was provided to certain field-assembled systems with building permits that specified use of a particular HFC or blend under the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule. Specifically, this proposal in the alternative would extend the compliance date for installation of new VRF systems from January 1, 2026, to January 1, 2027, where the building permit both specified the HFC or HFC blend to be used and was issued prior to the signature date of the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule (October 5, 2023). This alternative proposal is consistent with the permit-based flexibility provided to the four previously mentioned refrigeration subsectors (88 FR 73120; 40 CFR 84.54(d)). However, it is likely that fewer projects would meet the criteria for this permit-based extension compared to the number of projects potentially impacted by EPA's primary proposal of extending the compliance date to January 1, 2027, for installation of all VRF systems using components manufactured in the U.S. or imported into the U.S. by January 1, 2026.

D. Limiting the Environmental Impact of This Action

EPA is narrowly tailoring this proposal to respond to stakeholder concerns about stranded inventory in this subsector while maintaining the human health and environmental benefits of the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule. To do so, EPA is proposing to extend the installation compliance date by one year to January 1, 2027, only for new VRF systems installed from specified components (*e.g.,* condensing units and indoor evaporators) that were manufactured in the U.S. or imported into the U.S. prior to January 1, 2026. This restriction means that the total number of VRF systems using HFCs or HFC blends with a GWP above 700 installed in 2025 and 2026 would match what the Agency modeled for installation in 2025. The extra year for installation would not increase demand for HFCs in this subsector but rather could shift some of the demand from 2025 into 2026.

EPA is proposing to extend the original compliance date for new installations in this subsector to January 1, 2027, when using components manufactured in the U.S. or imported into the U.S. on or after January 1, 2026. These components remain subject to the original restrictions of the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule. Specifically, if they contain an HFC with a GWP of 700 or greater, their use is limited to servicing previously installed systems. As elaborated on more below, all the existing labeling, reporting, and recordkeeping requirements also continue to apply to components using, or intended to use, any regulated substance. Consideration of extending the compliance date for all installations in the subsector by one year is not warranted based on EPA's prior analysis of the availability of substitutes within this subsector, as described in the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule and supporting documents in the docket for that rule.[9]

EPA finds that this proposed approach of providing additional time for installation effectively responds to stakeholder concerns about stranded inventory while remaining protective of the environment. This approach was suggested by industry stakeholders in their letter dated November 13, 2023, and it aligns with industry's plans to transition in this subsector.

This proposed rule would provide an additional year for installation only if all ''specified components'' of that system are manufactured in the U.S. or imported into the U.S. prior to January 1, 2026. The term ''specified component'' is defined under the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule as ''condensing units, condensers, compressors, evaporator units, and evaporators'' (88 FR 73112). Other components of an air conditioning or heat pump system such as valves or refrigerant piping are not restricted by the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule and can be installed regardless of manufacture or import date.

E. How would the labeling, recordkeeping, and reporting provisions apply?

The 2023 Technology Transitions Rule requires labels on products and certain components that use HFCs. The labeling requirement takes effect for each subsector at the same time as the manufacture and import prohibition for products or the installation prohibition for systems. This timing reflects the primary purpose of the labels, which is for assessing compliance of products and systems in sectors and subsectors with active HFC restrictions.

This action would not require any specific labeling for components that are manufactured in the U.S. or imported into the U.S. prior to January 1, 2026. Nameplates typically include the date that a component is manufactured, which would be sufficient for the purposes of this action. Furthermore, it would be impractical to require entities that are not OEMs to relabel components that are already within the distribution chain.

This action would not change the existing labeling requirements related to components that are effective January 1, 2026. For specified components of systems, the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule required labels as of the applicable installation compliance date. This means that for specified components manufactured in the U.S. or imported into the U.S. on or after January 1, 2026, the requirements of the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule continue to apply. These requirements include, among others, that such components must be labeled with the statement ''For servicing existing equipment only.'' This labeling is particularly important to distinguish components manufactured in the U.S. or imported into the U.S. before January 1, 2026, from those that are not.

[8] *See* Attachment A, after the letter from stakeholder, dated March 5, 2024, (page 10), included in the docket for this proposed rule.

[9] This refers to EPA Docket ID No. EPA–HQ–OAR–2021–0643.

The 2023 Technology Transitions Rule established recordkeeping and reporting requirements for any entity that manufactures or imports products or specified components that use or are intended to use HFCs in the sectors and subsectors covered in that rule. The reporting period for all sectors and subsectors starts on January 1, 2025, and the first reports must be submitted to the Agency by March 31, 2026. This action does not add to nor modify the existing reporting and recordkeeping requirements for specified components. EPA is not proposing to establish new reporting and recordkeeping requirements related to the sale or installation of components manufactured in the U.S. or imported into the U.S. prior to January 1, 2025. Reporting and recordkeeping would still be required for specified VRF components that are manufactured in the U.S. or imported into the U.S. on or after January 1, 2025.

F. Evaluation of the Subsection (i)(4) Factors

Subsection (i)(4) of the AIM Act directs EPA to factor in, to the extent practicable and using best available data, various considerations when carrying out a rulemaking under subsection (i). As discussed in detail in the preamble to the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule, EPA views subsection (i)(4)(A) through (D) as providing overarching direction for setting restrictions under subsection (i) (88 FR 73129–73141). In this action, EPA is not reconsidering the interpretations provided in the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule regarding how it considers the factors laid out in subsection (i)(4). Nor is the Agency revisiting its analysis of the (i)(4) factors with respect to the residential and light commercial air conditioning and heat pump subsector that uses VRF technology as set forth in the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule preamble (88 FR 73177–73180). However, in proposing this narrow adjustment to the January 1, 2026, compliance date for the residential and light commercial air conditioning and heat pump VRF subsector, we have considered the (i)(4) factors to the extent practicable, as applicable to the Agency's adjustment of that compliance date.

The issue being addressed by this proposal was brought to the Agency's attention by stakeholders impacted by the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule. As noted in EPA's discussion of subsection (i)(4)(A), in addition to information generated by other governing bodies and agencies, the Agency does also take into account information provided by industry, environmental non-governmental organizations, trade associations, academia, standard-setting bodies, and more (88 FR 73129). We acknowledge that in some cases, regulated entities may be best situated to identify best available information regarding implementation challenges. As part of this proposed rule, EPA is providing an opportunity for comment and invites stakeholders who may have information relevant to this action to weigh in.

With respect to the Agency's evaluation of the availability of substitutes under subsection (i)(4)(B), EPA previously determined that substitutes with a GWP less than 700 are available effective January 1, 2026, for the residential and light commercial air conditioning and heat pump VRF subsector. EPA is not proposing to change that determination and continues to find that substitutes with a GWP less than 700 will be available January 1, 2026, for this subsector. Manufacturers in this subsector are currently making air conditioning and heat pump systems and components with lower-GWP refrigerants for other markets and are prepared to meet the January 1, 2026, installation compliance date for such systems. This action is not proposing to reconsider the Agency's prior evaluation of the availability of substitutes for meeting the use restrictions issued in the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule for this subsector; rather, this action is narrowly tailored to address the disposition of components manufactured in the U.S. or imported into the U.S. prior to January 1, 2026.

This proposal to adjust the installation compliance date for large VRF systems is motivated by the policy goal of avoiding stranding inventory where possible, while recognizing that the AIM Act directs the Agency to establish use restrictions where appropriate for sectors and subsectors to move away from the use of high-GWP HFCs. We believe these goals to be consistent with the direction in subsection (i)(4)(C), which instructs the Agency to factor in, to the extent practicable, overall economic costs and environmental impacts, as compared to historical trends. As discussed in the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule, EPA interprets (i)(4)(C) as purposefully accommodating different types and degrees of analysis of economic costs and environmental impacts, including costs and impacts that may be difficult to quantify (88 FR 73138). The narrow adjustment being proposed would reduce the potential to unintentionally strand large VRF components, while still achieving a prompt transition for this subsector. Specifically, even with the adjustments in this proposed rule, manufacturers and importers of components for new VRF systems will be required in the very near term (*i.e.,* before January 1, 2026) to transition from using R–410A and other higher-GWP regulated substances in those components, and developers and builders will not be permitted to install new systems that use R–410A or other non-compliant HFCs or HFC blends beginning January 1, 2027. This proposed action would not affect the overall consumption of HFCs because EPA does not anticipate a change in the amount of new VRF equipment that would be manufactured in the U.S. or imported into the U.S prior to January 1, 2026. Further discussion of environmental impacts can be found in section III.B.

EPA requests comment on the incremental costs and benefits associated with this action, including avoiding impacts such as stranded inventory (*e.g.,* number and type of units affected) and on the incremental impacts to regulated entities regarding compliance (*e.g.,* avoiding redistribution of equipment, avoiding revisions or new permits to replace previously secured building permits).

Finally, subsection (i)(4)(D) directs the Agency to factor in, to the extent practicable, the remaining phasedown period for regulated substances under the allowance allocation program. The reduction in the supply of HFCs is an important factor supporting compliance dates and GWP limits that are as stringent as feasible under the analysis of all the (i)(4) factors. EPA finds that this proposed rule would not materially affect the demand for HFCs because it limits installations to components that were manufactured in the U.S. or imported into the U.S. prior to January 1, 2026. The effect of this proposed rule would be to extend the installations that EPA modeled to occur in 2025 over the two-year period of 2025 and 2026. However, given the small size of this subsector, at a subset of roughly three percent of all equipment sold in the residential and light commercial subsector, EPA did not independently model this subsector in the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule's Regulatory Impact Assessment Addendum.

G. Negotiated Rulemaking

Prior to proposing a rule, subsection (i)(2)(A) of the Act directs EPA to consider negotiating with stakeholders in the sector or subsector subject to the potential rule in accordance with

negotiated rulemaking procedures established under subchapter III of chapter 5 of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the ''Negotiated Rulemaking Act of 1990''). If EPA makes a determination to use the negotiated rulemaking procedures, subsection (i)(2)(B) requires that EPA, to the extent practicable, give priority to completing that rulemaking over completing rulemakings under subsection (i) that are not using that procedure. If EPA does not use the negotiated rulemaking process, subsection (i)(2)(C) requires the Agency to publish an explanation of the decision not to use that procedure before commencement of the rulemaking process.

EPA noted in the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule that, where appropriate, EPA will consider recent Agency actions and decisions related to restrictions on the use of HFCs in sectors and subsectors when considering using negotiated rulemaking procedures. EPA provided the example of not issuing a separate notice to consider using negotiated rulemaking for four petitions received after a first round of petitions had received public notice. EPA's reasoning was that these petitions were received well ahead of the final action and the requested restrictions are in the same sectors and subsectors contained in petitions for which a determination had already been made. EPA stated that nothing in those four petitions caused EPA to reconsider that decision and that it was unnecessary for the Agency to reconsider whether to use negotiated rulemaking procedures.

Upon considering recent Agency action, specifically the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule, this proposed rulemaking does not merit a reconsideration of the prior determination not to use negotiated rulemaking procedures. This proposal is a direct and immediate response to a specific concern arising from the recent Agency action to establish a compliance date for the installation of certain systems within the residential and light commercial air conditioning and heat pump VRF subsector. EPA is not proposing to address a new subsector nor establish a new restriction. Instead, this proposed rule would provide targeted relief to address concerns about stranded inventory in a single subsector subject to a recently finalized restriction.

Furthermore, this action was requested through a November 13, 2023, letter signed jointly by AHRI, the Alliance, and HARDI, which together represents a majority of the stakeholders in the subsector subject to the rule. The groups did not request the use of the negotiated rulemaking procedure in their letter, and EPA does not believe that the rule would benefit from the negotiated rulemaking procedure especially because timeliness is a concern universally shared by stakeholders in this subsector.

III. Statutory and Executive Order Reviews

Additional information about these statutes and Executive Orders can be found at *https://www.epa.gov/laws-regulations/laws-and-executive-orders.*

A. Executive Order 12866: Regulatory Planning and Review and Executive Order 14094: Modernizing Regulatory Review

This action is not a significant regulatory action as defined in Executive Order 12866, as amended by Executive Order 14094, and was therefore not subject to a requirement for Executive Order 12866 review.

B. Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA)

This action does not impose an information collection burden under the PRA because it does not contain any information collection activities.

C. Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA)

I certify that this action will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under the RFA. In making this determination, EPA concludes that the impact of concern for this proposed rule is any significant adverse economic impact on small entities and that the Agency is certifying that this proposed rule would not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities because the proposed rule would relieve regulatory burden on the small entities subject to the rule. This proposed rule would prevent the stranding of components used to install residential and light commercial air conditioning and heat pump systems using variable refrigerant flow technology. We have therefore concluded that this action would relieve regulatory burden for all directly regulated small entities.

D. Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA)

This action does not contain any unfunded mandate as described in UMRA, 2 U.S.C. 1531–1538, and does not significantly or uniquely affect small governments. The action imposes no enforceable duty on any state, local or tribal governments or the private sector.

E. Executive Order 13132: Federalism

This action does not have federalism implications. It will not have substantial direct effects 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.

F. Executive Order 13175: Consultation and Coordination With Indian Tribal Governments

This action does not have tribal implications as specified in Executive Order 13175. It will not have substantial direct effects on tribal governments, on the relationship between the Federal government and Indian tribes, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities between the Federal government and Indian tribes, as specified in Executive Order 13175. Thus, Executive Order 13175 does not apply to this action.

G. Executive Order 13045: Protection of Children From Environmental Health and Safety Risks

EPA interprets Executive Order 13045 as applying only to those regulatory actions that concern environmental health or safety risks that EPA has reason to believe may disproportionately affect children, per the definition of ''covered regulatory action'' in section 2–202 of the Executive Order. This action is narrowly tailored to prevent the stranding of certain air conditioning and heat pump equipment using variable refrigerant flow technology while not affecting the demand for HFCs. Therefore, this action is not subject to Executive Order 13045 because it does not concern an environmental health risk or safety risk. Since this action does not concern human health, EPA's Policy on Children's Health also does not apply.

H. Executive Order 13211: Actions Concerning Regulations That Significantly Affect Energy Supply, Distribution, or Use

This action is not subject to Executive Order 13211, because it is not a significant regulatory action under Executive Order 12866.

I. National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act (NTTAA)

This rulemaking does not involve technical standards.

J. Executive Order 12898: Federal Actions To Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations and Executive Order 14096: Revitalizing Our Nation's Commitment to Environmental Justice for All

EPA believes that this type of action does not concern human health or environmental conditions and therefore cannot be evaluated with respect to potentially disproportionate and adverse effects on communities with environmental justice concerns. This action is narrowly tailored to prevent the stranding of inventory of air conditioning and heat pump equipment using variable refrigerant flow technology while not affecting the demand for HFCs.

Although this action does not concern human health or environmental conditions, EPA identified and addressed environmental justice concerns within the 2023 Technology Transitions Rule (88 FR 73098; October 24, 2023).

List of Subjects in 40 CFR Part 84

Environmental protection, Administrative practice and procedure, Air pollution control, Chemicals, Climate change, Emissions, Imports, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Michael S. Regan,

Administrator.

For the reasons stated in the preamble, EPA proposes to amend 40 CFR part 84 as follows:

PART 84—PHASEDOWN OF HYDROFLUOROCARBONS

■ 1. The authority citation for part 84 continues to read as follows:

Authority: Pub. L. 116–260, Division S, Sec. 103.

Subpart B—Restrictions on the Use of Hydrofluorocarbons

■ 2. Amend § 84.54 by revising paragraph (c)(2) to read as follows:

§ 84.54 Restrictions on the use of hydrofluorocarbons.

* * * * *

(c) * * *

(2) Effective January 1, 2026, variable refrigerant flow systems for use as residential or light commercial air-conditioning or heat pumps, using a regulated substance, or a blend containing a regulated substance, with a global warming potential of 700 or greater. New variable refrigerant flow systems using a regulated substance, or a blend containing a regulated substance, with a global warming potential of 700 or greater may be installed prior to January 1, 2027, where all specified components of that system are manufactured in the U.S. or imported into the U.S. prior to January 1, 2026.

* * * * *

[FR Doc. 2024–13900 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

48 CFR Part 40

[FAR Case 2023–008; Docket No. FAR–2023–0008; Sequence No. 1]

RIN 9000–AO56

Federal Acquisition Regulation: Prohibition on Certain Semiconductor Products and Services

AGENCY: Department of Defense (DoD), General Services Administration (GSA), and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

ACTION: Advanced notice of proposed rulemaking; extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: DoD, GSA, and NASA issued an advance notice of proposed rulemaking (ANPR) on May 3, 2024, with considerations for amending the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) to implement paragraphs (a), (b), and (h) in section 5949 of the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 that prohibits executive agencies from procuring or obtaining certain products and services that include covered semiconductor products or services effective December 23, 2027. The deadline for submitting comments is being extended from July 2, 2024, to August 2, 2024, to provide additional time for interested parties to provide comments on the ANPR. Additionally, DoD, GSA, and NASA are providing instructions on how to submit business confidential information within a public comment, for this ANPR only.

DATES: For the advanced notice of proposed rulemaking published on May 3, 2024 (89 FR 36738), submit comments by August 2, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments in response to FAR Case 2023–008 to the Federal eRulemaking portal at *https://www.regulations.gov* by searching for ''FAR Case 2023–008''. Select the link ''Comment Now'' that corresponds with ''FAR Case 2023–008''. Follow the instructions provided on the ''Comment Now'' screen. Please include your name, company name (if any), and ''FAR Case 2023–008'' on your attached document. If your comment cannot be submitted using *https://www.regulations.gov,* call or email the points of contact in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this document for alternate instructions.

Instructions: Please submit comments only and cite ''FAR Case 2023–008'' in all correspondence related to this case. Public comments may be submitted as an individual, as an organization, or anonymously (see frequently asked questions at *https://www.regulations.gov/faq*). Comments submitted in response to this ANPR will be made publicly available and are subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act. For this reason, please do not include in your comments information of a confidential nature, such as sensitive personal information or proprietary information, or any information that you would not want publicly disclosed unless you follow the instructions below for confidential comments. Summary information of the public comments received, including any specific comments, will be posted on *regulations.gov.*

All filers using the portal should use the name of the person or entity submitting comments as the name of their files, in accordance with the instructions below. Anyone submitting business confidential/proprietary information should clearly identify any business confidential/proprietary portion at the time of submission, file a statement justifying nondisclosure and referencing the specific legal authority claimed, and provide a non-confidential/non-proprietary version of the submission. Any business confidential information should be in an uploaded file that has a file name beginning with the characters ''BC.'' Any page containing business confidential information must be clearly marked ''BUSINESS CONFIDENTIAL/PROPRIETARY'' on the top of that page.

The corresponding non-confidential/non-proprietary version of those comments must be clearly marked ''PUBLIC.'' The file name of the non-confidential version should begin with the character ''P.'' The ''BC'' and ''P'' should be followed by the name of the person or entity submitting the comments or rebuttal comments. All filers should name their files using the name of the person or entity submitting the comments. Any submissions with file names that do not begin with a ''BC'' will be assumed to be public and will be made publicly available through *https://www.regulations.gov.*

To confirm receipt of your comment(s), please check *https://www.regulations.gov,* approximately two to three days after submission to verify posting.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For clarification of content, email *Farpolicy@gsa.gov* or call 202–969–4075. Please cite FAR Case 2023–008. For information pertaining to status, publication schedules, or alternate instructions for submitting comments if *https://www.regulations.gov* cannot be used, contact the Regulatory Secretariat Division at 202–501–4755 or *GSARegSec@gsa.gov.* Please cite FAR Case 2023–008.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

DoD, GSA, and NASA published an advance notice of proposed rulemaking in the **Federal Register** at 89 FR 36738 on May 3, 2024. The comment period is extended to August 2, 2024, to allow additional time for interested parties to develop comments on the rule. Additionally, DoD, GSA, and NASA are providing instructions for how the public may submit business confidential information within a public comment, for this ANPR only.

List of Subjects in 48 CFR Part 40

Government procurement.

William F. Clark,

Director, Office of Government-wide Acquisition Policy, Office of Acquisition Policy, Office of Government-wide Policy.

[FR Doc. 2024–13819 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6820–EP–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

50 CFR Part 17

[FXES1111090FEDR–245–FF09E21000]

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Three Species Not Warranted for Listing as Endangered or Threatened Species; Correction

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notification of findings; correction.

SUMMARY: On June 20, 2024, we published a notification of findings regarding three species not warranted for listing as endangered or threatened species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. The notification of findings contained a table with incorrect docket numbers in the **ADDRESSES** section. This document corrects those docket numbers.

DATES: June 26, 2024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Species	Contact information
Kiamichi crayfish	Ken Collins, Field Office Supervisor, Oklahoma Ecological Services Field Office, 918–382–4504, *ken_collins@fws.gov.*
Rio Grande chub and Rio Grande sucker	Shawn Sartorius, Field Supervisor, New Mexico Ecological Services Office, 505–346–2525, *shawn_sartorius@fws.gov.*

Individuals in the United States who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunications relay services. Individuals outside the United States should use the relay services offered within their country to make international calls to the point-of-contact in the United States.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This document corrects the docket numbers presented in the table in the **ADDRESSES** section of our notification of findings published on June 20, 2024, at 89 FR 51864. The complete **ADDRESSES** section, including the corrected table, appears below under **ADDRESSES** in this document.

Corrections

In the **Federal Register** of June 20, 2024, in FR Doc. 2024–13617 on page 51864, in the third column, correct the **ADDRESSES** section to read:

ADDRESSES: Detailed descriptions of the bases for the findings published on June 20, 2024, at 89 FR 51864 are available on the internet at *https://www.regulations.gov* under the following docket numbers:

Species	Docket No.
Kiamichi crayfish (*Faxonius saxatilis*)	FWS–R2–ES–2023–0258
Rio Grande chub (*Gila pandora*)	FWS–R2–ES–2024–0081
Rio Grande sucker (*Pantosteus plebeius,* formerly *Catostomus plebeius*)	FWS–R2–ES–2024–0082

Those descriptions are also available by contacting the appropriate person as specified under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**. Please submit any new information, materials, comments, or questions concerning the June 20, 2024, finding to the appropriate person, as specified under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

Anissa Craghead,

Acting Regulations and Policy Chief, Division of Policy, Economics, Risk Management, and Analytics, Joint Administrative Operations, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

[FR Doc. 2024–13852 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4333–15–P

Notices

Federal Register

Vol. 89, No. 123

Wednesday, June 26, 2024

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. APHIS–2019–0035]

Domestic Quarantine: Quarantined Areas and Regulated Articles

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: We are advising the public of the changes made to our lists of domestic quarantined areas in the past year. These changes may be viewed on the relevant plant pest programs' websites.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Derek A. Woller, Senior Regulatory Policy Specialist, RCC, IRM, PEIP, PPQ, APHIS, 4700 River Road, Riverdale, MD 20737–1228; (480) 490–6454; *Derek.A.Woller@usda.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The regulations in 7 CFR part 301 are designed to prevent the interstate spread of plant pests that are new to or not widely distributed within the United States. Subparts C through X (§§ 301.32 through 301.92–12, referred to below as the regulations) each address a specific plant pest and contain criteria for designating certain areas of the United States as quarantined areas [1] for the specific plant pest. The regulations restrict the interstate movement of certain regulated articles from quarantined areas in order to prevent the spread of plant pests to noninfected areas of the United States.

On December 29, 2022, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) published in the **Federal Register** a final rule (Docket No. APHIS–2019–0035, 87 FR 80002–80019), effective January 30, 2023, that moved certain lists of quarantined areas and regulated articles from the regulations to web pages maintained by APHIS. In accordance with the final rule, APHIS keeps updated lists of quarantined areas on the relevant plant pest programs' websites, which are listed in the relevant subpart of the regulations. When a change to the status of a plant pest threat occurs, APHIS takes appropriate action to add, expand, remove, or reduce a quarantined area, and the relevant APHIS plant pest program updates the web-based list of quarantined areas for their program. APHIS also publishes a yearly notice informing the public of all updates to quarantined areas that have occurred since publication of the last notice informing the public of such updates.

Since our last action [2] informing the public of updates to our lists of quarantined areas, the following actions revising our lists of quarantined areas have been taken. Updated lists of quarantined areas are available on the relevant plant pest programs' websites.

Karnal Bunt [3]
- DA–2023–05

Spongy Moth [4] (Gypsy Moth) [5]
- DA–2023–04
- DA–2023–11

Imported Fire Ant [6]
- DA–2023–10

Pale Cyst Nematode [7]
- DA–2023–01
- DA–2023–26

Fruit Flies [8]
- DA–2023–08
- DA–2023–09
- DA–2023–12
- DA–2023–13
- DA–2023–14
- DA–2023–15
- DA–2023–16
- DA–2023–17
- DA–2023–20
- DA–2023–21
- DA–2023–23
- DA–2023–25
- DA–2023–27
- DA–2023–28
- DA–2023–30

Citrus Greening and Asian Citrus Psyllid [9]
- DA–2023–19
- DA–2023–22
- DA–2023–29

This notice serves as an official record and public notification of these actions.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 7701–7772 and 7781–7786; 7 CFR 2.22, 2.80, and 371.3. Section 301.75–15 issued under Sec. 204, Title II, Public Law 106–113, 113 Stat. 1501A–293; sections 301.75–15 and 301.75–16 issued under Sec. 203, Title II, Public Law 106–224, 114 Stat. 400 (7 U.S.C. 1421 note).

Done in Washington, DC, this 20th day of June 2024.

Donna Lalli,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 2024–13925 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–34–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency

[Docket ID FSA–2024–0002]

Notice of Funds Availability (NOFA) for the Food Safety Certification for Specialty Crops Program

AGENCY: Commodity Credit Corporation and Farm Service Agency, Department of Agriculture (USDA).

ACTION: Notification of fund availability.

SUMMARY: The Farm Service Agency (FSA) is announcing the availability of $19 million through the new Food Safety Certification for Specialty Crops Program (FSCSC) for specialty crop operations that incur eligible on-farm food safety program expenses to obtain or renew a food safety certification in calendar years 2024 and 2025. To be eligible for assistance with expenses

[1] Certain subparts refer to quarantined areas as ''regulated areas,'' ''protected areas,'' or ''suppressive/generally infested areas.''

[2] In this case, the last action informing the public of updates to quarantined areas was the final rule (Docket No. APHIS–2019–0035, 87 FR 80002–80019) published in the **Federal Register** on December 29, 2022. Please note that since the rule was issued, APHIS has replatformed its websites for domestic quarantine programs. For ease of access, direct links to each replatformed page are provided as footnotes in this document.

[3] *https://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant-pests-diseases/karnal-bunt.*

[4] *https://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant-pests-diseases/spongy-moth.*

[5] APHIS Announces New Common Names for Regulated Lymantria Moths (*https://www.aphis.usda.gov/news/agency-announcements/aphis-announces-new-common-names-regulated-lymantria-moths*).

[6] *https://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant-pests-diseases/ifa.*

[7] *https://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant-pests-diseases/pcn.*

[8] *https://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant-pests-diseases/fruit-flies.*

[9] *https://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant-pests-diseases/citrus-diseases/citrus-greening.*

related to a 2024 food safety certification, the certification must have been issued on or after June 26, 2024. Specialty crop operations incur significant costs to comply with regulatory requirements and market-driven food safety certification requirements each year with little opportunity to recover the increased costs. In this document, FSA is providing the eligibility requirements, application process, and payment calculation for FSCSC.

DATES: *Funding availability:* Implementation will begin June 26, 2024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kathy Sayers; telephone: (202) 720–6870; email: *Kathy.sayers@usda.gov.* Individuals with disabilities who require alternative means for communication should contact the USDA Target Center at (202) 720–2600 (voice and text telephone TTY) or dial 711 for Telecommunications Relay Service (both voice and text telephone users can initiate this call from any telephone).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

FSA, on behalf of Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC), is announcing the availability of FSCSC to assist specialty crop operations that incurred eligible on-farm food safety certification and related expenses in order to obtain or renew a:

- 2024 food safety certification issued between June 26, 2024 and December 31, 2024; or
- 2025 food safety certification issued at any time during the 2025 calendar year.

For each year, FSCSC will cover a portion of the specialty crop operation's cost of obtaining or renewing their certification, as well as a portion of their related costs as described in this NOFA.

FSA will administer FSCSC for 2024 and 2025 in a similar manner as the previous FSCSC NOFA for 2022 and 2023 published on June 21, 2022 (87 FR 36816–36820); however, FSA has made changes to FSCSC as noted in this NOFA, including revising the definition of ''small business'' for 2024 and 2025 to mean an applicant that had an average annual monetary value of specialty crops sold during the applicable 3-year period not to exceed $500,000. FSA is adding eligibility for medium size business, by adding the definition of ''medium size business'' which means the average annual monetary value of specialty crops sold during the applicable 3-year period from $500,001 to $1,000,000. Medium size businesses are included as eligible in order to allow broader participation of diverse specialty crop operations that can qualify for FSCSC. FSA has also increased the maximum payment amounts for maintaining or updating a Food Safety Plan and Training due to additional certification compliance requirements included in the Standards for the Growing, Harvesting, Packing, and holding of Produce for Human Consumption Relating to Agricultural Water final rule, which was published on May 6, 2024 (89 FR 37448–37519). Based on feedback following the publication of the 2022 FSCSC NOFA, all payment categories will be paid at a higher rate due to the program being beneficial to the applicant.

Specialty crops intended for human consumption are subject to concerns about safety, particularly since specialty crops sold as raw agricultural commodities do not undergo a ''kill step'' like cooking, canning, or pasteurizing used for other agricultural commodities such as meat or dairy products. As a result, specialty crop operations face increasing demand from grocery stores, schools, and other institutional buyers and retailers to obtain certification through programs that address the safe growing, harvesting, packing, and holding of their crops. The need to develop, implement, and maintain on-farm food safety programs has resulted in additional costs for many specialty crop operations that seek alternate markets for their products due to changes in demand from traditional markets such as restaurants and food service. As they identify new markets, many specialty crop operations also find they need to undergo food safety audits and absorb the additional costs to achieve food safety certification through a private or government-based certification program in order to meet buyers' requirements to sell their products.

FSCSC funding of $19 million is provided through the CCC Charter Act, which authorizes CCC to increase the domestic consumption of agricultural commodities (other than tobacco) by expanding or aiding in the expansion of domestic markets or by developing or aiding in the development of new and additional markets, marketing facilities, and uses for such commodities (15 U.S.C. 714c(e)). FSCSC will aid in the expansion of domestic markets and development of new and additional markets by assisting specialty crop operations with costs that they incur to obtain or renew food safety certifications in order to comply with government and retail buyers' demands for food safety certification, ultimately expanding the markets available to those operations and increasing domestic consumption of specialty crops. To that end, only producers that successfully obtain or renew a food safety certification after publication of this notice are eligible to be compensated for a portion of the cost of that certification, as explained further below.

Definitions

The following definitions apply to this notice:

Certification upload fee means the fee paid by a specialty crop operation to upload reports and other documentation to a commercial database.

Certifier means either a private entity accredited for the purpose of providing food safety certification or a government-based certifier.

Deputy Administrator means the FSA Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs.

Food safety certification means certification that a specialty crop operation meets regulatory or market-driven food safety standards.

Food safety management system means a documented system developed by a group of specialty crop operations to obtain food safety certification, also referred to as a ''quality management system.''

FSMA means the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act (Pub. L. 111–353).

Food safety plan means a documented plan implemented by a specialty crop operation to obtain food safety certification.

Medium size business means an applicant that had an average annual monetary value of specialty crops the applicant sold during the 3-year period preceding the program year of at least $500,001 but not more than $1,000,000.

Produce Safety Rule means the final rule titled ''Standards for the Growing, Harvesting, Packing, and Holding of Produce for Human Consumption'' published on November 27, 2015 (80 FR 74354–74568).

Program year means the calendar year in which the applicant's food safety certification is issued (that is, 2024 or 2025).

Raw agricultural commodity means any food in its raw or natural state, including all fruits that are washed, colored, or otherwise treated in their unpeeled natural form prior to marketing.

Small business means an applicant that had an average annual monetary value of specialty crops the applicant sold during the 3-year period preceding the program year of not more than $500,000.

Specialty crop means any fruit or vegetable (including mixes of intact fruits and vegetables) and includes mushrooms, sprouts (irrespective of seed source), tree nuts, and herbs. A fruit is the edible reproductive body of a seed plant or tree nut (such as apple, orange, and almond) such that fruit means the harvestable or harvested part of a plant developed from a flower. A vegetable is the edible part of an herbaceous plant (such as cabbage or potato) or fleshy fruiting body of a fungus (such as white button or shiitake) grown for an edible part such that vegetable means the harvestable or harvested part of any plant or fungus whose fruit, fleshy fruiting bodies, seeds, roots, tubers, bulbs, stems, leaves, or flower parts are used as food and includes mushrooms, sprouts, and herbs (such as basil or cilantro). ''Specialty crop'' does not include peanuts or food grains, meaning the small, hard fruits or seeds of arable crops, or the crops bearing these fruits or seeds, which are primarily grown and processed for use as meal, flour, baked goods, cereals, and oils rather than for direct consumption as small, hard fruits or seeds (including cereal grains, pseudo cereals, oilseeds, and other plants used in the same fashion). Examples of food grains include barley, dent- or flint-corn, sorghum, oats, rice, rye, wheat, amaranth, quinoa, buckwheat, and oilseeds (for example, cotton seed, flax seed, rapeseed, soybean, and sunflower seed).

Specialty crop operation means a farming operation that produces specialty crops that are raw agricultural commodities. It includes both individuals and legal entities.

Eligible Applicants

To be eligible for FSCSC, the applicant must meet all of the following:

- Be a specialty crop operation;
- Be a small business or medium size business;
- Have obtained or renewed a:
  - 2024 food safety certification that was issued between June 26, 2024 and December 31, 2024; or
  - 2025 food safety certification issued during the 2025 calendar year; and
- Have paid eligible expenses as described in the following.

FSCSC is available to specialty crop operations located in the 50 United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Eligible Expenses

FSCSC provides assistance for eligible expenses that the applicant both incurs and pays in order to obtain or renew a 2024 or 2025 food safety certification. Expenses that have been incurred by an applicant who does not ultimately obtain a 2024 or 2025 food safety certification are not eligible for assistance through FSCSC.

Some specialty crop operations obtain food safety certification through a group model, which enables multiple producers to form a group that develops a food safety management system and is audited and certified as one unit. This approach enables group members to pool resources to implement food safety training programs and share the cost of certification. Specialty crop operations that obtain certification through a group model are eligible to apply for assistance for their share of eligible expenses paid by the group, in addition to any eligible expenses they incur individually.

Specialty crop operations may receive assistance for the costs that are described in the following six items, including any associated postage costs.

Developing a food safety plan for first-time food safety certification. A food safety plan is a requirement for any specialty crop operation or group undergoing formal food safety certification, and the majority of costs associated with food safety plan development occur the first year an operation undergoes food safety certification. There are 2 general approaches to plan development—the specialty crop operation may develop its own plan, hire a consultant, or a combination of both. FSCSC will cover a percentage of the costs of seminars and tools used by specialty crop operations to create a food safety plan. FSCSC will also cover a percentage of the consulting fees and other associated expenses incurred if the specialty crop operation hires a consultant to develop a food safety plan. For specialty crop operations certified through a group, this category of expenses will cover a percentage of their share of the cost for developing a food safety or quality management system for the group.

Maintaining or updating an existing food safety plan. Certification programs typically require an annual review of the food safety plan to ensure it is current and addresses any new audit or regulatory requirements, as well as incorporates any new hazards. FSCSC will cover a percentage of the costs of maintaining and updating existing food safety plans. For specialty crop operations certified through a group, this category of expenses will cover a percentage of their share of the cost for maintaining or updating an existing food safety management system for the group.

Food safety certification. FSCSC will cover a percentage of the cost of obtaining food safety certification issued by a certifier, including application fees, inspection costs, inspection fees (including travel costs and per diem for certifiers), and user fees or certifier sales assessments.

Certification upload fees. FSCSC will cover a percentage of the cost to upload audit reports and certification documentation into commercial audit databases, which may be required by buyers of specialty crops.

Microbiological testing. FSCSC will cover a percentage of the cost of microbiological testing for products, soil amendments, and water as specified by a food safety plan or food safety management system. The FSMA Produce Safety Rule requires covered farms to test their agricultural water, and commercial food safety standards may require additional testing to determine if water meets the microbial requirements of the Environmental Protection Agency's drinking water standard (40 CFR part 141). Retail, food service, and institutional buyers are also increasingly requiring microbiological testing of finished products. Testing of soil amendments, particularly amendments of animal origin (composting), is also required by many food safety audit programs.

Training. FSCSC will cover the cost of food safety training for the specialty crop operation. The FSMA requires all covered operations to take a training course annually. Additionally, most certification programs require training as well.

Ineligible Expenses

Any expenses not listed above are not covered by FSCSC. The following expenses are examples of costs that are not eligible for cost share under FSCSC:

- Infrastructure improvements (such as improvements to buildings, cold storage, flooring, restrooms, and handwashing stations);
- Equipment (such as grading or packing lines and sanitation equipment);
- Supplies (such as sanitation and cleaning supplies and personal protective equipment);
- Salaries and benefits of employees or other costs for labor, except for expenses for consultants described above; and
- Fees or penalties for late payment.

Application Process

The application periods will be:

- for 2024, the application period will begin at a date to be announced by the Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs and go through January 31, 2025; and
- for 2025, January 1, 2025, through January 31, 2026.

Applicants may apply for FSCSC at any USDA Service Center.[1] Each applicant must submit Form FSA–888–1, Food Safety Certification for Specialty Crops Program (FSCSC) For Program Years 2024 and 2025, by the application deadline. Applications may be submitted in person or by mail, email, facsimile, or other methods announced by FSA. Applicants must also submit the following forms if not already on file with FSA:

- Form AD–2047, Customer Data Worksheet; and
- Form SF–3881, ACH Vendor/Miscellaneous Payment Enrollment Form.[2]

Eligible expenses are based on the applicant's certification and are subject to spot check. Applicants may be required to provide additional documentation to FSA, if requested by FSA, to verify eligibility or issue payment. Specialty crop operations certified as part of a group under a food safety management system must provide documentation of the applicant's portion of the group's expenses from the entity responsible for maintaining the group's certification if requested by FSA. Additional documentation must be received within 30 days of the request or the application will not be processed.

Payments

FSCSC payments are calculated separately for each category of eligible costs based on the percentages and maximum payment amounts in the following table. An applicant may receive the specified percentage of their eligible costs, up to the maximum per category, for each program year.

Category of eligible expenses	Payment amount of eligible costs
Food safety certification	75 percent, up to a maximum of $2,000.
Development of a food safety plan for first-time certification	75 percent (no maximum).
Maintaining or updating a food safety plan	75 percent, up to a maximum of $675.
Certification upload fees	75 percent, up to a maximum of $375.
Microbiological testing—products	75 percent, up to 5 tests.
Microbiological testing—soil amendments	75 percent, up to 5 tests.
Microbiological testing—water	75 percent, up to 5 tests.
Training	100 percent, up to a maximum of $500.

Payments will be equal to the applicant's eligible expenses multiplied by the percentage for the applicable category in the table above, not to exceed the maximum payment amount for the category, if applicable. An applicant must report any previous cost share assistance received from any source for the expenses included on their application. The amount of the applicant's FSCSC payment plus the reported additional cost share assistance cannot exceed the total amount of eligible expenses for each category. If the amount of the additional cost share plus the calculated FSCSC payment exceed the total amount of eligible expenses for a category, the FSCSC payment for that category will be equal to the total amount of eligible expenses minus the additional reported cost share assistance.

FSA will issue payments for the 2024 program year as applications are processed and approved. Due to the limited amount of funding, FSA will issue 50 percent of the calculated amount for 2025 program year payments as applications are processed and approved, and an additional payment after the end of the 2025 application period. If total calculated payments exceed the amount of available funding for 2025, the additional payments will be prorated.

Other Provisions

Participants are required to retain documentation in support of their application for 3 years after the date of approval. Participants receiving FSCSC payments or any other person who furnishes such information to USDA must permit authorized representatives of USDA or the Government Accountability Office, during regular business hours, to enter the operation and to inspect, examine, and to allow representatives to make copies of books, records, or other items for the purpose of confirming the accuracy of the information provided by the participant.

Applicants have a right to a decision in response to their application. If an applicant files an application with an FSA county office after the application deadline, the application will be considered a request to waive the deadline.

Requests to waive or modify program provisions, including requests to waive the deadline, are at the discretion of the Deputy Administrator. The Deputy Administrator has the authority to waive or modify application deadlines and other requirements or program provisions not specified in law, in cases where the Deputy Administrator determines it is:

(1) equitable to do so; and

(2) where the lateness or failure to meet such other requirements or program provisions do not adversely affect the operation of FSCSC.

Applicants who request to waive or modify FSCSC provisions do not have a right to a decision on those requests, and the Deputy Administrator's refusal to exercise discretion on requests to waive or modify FSCSC provisions will not be considered an adverse decision and is, by itself, not appealable.

Equitable relief and finality provisions specified in 7 CFR part 718, subpart D, apply to determinations under FSCSC. Persons and legal entities who file an application with FSA have the right to an administrative review of any FSA adverse decision with respect to the application under the appeals procedures at 7 CFR parts 780 and 11. The determination of matters of general applicability that are not in response to, or do not result from, an individual set of facts in an individual participant's application for payment are not matters that can be appealed. Such matters of general applicability include, but are not limited to, the determination of eligible categories of expenses and payment rates.

Any payment under FSCSC will be made without regard to questions of title under State law and without regard to any claim or lien. The regulations

[1] USDA Service Center locations and contact information are available at *https://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app.*

[2] Applicants who are unable to receive payment through direct deposit are still eligible to participate in FSCSC. Those applicants should contact their local FSA county office for further information.

governing offsets in 7 CFR part 3 apply to FSCSC payments.

If an FSCSC payment resulted from erroneous information provided by a participant, or any person acting on their behalf, the payment will be recalculated and the participant must refund any excess payment with interest calculated from the date of the disbursement of the payment. If FSA determines that the applicant intentionally misrepresented information provided on their application, the application will be disapproved and the applicant must refund the full payment to FSA with interest from the date of disbursement.

In either applying for or participating in FSCSC, or both, the applicant is subject to laws against perjury (including but not limited to 18 U.S.C. 1621). If the applicant willfully makes and represents as true any verbal or written declaration, certification, statement, or verification that the applicant knows or believes not to be true, in the course of either applying for or participating in FSCSC, or both, then the applicant may be found to be guilty of perjury. Except as otherwise provided by law, if guilty of perjury the applicant may be fined, imprisoned for not more than 5 years, or both, regardless of whether the applicant makes such verbal or written declaration, certification, statement, or verification within or outside the United States.

For the purposes of the effect of a lien on eligibility for Federal programs (28 U.S.C. 3201(e)), USDA waives the restriction on receipt of funds under FSCSC but only as to beneficiaries who, as a condition of the waiver, agree to apply the FSCSC payments to reduce the amount of the judgment lien.

In addition to any other Federal laws that apply to FSCSC, the following laws apply: 18 U.S.C. 286, 287, 371, and 1001.

Paperwork Reduction Act Requirements

In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501–3520), there are no changes to the approved information collection under OMB control number of 0560–0311.

Environmental Review

The environmental impacts of this notice have been considered in a manner consistent with the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA, 42 U.S.C. 4321–4347), the regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality (40 CFR parts 1500–1508), and the FSA regulations for compliance with NEPA (7 CFR part 799).

The purpose of FSCSC is to provide assistance to specialty crop operations for eligible costs related to food safety certification. The Categorical Exclusions in 7 CFR 799.31 apply, specifically 7 CFR 799.31(b)(6)(iii) (that is, financial assistance to supplement income). No Extraordinary Circumstances (7 CFR 799.33) exist. FSA has determined that this notice does not constitute a major Federal action that would significantly affect the quality of the human environment, individually or cumulatively. Therefore, FSA will not prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement for this regulatory action.

Federal Assistance Programs

The title and number of the Federal assistance program, as found in the Assistance Listings, to which this document applies are 10.142, Food Safety Certification for Specialty Crops (FSCSC) Program.

USDA Non-Discrimination Policy

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family or parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Individuals who require alternative means of communication for program information (for example, braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or the USDA TARGET Center at (202) 720–2600 (voice and text telephone (TTY)) or dial 711 for Telecommunications Relay Service (both voice and text telephone users can initiate this call from any telephone). Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD–3027, found online at *https://www.usda.gov/oascr/how-to-file-a-program-discrimination-complaint* and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632–9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail to: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250–9410; (2) fax: (202) 690–7442; or (3) email: *program.intake@usda.gov.*

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

Zach Ducheneaux,

Administrator, Farm Service Agency, and Executive Vice President, Commodity Credit Corporation.

[FR Doc. 2024–14022 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–E2–P

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Notice of Public Meeting of the New Mexico Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights

AGENCY: U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

ACTION: Announcement of virtual business meetings.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights (Commission) and the Federal Advisory Committee Act, that the New Mexico Advisory Committee (Committee) to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights will hold a series of business meetings via ZoomGov on the following dates and times listed. These meetings are for the purpose of selecting and refining their next project topic.

DATES: These meetings will take place on:

- Thursday, July 18, 2024, from 12:00 p.m.–1:00 p.m. MT
- Thursday, August 15, 2024, from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. MT
- Thursday, September 5, 2024, from 12:00 p.m.–1:00 p.m. MT

ADDRESSES:

Zoom Webinar Link to Join (Audio/Visual):

Thursday, July 18th—*https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_OupfnaOKQyircO5e2XtKYA*

Thursday, August 15th—*https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_-cO7Xw7rSt-_sDoFcaseyw*

Thursday, September 5th—*https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_gTA6EiIRQQewMda1ZlLgqg*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brooke Peery, Designated Federal Officer, at *bpeery@usccr.gov* or (202) 701–1376.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Committee meetings are available to the public through the registration link above. Any interested member of the public may listen to the meeting. An open comment period will be provided to allow members of the public to make a statement as time allows. Per the Federal Advisory Committee Act, public minutes of the meeting will include a list of persons who are present at the meeting. If joining via phone, callers can expect to incur regular charges for calls they initiate over wireless lines, according to their wireless plan. The Commission will not refund any incurred charges. Callers will incur no charge for calls they initiate over land-line connections to the toll-free telephone number. Closed captioning will be available for individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, or who have certain cognitive or learning impairments. To request additional accommodations, please email Angelica Trevino, Support Specialist, at *atrevino@usccr.gov* at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting.

Members of the public are entitled to make comments during the open period at the end of the meeting. Members of the public may also submit written comments; the comments must be received in the Regional Programs Unit within 30 days following the meeting. Written comments may be emailed to Brooke Peery (DFO) at *bpeery@usccr.gov.*

Records generated from this meeting may be inspected and reproduced at the Regional Programs Coordination Unit Office, as they become available, both before and after the meeting. Records of the meetings will be available via *www.facadatabase.gov* under the Commission on Civil Rights, New Mexico Advisory Committee link. Persons interested in the work of this Committee are directed to the Commission's website, *http://www.usccr.gov,* or may contact the Regional Programs Coordination Unit at *atrevino@usccr.gov.*

Agenda

I. Welcome & Roll Call

II. Approval of Minutes

III. Committee Discussion

IV. Public Comment

V. Adjournment

Dated: June 21, 2024.

David Mussatt,

Supervisory Chief, Regional Programs Unit.

[FR Doc. 2024–13989 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Notice of Public Meeting of the Colorado Advisory Committee; Revision of Meeting Date, Time, and Zoom Link

AGENCY: Commission on Civil Rights.

ACTION: Notice; Revision of Meeting Date, Time, and Zoom Link.

SUMMARY: The Commission on Civil Rights published a notice in the **Federal Register** concerning a meeting of the Colorado Advisory Committee. The meeting on Wednesday, June 19, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. (MT) is now scheduled for the following Wednesday, June 26, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. (MT). The revised Zoom meeting details are: *https://tinyurl.com/zcb99vzz*; USA toll-free phone: 1–833 435 1820; Meeting ID: 160 614 2807#. The notice is in the **Federal Register** of Monday, April 22, 2024, in FR Doc. 2024–08554, in the third column of page 29284, and the first and second columns of 29285.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Barbara Delaviez, 202–539–8246, *bdelaviez@usccr.gov*.

Dated: June 21, 2024.

David Mussatt,

Supervisory Chief, Regional Programs Unit.

[FR Doc. 2024–13992 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Notice of Public Meetings of the Puerto Rico Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights

AGENCY: Commission on Civil Rights.

ACTION: Announcement of meetings.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights (Commission), and the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), that meetings of the Puerto Rico Advisory Committee to the Commission will convene by virtual web conference on Tuesday, July 16, 2024, and Thursday, August 22, 2024, both at 3:30 p.m. Atlantic Time/Eastern Time. The purpose is to discuss their project on the civil rights impacts of the Insular Cases in Puerto Rico.

DATES: July 16, 2024, Tuesday, at 3:30 p.m. Atlantic Time (3:30 p.m. ET)

August 22, 2024, Thursday, at 3:30 p.m. Atlantic Time (3:30 p.m. ET)

ADDRESSES: Meetings will be held via Zoom.

- *July 16 Registration Link (Audio/Visual): https://tinyurl.com/4xamnsrh;* Passcode, if needed: USCCR–PR
  - *July 16 Phone Only:* 1–833 435 1820 USA Toll Free; Meeting ID: 161 623 8480 #
- *August 22 Registration Link (Audio/Visual): https://tinyurl.com/yckp2hn7;* Passcode, if needed: USCCR–PR
  - *August 22 Phone Only:* 1–833 435 1820 USA Toll Free; Meeting ID: 161 854 7453 #

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Email Victoria Moreno, Designated Federal Officer at *vmoreno@usccr.gov,* or by phone at 434–515–0204.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This meetings will take place in Spanish with English interpretation. Committee meetings are available to the public through the registration link above. Any interested member of the public may listen committee meetings. For all meetings, open comment periods are provided to allow members of the public to make statements as time allows. Per the Federal Advisory Committee Act, public minutes of meetings will include a list of persons who are present at meetings. If joining via phone, callers can expect to incur regular charges for calls they initiate over wireless lines, according to their wireless plan. The Commission will not refund any incurred charges. Callers will incur no charge for calls they initiate over land-line connections to the toll-free telephone number. Closed captioning will be available for individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, or who have certain cognitive or learning impairments. To request additional accommodations, please email *ebohor@usccr.gov* at least 10 business days prior to meeting dates.

Members of the public are entitled to submit written comments; the comments must be received in the regional office within 30 days following meeting dates. Written comments may be emailed to Victoria Moreno at *vmoreno@usccr.gov.* Persons who desire additional information may contact the Regional Programs Coordination Unit at 1–312–353–8311.

Records generated from meetings may be inspected and reproduced at the Regional Programs Coordination Unit Office, as they become available, both before and after meetings. Records of meetings will be available via *www.facadatabase.gov* under the Commission on Civil Rights, Puerto Rico Advisory Committee link. Persons interested in the work of this Committee are directed to the Commission's website, *http://www.usccr.gov,* or may

contact the Regional Programs Coordination Unit at *ebohor@usccr.gov.*

Agenda

1. Welcome & Roll Call
2. Committee Discussion on Project Regarding the Civil Rights Impacts of the Insular Cases in Puerto Rico
3. Next Steps
4. Public Comment
5. Other Business
6. Adjourn

Dated: June 21, 2024.

David Mussatt,

Supervisory Chief, Regional Programs Unit.

[FR Doc. 2024–13993 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A–570–979, C–570–980]

Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells, Whether or Not Assembled Into Modules, From the People's Republic of China: Initiation and Preliminary Results of Changed Circumstances Review

AGENCY: Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) is initiating and issuing preliminary results of changed circumstances reviews (CCR) of the antidumping duty (AD) and countervailing duty (CVD) orders on crystalline silicon photovoltaic cells, whether or not assembled into modules (solar cells) from the People's Republic of China (China), with respect to Hanwha Q CELLS Malaysia Sdn. Bhd. Interested parties are invited to comment on these preliminary results.

DATES: Applicable June 26, 2024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Peter Shaw, AD/CVD Operations, Office VII, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482–0697.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On August 23, 2023, Commerce published in the **Federal Register** the final affirmative determination of circumvention with respect to Malaysia.[1] On May 6, 2024, Hanwha Q CELLS Sdn. Bhd. and Hanwha Q Cells USA, Inc. (collectively, Hanwha) requested, through a CCR request, that Commerce amend the certification requirements for Hanwha, pursuant to section 751(b) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act), 19 CFR 351.216(b), and 19 CFR 351.221(c)(3).[2] Specifically, Hanwha requested a CCR to amend the Appendix V certification for Hanwha, provided in the *Solar Cells Circumvention,* to add additional wafer suppliers.[3] No interested parties filed comments opposing the CCR request.

Scope of the Orders

The merchandise covered by these *Orders* is crystalline silicon photovoltaic cells, and modules, laminates, and panels, consisting of crystalline silicon photovoltaic cells, whether or not partially or fully assembled into other products, including, but not limited to, modules, laminates, panels and building integrated materials.[4]

These *Orders* cover crystalline silicon photovoltaic cells of thickness equal to or greater than 20 micrometers, having a p/n junction formed by any means, whether or not the cell has undergone other processing, including, but not limited to, cleaning, etching, coating, and/or addition of materials (including, but not limited to, metallization and conductor patterns) to collect and forward the electricity that is generated by the cell.

Merchandise under consideration may be described at the time of importation as parts for final finished products that are assembled after importation, including, but not limited to, modules, laminates, panels, building-integrated modules, building-integrated panels, or other finished goods kits. Such parts that otherwise meet the definition of merchandise under consideration are included in the scope of the *Orders.*

Excluded from the scope of the *Orders* are thin film photovoltaic products produced from amorphous silicon (a-Si), cadmium telluride (CdTe), or copper indium gallium selenide (CIGS).

Also excluded from the scope of the *Orders* are crystalline silicon photovoltaic cells, not exceeding 10,000 mm^2 in surface area, that are permanently integrated into a consumer good whose function is other than power generation and that consumes the electricity generated by the integrated crystalline silicon photovoltaic cell. Where more than one cell is permanently integrated into a consumer good, the surface area for purposes of this exclusion shall be the total combined surface area of all cells that are integrated into the consumer good.

Additionally, excluded from the scope of the *Orders* are panels with surface area from 3,450 mm^2 to 33,782 mm^2 with one black wire and one red wire (each of type 22 AWG or 24 AWG not more than 206 mm in length when measured from panel extrusion), and not exceeding 2.9 volts, 1.1 amps, and 3.19 watts. For the purposes of this exclusion, no panel shall contain an internal battery or external computer peripheral ports.

Also excluded from the scope of the *Orders* are:

1. Off grid CSPV panels in rigid form with a glass cover, with the following characteristics:

(A) a total power output of 100 watts or less per panel;

(B) a maximum surface area of 8,000 cm^2 per panel;

(C) do not include a built-in inverter;

(D) must include a permanently connected wire that terminates in either an 8mm male barrel connector, or a two-port rectangular connector with two pins in square housings of different colors;

(E) must include visible parallel grid collector metallic wire lines every 1–4 millimeters across each solar cell; and

(F) must be in individual retail packaging (for purposes of this provision, retail packaging typically includes graphics, the product name, its description and/or features, and foam for transport); and

2. Off grid CSPV panels without a glass cover, with the following characteristics:

(A) a total power output of 100 watts or less per panel;

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[1] *See Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Orders on Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells, Whether or Not Assembled into Modules, from the People's Republic of China: Final Scope Determination and Final Affirmative Determinations of Circumvention with Respect to Cambodia, Malaysia, Thailand, and Vietnam,* 88 FR 57419 (August 23, 2023) (*Solar Cells Circumvention*), and accompanying Malaysia Issues and Decision Memorandum (Malaysia IDM).

[2] *See* Hanwha's Letter, ''Resubmission of Hanwha Q CELLS USA, Inc. and Hanwha Q CELLS Malaysia Sdn. Bhd.'s Request for Changed Circumstances Review,'' dated May 6, 2024 (Hanwha CCR Request).

[3] *Id.* at 2.

[4] *See Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells, Whether or Not Assembled into Modules, from the People's Republic of China: Countervailing Duty Order,* 77 FR 73017 (December 7, 2012); *see also Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells, Whether or Not Assembled Into Modules from the People's Republic of China: Amended Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value, and Antidumping Duty Order,* 77 FR 73018 (December 7, 2012) (collectively, *Orders*). On March 20, 2024, based on a CCR, Commerce amended the *Orders. See Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells, Whether or Not Assembled into Modules, from the People's Republic of China: Final Results of Changed Circumstances Reviews, and Revocation of the Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Orders, in Part,* 89 FR 19809 (March 20, 2024).

(B) a maximum surface area of 8,000 cm^2 per panel;

(C) do not include a built-in inverter;

(D) must include visible parallel grid collector metallic wire lines every 1–4 millimeters across each solar cell; and

(E) each panel is

1. permanently integrated into a consumer good;

2. encased in a laminated material without stitching, or

3. has all of the following characteristics: (i) the panel is encased in sewn fabric with visible stitching, (ii) includes a mesh zippered storage pocket, and (iii) includes a permanently attached wire that terminates in a female USB–A connector.

In addition, the following CSPV panels are excluded from the scope of the *Orders:* Off-grid CSPV panels in rigid form with a glass cover, with each of the following physical characteristics, whether or not assembled into a fully completed off-grid hydropanel whose function is conversion of water vapor into liquid water:

(A) A total power output of no more than 80 watts per panel;

(B) A surface area of less than 5,000 cm^2 per panel;

(C) Do not include a built-in inverter;

(D) Do not have a frame around the edges of the panel;

(E) Include a clear glass back panel; and

(F) Must include a permanently connected wire that terminates in a two-port rectangular connector.

Additionally excluded from the scope of the *Orders* are off-grid small portable crystalline silicon photovoltaic panels, with or without a glass cover, with the following characteristics: (1) a total power output of 200 watts or less per panel; (2) a maximum surface area of 16,000 cm^2 per panel; (3) no built-in inverter; (4) an integrated handle or a handle attached to the package for ease of carry; (5) one or more integrated kickstands for easy installation or angle adjustment; and (6) a wire of not less than 3 meters either permanently connected or attached to the package that terminates in an 8mm diameter male barrel connector.

Modules, laminates, and panels produced in a third country from cells produced in China are covered by the *Orders;* however, modules, laminates, and panels produced in China from cells produced in a third country are not covered by the *Orders.*

Additionally excluded from the scope of this *Order* are off-grid small portable crystalline silicon photovoltaic panels, with or without a glass cover, with the following characteristics: (1) a total power output of 200 watts or less per panel; (2) a maximum surface area of 16,000 cm^2 per panel; (3) no built-in inverter; (4) an integrated handle or a handle attached to the package for ease of carry; (5) one or more integrated kickstands for easy installation or angle adjustment; and (6) a wire of not less than 3 meters either permanently connected or attached to the package that terminates in an 8mm diameter male barrel connector.

Also excluded from the scope of this *Orders* are off-grid crystalline silicon photovoltaic panels in rigid form with a glass cover, with each of the following physical characteristics, whether or not assembled into a fully completed off-grid hydropanel whose function is conversion of water vapor into liquid water:

(A) A total power output of no more than 180 watts per panel at 155 degrees Celsius;

(B) A surface area of less than 16,000 square centimeters (cm^2) per panel;

(C) Include a keep-out area of approximately 1,200 cm^2 around the edges of the panel that does not contain solar cells;

(D) Do not include a built-in inverter;

(E) Do not have a frame around the edges of the panel;

(F) Include a clear glass back panel;

(G) Must include a permanently connected wire that terminates in a two-port rounded rectangular, sealed connector;

(H) Include a thermistor installed into the permanently connected wire before the two-port connector; and

(I) Include exposed positive and negative terminals at opposite ends of the panel, not enclosed in a junction box.

Merchandise covered by the *Orders* is currently classified in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) under subheadings 8501.71.0000, 8501.72.1000, 8501.72.2000, 8501.72.3000, 8501.72.9000, 8501.80.1000, 8501.80.2000, 8501.80.3000, 8501.80.9000, 8507.20.8010, 8507.20.8031, 8507.20.8041, 8507.20.8061, 8507.20.8091, 8541.42.0010, and 8541.43.0010. These HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and customs purposes; the written description of the scope of the *Order* is dispositive.[5]

Proposed Amendment of the Appendix V Certification

Hanwha requested that the Appendix V Certification provided for Hanwha in the *Solar Cells Circumvention* be amended to include additional unaffiliated wafer suppliers.[6] *See* the appendix to this notice for the amended version of the Appendix V Certification.[7]

Initiation of CCRs

Pursuant to section 751(b)(1) of the Act, Commerce will conduct a CCR upon receipt of a request from an interested party that shows changed circumstances sufficient to warrant a review of the *Orders.* In accordance with 19 CFR 351.216(d), Commerce determines that the information submitted by Hanwha shows changed circumstances sufficient to warrant a review of the *Orders.*

Therefore, in accordance with section 751(b)(1) of the Act, and 19 CFR 351.216(d), we are initiating a CCR based on the information contained in Hanwha's CCR request. In addition, Commerce's regulations at 19 CFR 351.221(c)(3)(ii) permit it to initiate a CCR and issue the preliminary results of that CCR simultaneously if it concludes that expedited action is warranted. We have on the record the information necessary to make a preliminary finding and therefore we find that expedited action is warranted. Consequently, we are combining the notice of initiation and the preliminary results of review into a single notice, in accordance with 19 CFR 351.221(c)(3)(ii).

Preliminary Results of CCR

In the *Solar Cells Circumvention,* Commerce made its negative circumvention determination for Hanwha based on a direct comparison between Hanwha and its affiliates in the country subject to the *Orders* when examining the criteria under section 781(b)(2) of the Act. As noted in the *Solar Cells Circumvention* Malaysia IDM, Hanwha reported that it sourced inputs solely from unaffiliated suppliers and did not have any upstream input affiliates in China.[8] Specifically, Hanwha reported that it purchased Chinese-origin wafers from unaffiliated suppliers from China. Thus, according to our analysis methodology, and because Hanwha did not source from upstream affiliates in China, we found that its level of investment, research and development, and the extent of production facilities in Malaysia were

[5] *See Orders.*

[6] *See* Hanwha CCR Request.

[7] We have afforded business proprietary information (BPI) treatment to the names of the wafer exporters. *See* Memorandum, ''Initiation and Preliminary Results of Changed Circumstances Review—BPI Addendum,'' dated concurrently with this notice.

[8] *See Solar Cells Circumvention Malaysia* IDM at Comment 9.

not minor or insignificant.[9] Additionally, Commerce's analysis methodology was performed on the particular supply chains reported by each mandatory respondent. Therefore, Commerce specifically stated in the underlying circumvention inquiry that that Hanwha's exports of inquiry merchandise produced with wafers exported by the specific parties reported in its questionnaire responses are not subject to the *Orders.*[10] Given our analysis noted above, Commerce established the certification under Appendix V to provide companies found not to be circumventing on a company-specific basis the ability to certify that their specific supply chain is not subject to the *Orders.*

In this CCR request, Hanwha is requesting two new input suppliers be added to Hanwha's Appendix V certification that were not previously examined in the circumvention inquiry. As noted by Hanwha in its CCR request, these new input suppliers are unaffiliated suppliers providing Chinese-origin wafers produced by themselves or other wafer producers unaffiliated with Hanwha for Hanwha's production in Malaysia. As a result, we find that the addition of these new wafer suppliers to the certification regime does not undermine the analysis and negative circumvention determination made in the underlying inquiry.

As such, because amending the certification with the new wafer suppliers requested by Hanwha in this CCR request would not change the underlying analysis of our circumvention inquiry, we preliminarily determine that it would be appropriate to amend the certification by adding the additional wafer suppliers identified by Hanwha.

Public Comment

Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.309(c)(1)(ii), interested parties may submit case briefs to Commerce no later than 30 days after the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. Rebuttal briefs, limited to issues raised in case briefs, may be submitted no later than five days after the deadline for filing case briefs.[11] Interested parties who submit case briefs or rebuttal briefs in this proceeding must submit: (1) a table of contents listing each issue; and (2) a table of authorities.[12] All briefs must be filed electronically using Enforcement and Compliance's Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS). An electronically filed document must be received successfully in its entirety in ACCESS by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on the established deadline.

As provided under 19 CFR 351.309(c)(2) and (d)(2), in prior proceedings we have encouraged interested parties to provide an executive summary of their brief that should be limited to five pages total, including footnotes. In this CCR, we instead request that interested parties provide at the beginning of their briefs a public, executive summary for each issue raised in their briefs.[13] Further, we request that interested parties limit their public executive summary of each issue to no more than 450 words, not including citations. We intend to use the public executive summaries as the basis of the comment summaries included in the issues and decision memorandum that will accompany the final results in this CCR. We request that interested parties include footnotes for relevant citations in the public executive summary of each issue. Note that Commerce has amended certain of its requirements pertaining to the service of documents in 19 CFR 351.303(f).[14]

Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.310(c), interested parties who wish to request a hearing must submit a written request to the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, filed electronically via ACCESS by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice. Requests should contain: (1) the party's name, address, and telephone number; (2) the number of participants; and (3) a list of issues to be discussed. Issues raised in the hearing will be limited to those raised in the respective case briefs. If a request for a hearing is made, Commerce will inform parties of the scheduled date for the hearing.[15] Parties should confirm the date and the time of the hearing two days before the scheduled date.

Final Results

Unless the deadline is extended, pursuant to 19 CFR 351.216(e), Commerce intends to issue the final results of this CCR no later than 270 days after the date on which this review was initiated or 45 days if all parties agree to the outcome of the review.

Notification to Interested Parties

This initiation notice and preliminary results are published in accordance with section 751(b)(1) of the Act, 19 CFR 351.221(b)(1), and 19 CFR 351.221(c)(3)(ii).

Dated: June 20, 2024.

Ryan Majerus,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and Negotiations, performing the non-exclusive functions and duties of the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

Appendix

Proposed Amended Appendix V Certification

Certification for Entries of Inquiry Merchandise From Companies Found Not To Be Circumventing

Company Name: Hanwha Q CELLS Malaysia Sdn. Bhd.

Importer Certification

I hereby certify that:

(A) My name is {IMPORTING COMPANY OFFICIAL'S NAME} and I am an official of {NAME OF IMPORTING COMPANY}, located at {ADDRESS OF IMPORTING COMPANY}.

(B) I have direct personal knowledge of the facts regarding importation of the solar cells and solar modules produced in Malaysia that were entered into the Customs territory of the United States under the entry summary number(s) identified below which are covered by this certification. ''Direct personal knowledge'' refers to the facts the certifying party is expected to have in its own records. For example, the importer should have direct personal knowledge of the exporter and/or seller's identity and location.

(C) If the importer is acting on behalf of the first U.S. customer, include the following sentence as paragraph C of this certification:

The solar cells and/or solar modules covered by this certification were imported by {NAME OF IMPORTING COMPANY} on behalf of {NAME OF U.S. CUSTOMER}, located at {ADDRESS OF U.S. CUSTOMER}.

If the importer is not acting on behalf of the first U.S. customer, include the following sentence as paragraph C of this certification:

{NAME OF IMPORTING COMPANY} is not acting on behalf of the first U.S. customer.

(D) The solar cells and/or solar modules covered by this certification were shipped to {NAME OF PARTY IN THE UNITED STATES TO WHOM THE MERCHANDISE WAS FIRST SHIPPED}, located at {U.S. ADDRESS TO WHICH MERCHANDISE WAS SHIPPED}.

(E) I have personal knowledge of the facts regarding the production and exportation of the solar cells and modules identified below. ''Personal knowledge'' includes facts obtained from another party, (*e.g.,* correspondence received by the importer (or exporter) from the producer of the imported products regarding production).

[9] *Id.*

[10] *Id.* at Comment 17.

[11] *See* 19 CFR 351.309(d); *see also Administrative Protective Order, Service, and Other Procedures in Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Proceedings,* 88 FR 67069, 67077 (September 29, 2023) (*APO and Service Procedures*).

[12] *See* 19 CFR 351.309(c)(2) and (d)(2).

[13] We use the term ''issue'' here to describe an argument that Commerce would normally address in a comment of the Issues and Decision Memorandum.

[14] *See APO and Service Procedures.*

[15] *See* 19 CFR 351.310(d).

(F) The solar cells and/or solar modules covered by this certification were:

1. Sold to the United States by Hanwha Q CELLS Malaysia Sdn. Bhd.

2. Exported to the United States by Hanwha Q CELLS Malaysia Sdn. Bhd.

3. Produced in Malaysia by Hanwha Q CELLS Malaysia Sdn. Bhd., using wafers manufactured in the People's Republic of China that were exported to Malaysia by: {CHECK THE RELEVANT WAFER EXPORTERS BELOW} (we have afforded business proprietary information (BPI) treatment to the names of the wafer exporters; for a table of the names of the wafer exporters, which must be included as part of this paragraph in the certificate submitted to CBP—please refer to the proprietary version of this certification on ACCESS).

(G) The U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) found that solar cells and/or solar modules produced by Hanwha Q CELLS Malaysia Sdn. Bhd., using wafers manufactured in China that were exported by the wafer supplier(s) listed in item F above, and exported by Hanwha Q CELLS Malaysia Sdn. Bhd. are not circumventing the antidumping duty and countervailing duty orders on crystalline silicon photovoltaic cells, whether or not assembled into modules, from the People's Republic of China.

(H) This certification applies to the following entries (repeat this block as many times as necessary):

Entry Summary #:
Applicable Line Item # of the Entry Summary:
Foreign Seller's Invoice #:
Applicable Line Item # on the Foreign Seller's Invoice:

(I) I understand that {NAME OF IMPORTING COMPANY} is required to maintain a copy of this certification and sufficient documentation supporting this certification (*i.e.,* documents maintained in the normal course of business, or documents obtained by the certifying party, for example, product specification sheets, production records, invoices, *etc.*) until the later of: (1) the date that is five years after the latest entry date of the entries covered by the certification; or (2) the date that is three years after the conclusion of any litigation in United States courts regarding such entries.

(J) I understand that {NAME OF IMPORTING COMPANY} is required to maintain a copy of the exporter's certification (attesting to information regarding the production and/or exportation of the imported merchandise identified above), and any supporting documentation provided to the importer by the exporter, until the later of: (1) the date that is five years after the latest entry date of the entries covered by the certification; or (2) the date that is three years after the conclusion of any litigation in United States courts regarding such entries.

(K) I understand that {NAME OF IMPORTING COMPANY} is required to provide U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and/or Commerce with the importer certification, and any supporting documentation, and a copy of the exporter's certification, and any supporting documentation provided to the importer by the exporter, upon the request of either agency.

(L) I understand that the claims made herein, and the substantiating documentation, are subject to verification by CBP and/or Commerce.

(M) I understand that failure to maintain the required certifications and supporting documentation, or failure to substantiate the claims made herein, or not allowing CBP and/or Commerce to verify the claims made herein, may result in a *de facto* determination that all entries to which this certification applies are entries of merchandise that is covered by the scope of the antidumping and countervailing duty orders on solar cells and solar modules from China. I understand that such a finding will result in:

(i) suspension of liquidation of all unliquidated entries (and entries for which liquidation has not become final) for which these requirements were not met;

(ii) the importer being required to post the antidumping duty and countervailing duty cash deposits determined by Commerce; and

(iii) the importer no longer being allowed to participate in the certification process.

(N) I understand that agents of the importer, such as brokers, are not permitted to make this certification.

(O) This certification was completed and signed on, or prior to, the date of the entry summary if the entry date is more than 14 days after the date of publication of the notice of Commerce's preliminary determination of circumvention in the **Federal Register**. If the entry date is on or before the 14th day after the date of publication of the notice of Commerce's preliminary determination of circumvention in the **Federal Register**, this certification was completed and signed by no later than 45 days after publication of the notice of Commerce's preliminary determination of circumvention in the **Federal Register**.

(P) I am aware that U.S. law (including, but not limited to, 18 U.S.C. 1001) imposes criminal sanctions on individuals who knowingly and willfully make materially false statements to the U.S. government.

Signature
{NAME OF COMPANY OFFICIAL}
{TITLE OF COMPANY OFFICIAL}

_____
Date

Exporter Certification

Certification for Entries of Inquiry Merchandise From Companies Found Not To Be Circumventing

Company Name: Hanwha Q CELLS Malaysia Sdn. Bhd.

The party that made the sale to the United States should fill out the exporter certification.

I hereby certify that:

(A) My name is {COMPANY OFFICIAL'S NAME} and I am an official of {NAME OF COMPANY}, located at {ADDRESS OF COMPANY}.

(B) I have direct personal knowledge of the facts regarding the production and exportation of the solar cells and solar modules for which sales are identified below. ''Direct personal knowledge'' refers to facts the certifying party is expected to have in its own records. For example, an exporter should have direct personal knowledge of the producer's identity and location.

(C) The solar cells and/or solar modules covered by this certification were shipped to {NAME OF PARTY IN THE UNITED STATES TO WHOM MERCHANDISE WAS FIRST SHIPPED}, located at {U.S. ADDRESS TO WHICH MERCHANDISE WAS SHIPPED}.

(D) The solar cells and/or solar modules covered by this certification were:

1. Sold to the United States by Hanwha Q CELLS Malaysia Sdn. Bhd.

2. Exported to the United States by Hanwha Q CELLS Malaysia Sdn. Bhd.

3. Produced in Malaysia by Hanwha Q CELLS Malaysia Sdn. Bhd. using wafers manufactured in the People's Republic of China (China) that were exported to Malaysia by: {CHECK THE RELEVANT WAFER EXPORTERS BELOW}

(We have afforded business proprietary information (BPI) treatment to the names of the wafer exporters; for a table of the names of the wafer exporters, which must be included as part of this paragraph in the certificate submitted to CBP—please refer to the proprietary version of this certification on ACCESS).

(E) The U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) found that solar cells and/or solar modules produced by Hanwha Q CELLS Malaysia Sdn. Bhd., using wafers manufactured in China that were exported by the wafer supplier(s) listed in item D above, and exported by Hanwha Q CELLS Malaysia Sdn. Bhd. are not circumventing the antidumping duty and countervailing duty orders on crystalline silicon photovoltaic cells, whether or not assembled into modules, from the People's Republic of China.

(F) This certification applies to the following sales to {NAME OF U.S. CUSTOMER}, located at {ADDRESS OF U.S. CUSTOMER} (repeat this block as many times as necessary):

of the Foreign Seller's Invoice to the U.S. Customer:
Applicable Line Item # of the Foreign Seller's Invoice to the U.S. Customer:

(G) I understand that Hanwha Q CELLS Malaysia Sdn. Bhd. is required to maintain a copy of this certification and sufficient documentation supporting this certification (*i.e.,* documents maintained in the normal course of business, or documents obtained by the certifying party, for example, product specification sheets, customer specification sheets, production records, invoices, *etc.*) until the later of: (1) the date that is five years after the latest entry date of the entries covered by the certification; or (2) the date that is three years after the conclusion of any litigation in United States courts regarding such entries.

(H) I understand that Hanwha Q CELLS Malaysia Sdn. Bhd. is required to provide the U.S. importer with a copy of this certification and is required to provide U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and/or Commerce with a copy of this certification, and any

supporting documents, upon the request of either agency.

(I) I understand that the claims made herein, and the substantiating documentation, are subject to verification by CBP and/or Commerce.

(J) I understand that failure to maintain the required certification and supporting documentation, or failure to substantiate the claims made herein, or not allowing CBP and/or Commerce to verify the claims made herein, may result in a *de facto* determination that all sales to which this certification applies are sales of merchandise that is covered by the scope of the antidumping and countervailing duty orders on solar cells and solar modules from China. I understand that such a finding will result in:

(i) suspension of liquidation of all unliquidated entries (and entries for which liquidation has not become final) for which these requirements were not met;

(ii) the importer being required to post the antidumping and countervailing duty cash deposits determined by Commerce; and

(iii) the seller/exporter no longer being allowed to participate in the certification process.

(K) I understand that agents of the exporter, such as freight forwarding companies or brokers, are not permitted to make this certification.

(L) This certification was completed and signed, and a copy of the certification was provided to the importer, on, or prior to, the date of shipment if the shipment date is more than 14 days after the date of publication of the notice of Commerce's preliminary determination of circumvention in the **Federal Register**. If the shipment date is on or before the 14th day after the date of publication of the notice of Commerce's preliminary determination of circumvention in the **Federal Register**, this certification was completed and signed, and a copy of the certification was provided to the importer, by no later than 45 days after publication of the notice of Commerce's preliminary determination of circumvention in the **Federal Register**.

(M) I am aware that U.S. law (including, but not limited to, 18 U.S.C. 1001) imposes criminal sanctions on individuals who knowingly and willfully make materially false statements to the U.S. government.

Signature

{NAME OF COMPANY OFFICIAL}

{TITLE OF COMPANY OFFICIAL}

Date

[FR Doc. 2024–14033 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–DS–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A–583–848, A–570–972]

Stilbenic Optical Brightening Agents From Taiwan and the People's Republic of China: Notice of Court Decision Not in Harmony With the Results of Antidumping Sunset Reviews, Reinstatement of Antidumping Duty Orders, and Reconduction of Sunset Reviews

AGENCY: Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

SUMMARY: On May 28, 2024, the U.S. Court of International Trade (CIT) issued its final judgment in *Archroma U.S., Inc.,* v. *United States et al.,* Court No. 22–00354, finding that the regulatory provision upon which the U.S. Department of Commerce relied to revoke the antidumping duty orders on stilbenic optical brightening agents (OBAs) from Taiwan and the People's Republic of China (China) violates section 751(c) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act) and ordering the U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) to: accept the domestic interested party Archroma U.S., Inc.'s (Archroma) substantive response; and conduct a full sunset reviews of these orders. Commerce is notifying the public that the CIT's final judgment is not in harmony with Commerce's final results of the sunset reviews, and that Commerce intends to: reinstate the antidumping duty orders on OBAs from Taiwan and China; accept Archroma's substantive response; and conduct full sunset reviews of these orders under section 751(c)(1) and (d)(2) of the Act. Commerce will begin reconducting the sunset reviews on July 1, 2024.

DATES: Applicable June 7, 2024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joshua Weiner, AD/CVD Operations, Office I, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482–3902.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On May 10, 2012, Commerce published the antidumping duty orders on OBAs from Taiwan and China in the **Federal Register**.[1] On October 3, 2022, Commerce initiated the sunset reviews of the *Orders*.[2]

Pursuant to 19 CFR 351.218(d), the publication of a sunset review notice of initiation in the **Federal Register** establishes two deadlines: a 15-day notice of intent to participate; and a 30-day submission of ''complete substantive responses.'' On October 24, 2022, six days after the 15-day deadline (*i.e.,* October 18, 2022), Archroma submitted its notice of intent to participate in the sunset reviews of the *Orders*; Archroma submitted its substantive response by the requisite deadline. Consequently, Commerce rejected Archroma's notice of intent to participate because it was untimely, and consequently rejected Archroma's substantive response as unsolicited due to Archroma's failure to submit a timely notice of intent to participate.[3] Despite Archroma's subsequent requests for reconsideration,[4] Commerce made no change to its decisions in this regard.[5]

On December 29, 2022, Commerce issued its final results in the sunset reviews of the *Orders*.[6] Because no domestic interested party responded to Commerce's notice of initiation by the applicable deadline, Commerce revoked the *Orders* consistent with section 751(c)(3)(A) of the Act.[7] Archroma subsequently challenged Commerce's *Final Results* at the CIT on that same day.

The CIT held that Commerce could not lawfully revoke the *Orders* solely due to a domestic interested party's untimely filing of a notice of intent to participate.[8] The CIT elaborated that section 751(c) of the Act allows for Commerce to revoke an order only if no domestic interested party provides an ''answer to a solicitation for the substantive content that {section

[1] *See Certain Stilbenic Optical Brightening Agents from Taiwan: Amended Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value and Antidumping Duty Order,* 77 FR 27419 (May 10, 2012); and *Certain Stilbenic Optical Brightening Agents from the People's Republic of China: Amended Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value and Antidumping Duty Order,* 77 FR 27423 (May 10, 2012) (collectively, *Orders*).

[2] *See Initiation of Five-Year (Sunset) Reviews,* 87 FR 59779 (October 3, 2022).

[3] *See* Commerce's Letter, ''Five-Year (''Sunset'') Review of the Antidumping Duty Orders on Stilbenic Optical Brightening Agents from China and Taiwan: Rejection of Notice of Intent to Participate,'' dated October 28, 2022; *see also* Memorandum, ''Rejection of Certain Documents in ACCESS,'' dated November 9, 2022.

[4] *See* Archroma's Letters, ''Request for Reconsideration,'' dated November 11, 2022; and ''Supplemental Request for Reconsideration,'' dated November 17, 2022.

[5] *See* Commerce's Letter, ''Rejection of Request for Reconsideration,'' dated November 30, 2022.

[6] *See Stilbenic Optical Brightening Agents from People's Republic of China and Taiwan: Final Results of Sunset Reviews and Revocation of Order,* 87 FR 80162 (December 29, 2022) (*Final Results*).

[7] *Id.*

[8] *See Archroma U.S., Inc.,* v. *United States et al.,* Court No. 22–00354, Slip Op. 24–61 (CIT May 28, 2024).

751(c)(2) of the Act} instructs the agency to seek.'' [9] According to the CIT, because Archroma's timely substantive response satisfied the request for substantive material pursuant to section 751(c)(2)(B) of the Act, the agency was obligated to conduct the sunset reviews of the *Orders.*[10] Additionally, the CIT held that Commerce's regulations at 19 CFR 351.218(d)(1), which sets the 15-day procedural deadline for a notice of intent to participate, violates section 751(c)(2)–(3) of the Act, because it removes from domestic interested parties the statutory right to submit substantive information in a sunset review if, as here, a timely notice of intent is not filed.[11] Consequently, the CIT issued a declaratory judgment and injunction, ordering Commerce to accept Archroma's substantive response, and conduct full sunset reviews of the *Orders.*

Timken Notice

In its decision in *Timken,*[12] as clarified by *Diamond Sawblades,*[13] the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit held that, pursuant to section 516A(c) and (e) of the Act, Commerce must publish a notice of court decision that is not ''in harmony'' with an agency determination and must suspend liquidation of entries pending a ''conclusive'' court decision. The CIT's May 28, 2024, judgment constitutes a final decision that is not in harmony with Commerce's *Final Results.* Thus, this notice is published in fulfillment of the publication requirements of *Timken.*

Reinstatement of Antidumping Duty Orders

Pursuant to the CIT's May 28, 2024, final decision, Commerce is reinstating the *Orders.*

Reconduction of Sunset Reviews

Through this notice, we are notifying the public that Commerce is reconducting its sunset reviews of the *Orders* in accordance with the CIT's judgment. Commerce will begin reconducting the sunset review on July 1, 2024, to coordinate with the U.S. International Trade Commission's sunset reviews, pursuant to section 751(c) of the Act.

[9] *Id.* at 16.

[10] *Id.* at 18.

[11] *Id.* at 18.

[12] *See Timken Co.* v. *United States,* 893 F.2d 337 (Fed. Cir. 1990) (*Timken*).

[13] *See Diamond Sawblades Manufacturers Coalition* v. *United States,* 626 F.3d 1374 (Fed. Cir. 2010) (*Diamond Sawblades*).

Liquidation of Suspended Entries

At this time, Commerce remains enjoined by CIT order from liquidating entries of OBAs China and Taiwan that are or were entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after November 27, 2022. These entries will remain enjoined pursuant to the terms of the injunction during the pendency of any appeals process. In the event the CIT's ruling is not appealed, or, if appealed, upheld by a final and conclusive court decision, Commerce intends to instruct U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to assess antidumping duties on unliquidated entries of OBAs China and Taiwan that are or were entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after November 27, 2022, as appropriate.

Cash Deposit Rates

At this time, Commerce remains enjoined by CIT order to require cash deposits at a rate of zero percent for entries of OBAs from China and Taiwan that are or were entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after November 27, 2022. Upon a final and conclusive court decision in the litigation, Commerce intends to issue revised cash deposit instructions to CBP as appropriate.

Notification to Interested Parties

This notice is issued and published in accordance with sections 516A(c) and (e) and 777(i)(1) of the Act.

Dated: June 20, 2024.

Ryan Majerus,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and Negotiations, performing the non-exclusive functions and duties of the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

[FR Doc. 2024–14029 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–DS–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA), Article 10.12: Binational Panel Review: Notice of Request for Panel Review

AGENCY: United States Section, USMCA Secretariat, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of USMCA request for panel review.

SUMMARY: A Request for Panel Review was filed on behalf of Grupo Aceroro S.A. de C.V. with the United States Section of the USMCA Secretariat on June 6, 2024, pursuant to USMCA Article 10.12. Panel Review was requested of the U.S. Department of Commerce's Final Results in the 2021–2022 Administrative Review of Antidumping Duty Order on Steel Concrete Reinforcing Bar from Mexico.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Vidya Desai, United States Secretary, USMCA Secretariat, Room 2061, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230, 202–482–5438.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The final determination was published in the **Federal Register** on May 10, 2024 (89 FR 40467). The USMCA Secretariat has assigned case number USA–MEX–2024–10.12–03 to this request.

Article 10.12 of Chapter 10 of USMCA provides a dispute settlement mechanism involving trade remedy determinations issued by the Government of the United States, the Government of Canada, and the Government of Mexico. Following a Request for Panel Review, a Binational Panel is composed to review the trade remedy determination being challenged and issue a binding Panel Decision. There are established USMCA *Rules of Procedure for Article 10.12 (Binational Panel Reviews),* which were adopted by the three governments for panels requested pursuant to Article 10.12(2) of USMCA which requires Requests for Panel Review to be published in accordance with Rule 40. For the complete Rules, please see *https://can-mex-usa-sec.org/secretariat/agreement-accord-acuerdo/usmca-aceum-tmec/rules-regles-reglas/article-article-articulo_10_12.aspx?lang=eng.*

The Rules provide that:

(a) A Party or interested person may challenge the final determination in whole or in part by filing a Complaint in accordance with Rule 44 no later than 30 days after the filing of the first Request for Panel Review (the deadline for filing a Complaint is July 8, 2024);

(b) A Party, an investigating authority or other interested person who does not file a Complaint but who intends to participate in the panel review shall file a Notice of Appearance in accordance with Rule 45 no later than 45 days after the filing of the first Request for Panel Review (the deadline for filing a Notice of Appearance is July 22, 2024);

(c) The panel review will be limited to the allegations of error of fact or law, including challenges to the jurisdiction of the investigating authority, that are set out in the Complaints filed in the panel review and to the procedural and substantive defenses raised in the panel review.

Dated: June 11, 2024.

Vidya Desai,

United States Secretary, USMCA Secretariat.

[FR Doc. 2024–13251 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–GT–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0638–XE021]

Fisheries of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic; Southeast Data, Assessment, and Review (SEDAR); Public Meeting

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of SEDAR 79 Assessment Webinar IV for Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic Mutton Snapper.

SUMMARY: The SEDAR 79 assessment process of Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic mutton snapper will consist of a Data Workshop, and a series of assessment webinars, and a Review Workshop. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

DATES: The SEDAR 79 Assessment Webinar IV will be held Thursday, July 11, 2024, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., Eastern Time. The established times may be adjusted as necessary to accommodate the timely completion of discussion relevant to the assessment process. Such adjustments may result in the meeting being extended from or completed prior to the time established by this notice.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held via webinar. The webinar is open to members of the public. Those interested in participating should contact Julie A. Neer at SEDAR (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**) to request an invitation providing webinar access information. Please request webinar invitations at least 24 hours in advance of each webinar.

SEDAR address: 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, North Charleston, SC 29405.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Julie A. Neer, SEDAR Coordinator; (843) 571–4366; email: *Julie.neer@safmc.net.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Gulf of Mexico, South Atlantic, and Caribbean Fishery Management Councils, in conjunction with NOAA Fisheries and the Atlantic and Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commissions have implemented the Southeast Data, Assessment and Review (SEDAR) process, a multi-step method for determining the status of fish stocks in the Southeast Region. SEDAR is a multi-step process including: (1) Data Workshop, (2) a series of assessment webinars, and (3) A Review Workshop. The product of the Data Workshop is a report that compiles and evaluates potential datasets and recommends which datasets are appropriate for assessment analyses. The assessment webinars produce a report that describes the fisheries, evaluates the status of the stock, estimates biological benchmarks, projects future population conditions, and recommends research and monitoring needs. The product of the Review Workshop is an Assessment Summary documenting panel opinions regarding the strengths and weaknesses of the stock assessment and input data. Participants for SEDAR Workshops are appointed by the Gulf of Mexico, South Atlantic, and Caribbean Fishery Management Councils and NOAA Fisheries Southeast Regional Office, HMS Management Division, and Southeast Fisheries Science Center. Participants include data collectors and database managers; stock assessment scientists, biologists, and researchers; constituency representatives including fishermen, environmentalists, and NGO's; International experts; and staff of Councils, Commissions, and state and federal agencies.

The items of discussion during the Assessment webinar are as follows: Panelists will review and discuss assessment modeling to date.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, provided the public has been notified of the intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Special Accommodations

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to the Council office (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 business days prior to each workshop.

Note: The times and sequence specified in this agenda are subject to change.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: June 21, 2024.

Diane M. DeJames-Daly,

Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2024–13999 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648–XE054]

Fisheries of the South Atlantic; Southeast Data, Assessment, and Review (SEDAR); Public Meeting

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of SEDAR 95 Atlantic Migratory Cobia Indices Webinar II.

SUMMARY: The SEDAR 95 assessment of the Atlantic stock of cobia will consist of a series of data and assessment webinars. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

DATES: The SEDAR 95 Atlantic Migratory Cobia Indices Webinar II has been scheduled for July 15, 2024, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., Eastern. The established times may be adjusted as necessary to accommodate the timely completion of discussion relevant to the assessment process. Such adjustments may result in the meeting being extended from or completed prior to the time established by this notice.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held via webinar. The webinar is open to members of the public. Those interested in participating should contact Julie A. Neer at SEDAR (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**) to request an invitation providing webinar access information. Please request webinar invitations at least 24 hours in advance of each webinar.

SEDAR address: 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, N Charleston, SC 29405; *www.sedarweb.org.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Julie A. Neer, SEDAR Coordinator; phone: (843) 571–4366; email: *Julie.neer@safmc.net.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Gulf of Mexico, South Atlantic, and Caribbean Fishery Management Councils, in conjunction with NOAA Fisheries and the Atlantic and Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commissions, have implemented the Southeast Data, Assessment and Review (SEDAR) process, a multi-step method for determining the status of fish stocks in

the Southeast Region. SEDAR is a three-step process including: (1) Data Workshop; (2) Assessment Process utilizing webinars; and (3) Review Workshop. The product of the Data Workshop is a data report which compiles and evaluates potential datasets and recommends which datasets are appropriate for assessment analyses. The product of the Assessment Process is a stock assessment report which describes the fisheries, evaluates the status of the stock, estimates biological benchmarks, projects future population conditions, and recommends research and monitoring needs. The assessment is independently peer reviewed at the Review Workshop. The product of the Review Workshop is a Summary documenting panel opinions regarding the strengths and weaknesses of the stock assessment and input data. Participants for SEDAR Workshops are appointed by the Gulf of Mexico, South Atlantic, and Caribbean Fishery Management Councils and NOAA Fisheries Southeast Regional Office, Highly Migratory Species Management Division, and Southeast Fisheries Science Center. Participants include: data collectors and database managers; stock assessment scientists, biologists, and researchers; constituency representatives including fishermen, environmentalists, and non-governmental organizations; international experts; and staff of Councils, Commissions, and state and Federal agencies.

The items of discussion at the SEDAR 95 Atlantic Migratory Cobia Indices Webinar II are as follows: review available indices of abundance and provide recommendations for their use in the assessment.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, provided the public has been notified of the intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Special Accommodations

This meeting is accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids should be directed to the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council office (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 10 business days prior to the meeting.

Note: The times and sequence specified in this agenda are subject to change.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: June 21, 2024.

Diane M. DeJames-Daly,

Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2024–13998 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Coastal and Marine Ecological Classification Standard Solicitation for Revisions

AGENCY: National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of information collection, request for comment.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed, and continuing information collections, which helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. The purpose of this notice is to allow for 60 days of public comment preceding submission of the collection to OMB.

DATES: To ensure consideration, comments regarding this proposed information collection must be received on or before August 26, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments to Adrienne Thomas, NOAA PRA Officer, at *NOAA.PRA@noaa.gov.* Please reference OMB Control Number 0648–0799 in the subject line of your comments. All comments received are part of the public record and will generally be posted on *https://www.regulations.gov* without change. Do not submit Confidential Business Information or otherwise sensitive or protected information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or specific questions related to collection activities should be directed to Matt Dornback, Environmental Scientist, NOAA Office for Coastal Management, 1305 East West Hwy., Silver Spring, MD 20910, 302–648–5717, and *matt.dornback@noaa.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

This is a request for renewal of an approved information collection. NOAA's Office for Coastal Management (OCM) is proposing a renewal for information collection that allows interested parties to submit requests for revisions to update the Coastal and Marine Ecological Classification Standard (CMECS). CMECS was approved by the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) in August 2012 and provides a national standard for consistent descriptions of coastal and marine ecological features. The FGDC requires periodic reviews and maintenance of federal standards. Collection of information from users is critical to this process.

The primary uses of CMECS are in mapping and classifying the geological, physical, biological, and chemical components of the environment. Among other applications, the CMECS framework can be used to integrate data from disparate sources, facilitate comparisons among sites, and organize data for regional assessment. Since its publication in 2012, the CMECS has been used to characterize habitats ranging from coastal wetlands and estuaries to the deep ocean and at local to global scales. Benefits of CMECS include: data collected by different sensors and methods can be integrated into a single database; all the physical, biological, and chemical-forcing functions that collectively determine a habitat type can be captured; and the system has the flexibility to accommodate new units as additional information becomes available.

The CMECS was developed as a dynamic standard to allow periodic revisions to continue to meet the needs of the user community and as such, the CMECS can be updated to accommodate the requirements of evolving scientific practices, technology, and coastal and marine resource management. The review process allows the CMECS to retain its consistency, credibility, and rigor through periodic reviews and an orderly, authoritative, and transparent updating process as required by the Federal Geographic Data Committee. Anyone can propose changes, which can include minor edits, such as grammatical or typographical corrections, clarifications of definitions and meaning, or more substantial changes to the hierarchy within components. We are soliciting recommendations for revisions to the CMECS through a form to be posted on the CMECS website. All recommendations collected will be reviewed and revisions will be made to

the CMECS to reflect those recommendations found to be valuable for implementation of the CMECS and supportive of the user community needs.

Information is compiled quarterly by the CMECS Implementation Working Group, an interagency group of CMECS technical experts. This information is used to assess needs for revisions to the CMECS. Information is not disseminated to the public.

II. Method of Collection

This information is collected by an electronic form posted on the CMECS website. However, we also accept paper format for anyone unable to access the form through the internet. Some follow up interviews may occur to better understand recommendations as needed.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0648–0799.

Form Number(s): None.

Type of Review: Regular (Extension of current information collection.)

Affected Public: Not-for-profit institutions; State, Local, or Tribal government; Federal government.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 100.

Estimated Time per Response: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 100.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: 0.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

Legal Authority: The FGDC requires periodic reviews and maintenance of federal standards. Collection of information from users is critical to this process.

IV. Request for Comments

We are soliciting public comments to permit the Department/Bureau to: (a) Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the time and cost burden for this proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) Evaluate ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public record. We will include or summarize each comment in our request to OMB to approve this ICR. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you may ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Sheleen Dumas,

Department PRA Clearance Officer, Office of the Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, Commerce Department.

[FR Doc. 2024–14005 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–08–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648–XE012]

Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; General Provisions for Domestic Fisheries; Coastal Pelagic Species Fishery; Applications for Exempted Fishing Permits; 2024–2025 Fishing Year

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of application; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Regional Administrator, West Coast Region, NMFS, has made a preliminary determination that two exempted fishing permit (EFP) applications warrant further consideration. Both applications are from the California Wetfish Producers Association (CWPA) and request an exemption from the expected prohibition on primary directed fishing for Pacific sardine during the 2024–2025 fishing year to collect Pacific sardine as part of industry-based scientific research. NMFS requests public comment on the applications.

DATES: Comments must be received by July 26, 2024.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments on this document, identified by NOAA–NMFS–2024–0058, by the following method:

- *Electronic Submissions:* Submit all public comments via the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal. Visit *https://www.regulations.gov* and type NOAA–NMFS–2024–0058 in the Search box. Click the ''Comment'' icon, complete the required fields, and enter or attach your comments. The EFP applications will be available under Supporting and Related Materials through the same link.

Instructions: Comments sent by any other method, to any other address or individual, or received after the end of the comment period, may not be considered by NMFS. All comments received are a part of the public record and will generally be posted for public viewing on *https://www.regulations.gov* without change. All personal identifying information (*e.g.,* name, address, etc.), confidential business information, or otherwise sensitive information submitted voluntarily by the sender will be publicly accessible. NMFS will accept anonymous comments (enter ''N/A'' in the required fields if you wish to remain anonymous).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Katie Davis, West Coast Region, NMFS, (323) 362–2126, *katie.davis@noaa.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Approving the EFP applications would be authorized under the Coastal Pelagic Species (CPS) Fishery Management Plan (FMP) and regulations at 50 CFR 600.745, which allow NMFS Regional Administrators to authorize EFPs for fishing activities that would otherwise be prohibited.

At its April 2024 meeting, the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) recommended that NMFS approve two EFP applications for the 2024–2025 Pacific sardine fishing year. Both applications are from the CWPA and are renewal requests for an exemption from the expected prohibition on primary directed fishing for Pacific sardine during the 2024–2025 fishing year; the purpose of the requests are to collect Pacific sardine as part of industry-based scientific research. The Council considered these EFP applications concurrently with the 2024–2025 annual harvest specifications for Pacific sardine because Pacific sardine catch under each EFP would be accounted for under the proposed 2024–2025 annual catch limit (ACL), which is 6,005 metric tons (mt). A summary of each EFP application is provided below:

(1) *Request renewal of exempted fishery permit (EFP) to allow take of Pacific sardine in point sets in 2024–2025 in support of the CPS–NCA research program:* The CWPA submitted a renewal application for their CPS Nearshore Cooperative Survey (NCS) program. The purpose of this EFP project is to collect data for estimating CPS biomass in shallow waters that are not accessible to NOAA ships. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife, in partnership with the CWPA, has been conducting aerial surveys to

estimate the biomass and distribution of Pacific sardine and certain other CPS in nearshore waters in the Southern California Bight since 2012, and in the Monterey-San Francisco area since the summer of 2017. The CPS–NCS survey would capture CPS schools identified by aerial spotter pilots, and weigh and sample the catch onshore to validate the biomass and species composition of the schools observed in the nearshore aerial survey. If approved, this EFP would allow up to eight participating vessels to directly harvest a total of 150 mt of Pacific sardine during the 2024–2025 fishing year. A portion of each point set (*i.e.,* an individual haul of fish captured with a purse seine net) would be retained for biological sampling, and the remainder would be sold by participating fishermen and processors to offset research costs and avoid unnecessary discard.

(2) *Request renewal of exempted fishery permit (EFP) to allow fishing of Pacific sardine for biological samples in 2024–2025 nearshore research program:* The CWPA submitted a renewal application for their biological sampling EFP project. The primary directed fishery for Pacific sardine has been closed since 2015 and, consequently, scientists at the Southwest Fisheries Science Center (SWFSC) have a limited amount of fishery-dependent data to use in their stock assessment. The goal of this EFP project is to provide fishery-dependent catch data, including biological data (*i.e.,* age and length data from directed harvest), for potential use in Pacific sardine stock assessments. If approved, this EFP would allow up to eight participating vessels to directly harvest up to 520 mt of Pacific sardine during the 2024–2025 fishing year. A portion of each landing would be retained for biological sampling by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the remainder would be sold by participating fishermen and processors to offset research costs and avoid unnecessary discard.

Altogether, these EFP projects total 670 mt. If NMFS does not issue one or more of these EFPs, the requested tonnage would be available for harvest by other permissible fishing activities during the 2024–2025 fishing year (*e.g.,* live bait or minor directed harvest).

After publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, NMFS may approve and issue permits to participating vessels after the close of the public comment period. NMFS will consider comments submitted in deciding whether to approve the applications as requested. NMFS may approve the applications in their entirety or may make any alterations needed to achieve the goals of the EFP projects and the FMP. NMFS may also approve different amounts of Pacific sardine allocation for each EFP project if any changes are made to the 2024–2025 proposed sardine harvest specifications before final implementation.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: June 21, 2024.

Karen H. Abrams,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2024–14010 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Generic Clearance for Marine Recreational Information Program: Design & Field Test Studies

The Department of Commerce will submit the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, on or after the date of publication of this notice. We invite the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed, and continuing information collections, which helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. Public comments were previously requested via the **Federal Register** on April 10, 2024 during a 60-day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments.

Agency: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Commerce

Title: Generic Clearance for Marine Recreational Information Program: Design & Field Test Studies

OMB Control Number: 0648–XXXX.

Form Number(s): None.

Type of Request: Regular submission [new information collection].

Number of Respondents: 46,000.

Average Hours Per Response: Surveys five minutes, Cognitive interviews one hour, focus groups one hour, and panel designs fifteen minutes.

Total Annual Burden Hours: 4,375.

Needs and Uses: This request is to initiate a new information collection using a generic clearance to allow the Marine Recreational Information Program to develop, test, and improve its surveys and methodologies. Marine recreational anglers are surveyed to collect catch and effort data, fish biology data, and angler socioeconomic characteristics. This request is part of an on-going initiative to improve MRIP surveys as mandated by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1852) and the Modernizing Recreational Fisheries Management Act of 2018 (16 U.S.C. 1881) and recommended by the National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine. Marine recreational fishing catch and effort data are collected through a combination of mail surveys, telephone surveys and on-site intercept surveys with recreational anglers. The procedures utilized to this effect will include but are not limited to experiments with levels of incentives for various types of survey operations, focus groups, cognitive laboratory activities, pilot testing, exploratory interviews, experiments with questionnaire design, and usability testing of electronic data collection instruments.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Frequency: On Occasion.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

Legal Authority: Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1852) and the Modernizing Recreational Fisheries Management Act of 2018 (16 U.S.C. 1881).

This information collection request may be viewed at *www.reginfo.gov.* Follow the instructions to view the Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website *www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain.* Find this particular information collection by selecting ''Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments'' or by using the search function and entering the title of the collection.

Sheleen Dumas,

Department PRA Clearance Officer, Office of the Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, Commerce Department.

[FR Doc. 2024–14024 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Air Force

[Docket ID: USAF–2023–HQ–0014]

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: Department of the Air Force, Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: 30-Day information collection notice.

SUMMARY: The DoD has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act.

DATES: Consideration will be given to all comments received by July 26, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to *www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain.* Find this particular information collection by selecting ''Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments'' or by using the search function.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Reginald Lucas, (571) 372–7574, *whs.mc-alex.esd.mbx.dd-dod-information-collections@mail.mil.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title; Associated Form; and OMB Number: Civil Aircraft Landing Permit System Forms; DD Forms 2400, 2401, and 2402; OMB Control Number 0701–0050.

Type of Request: Revision.

Number of Respondents: 5,400.

Responses per Respondent: 1.

Annual Responses: 5,400.

Average Burden per Response: 10 minutes.

Annual Burden Hours: 900.

Needs and Uses: The Federal Aviation Act of 1958 (Pub. L. 85–726, sec. 1107) authorized government agencies to regulate public use of government-owned airfields. The military departments have made military airfields available to civil aircraft operators, primarily to conduct official government business; however, use for other purpose is also occasionally accommodated (see Air Force Instruction 10–1001, Army Regulation 95–2, and Secretary of the Navy Instruction 3770–IC). Access must be managed to ensure that security and operational integrity are maintained and that the government is not held liable if the civil aircraft becomes involved in an accident or incident while using military airfields, facilities, and services. The collection of information is necessary to identify the aircraft operator and the aircraft to be operated; establish the purpose for use of military airfields; and protect the U.S. Government against litigation.

The respondents for this collection include any civil aircraft operator applying for landing rights on a DoD airfield. The Air Force processes three times more requests than other military branches of service, thus the Air Force is the owner of the Civil Aircraft Landing Permit System program and DD Forms 2400, 2401, and 2402. The respondents may access the collection instruments via the DoD Forms website or by contacting the base of interest to obtain info on how to request forms for landing approval. Respondents must complete DD Form 2401 to identify themselves, indicate where they want to operate, state their purpose for use, and list their aircraft. DD Form 2402 is used to ensure that the respondent agrees to hold the government harmless and notify their insurance company to complete the DD Form 2400 to show evidence of third-party liability insurance coverage. The forms are provided at no cost to the individual or company, and when use is for official government business, there is no charge for use of the airfield. The military departments also use the information to advise installation commanders of approved users, aircraft registration numbers, and purpose for use.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit; individuals or households.

Frequency: On occasion.

Respondent's Obligation: Required to retain or obtain benefits.

OMB Desk Officer: Ms. Jasmeet Seehra.

You may also submit comments and recommendations, identified by Docket ID number and title, by the following method:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov.* Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the agency name, Docket ID number, and title for this **Federal Register** document. The general policy for comments and other submissions from members of the public is to make these submissions available for public viewing on the internet at *http://www.regulations.gov* as they are received without change, including any personal identifiers or contact information.

DOD Clearance Officer: Mr. Reginald Lucas.

Requests for copies of the information collection proposal should be sent to Mr. Lucas at *whs.mc-alex.esd.mbx.dd-dod-information-collections@mail.mil.*

Dated: June 20, 2024.

Aaron T. Siegel,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 2024–14020 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001–05–P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

U.S. Army Science Board Open Meeting Notice; Correction

AGENCY: Department of the Army, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of Federal advisory committee meeting; correction.

SUMMARY: This document corrects the previous notice published in the **Federal Register** on June 12, 2024. This notice respectively corrects to include the ''Nature-Based Solutions via US Army Corps of Engineers Programs and Projects FY 24 study'' and to also correct all previous meetings and session times.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Army Science Board, Designated Federal Officer, 2530 Crystal Drive, Suite 7098, Arlington, VA 22202; Ms. Heather J. Gerard, the ASB's Designated Federal Officer (DFO), at (703) 545–8652 or email: *heather.j.gerard.civ@army.mil,* and Mr. Vinson L. Bullard, the ASB's Alternate Designated Federal Official at (703) 545–8647 or email: *vinson.l.bullard.civ@army.mil.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Correction

In the **Federal Register** on June 12, 2024 at 89 FR 49864, in the first column, correct the **SUMMARY** and **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** to read, respectively:

The Department of the Army announces the following committee meeting:

Name of Committee: U.S. Army Science Board (ASB) Summer Voting Session.

Date: Friday, July 12, 2024.

Time: 08:30 a.m.–3:15 p.m.

Location: The Arnold and Mabel Beckman Center of the National Academies of Sciences and Engineering, 100 Academy Way, Irvine, CA 92617.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The meeting will be held pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. 1001–1014), the Government in the Sunshine Act of 1976 (5 U.S.C. 552b, as amended) and title 41, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 102–3.140 through 160.

Purpose of Meeting: The purpose of the meeting is for ASB members to review, deliberate, and vote on the findings and recommendations presented for four Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 studies.

Agenda: The board will present findings and recommendations for deliberation and vote on the following studies:

''Enhancing Beneficial Use of Dredged Materials via US Army Corps of Engineers Programs and Projects.'' This FY24 study is unclassified and will be presented in an open session at 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

''Nature-Based Solutions via US Army Corps of Engineers Programs and Projects.'' This FY24 study is unclassified and will be presented in an open session at 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

''Transformation of Intelligence Processing, Exploitation, Dissemination (PED); an Analysis Engine to Enhance Theater Army's and Warfighting Requirements.'' This FY24 study is classified and will be presented in a closed session at from 12:15 p.m.–1:45 p.m.

''Future Human Machine Integration (HMI) in the Army.'' This FY24 study is unclassified and will be presented in an open session at 2:15 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.

Public Accessibility to the Meeting: Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552b, as amended, and 41 CFR 102–3.140 through 102–3.165, and subject to the availability of space, this meeting is partially closed to the public. Registration of members of the public who wish to attend the open portion of the meeting will begin at 8:00 a.m. on the day of the meeting. Seating is limited and is on a first-to-arrive basis. Attendees will be asked to provide their name, title, affiliation, and contact information to include email address and daytime telephone number at registration. Any interested person may attend the meeting, file written comments or statements with the committee, or make verbal comments from the floor during the public meeting, at the times, and in the manner, permitted by the committee, as set forth below.

Special Accommodations: The meeting venue is fully handicap accessible, with wheelchair access. Individuals requiring special accommodations to access the public meeting or seeking additional information about public access procedures, should contact Mr. Vince Bullard, the Alternate Designated Federal Official (ADFO) for the ASB, at the email addresses or telephone numbers listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section, at least five (5) business days prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Written Comments or Statements: Pursuant to 41 CFR 102–3.105(j) and 102–3.140(c) and 5 U.S.C. 1009(a)(3), the public or interested organizations may submit written comments or statements to the ASB about its mission and/or the topics to be addressed in this public meeting. Written comments or statements should be submitted to Mr. Vince Bullard, the ADFO of the ASB, via electronic mail, the preferred mode of submission, at the addresses listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section in the following formats: Adobe Acrobat or Microsoft Word. The comment or statement must include the author's name, title, affiliation, address, and daytime telephone number. Written comments or statements being submitted in response to the agenda set forth in this notice must be received by the ADFO at least five (5) business days prior to the meeting so that they may be made available to the ASB for its consideration prior to the meeting. Written comments or statements received after this date may not be provided to the ASB until its next meeting. Please note that because the ASB operates under the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, all written comments will be treated as public documents and will be made available for public inspection.

James W. Satterwhite,

Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 2024–13890 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3711–02–P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

Defense Advisory Committee on Investigation, Prosecution, and Defense of Sexual Assault in the Armed Forces; Notice of Federal Advisory Committee Meeting

AGENCY: General Counsel of the Department of Defense (DoD), DoD.

ACTION: Notice of Federal Advisory Committee meeting.

SUMMARY: The DoD is publishing this notice to announce that the following Federal Advisory Committee meeting of the Defense Advisory Committee on Investigation, Prosecution, and Defense of Sexual Assault in the Armed Forces will take place.

DATES: Thursday, June 27, 2024—Open to the public from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: This meeting is being held virtually. For virtual access to the meeting, email your request along with your name and contact information to the DAC–IPAD public email at *whs.pentagon.em.mbx.dacipad@mail.mil.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dwight Sullivan, 703–695–1055 (Voice), *dwight.h.sullivan.civ@mail.mil* (Email). Mailing address is DAC–IPAD, One Liberty Center, 875 N Randolph Street, Suite 150, Arlington, Virginia 22203. Website: *https://dacipad.whs.mil/.* The most up-to-date changes to the meeting agenda can be found on the website.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This meeting is being held under the provisions of chapter 10 of title 5 United States Code (U.S.C.) (commonly known as the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (5 U.S.C., App.) or ''FACA''), the Government in the Sunshine Act of 1976 (5 U.S.C. 552b, as amended), and 41 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 102–3.140 and 102–3.50.

Due to circumstances beyond the control of the Designated Federal Officer, the Defense Advisory Committee on Investigation, Prosecution, and Defense of Sexual Assault in the Armed Forces was unable to provide public notification required by 41 CFR 102–3.150(a) concerning its June 27, 2024 meeting. Accordingly, the Advisory Committee Management Officer for the Department of Defense, pursuant to 41 CFR 102–3.150(b), waives the 15-calendar day notification requirement.

Purpose of the Meeting: In section 546 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015 (Pub. L. 113–291), as modified by section 537 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016 (Pub. L. 114–92), Congress tasked the DAC–IPAD to advise the Secretary of Defense on the investigation, prosecution, and defense of allegations of rape, sexual assault, and other sexual misconduct involving members of the Armed Forces. This will be the thirty-sixth public meeting held by the DAC–IPAD. At this meeting the Committee will conduct deliberations on the draft DAC–IPAD Report on Exploring the Race, Ethnicity, and Gender of Military Panels at Courts-Martial, and a draft DAC–IPAD letter to the DoD General Counsel on concerns in the field regarding Office of Special Trial Counsel and Trial Defense Service staffing.

Agenda: 3:00 p.m.–3:05 p.m. Welcome and Introduction to the Public Meeting; 3:05 p.m.–3:45 p.m. Committee Deliberations—Draft Report on Exploring the Race, Ethnicity, and Gender of Military Panels at Courts-Martial; 3:45 p.m.–4:00 p.m. Committee Deliberations—Draft Letter to the DoD

General Counsel on Staffing Issues Regarding the Office of Special Trial Counsel and Trial Defense Service; 4:00 p.m. Meeting Adjourn.

Meeting Accessibility: Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552b and 41 CFR 102–3.140 through 102–3.165, this meeting is open to the public from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on June 27, 2024. All members of the public who wish to participate virtually must register by contacting DAC–IPAD at *whs.pentagon.em.mbx.dacipad@mail.mil* or by contacting Mr. Pete Yob at (703) 693–3857 no later than Wednesday, June 26, 2024. Once registered, the web address and/or audio number will be provided.

*Special Accommodations:*Individuals requiring special accommodations to access the public meeting should contact Mr. Pete Yob at (703) 693–3857 no later than June 26, 2024 so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Written Statements: Pursuant to 41 CFR 102–3.140 and 10(a)(3) of the FACA, the public or interested organizations may submit written comments to the Committee about its mission and topics pertaining to this public session. Written comments must be received by the DAC–IPAD prior to the meeting date so that they may be made available to the Committee members for their consideration prior to the meeting. Written comments not received by the DAC–IPAD prior to the meeting date will be provided to the Chair of the DAC–IPAD for consideration. Written comments may be submitted via email to the DAC–IPAD at *whs.pentagon.em.mbx.dacipad@mail.mil* in the following formats: Adobe Acrobat or Microsoft Word. Written comments may also be mailed to the address listed in **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**. Please note that since the DAC–IPAD operates under the provisions of the FACA, all written comments received will be treated as public documents and will be made available for public inspection.

Dated: June 20, 2024.

Aaron T. Siegel,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 2024–14006 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6001–FR–P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

[Docket ID: DoD–2024–OS–0024]

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller)/Chief Financial Officer, Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: 30-Day information collection notice.

SUMMARY: The DoD has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act.

DATES: Consideration will be given to all comments received by July 26, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to *www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain.* Find this particular information collection by selecting ''Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments'' or by using the search function.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Reginald Lucas, (571) 372–7574, *whs.mc-alex.esd.mbx.dd-dod-information-collections@mail.mil.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title; Associated Form; and OMB Number: Secondary Dependency Application; DD Form 137; OMB Control Number 0730–0014.

Type of Request: Revision.

Number of Respondents: 20,000.

Responses per Respondent: 1.

Annual Responses: 20,000.

Average Burden per Response: 60 minutes.

Annual Burden Hours: 20,000.

Needs and Uses: The information collection requirement is necessary to certify dependency or obtain information to determine entitlement to the following entitlements: Basic Allowance for Housing, Uniformed Services Identification and Privilege card, travel allowances, morale, welfare, and recreation privileges, and commissary and exchange. Information regarding a claimed individual is provided by the service member or other sponsor. A medical doctor or psychiatrist, college administrator, or a dependent's employer may need to provide information for claims. Pursuant to 37 United States Code (U.S.C.) 401, 403, 476, and 10 U.S.C. 1072 and 1076, the sponsor must provide more than one half of the claimed dependent's monthly expenses. DoD Financial Management Regulation (DoD FMR) 7000.14–R, Vol. 7A defines dependency and directs that dependency be proven. Dependency claim examiners use the information from the DD Form 137 to determine benefit eligibility. The new, consolidated DD Form 137 is in direct support of the updated DoD FMR Volume 7A, chapter 26: ''Housing Allowances,'' which published in May 2024. Since DoD adopted the definition of support (October 2022) consistent with Treasury regulations, tax returns can be utilized as evidence of support. However, the Secondary Dependent must still meet the other definitions of a ''dependent'' under 10 U.S.C. 1072. If the member refuses or is unable to provide a tax return, the member can complete a worksheet (similar to that used by the IRS) that substantiates support.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Frequency: On occasion.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

OMB Desk Officer: Ms. Jasmeet Seehra.

You may also submit comments and recommendations, identified by Docket ID number and title, by the following method:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov.* Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the agency name, Docket ID number, and title for this **Federal Register** document. The general policy for comments and other submissions from members of the public is to make these submissions available for public viewing on the internet at *http://www.regulations.gov* as they are received without change, including any personal identifiers or contact information.

DOD Clearance Officer: Mr. Reginald Lucas.

Requests for copies of the information collection proposal should be sent to Mr. Lucas at *whs.mc-alex.esd.mbx.dd-dod-information-collections@mail.mil.*

Dated: June 20, 2024.

Aaron T. Siegel,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 2024–14015 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6001–FR–P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

[Docket ID: DoD–2024–OS–0039]

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller)/Chief Financial Officer, Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: 30-Day information collection notice.

SUMMARY: The DoD has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act.

DATES: Consideration will be given to all comments received by July 26, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to *www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain.* Find this particular information collection by selecting ''Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments'' or by using the search function.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Reginald Lucas, (571) 372–7574, *whs.mc-alex.esd.mbx.dd-dod-information-collections@mail.mil.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title; Associated Form; and OMB Number: Request for Information Regarding Deceased Debtor, DD Form 2840; OMB Control Number 0730–0015.

Type of Request: Revision.

Number of Respondents: 150.

Responses per Respondent: 1.

Annual Responses: 150.

Average Burden per Response: 5 minutes.

Annual Burden Hours: 13.

Needs and Uses: The information collection requirement is necessary to obtain information on deceased debtors from probate courts. Probate courts review their records to see if an estate was established. They provide the name and address of the executor or lawyer handling the estate. From the information obtained, Defense Finance and Accounting Service submits a claim against the estate for the amount due to the United States.

Affected Public: State, local, or tribal government.

Frequency: On occasion.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

OMB Desk Officer: Ms. Jasmeet Seehra.

You may also submit comments and recommendations, identified by Docket ID number and title, by the following method:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov.* Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the agency name, Docket ID number, and title for this **Federal Register** document. The general policy for comments and other submissions from members of the public is to make these submissions available for public viewing on the internet at *http://www.regulations.gov* as they are received without change, including any personal identifiers or contact information.

DOD Clearance Officer: Ms. Reginald Lucas.

Requests for copies of the information collection proposal should be sent to Mr. Lucas at *whs.mc-alex.esd.mbx.dd-dod-information-collections@mail.mil.*

Dated: June 20, 2024.

Aaron T. Siegel,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 2024–14012 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6001–FR–P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

[Docket ID: DoD–2024–HA–0004]

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs (OASD(HA)), Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: 30-Day information collection notice.

SUMMARY: The DoD has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act.

DATES: Consideration will be given to all comments received by July 26, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to *www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain.* Find this particular information collection by selecting ''Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments'' or by using the search function.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Reginald Lucas, (571) 372—7574, *whs.mc-alex.esd.mbx.dd-dod-information-collections@mail.mil.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title; Associated Form; and OMB Number: Women's Reproductive Health Care Provider Survey (WRHCPS); OMB Control Number 0720–WRHS.

Type of Request: New.

Number of Respondents: 2,129.

Responses per respondent: 1.

Annual Responses: 2,129.

Average Burden per Response: 20 minutes.

Annual Burden Hours: 710.

Needs and Uses: Health care provider knowledge, beliefs, and practices may have an impact on active-duty service women's (ADSW) access to contraception and overall reproductive health. The proposed survey is devised to be a sufficiently large and representative sample of the diverse professionals who provide reproductive and contraceptive care to ADSW at health care visits (*e.g.,* readiness visits, pre-deployment, and during deployment). The survey will be designed to capture provider self-reported beliefs, clinical knowledge on reproductive health care (including contraceptive counseling) and prescribing and providing contraception care for and during deployment. Data and analysis from the survey will enable DoD to evaluate, enhance, and where needed, improve reproductive services delivery and educational interventions; provide a strong basis for planning policy and services related to ADSWs reproductive and contraceptive health; and provide data, programs, and details necessary for replication and peer review. In addition, the proposed one-time survey meets a Congressional mandate and serves as an appropriate follow-up to the WRHS by determining whether identified gaps in contraceptive access are the result of provider knowledge and attitudes. The 116–48 SASC Report for FY2020 required DoD to conduct a survey to better understand provider knowledge and beliefs related to provision of contraceptives to ADSW. The target population of the survey includes uniformed (active component only) and civilian MHS personnel.

Affected Public: Federal government employees.

Frequency: On occasion.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

OMB Desk Officer: Mr. Matt Eliseo.

You may also submit comments and recommendations, identified by Docket ID number and title, by the following method:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov.* Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the agency name, Docket ID number, and title for this **Federal**

Register document. The general policy for comments and other submissions from members of the public is to make these submissions available for public viewing on the internet at *http://www.regulations.gov* as they are received without change, including any personal identifiers or contact information.

DOD Clearance Officer: Mr. Reginald Lucas.

Requests for copies of the information collection proposal should be sent to Mr. Lucas. at *whs.mc-alex.esd.mbx.dd-dod-information-collections@mail.mil.*

Dated: June 20, 2024.

Aaron T. Siegel,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 2024–14017 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6001–FR–P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

Department of Defense Wage Committee; Notice of Federal Advisory Committee Meetings

AGENCY: Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness (USD(P&R)), Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: Notice of Federal advisory committee meetings.

SUMMARY: The DoD is publishing this notice to announce that the following Federal Advisory Committee meetings of the Department of Defense Wage Committee (DoDWC) will take place.

DATES: Tuesday, June 25, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and will be closed to the public. Tuesday, July 9, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and will be closed to the public. Tuesday, July 23, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and will be closed to the public. Tuesday, August 6, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and will be closed to the public. Tuesday, August 20, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and will be closed to the public. Tuesday, September 3, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and will be closed to the public. Tuesday, September 17, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and will be closed to the public.

ADDRESSES: The closed meetings will be held by Microsoft Teams.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Karl Fendt, Designated Federal Officer (DFO) (571) 372–1618 (voice), *karl.h.fendt.civ@mail.mil* (email), 4800 Mark Center Drive, Suite 05G21, Alexandria, Virginia 22350 (mailing address). Any agenda updates can be found at the DoDWC's official website: *https://wageandsalary.dcpas.osd.mil/BWN/DoDWC/.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: These meetings are being held under the provisions of chapter 10 of title 5, United States Code (U.S.C.) (commonly known as the ''Federal Advisory Committee Act'' or ''FACA''), 5 U.S.C. 552b(c) (commonly known as the ''Government in the Sunshine Act''), and 41 Code of Fedeal Regulations (CFR) 102–3.140 and 102–3.150.

Due to circumstances beyond the control of the DFO and the DoD, the DoDWC was unable to provide public notification required by 41 CFR 102–3.150(a) concerning its June 25, 2024 meeting. Accordingly, the Advisory Committee Management Officer for the DoD, pursuant to 41 CFR 102–3.150(b), waives the 15-calendar day notification requirement.

Purpose of the Meeting: The purpose of these meetings is to provide independent advice and recommendations on matters relating to the conduct of wage surveys and the establishment of wage schedules for all appropriated fund and non-appropriated fund areas of blue-collar employees within the DoD.

Agenda

June 25, 2024: Opening Remarks by Chair, Mr. Eric Clayton, and DFO, Mr. Karl Fendt. Reviewing survey results and/or survey specifications for the following Nonappropriated Fund areas:

1. Any items needing further clarification or action from the previous meeting.
2. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Cumberland, Pennsylvania wage area (AC–092).
3. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the York, Pennsylvania wage area (AC–093).
4. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Honolulu, Hawaii wage area (AC–106).
5. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Norfolk-Portsmouth-Virginia Beach, Virginia wage area (AC–111).
6. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Hampton-Newport News, Virginia wage area (AC–112).
7. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Harford, Maryland wage area (AC–148).
8. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the McLennan, Texas wage area (AC–022).
9. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Jefferson, New York wage area (AC–101).
10. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Orange, New York wage area (AC–103).
11. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Macomb, Michigan wage area (AC–162).
12. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Niagara, New York wage area (AC–163).

Reviewing survey results and/or survey specifications for the following appropriated fund areas:

13. Survey Specifications for the San Bernardino-Riverside-Ontario, California wage area (AC–016).
14. Survey Specifications for the Chicago, Illinois wage area (AC–047).
15. Survey Specifications for the Seattle-Everett-Tacoma, Washington wage area (AC–143).
16. Special Rates—Washington, District of Columbia TV Systems/Electrical Equipment
17. Any items needing further clarification from this agenda may be discussed during future scheduled meetings.

Closing Remarks by Chair, Mr. Eric Clayton.

July 9, 2024: Opening Remarks by Chair, Mr. Eric Clayton, and DFO, Mr. Karl Fendt.

Reviewing survey results and/or survey specifications for the following appropriated fund areas:

1. Any items needing further clarification or action from the previous meeting.
2. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Shreveport, Louisiana wage area (AC–062).
3. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Central North Carolina wage area (AC–099).
4. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Columbia, South Carolina wage area (AC–120).
5. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Norfolk-Portsmouth-Newport News-Hampton, Virginia (AC–140).
6. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Atlanta, Georgia wage area (AC–037).
7. Survey Specifications for the Fort Wayne-Marion, Indiana wage area (AC–049).
8. Survey Specifications for the Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas wage area (AC–131).
9. Any items needing further clarification from this agenda may be discussed during future scheduled meetings.

Closing Remarks by Chair, Mr. Eric Clayton.

July 23, 2024: Opening Remarks by Chair, Mr. Eric Clayton, and DFO, Mr. Karl Fendt.

Reviewing survey results and/or survey specifications for the following non-appropriated fund areas:

1. Any items needing further clarification or action from the previous meeting.

2. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Pennington, South Dakota wage area (AC–086).
3. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Nueces, Texas wage area (AC–115).
4. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Bexar, Texas wage area (AC–117).
5. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Anchorage, Alaska wage area (AC–118).
6. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Kitsap, Washington wage area (AC–142).
7. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Dallas, Texas wage area (AC–152).
8. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Tarrant, Texas wage area (AC–156).
9. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Orleans, Louisiana wage area (AC–006).
10. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Bell, Texas wage area (AC–028).
11. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Curry, New Mexico wage area (AC–030).
12. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Tom Green, Texas wage area (AC–032).
13. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Cobb, Georgia wage area (AC–034).
14. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Columbus, Georgia wage area (AC–067).

Reviewing survey results and/or survey specifications for the following appropriated fund areas:

15. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Augusta, Maine wage area (AC–063).
16. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Savannah, Georgia wage area (AC–042).
17. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Western Texas wage area (AC–127).
18. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Waco, Texas wage area (AC–137).
19. Survey Specifications for the St. Louis, Missouri wage area (AC–081).
20. Special Pay—Western Texas Special Rates
21. Any items needing further clarification from this agenda may be discussed during future scheduled meetings.

Closing Remarks by Chair, Mr. Eric Clayton.

August 6, 2024: Opening Remarks by Chair, Mr. Eric Clayton, and DFO, Mr. Karl Fendt.

Reviewing survey results and/or survey specifications for the following appropriated fund areas:

1. Any items needing further clarification or action from the previous meeting.
2. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Hawaii wage area (AC–044).
3. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Central and Western Massachusetts wage area (AC–069).
4. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Southwestern Wisconsin wage area (AC–149).
5. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Augusta, Georgia wage area (AC–038).
6. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Macon, Georgia wage area (AC–041).
7. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Southeastern Washington-Eastern Oregon wage area (AC–144).
8. Survey Specifications for the Bloomington-Bedford-Washington, Indiana wage area (AC–048).
9. Survey Specifications for the Indianapolis, Indiana wage area (AC–050).
10. Survey Specifications for the Kansas City, Kansas wage area (AC–080).
11. Survey Specifications for the Southern Missouri wage area (AC–082).
12. Survey Specifications for the Omaha, Nebraska wage area (AC–084).
13. Special Pay—Macon, Georgia Special Rates
14. Any items needing further clarification from this agenda may be discussed during future scheduled meetings.

Closing Remarks by Chair, Mr. Eric Clayton.

August 20, 2024: Opening Remarks by Chair, Mr. Eric Clayton, and DFO, Mr. Karl Fendt.

Reviewing survey results and/or survey specifications for the following non-appropriated fund areas:

1. Any items needing further clarification or action from the previous meeting.
2. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Arapahoe-Denver, Colorado wage area (AC–084).
3. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the El Paso, Colorado wage area (AC–085).
4. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Laramie, Wyoming wage area (AC–087).
5. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the New London, Connecticut wage area (AC–136).
6. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Snohomish, Washington wage area (AC–141).
7. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Pierce, Washington wage area (AC–143).
8. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Newport, Rhode Island wage area (AC–167).
9. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Hennepin, Minnesota wage area (AC–015).
10. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Grand Forks, North Dakota wage area (AC–017).
11. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Davis-Weber-Salt Lake, Utah wage area (AC–018).
12. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Ada-Elmore, Idaho wage area (AC–038).
13. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Cascade, Montana wage area (AC–040).
14. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Spokane, Washington wage area (AC–043).

Reviewing survey results and/or survey specifications for the following Appropriated Fund areas:

15. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Central and Northern Maine wage area (AC–064).
16. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Asheville, North Carolina wage area (AC–098).
17. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Southwestern Oregon wage area (AC–113).
18. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Austin, Texas wage area (AC–129).
19. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Corpus Christi, Texas wage area (AC–130).
20. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Duluth, Minnesota wage area (AC–074).
21. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the San Antonio, Texas wage area (AC–135).
22. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Milwaukee, Wisconsin wage area (AC–148).
23. Survey Specifications for the New Orleans, Louisiana wage area (AC–061).
24. Survey Specifications for the Richmond, Virginia wage area (AC–141).
25. Special Pay—Southwestern Oregon Special Rates
26. Any items needing further clarification from this agenda may be discussed during future scheduled meetings.

Closing Remarks by Chair, Mr. Eric Clayton.

September 3, 2024: Opening Remarks by Chair, Mr. Eric Clayton, and DFO, Mr. Karl Fendt.

Reviewing survey results and/or survey specifications for the following non-appropriated fund areas:

1. Any items needing further clarification or action from the previous meeting.
2. Survey Specifications for the Brevard, Florida wage area (AC–061).
3. Survey Specifications for the Hillsborough, Florida wage area (AC–119).
4. Survey Specifications for the Miami-Dade, Florida wage area (AC–158).
5. Survey Specifications for the Duval, Florida wage area (AC–159).
6. Survey Specifications for the Monroe, Florida wage area (AC–160).

Reviewing survey results and/or survey specifications for the following Appropriated Fund areas:

7. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Boise, Idaho wage area (AC–045).

8. Any items needing further clarification from this agenda may be discussed during future scheduled meetings.

Closing Remarks by Chair, Mr. Eric Clayton.

September 17, 2024: Opening Remarks by Chair, Mr. Eric Clayton, and DFO, Mr. Karl Fendt.

Reviewing survey results and/or survey specifications for the following non-appropriated fund areas:

1. Any items needing further clarification or action from the previous meeting.

2. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Frederick, Maryland wage area (AC–088).

3. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Washington, District of Columbia wage area (AC–124).

4. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Alexandria-Arlington-Fairfax, Virginia wage area (AC–125).

5. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Prince William, Virginia wage area (AC–126).

6. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Prince George's-Montgomery, Maryland wage area (AC–127).

7. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Charles-St. Mary's, Maryland wage area (AC–128).

8. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Anne Arundel, Maryland wage area (AC–147).

9. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Burlington, New Jersey wage area (AC–071).

10. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Kent, Delaware wage area (AC–076).

11. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Richmond-Chesterfield, Virginia wage area (AC–082).

12. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Morris, New Jersey wage area (AC–090).

Reviewing survey results and/or survey specifications for the following Appropriated Fund areas:

13. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Alaska wage area (AC–007).

14. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Montana wage area (AC–083).

15. Wage Schedule (Full Scale) for the Charleston, South Carolina wage area (AC–119).

16. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Utah wage area (AC–139).

17. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Spokane, Washington wage area (AC–145).

18. Wage Schedule (Wage Change) for the Puerto Rico wage area (AC–151).

19. Special Pay—Puerto Rico Special Rates

20. Any items needing further clarification from this agenda may be discussed during future scheduled meetings.

Closing Remarks by Chair, Mr. Eric Clayton.

Meeting Accessibility: Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(4), the DoD has determined that the meetings shall be closed to the public. The USD(P&R), in consultation with the DoD Office of General Counsel, has determined in writing that each of these meetings is likely to disclose trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential.

Written Comments and Statements: Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 1009(a)(3) and 41 CFR 102–3.140, interested persons may submit written statements to the DFO for the DoDWC at any time. Written statements should be submitted to the DFO at the email or mailing address listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section. If statements pertain to a specific topic being discussed at a planned meeting, then these statements must be submitted no later than five (5) business days prior to the meeting in question. Written statements received after this date may not be provided to or considered by the DoDWC until its next meeting. The DFO will review all timely submitted written statements and provide copies to all the committee members before the meetings that are the subject of this notice.

Dated: June 20, 2024.

Aaron T. Siegel,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 2024–13964 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6001–FR–P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

Department of Defense Federal Advisory Committees—Education for Seapower Advisory Board

AGENCY: Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: Federal advisory committee renewal.

SUMMARY: The DoD is publishing this notice to announce that it is renewing the Education for Seapower Advisory Board (E4SAB).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jim Freeman, DoD Advisory Committee Management Officer, 703–692–5952.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The DoD is renewing the E4SAB in accordance with chapter 10 of title 5 United States Code (U.S.C.) (commonly known as the ''Federal Advisory Committee Act'' or ''FACA'')) and 41 CFR 102–3.50(d). The charter and contact information for the E4SAB's Designated Federal Officer (DFO) are found at *https://www.facadatabase.gov/FACA/apex/FACAPublicAgencyNavigation*.

The E4SAB provides the Secretary of Defense and the Deputy Secretary of Defense (''DoD Appointing Authority''), through the Secretary of the Navy, with independent advice and recommendations on matters relating to the Naval University System, and specifically, the U.S. Naval Community College, the Naval Postgraduate School, and the Naval War College. The E4SAB shall: (a) Provide advice on naval education strategy and implementation thereof; (b) provide advice on organizational management, curricula and methods of instruction, facilities, other issues of accreditation, and other matters of interest.

The E4SAB shall be composed of no more than 15 members appointed in accordance with DoD policies and procedures, who are imminent authorities in the fields of academia, business, national defense and security, the defense industry, and research and analysis. Not less than 50 percent of E4SAB members shall be eminent authorities in the field of academia. The Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Manpower, Personnel, Training and Education, the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Warfighting Development, and the Commanding General, U.S. Marine Corps Training and Education Command shall serve as ex-officio members of the Board, having voting rights and counting toward the E4SAB's total membership.

Individual members are appointed according to DoD policy and procedures, and serve a term of service of one-to-four years with annual renewals. One member will be appointed as Chair of the E4SAB. No member, unless approved according to DoD policy and procedures, may serve more than two consecutive terms of service on the E4SAB, or serve on more than two DoD Federal advisory committees at one time.

E4SAB members who are not full-time or permanent part-time Federal civilian officers or employees, or active duty members of the Uniformed Services, are appointed as experts or consultants, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3109, to serve as special government employee members. E4SAB members who are full-time or permanent part-time Federal civilian officers or employees, or active duty members of the Uniformed Services are appointed pursuant to 41 CFR 102–3.130(a), to serve as regular government employee members.

All E4SAB members are appointed to provide advice based on their best judgment without representing any particular point of view and in a manner that is free from conflict of interest. Except for reimbursement of official E4SAB-related travel and per diem, members serve without compensation.

The public or interested organizations may submit written statements about the E4SAB's mission and functions. Written statements may be submitted at any time or in response to the stated agenda of planned meeting of the E4SAB. All written statements shall be submitted to the DFO for the E4SAB, and this individual will ensure that the written statements are provided to the membership for their consideration.

Dated: June 20, 2024.

Aaron T. Siegel,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 2024–13962 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6001–FR–P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

[Docket ID: DoD–2024–OS–0038]

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller)/Chief Financial Officer, Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: 30-Day information collection notice.

SUMMARY: The DoD has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act.

DATES: Consideration will be given to all comments received by July 26, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to *www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain.* Find this particular information collection by selecting ''Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments'' or by using the search function.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Reginald Lucas, (571) 372–7574, *whs.mc-alex.esd.mbx.dd-dod-information-collections@mail.mil.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title; Associated Form; and OMB Number: Personal Check Cashing Agreement; DD Form 2761; OMB Control Number 0730–0005.

Type of Request: Extension.

Number of Respondents: 1,020.

Responses per Respondent: 1.

Annual Responses: 1,020.

Average Burden per Response: 15 minutes.

Annual Burden Hours: 255.

Needs and Uses: The information collection requirement is necessary to meet the DoD's requirement for cashing personal checks overseas and afloat by DoD disbursing activities, as provided in 31 United States Code 3342. The DoD Financial Management Regulation, Volume 5, provides guidance to DoD disbursing officers in the performance of this information collection. This allows the DoD disbursing officer or authorized agent the authority to offset the pay without prior notification in cases where this form has been signed subject to conditions specified within the approved procedures.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Frequency: On occasion.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

OMB Desk Officer: Ms. Jasmeet Seehra.

You may also submit comments and recommendations, identified by Docket ID number and title, by the following method:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov.* Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the agency name, Docket ID number, and title for this **Federal Register** document. The general policy for comments and other submissions from members of the public is to make these submissions available for public viewing on the internet at *http://www.regulations.gov* as they are received without change, including any personal identifiers or contact information.

DOD Clearance Officer: Mr. Reginald Lucas.

Requests for copies of the information collection proposal should be sent to Mr. Lucas at *whs.mc-alex.esd.mbx.dd-dod-information-collections@mail.mil.*

Dated: June 20, 2024.

Aaron T. Siegel,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 2024–14011 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6001–FR–P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

[Docket ID: DoD–2024–HA–0036]

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs (OASD(HA)), Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: 30-Day information collection notice.

SUMMARY: The DoD has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act.

DATES: Consideration will be given to all comments received by July 26, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to *www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain.* Find this particular information collection by selecting ''Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments'' or by using the search function.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Reginald Lucas, (571) 372–7574, *whs.mc-alex.esd.mbx.dd-dod-information-collections@mail.mil.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title; Associated Form; and OMB Number: TRICARE Plus Enrollment and Disenrollment Application Forms; DD Forms 2853 and 2854; OMB Control Number 0720–0028.

Type of Request: Revision.

Number of Respondents: 6,134.

Responses per Respondent: 1.

Annual Responses: 6,134.

Average Burden per Response: 7 minutes.

Annual Burden Hours: 716.

Needs and Uses: These collection instruments serve as an application for enrollment and disenrollment in the DoD's TRICARE Plus Health Plan established in accordance with Title 10 U.S.C. 1099. The information collected provides the TRICARE contractors with the necessary data to determine beneficiary eligibility and identify the selection of a health care option.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Frequency: On occasion.

Respondent's Obligation: Required to Obtain or Retain Benefits.

OMB Desk Officer: Mr. Matt Eliseo.

You may also submit comments and recommendations, identified by Docket

ID number and title, by the following method:

• *Federal eRulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov.* Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the agency name, Docket ID number, and title for this **Federal Register** document. The general policy for comments and other submissions from members of the public is to make these submissions available for public viewing on the internet at *http://www.regulations.gov* as they are received without change, including any personal identifiers or contact information.

DOD Clearance Officer: Mr. Reginald Lucas.

Requests for copies of the information collection proposal should be sent to Mr. Lucas at *whs.mc-alex.esd.mbx.dd-dod-information-collections@mail.mil.*

Dated: June 20, 2024.

Aaron T. Siegel,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 2024–14016 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6001–FR–P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

Defense Policy Board; Notice of Federal Advisory Committee Meeting

AGENCY: Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: Notice of Federal advisory committee meeting.

SUMMARY: The DoD is publishing this notice to announce the following Federal advisory committee meeting of the Defense Policy Board (DPB) will take place.

DATES: Closed to the public; Wednesday, June 26, 2024, from 8:50 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Closed to the public; Thursday, June 27, 2024, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The closed meeting will be held in the Rodman Conference Room, 3D852, at The Pentagon, 2000 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301–2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: James E. Benkowski, DPB Designated Federal Officer (DFO), 703–697–4758 (Voice), *james.e.benkowski2.civ@mail.mil* (Email). Mailing address is 2000 Defense Pentagon, Attn: 5E420, Washington, DC 20301–2000.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This meeting is being held under the provisions of chapter 10 of title 5, United States Code (U.S.C.) (commonly known as the ''Federal Advisory Committee Act'' or ''FACA''), 5 U.S.C. 552b (commonly known as the ''Government in the Sunshine Act''), and sections 102–3.140 and 102–3.150 of title 41, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR).

Due to circumstances beyond the control of the DFO and the DoD, the Defense Policy Board was unable to provide public notification required by 41 CFR 102–3.150(a) concerning its June 26–27, 2024 meeting. Accordingly, the Advisory Committee Management Officer for the DoD, pursuant to 41 CFR 102–3.150(b), waives the 15-calendar day notification requirement.

Purpose of the Meeting: To obtain, review, and evaluate classified information related to the DPB's mission to advise on: (a) issues central to strategic DoD planning; (b) policy implications of U.S. force structure and modernization on DoD's ability to execute U.S. defense strategy; (c) U.S. regional defense policies; and (d) other defense policy topics of special interest to the DoD, as determined by the Secretary of Defense, the Deputy Secretary of Defense, or the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy.

Agenda: On June 26 and 27, 2024, the DPB will receive classified briefings to evaluate DoD's readiness to execute a full or total mobilization in a protracted high-intensity conflict. James Benkowski, Designated Federal Office, will provide opening remarks; Ms. Amanda Dory, Acting Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, and Dr. Janine Davidson, Chair of the Defense Policy Board, will welcome the DPB and explain the meeting's key objectives; Ms. Madeline Mortelmans, Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense for Strategy Plans and Capabilities, and Ms. Rebecca Zimmerman, Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Hemispheric Affairs, will discuss DoD's planning for high-intensity protracted conflicts and associated mobilization readiness requirements; HON Mr. Lloyd James Austin III, Secretary of Defense, will provide a strategic overview of DoD's preparedness to execute a large-scale mobilization during a protracted high-intensity conflict; Ms. Shawn Skelly, Performing the Duties of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, will provide a briefing on DoD's approach to large-scale mobilization with a focus on personnel; HON Dr. William LaPlante will discuss DoD's ability to produce and sustain the materiel and equipment required by the Joint Force during a large-scale mobilization; Lieutenant General Jon Jensen, Acting Vice Chief of the National Guard Bureau and Director, Army National Guard, will discuss the requirements, plans, and policies for mobilizing the National Guard during a protracted high-intensity conflict; Lieutenant General Dagvin Anderson, Director for Joint Force Development, J7, will provide Joint Staff perspectives on DoD's readiness for large-scale mobilization; Vice Admiral Eugene Black III, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Operations, Plans, and Strategy, and Lieutenant General Patrick Matlock, Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army for Operations, Plans, and Training, will provide Service perspectives on large-scale mobilization planning and readiness; Admiral Samuel Paparo, Commander, U.S. Indo-Pacific Command, will discuss planning for, and expectations regarding, large-scale mobilization during a protracted high-intensity conflict; Dr. Janine Davidson, the DPB Chair, will then lead the DPB in discussions and deliberations on U.S. mobilization readiness. Day One will conclude. Day Two will begin with Dr. Janine Davidson, the DPB Chair, leading the DPB through discussions and deliberations on U.S. mobilization readiness; the DPB will then provide its advice and recommendations to Ms. Amanda Dory, Acting Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, after which the meeting will conclude.

Meeting Accessibility: In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 1009(d) and 41 CFR 102–3.155, the DoD has determined that this meeting shall be closed to the public. The Acting Under Secretary of Defense (Policy), in consultation with the DoD FACA Attorney, has determined in writing that this meeting is closed to the public because the discussions fall under the purview of 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(1) and are so inextricably intertwined with unclassified material that they cannot reasonably be segregated into separate discussions without disclosing classified material.

Written Statements: In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 1009(a)(3) and 41 CFR 102–3.105(j) and 102–3.140(c), the public or interested organizations may submit written statements to the membership of the DPB at any time regarding its mission or in response to the stated agenda of a planned meeting. Written statements should be submitted to the DPB's DFO, who's information is listed in this notice in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section or can be obtained from the GSA's FACA Database—*http://www.facadatabase.gov/.* Written statements that do not pertain to a scheduled meeting of the DPB may be submitted at any time. However, if

individual comments pertain to a specific topic being discussed at a planned meeting, then these statements must be submitted no later than one business day prior to the meeting in question. The DFO will review all submitted written statements and provide copies to all members.

Dated: June 20, 2024.

Aaron T. Siegel,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 2024–13959 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6001–FR–P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Applications for New Awards; Stronger Connections Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Grant Program

AGENCY: Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Education (Department) is issuing a notice inviting applications for fiscal year (FY) 2024 for new awards for the Stronger Connections Technical Assistance and Capacity Building (SCTAC) grant program.

DATES: Applications Available: June 26, 2024. Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: August 26, 2024. Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: October 24, 2024.

ADDRESSES: For the addresses for obtaining and submitting an application, please refer to our Common Instructions for Applicants to Department of Education Discretionary Grant Programs, published in the **Federal Register** on December 7, 2022 (87 FR 75045) and available at *www.federalregister.gov/documents/2022/12/07/2022-26554/common-instructions-for-applicants-to-department-of-education-discretionary-grant-programs*.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Hamed Negron-Perez, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW, Room 4B111, Washington, DC 20202–6132. Telephone: (202) 219–1674. *Email: SCTAC@ed.gov*.

If you are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability and wish to access telecommunications relay services, please dial 7–1–1.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Full Text of Announcement

I. Funding Opportunity Description

Purpose of Program: The purpose of the SCTAC grant program is to advance the mental health and well-being of early learners (as defined in this notice), school-age children and youth, and educators and other school staff, by making grants to State educational agencies (SEAs) to provide technical assistance and capacity building to high-need local educational agencies (LEAs) (as defined in this notice).

Assistance Listing Number (ALN): 84.424H.

OMB Control Number: 1894–0006.

Background: The Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA) allocated $1 billion in funding to States through the Stronger Connections Grant (SCG) program; SEAs, in turn, subgranted these funds competitively to high-need LEAs to design and enhance initiatives to promote safer, more inclusive, and positive school environments for all students, educators, and school staff including through personnel and programs to support student mental health.

The SCTAC grant program is being established with BSCA funds from the two percent reservation for technical assistance and capacity building under section 4103(a)(3) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended (ESEA). This funding is available to SEAs to provide technical assistance and capacity building services to high-need LEAs for evidence-based (as defined in 34 CFR 77.1) and culturally and linguistically inclusive programs and activities related to mental health and well-being for early learners, school-age children and youth, and educators and other school staff. We encourage SEAs receiving SCTAC funds to prioritize high-need LEAs that did not receive a Stronger Connections subgrant from the SEA for technical assistance and capacity building services under this program.

''Raise the Bar: Lead the World'' is the Department's call to action to transform education and unite around what works—based on decades of experience and research—to advance educational equity and excellence. As part of our Raise the Bar efforts to boldly improve learning conditions, the Department continues to invest in every student's mental health and well-being.

Recent studies show that children who experience unaddressed mental health issues are more likely to face challenges in school, such as being more likely to repeat a grade and experience chronic absenteeism, and less likely to graduate high school.[1] Amid the pandemic, data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) showed that 1 in 3 high school students experienced poor mental health, 1 in 6 adolescents experienced a major depressive episode, and 20 percent of teens seriously considered suicide.[2] The suicide rate among Black youth similarly is increasing faster than for any other race or ethnic group.[3] Of teens seriously considering suicide, rates are alarmingly high for LGBTQ students, with 45% of LGBTQ youth surveyed indicating they seriously considered attempting suicide in the past year.[4]

These data are consistent with research findings about the mental health and well-being of early learners as well. According to the CDC, 17.4 percent of children aged 2–8 years had a diagnosed mental, behavior, or developmental disorder.[5] This same report showed an increase to 22 percent for children living below 100 percent of the Federal poverty level.

Educators and other school staff are also facing mental health and well-being challenges. According to the Department's National Center for Education Statistics February 2024 School Pulse Panel, 91 percent of public school principals or vice principals reported some level of concern about the mental health of the teachers or staff at their school and 41 percent reported being ''moderately'' or ''extremely'' concerned about this issue.[6]

Educator mental health and well-being carry implications for educator retention, and thus downstream effects on student educational opportunity and achievement, making it a critical priority for States and LEAs. A recent study found that 23 percent of teachers

[1] Larson, S., Chapman, S., Spetz, J., & Brindis, C.D. Chronic childhood trauma, mental health, academic achievement, and school-based health center mental health services. J Sch Health. 2017; 87: 675–686. Retrieved from: *https://escholarship.org/content/qt6th2r852/qt6th2r852.pdf*.

[2] Youth Risk Behavior Survey: Data Summary and Trends Report. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention 2011–2021. Retrieved from: *https://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/data/yrbs/pdf/YRBS_Data-Summary-Trends_Report2023_508.pdf*.

[3] Akkas, Faranza, A. Corr. Black Adolescent Suicide Rate Reveals Urgent Need to Address Mental Health Care Barriers. April 2024. Retrieved from: *https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/articles/2024/04/22/black-adolescent-suicide-rate-reveals-urgent-need-to-address-mental-health-care-barriers*.

[4] *https://www.thetrevorproject.org/survey-2022/*.

[5] Cree, R.A., Bitsko, R.H., Robinson, L.R., et al. Health Care, Family, and Community Factors Associated with Mental, Behavioral, and Developmental Disorders and Poverty Among Children Aged 2–8 Years—United States, 2016. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep 2018;67:1377–1383. Retrieved from: *http:\\dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm6750a1*.

[6] U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, School Pulse Panel. February 2024. Retrieved from: *https://nces.ed.gov/surveys/spp/results.asp*.

said they were likely to leave their job by the end of the 2022–2023 school year and Black teachers, who are more likely to teach in under resourced schools without the necessary student and educator support, were significantly more likely to intend to leave than their peers.[7] The same study found that teachers who reported poor well-being as a reason for likely leaving their job were more likely than their counterparts to say that they intended to leave their job.

The SCTAC program is designed to build SEA capacity to address the particular needs of the high-need LEAs in their State. In responding to the areas identified in the absolute priority, we encourage projects that provide technical assistance and capacity building to high-need LEAs to address chronic absenteeism and increase student engagement and school belonging, for example, by implementing strong student connection and engagement activities or school climate improvement strategies. One evidence-based example that SEAs may consider, for example, is mentorship programs that focus on small-group counseling and help youth to build skills and competencies on choosing non-violent behaviors and using de-escalation and violence reduction strategies.[8] The Department is also interested in activities that enhance supportive services for youth impacted by community violence such as through trauma recovery, restorative practices, and community violence intervention and prevention strategies. For example, programs that use a trauma-informed approach to support social emotional wellbeing have been reported to decrease depression and increase self-confidence in participants.[9] When considering these different programs and activities, we encourage applicants to propose projects that include strategies specific to supporting young people, with a focus on those most historically underserved.[10]

Applicants may propose projects that also support the mental health, well-being, and academic development of early learners, for example, by providing technical assistance and capacity building services on how to remove barriers and increase access to social, emotional, and mental health supports; provide support to caregivers; strengthen family engagement activities; enhance home visits to encourage school and attendance readiness; and establish participatory approaches with families and community partners.[11]

We also welcome applications that propose to support educator mental health and well-being so that they are well positioned to support their students. For example, SEAs may consider proposing projects to better understand and address experiences, particularly in the school building, that impact educator mental health and well-being.

SEAs may also propose projects that provide technical assistance and capacity building to high-need LEAs on youth mental health programs that include peer-to-peer support programs, such as mental health ''first aid'' programs (as defined in this notice). Studies of youth mental health first aid have shown positive results in terms of providing youth peers, and adults who work closely with youth, the ability to recognize the signs, symptoms, and risk factors of mental health and substance use challenges.[12] Additionally, youth peer-to-peer support programs, such as peer counseling, youth mental health peer ambassadors, student-led clubs, and restorative justice programs, are additional promising practices. Broader studies of peer-to-peer programs show a variety of positive outcomes including reduced re-hospitalization rates, better quality of life outcomes, higher engagement rates, and improved whole health.[13]

These important activities can help high-need LEAs create safe, welcoming, and inclusive learning environments that support student mental health and wellbeing which is foundational to improving academic and other outcomes for all students.

This notice invites applications for SCTAC grants. The Department developed budget ranges for each potential applicant by ranking every State according to the State's share of their Stronger Connections Grant, Title IV, Part A funds (see the ''Award Information'' section of this notice for more information). SEAs should develop budgets that are appropriate to their proposed projects and consistent with the budget range established for their State. Department staff will review applications to determine if an SEA met the absolute priority, addressed the application requirements, and proposed a budget consistent with their State's established budget range. Peer reviewers will review applications to determine the extent to which applicants met the established selection criteria.

Priorities: This competition has one absolute priority. We are establishing this priority for this grant competition in accordance with section 437(d)(1) of the General Education Provisions Act (GEPA), 20 U.S.C. 1232(d)(1).

Absolute Priority: For FY 2024 and any subsequent year in which we make awards from the list of unfunded applications from this competition, this priority is an absolute priority. Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(3), we consider only applications that meet this priority.

This priority is:

Projects to provide technical assistance and capacity building to high-need LEAs to support inclusive, evidence-based programs and activities related to mental health and well-being for early learners, school-age children and youth, or educators and other school staff.

To meet this priority, applicants must propose a project that would provide technical assistance and capacity building to high-need LEAs to help them establish or expand evidence-based, inclusive practices in one or more of the following areas:

(a) Student attendance and engagement programs designed to reduce rates of chronic absenteeism and improve attendance, engagement, connectedness, and wellbeing that include, for example:

(1) Increasing family engagement and communication, including through a variety of approaches to communication, such as through the use of texting to share real-time data on attendance, to more targeted engagement, such as through home visits to identify additional student and family supports that might be needed;

(2) Improving school climate and implementing anti-bullying efforts;

(3) Providing student mentorship programs, such as student success coaches and mentors, and supportive peer groups;

[7] Doan, S., Steiner, E., Pandey, R., & Woo, A. (June 2023). Teacher Well-Being and Intentions to Leave: Findings from the 2023 State of the American Teacher Survey. Rand Corporation. Retrieved from: *https://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/research_reports/RRA1100/RRA1108-8/RAND_RRA1108-8.pdf*.

[8] Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Retrieved from: *https://www.cdc.gov/youth-violence/prevention/index.html*.

[9] *https://www.youth-guidance.org/wow/*.

[10] Center for Disease Control and Prevention. Retrieved from: *https://www.cdc.gov/vitalsigns/aces/index.html*.

[11] Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. Retrieved from: *https://www.samhsa.gov/early-childhood-mental-health-programs*.

[12] Research and Evaluation of Youth Mental Health First Aid. National Council for Mental Wellbeing. Retrieved from: *https://www.mentalhealthfirstaid.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/2024.01.05_YouthMHFA_Research-One-pager-1.pdf*.

[13] Evidence for Peer Support (2018). Mental Health America. Retrieved from: *https://www.mhanational.org/sites/default/files/Evidence%20for%20Peer%20Support%20May%202018.pdf*.

(4) Adopting early warning intervention systems and multi-tiered systems of support; and

(5) Establishing school and local educational agency attendance and engagement teams and providing them with real time and actionable data.

(b) Programs for early learners that support their mental health, well-being, and academic development through activities such as—

(1) Increasing access for early learners to social, emotional, and mental health supports, and reducing barriers to access for underserved students; and

(2) Building strong partnerships among parents, families, caregivers, social service organizations, mental health care personnel, personnel providing services to students served under section 619 of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and community-based organizations serving pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, and early grade students to improve the environment, relationships, engagement, attendance, and experiences that impact children's early development.

(c) Programs to improve educator and school staff mental health and wellbeing, so that these individuals may better support students and are more likely to remain in the profession, through activities such as—

(1) Developing methods, measurement tools, or interventions for high-need LEAs to understand, and to address the factors, including school-related factors, that impact educator mental health and well-being. This includes developing the methods and tools for disaggregating data by, for example, teacher race/ethnicity and years of experience), to get a complete understanding of the factors and who is impacted.

(2) Strengthening social, emotional, and behavioral competencies among adults;

(d) Peer-to-peer mental health or youth mental health programs supported by schools or qualified local organizations to reduce the impact of unaddressed mental health challenges such as those caused by exposure to community violence and to increase student belonging and connection, including, for example—

(1) Implementing peer-to-peer programs that raise awareness around core mental health concepts and destigmatize mental health care, provide training for students to identify protective [14] and risk factors related to mental health and well-being, and connect students to resources and professionals for additional support; and

(2) Implementing youth mental health first aid programs to train students on how to identify, understand, and respond to signs of common mental health and well-being challenges.

(e) Improving data collection, use, and reporting as it relates to implementation and performance management of an SEA's SCG program.

Definitions: The following definitions apply to the FY 2024 SCTAC grant program competition and any subsequent year in which we make awards from the list of unfunded applications for this competition.

We are establishing definitions of ''high-need LEA,'' ''early learner,'' and ''mental health first aid'' in accordance with section 437(d)(1) of GEPA, 20 U.S.C. 1232(d)(1). The definitions of ''local educational agency'' and ''State educational agency'' are from section 8101 of the ESEA (20 U.S.C. 7801). The definitions ''baseline,'' ''demonstrates a rationale,'' ''evidence-based,'' ''experimental study,'' ''logic model,'' ''moderate evidence,'' ''project component,'' ''quasi-experimental design study,'' ''relevant outcome,'' and ''What Works Clearinghouse Handbooks (WWC Handbooks)'' are from 34 CFR 77.1. These definitions apply to the FY 2024 SCTAC grant program competition and any subsequent year in which we make awards from the list of unfunded applications for this competition.

Baseline means the starting point from which performance is measured and targets are set.

Demonstrates a rationale means a key project component included in the project's logic model is informed by research or evaluation findings that suggest the project component is likely to improve relevant outcomes.

Early learner means any person from birth to age 8 who is eligible for a free public education in the State.

Evidence-based means the proposed project component is supported by one or more of strong evidence, moderate evidence, promising evidence, or evidence that demonstrates a rationale.

Experimental study means a study that is designed to compare outcomes between two groups of individuals (such as students) that are otherwise equivalent except for their assignment to either a treatment group receiving a project component or a control group that does not. Randomized controlled trials, regression discontinuity design studies, and single-case design studies are the specific types of experimental studies that, depending on their design and implementation (*e.g.,* sample attrition in randomized controlled trials and regression discontinuity design studies), can meet What Works Clearinghouse (WWC) standards without reservations as described in the WWC Handbooks (as defined in this notice):

(i) A randomized controlled trial employs random assignment of, for example, students, teachers, classrooms, or schools to receive the project component being evaluated (the treatment group) or not to receive the project component (the control group).

(ii) A regression discontinuity design study assigns the project component being evaluated using a measured variable (*e.g.,* assigning students reading below a cutoff score to tutoring or developmental education classes) and controls for that variable in the analysis of outcomes.

(iii) A single-case design study uses observations of a single case (*e.g.,* a student eligible for a behavioral intervention) over time in the absence and presence of a controlled treatment manipulation to determine whether the outcome is systematically related to the treatment.

High-need LEA has the meaning ascribed it by the SEA under its Stronger Connections Grant program.

Local educational agency means a public board of education or other public authority legally constituted within a State for either administrative control or direction of, or to perform a service function for, public elementary schools or secondary schools in a city, county, township, school district, or other political subdivision of a State, or of or for a combination of school districts or counties that is recognized in a State as an administrative agency for its public elementary schools or secondary schools.

(a) The term includes any other public institution or agency having administrative control and direction of a public elementary school or secondary school.

(b) The term includes an elementary or secondary school funded by the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) but only to the extent that including the school makes the school eligible for programs for which specific eligibility is not provided to the school in another provision of law and the school does not have a student population that is smaller than the student population of the LEA receiving assistance under the

[14] A characteristic at the biological, psychological, family, or community (including peers and culture) level that is associated with a lower likelihood of problem outcomes or that reduces the negative impact of a risk factor on problem outcomes. Retrieved from: *https://youth.gov/youth-topics/youth-mental-health/risk-and-protective-factors-youth*.

ESEA with the smallest student population, except that the school shall not be subject to the jurisdiction of any SEA other than the BIE.

(c) The term includes educational service agencies and consortia of those agencies.

(d) The term includes the SEA in a State in which the SEA is the sole educational agency for all public schools.

Logic model (also referred to as a theory of action) means a framework that identifies key project components of the proposed project (*i.e.,* the active ''ingredients'' that are hypothesized to be critical to achieving the relevant outcomes) and describes the theoretical and operational relationships among the key project components and relevant outcomes.

Mental health first aid means the skills needed to recognize and respond to signs and symptoms of mental health and substance use challenges and know how to connect individuals to additional resources, including professional help.

Moderate evidence means that there is evidence of effectiveness of a key project component in improving a relevant outcome for a sample that overlaps with the populations or settings proposed to receive that component, based on a relevant finding from one of the following:

(i) A practice guide prepared by the WWC using version 2.1, 3.0, 4.0, or 4.1 of the WWC Handbooks reporting a ''strong evidence base'' or ''moderate evidence base'' for the corresponding practice guide recommendation;

(ii) An intervention report prepared by the WWC using version 2.1, 3.0, 4.0, or 4.1 of the WWC Handbooks reporting a ''positive effect'' or ''potentially positive effect'' on a relevant outcome based on a ''medium to large'' extent of evidence, with no reporting of a ''negative effect'' or ''potentially negative effect'' on a relevant outcome; or

(iii) A single experimental study (as defined in this notice) or quasi-experimental design study (as defined in this notice) reviewed and reported by the WWC using version 2.1, 3.0, 4.0, or 4.1 of the WWC Handbooks, or otherwise assessed by the Department using version 4.1 of the WWC Handbook, as appropriate, and that—

(A) Meets WWC standards with or without reservations;

(B) Includes at least one statistically significant and positive (*i.e.,* favorable) effect on a relevant outcome;

(C) Includes no overriding statistically significant and negative effects on relevant outcomes reported in the study or in a corresponding WWC intervention report prepared under version 2.1, 3.0, 4.0, or 4.1 of the WWC Handbooks; and

(D) Is based on a sample from more than one site (*e.g.,* State, county, city, school district, or postsecondary campus) and includes at least 350 students or other individuals across sites. Multiple studies of the same project component that each meet requirements in paragraphs (iii)(A), (B), and (C) of this definition may together satisfy this requirement.

Project component means an activity, strategy, intervention, process, product, practice, or policy included in a project. Evidence may pertain to an individual project component or to a combination of project components (*e.g.,* training teachers on instructional practices for English learners and follow-on coaching for these teachers).

Promising evidence means that there is evidence of the effectiveness of a key project component in improving a relevant outcome, based on a relevant finding from one of the following:

(i) A practice guide prepared by WWC reporting a ''strong evidence base'' or ''moderate evidence base'' for the corresponding practice guide recommendation;

(ii) An intervention report prepared by the WWC reporting a ''positive effect'' or ''potentially positive effect'' on a relevant outcome with no reporting of a ''negative effect'' or ''potentially negative effect'' on a relevant outcome; or

(iii) A single study assessed by the Department, as appropriate, that—

(A) Is an experimental study, a quasi-experimental design study, or a well-designed and well-implemented correlational study with statistical controls for selection bias (*e.g.,* a study using regression methods to account for differences between a treatment group and a comparison group); and

(B) Includes at least one statistically significant and positive (*i.e.,* favorable) effect on a relevant outcome.

Quasi-experimental design study means a study using a design that attempts to approximate an experimental study by identifying a comparison group that is similar to the treatment group in important respects. This type of study, depending on design and implementation (*e.g.,* establishment of baseline equivalence of the groups being compared), can meet WWC standards with reservations, but cannot meet WWC standards without reservations, as described in the WWC Handbooks.

Relevant outcome means the student outcome(s) or other outcome(s) the key project component is designed to improve, consistent with the specific goals of the program.

State educational agency (SEA) means the agency primarily responsible for the State supervision of public elementary schools and secondary schools.

Strong evidence means that there is evidence of the effectiveness of a key project component in improving a relevant outcome for a sample that overlaps with the populations and settings proposed to receive that component, based on a relevant finding from one of the following:

(i) A practice guide prepared by the WWC using version 2.1, 3.0, 4.0, or 4.1 of the WWC Handbooks reporting a ''strong evidence base'' for the corresponding practice guide recommendation;

(ii) An intervention report prepared by the WWC using version 2.1, 3.0, 4.0, or 4.1 of the WWC Handbooks reporting a ''positive effect'' on a relevant outcome based on a ''medium to large'' extent of evidence, with no reporting of a ''negative effect'' or ''potentially negative effect'' on a relevant outcome; or

(iii) A single experimental study reviewed and reported by the WWC using version 2.1, 3.0, 4.0, or 4.1 of the WWC Handbooks, or otherwise assessed by the Department using version 4.1 of the WWC Handbooks, as appropriate, and that—

(A) Meets WWC standards without reservations;

(B) Includes at least one statistically significant and positive (*i.e.,* favorable) effect on a relevant outcome;

(C) Includes no overriding statistically significant and negative effects on relevant outcomes reported in the study or in a corresponding WWC intervention report prepared under version 2.1, 3.0, 4.0, or 4.1 of the WWC Handbooks; and

(D) Is based on a sample from more than one site (*e.g.,* State, county, city, school district, or postsecondary campus) and includes at least 350 students or other individuals across sites. Multiple studies of the same project component that each meet requirements in paragraphs (iii)(A), (B), and (C) of this definition may together satisfy the requirement in this paragraph (iii)(D).

What Works Clearinghouse Handbooks (WWC Handbooks) means the standards and procedures set forth in the WWC Standards Handbook, Versions 4.0 or 4.1, and WWC Procedures Handbook, Versions 4.0 or 4.1, or in the WWC Procedures and Standards Handbook, Version 3.0 or Version 2.1 (all incorporated by

reference, see § 77.2). Study findings eligible for review under WWC standards can meet WWC standards without reservations, meet WWC standards with reservations, or not meet WWC standards. WWC practice guides and intervention reports include findings from systematic reviews of evidence as described in the WWC Handbooks documentation.

Note: The What Works Clearinghouse Procedures and Standards Handbook (Version 4.1), as well as the more recent What Works Clearinghouse Handbooks released in August 2022 (Version 5.0), are available at *https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/Handbooks.*

Application Requirements: We are establishing the following application requirements for the FY 2024 grant competition and any subsequent year in which we make awards from the list of unfunded applications for this competition, in accordance with section 437(d)(1) of GEPA, 20 U.S.C. 1232(d)(1).

Applicants must include the following in their applications:

(1) A description of the criteria the SEA will use to identify the high-need LEAs that will receive technical assistance and capacity building services under this program.

(2) A plan (*i.e.,* description of key activities, milestones, timeline, resources, performance measures, and partnerships) for providing the proposed technical assistance and capacity building services to high-need LEAs.

(3) A plan for developing and disseminating the technical assistance and capacity building products and resources the SEA develops, as applicable.

Waiver of Proposed Rulemaking: Under the Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. 553), the Department generally offers interested parties the opportunity to comment on proposed priorities, requirements, and definitions. Section 437(d)(1) of GEPA, however, allows the Secretary to exempt from rulemaking requirements regulations governing the first grant competition under a new or substantially revised program authority. This is the first grant competition for this program under section 4103(a)(3) of the ESEA and therefore qualifies for this exemption. In order to ensure timely grant awards, the Secretary has decided to forgo public comment on the priority, requirements, and definitions under section 437(d)(1) of GEPA. These requirements and definitions will apply to the FY 2024 grant competition and any subsequent year in which we make awards from the list of unfunded applications from this competition.

Program Authority: Section 4103(a)(3) of the ESEA; Public Law 117–159 (enacted June 25, 2022), Bipartisan Safer Communities Act, Division B, Title II, School Improvement Programs.

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations in 34 CFR parts 75, 77, 79, 81, 82, 84, 97, 98, and 99. (b) The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement) in 2 CFR part 180, as adopted and amended as regulations of the Department in 2 CFR part 3485. (c) The Guidance for Federal Financial Assistance in 2 CFR part 200, as adopted and amended as regulations of the Department in 2 CFR part 3474.

Note: The Department will implement the provisions included in the OMB final rule, *OMB Guidance for Federal Financial Assistance,* which amends 2 CFR parts 25, 170, 175, 176, 180, 182, 183, 184, and 200, on October 1, 2024. Grant applicants that anticipate a performance period start date on or after October 1, 2024 should follow the provisions stated in the OMB Guidance for Federal Financial Assistance (89 FR 30046) when preparing an application. For more information about these updated regulations please visit: *https://www.cfo.gov/resources/uniform-guidance/.*

Note: The regulations in 34 CFR part 79 apply to all applicants except federally recognized Indian Tribes.

II. Award Information

Type of Award: Discretionary grants.

Available Funds: $10,930,000.

Project Period: Up to 36 months. Budgets should be developed for a single project period of up to 36 months.

Maximum Awards: An SEA may initially request no more than the maximum amount (as noted below in the designated category ranges) for its project period. If funds remain available after funding each successful applicant at its requested amount, the Department may, to the extent appropriate, increase the awards for successful applicants. If available funds are insufficient to fully award each successful applicant at its requested amount, the Department will ratably reduce the awards for all successful applicants. The budget ranges are as follows:

Category 1—$500,000–$1,000,000: California, Texas, New York, Florida.

Category 2—$250,000–$500,000: Illinois, Pennsylvania, Georgia, Ohio, North Carolina, Michigan, New Jersey.

Category 3—$120,000–250,000: Arizona, Louisiana, Tennessee, Virginia, Maryland, South Carolina, Alabama, Kentucky, Indiana, Washington, Missouri, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Wisconsin, Oklahoma.

Category 4—$60,000–$150,000: Arkansas, Minnesota, Colorado, Nevada, Connecticut, Oregon, New Mexico, Kansas, Iowa, West Virginia.

Category 5—$50,000–$100,000: Alaska, Delaware, Hawaii, Idaho, Maine, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Utah, Vermont, Wyoming, Bureau of Indian Education, District of Columbia, Puerto Rico.

Category 6—$25,000–$50,000: The Outlying Areas of Guam, American Samoa, the Northern Mariana Islands, the United States Virgin Islands.

III. Eligibility Information

1. *Eligible Applicants:* SEAs, as defined in 20 U.S.C. 7801(49); and the Bureau of Indian Education. (Section 437(d)(1) of GEPA)

2. a. *Cost Sharing or Matching:* This program does not require cost sharing or matching.

b. *Supplement-Not-Supplant:* This competition involves supplement-not-supplant funding requirements. Grantees must use SCTAC funds to supplement, and not supplant, other non-Federal funds that would otherwise be used to pay for activities authorized under the SCTAC program.

c. *Indirect Cost Rate Information:* This program uses a restricted indirect cost rate. For more information regarding indirect costs, or to obtain a negotiated indirect cost rate, please see *www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocfo/intro.html.*

d. *Administrative Cost Limitation:* This program does not include any program-specific limitation on administrative expenses. All administrative expenses must be reasonable and necessary and conform to Cost Principles described in 2 CFR part 200 subpart E of the Uniform Guidance.

3. *Subgrantees:* A grantee under this competition may not award subgrants to entities to directly carry out project activities described in its application.

4. *Equitable Services:* (a) Grantees must ensure that equitable services are provided to eligible students and teachers in non-public schools as required under section 8501 of the ESEA, including through timely and meaningful consultation with representatives of non-public schools.

(b) The SEA must ensure that a public agency will maintain control of SCTAC funds used to provide services and assistance to non-public school students and teachers.

(c) The SEA must ensure that a public agency will have title to materials,

equipment, and property purchased with SCTAC funds.

(d) The SEA must ensure that services to non-public school students and teachers with SCTAC funds will be provided by a public agency directly, or through contract with, another public or private entity.

Note: This section (4) is not applicable to the BIE.

5. *Funding Restrictions:* We reference regulations outlining funding restrictions in the *Applicable Regulations* section of this notice. In addition, we remind applicants that sections 4001(a) and 4001(b) of the ESEA (20 U.S.C. 7101) apply to this program. Section 4001(a) requires entities receiving funds under this program to obtain prior, written, informed consent from the parent of each child who is under 18 years of age to participate in any mental-health assessment or service that is funded under this program and conducted in connection with an elementary or secondary school. Section 4001(b) prohibits the use of funds for medical services or drug treatment or rehabilitation, except for integrated student supports, specialized instructional support services, or referral to treatment for impacted students, which may include students who are victims of, or witnesses to, crime or who illegally use drugs. This prohibition does not preclude the use of funds to support mental health counseling and support services, including those provided by a mental health services provider outside of school, so long as such services are not medical.

IV. Submission Information

1. *Application Submission Instructions:* Applicants are required to follow the Common Instructions for Applicants to Department of Education Discretionary Grant Programs, published in the **Federal Register** on December 7, 2022 (87 FR 75045) and available at *https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2022/12/07/2022-26554/common-instructions-for-applicants-to-department-of-education-discretionary-grant-programs,* which contain requirements and information on how to submit an application.

2. *Intergovernmental Review:* This program is subject to Executive Order 12372 and the regulations in 34 CFR part 79. Information about Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs under Executive Order 12372 is in the application package for this competition.

3. *Recommended Page Limit:* The project narrative is where you, the applicant, address the absolute priority and application requirements. We recommend that you (1) limit the application narrative to the equivalent of no more than 10 pages and (2) use the following standards:

- A ''page'' is 8.5″ × 11″, on one side only, with 1″ margins at the top, bottom, and both sides.
- Double space (no more than three lines per vertical inch) all text in the application narrative, including titles, headings, footnotes, quotations, references, and captions, as well as all text in charts, tables, figures, and graphs.
- Use a font that is either 12 point or larger or no smaller than 10 pitch (characters per inch).
- Use one of the following fonts: Times New Roman, Courier, Courier New, or Arial.

The recommended page limit applies to the project narrative.

V. Application Review Information

1. *Selection Criteria:* The selection criteria for this program are from 34 CFR 75.210. The maximum score for all selection criteria is 100 points. The points assigned to each criterion are indicated in parentheses. Non-Federal peer reviewers will evaluate and score each application program narrative against the following selection criteria:

(a) Quality of the project design (up to 60 points)

The Secretary considers the quality of the design of the proposed project. In determining the quality of the design of the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(1) The extent to which the goals, objectives, and outcomes to be achieved by the proposed project are clearly specified and measurable. (Up to 30 points)

(2) The extent to which the design of the proposed project is appropriate to, and will successfully address, the needs of the target population or other identified needs. (Up to 30 points)

(b) Quality of the management plan (Up to 30 points)

The Secretary considers the quality of the management plan for the proposed project. In determining the quality of the management plan for the proposed project, the Secretary considers the adequacy of the management plan to achieve the objectives of the proposed project on time and within budget, including clearly defined responsibilities, timelines, and milestones for accomplishing project tasks.

(c) *Adequacy of resources* (Up to 10 points)

The Secretary considers the adequacy of the resources for the proposed project. In determining the adequacy of resources for the proposed project, the Secretary considers the potential for continued support of the project after Federal funding ends, including, as appropriate, the demonstrated commitment of appropriate entities to such support.

2. *Review and Selection Process:* Non-Federal peer reviewers will review applications to determine the extent to which the applications address the selection criteria.

We remind potential applicants that, in reviewing applications in any discretionary grant competition, the Secretary may consider, under 34 CFR 75.217(d)(3), the past performance of the applicant in carrying out a previous award, such as the applicant's use of funds, achievement of project objectives, and compliance with grant conditions. The Secretary may also consider whether the applicant failed to submit a timely performance report or submitted a report of unacceptable quality.

In addition, in making a competitive grant award, the Secretary requires various assurances including those applicable to Federal civil rights laws that prohibit discrimination in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance from the Department (34 CFR 100.4, 104.5, 106.4, 108.8, and 110.23).

3. *Risk Assessment and Specific Conditions:* Consistent with 2 CFR 200.205, before awarding grants under this program, the Department conducts a review of the risks posed by applicants. Under 2 CFR 3474.10, the Secretary may impose specific conditions, and, in appropriate circumstances, high-risk conditions on a grant if the applicant or grantee is not financially stable; has a history of unsatisfactory performance; has a financial or other management system that does not meet the standards in 2 CFR part 200, subpart D; has not fulfilled the conditions of a prior grant; or is otherwise not responsible.

4. *Integrity and Performance System:* If you receive an award under this grant program that, over the course of the project period, may exceed the simplified acquisition threshold (currently $250,000), under 2 CFR 200.205(a)(2), we must make a judgment about your integrity, business ethics, and record of performance under Federal awards—that is, the risk posed by you as an applicant—before we make an award. In doing so, we must consider any information about you that is in the

integrity and performance system (currently referred to as the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System (FAPIIS)), accessible through the System for Award Management. You may review and comment on any information about yourself that a Federal agency previously entered and that is currently in FAPIIS.

Please note that, if the total value of your currently active grants, cooperative agreements, and procurement contracts from the Federal Government exceeds $10,000,000, the reporting requirements in 2 CFR part 200, Appendix XII, require you to report certain integrity information to FAPIIS semiannually. Please review the requirements in 2 CFR part 200, Appendix XII, if this grant plus all the other Federal funds you receive exceed $10,000,000.

5. *In General:* In accordance with the Guidance for Federal Financial Assistance located at 2 CFR part 200, all applicable Federal laws, and relevant Executive guidance, the Department will review and consider applications for funding pursuant to this notice inviting applications in accordance with:

(a) Selecting recipients most likely to be successful in delivering results based on the program objectives through an objective process of evaluating Federal award applications (2 CFR 200.205);

(b) Prohibiting the purchase of certain telecommunication and video surveillance services or equipment in alignment with section 889 of the National Defense Authorization Act of 2019 (Pub. L. 115–232) (2 CFR 200.216);

(c) Providing a preference, to the extent permitted by law, to maximize use of goods, products, and materials produced in the United States (2 CFR 200.322); and

(d) Terminating agreements in whole or in part to the greatest extent authorized by law if an award no longer effectuates the program goals or agency priorities (2 CFR 200.340).

VI. Award Administration Information

1. *Award Notices:* If your application is successful, we notify your U.S. Representative and U.S. Senators and send you a Grant Award Notification (GAN), or we may send you an email containing a link to access an electronic version of your GAN. We also may notify you informally.

If your application is not evaluated or not selected for funding, we notify you.

2. *Administrative and National Policy Requirements:* We identify administrative and national policy requirements in the application package and reference these and other requirements in the *Applicable Regulations* section of this notice. We reference the regulations outlining the terms and conditions of a grant in the *Applicable Regulations* section of this notice. The Grant Award Notification (GAN) also incorporates your approved application as part of your binding commitments under the grant.

3. *Reporting:* (a) If you apply for a grant under this competition, you must ensure that you have in place the necessary processes and systems to comply with the reporting requirements in 2 CFR part 170 should you receive funding. This does not apply if you have an exception under 2 CFR 170.110(b).

(b) At the end of your project period, you must submit a final performance report, including financial information, as directed by the Secretary. The Secretary may also require more frequent performance reports under 34 CFR 75.720(c). For specific requirements on reporting, please go to *www.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/appforms/appforms.html.*

4. *Performance Measures:* For the purpose of Department reporting under 34 CFR 75.110, we have established the following performance measures for the SCTAC grant program:

(a) The number of technical assistance and capacity-building services provided to assist high-need LEAs.

(b) The number and percentage of high-need LEAs reporting that the technical assistance provided was high-quality, relevant, and useful.

(c) The number and percentage of high-need LEAs reporting an increase in capacity as a result of technical assistance and capacity building services provided.

These measures constitute the Department's indicators of success for this program. Consequently, we advise an applicant for a grant under this program to consider these measures in conceptualizing the approach and evaluation for its proposed project. Each grantee must provide, in its performance reports, data about its progress in meeting these measures.

Consistent with 34 CFR 75.591, grantees funded under this program must comply with the requirements of any evaluation of the program conducted by the Department or an evaluator selected by the Department.

VII. Other Information

Accessible Format: On request to the program contact person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**, individuals with disabilities can obtain this document and a copy of the application package in an accessible format. The Department will provide the requestor with an accessible format that may include Rich Text Format (RTF) or text format (txt), a thumb drive, an MP3 file, braille, large print, audiotape, compact disc, or other accessible format.

Electronic Access to This Document: The official version of this document is the document published in the **Federal Register**. You may access the official edition of the **Federal Register** and the Code of Federal Regulations at *www.govinfo.gov.* At this site, you can view this document, as well as all other Department documents published in the **Federal Register**, in text or PDF. To use PDF, you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at the site.

You may also access Department documents published in the **Federal Register** by using the article search feature at *www.federalregister.gov.* Specifically, through the advanced search feature at this site, you can limit your search to documents published by the Department.

Adam Schott,

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and Programs, Delegated the Authority to Perform the Functions and Duties of the Assistant Secretary, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education.

[FR Doc. 2024–14000 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Reopening; Applications for New Awards; Personnel Development To Improve Services and Results for Children With Disabilities—National Center on Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities, and Other Minority Serving Institutions To Diversify the Workforce Serving Children With Disabilities

AGENCY: Office of Special Education Programs, Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: On March 19, 2024, we published in the **Federal Register** a notice inviting applications (NIA) for the fiscal year (FY) 2024 National Center on Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities, and Other Minority Serving Institutions to Diversify the Workforce Serving Children with Disabilities competition. The NIA established a deadline of May 15, 2024, for the transmittal of applications. This notice reopens the competition until August 12, 2024 and extends the date of intergovernmental review until August 26, 2024.

DATES:

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: August 12, 2024.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: August 26, 2024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tracie Dickson, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW, Room 4A10, Washington, DC 20202. Telephone: (202) 987–0145. Email: *tracie.dickson@ed.gov.*

If you are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability and wish to access telecommunications relay services, please dial 7–1–1.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

On March 19, 2024, we published in the **Federal Register** (89 FR 19572) the NIA for the National Center on Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities, and Other Minority Serving Institutions to Diversify the Workforce Serving Children with Disabilities. Under the NIA, applications were due on May 15, 2024. No applications received in response to the NIA were funded because the applicants did not adequately address the selection criteria for the competition and did not have the necessary partners in place to adequately carryout the technical assistance described in the NIA. Therefore, we are reopening the competition to allow applicants to submit or resubmit applications that meet the requirements in the NIA, in order to ensure that Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities, and other Minority Serving Institutions that offer high-quality degree or certification programs in early intervention, early childhood special education, special education, or related services receive the technical assistance necessary to implement high-quality personnel preparation programs.

OSEP will host a virtual office hours session for interested applicants in early July. Please see *https://www2.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/osep/new-osep-grants.html* for the pre-recorded webinar and further information on the office hours.

Applicants that have already submitted applications under the FY 2024 competition are encouraged to review their applications and determine whether they have met all eligibility requirements and adequately addressed the selection criteria in the NIA and the application package, which is available at *www.grants.gov.*

Applications that were previously submitted for this competition, including those deemed ineligible for review, must be resubmitted to be considered for review.

Eligibility: The extended application deadline applies to all eligible applicants under the National Center on Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities, and Other Minority Serving Institutions to Diversify the Workforce Serving Children with Disabilities competition. An eligible applicant for this competition is defined in the NIA.

Note: All information in the NIA remains the same, except for the extended date for the transmittal of applications and the deadline for intergovernmental review.

Assistance Listing Number: 84.325B.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1462 and 1481.

Accessible Format: On request to the program contact person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**, individuals with disabilities can obtain this document, the NIA, and a copy of the application package in an accessible format. The Department will provide the requestor with an accessible format that may include Rich Text Format (RTF) or text format (txt), a thumb drive, an MP3 file, braille, large print, audiotape, compact disc, or other accessible format.

Electronic Access to This Document: The official version of this document is the document published in the **Federal Register**. You may access the official edition of the **Federal Register** and the Code of Federal Regulations at *www.govinfo.gov.* At this site you can view this document, as well as all other Department documents published in the **Federal Register**, in text or Portable Document Format (PDF). To use PDF you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at the site.

You may also access Department documents published in the **Federal Register** by using the article search feature at *www.federalregister.gov.* Specifically, through the advanced search feature at this site, you can limit your search to documents published by the Department.

Glenna Wright-Gallo,

Assistant Secretary, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

[FR Doc. 2024–13966 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Agency Information Collection Extension

AGENCY: Office of Science, Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy (DOE) invites public comment on a proposed collection of certain information that DOE is developing for submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, Federal agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed new collection, and allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice.

DATES: Comments regarding this proposed information collection must be received on or before August 26, 2024. If you anticipate any difficulty in submitting comments within that period, contact the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section as soon as possible.

ADDRESSES: Written comments may be sent to the Office of Workforce Development for Teachers and Scientists (WDTS), U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20585, or by email at *sc.wdts@science.doe.gov.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ping Ge, Office of Workforce Development for Teachers and Scientists (WDTS), U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20585; (202) 287–6490; *sc.wdts@science.doe.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA of 1995 (Pub. L. 104–13; 44 U.S.C. 3501–3521), Federal agencies must obtain approval from OMB for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. This request for comment is being made pursuant to section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA. With respect to the following collection of information, DOE invites comments on: (a) Whether the extended collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

This information collection request contains:

(1) *OMB No.:* 1910–NEW.

(2) *Information Collection Request Title:* Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Science (SC) Reaching a New Energy Sciences Workforce (RENEW) Longer-Term Follow-up Study.

(3) *Type of Request:* New.

(4) *Purpose:* The SC RENEW Longer-Term Follow-up Study will examine the longer-term impact of RENEW investment on participants' educational and career outcomes. This will allow for portfolio development based on longer-term program outcomes. Respondents will be RENEW participants.

(5) *Annual Estimated Number of Respondents:* 460.

(6) *Annual Estimated Number of Total Responses:* 184.

(7) *Annual Estimated Number of Burden Hours:* 92.

(8) *Annual Estimated Reporting and Recordkeeping Cost Burden:* $2760.

Statutory Authority

Section 646 of Public Law 95–91, U.S. Department of Energy Organization Act; section 901, *et seq.* of Public Law 109–58, Energy Policy Act of 2005.

Signing Authority

This document of the Department of Energy was signed on June 21, 2024, by Harriet Kung, Acting Director, Office of Science, pursuant to delegated authority from the Secretary of Energy. The document with the original signature and date is maintained by DOE. For administrative purposes only, and in compliance with requirements of the Office of the Federal Register, the undersigned DOE Federal Register Liaison Officer has been authorized to sign and submit the document in electronic format for publication, as an official document of the Department of Energy. This administrative process in no way alters the legal effect of this document upon publication in the **Federal Register**.

Signed in Washington, DC, on June 21, 2024.

Treena V. Garrett,

Federal Register Liaison Officer, U.S. Department of Energy.

[FR Doc. 2024–13996 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 8377–030]

Isabella Partners; Notice of Application for Capacity Amendment Accepted for Filing, Soliciting Comments, Motions To Intervene, Protests, Recommendations, Terms and Conditions, and Fishway Prescriptions

Take notice that the following hydroelectric application has been filed with the Commission and is available for public inspection:

a. *Application Type:* Capacity Amendment.

b. *Project No:* 8377–030.

c. *Date Filed:* February 20, 2024.

d. *Applicant:* Isabella Partners.

e. *Name of Project:* Isabella Hydroelectric Project.

f. *Location:* The project is located on the Kern River in Kern County, California at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps)' Isabella Dam on lands administered by the Corps of Engineers.

g. *Filed Pursuant to:* Federal Power Act, 16 U.S.C. 791a–825r.

h. *Applicant Contact:* Ben Singer, P.O. Box 1136, Bozeman, MT 59771, *ben@hydrodynamics.biz,* and 406–763–4063.

i. *FERC Contact:* Zeena Aljibury, (202) 502–6065, *zeena.aljibury@ferc.gov.*

j. *Cooperating agencies:* With this notice, the Commission is inviting Federal, State, local, and Tribal agencies with jurisdiction and/or special expertise with respect to environmental issues affected by the proposal, that wish to cooperate in the preparation of any environmental document, if applicable, to follow the instructions for filing such requests described in item l below. Cooperating agencies should note the Commission's policy that agencies that cooperate in the preparation of any environmental document cannot also intervene. *See* 94 FERC ¶ 61,076 (2001).

k. *Water Quality Certification:* The applicant submitted an application for water quality certification (WQC) on February 13, 2023 to the California State Water Resources Control Board (California SWRCB). California SWRCB issued a WQC on February 12, 2024, which is included in the amendment application.

l. *Deadline for filing comments, motions to intervene, and protests:* July 18, 2024.

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filing. Please file comments, motions to intervene, and protests using the Commission's eFiling system at *http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling.asp.* Commenters can submit brief comments up to 6,000 characters, without prior registration, using the eComment system at *http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/ecomment.asp.* For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at *FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov,* (866) 208–3676 (toll free), or (202) 502–8659 (TTY). In lieu of electronic filing, you may submit a paper copy. Submissions sent via the U.S. Postal Service must be addressed to: Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Acting Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426. Submissions sent via any other carrier must be addressed to: Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Acting Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, MD 20852. The first page of any filing should include the docket number P–8377–030. Comments emailed to Commission staff are not considered part of the Commission record.

The Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure require all intervenors filing documents with the Commission to serve a copy of that document on each person whose name appears on the official service list for the project. Further, if an intervenor files comments or documents with the Commission relating to the merits of an issue that may affect the responsibilities of a particular resource agency, they must also serve a copy of the document on that resource agency.

m. *Description of Request:* Isabella Partners requests approval for a capacity amendment to the license for the Isabella Hydroelectric Project. Isabella Partners proposes to construct and operate a new 5-megawatt (MW) generating unit which would be located in a new 40-foot-by-45-foot concrete structure adjacent to the existing powerhouse. This would result in an increase of the installed capacity from 12.8 MW to 17.8 MW. Currently, flows greater than the 100 cubic feet per second (cfs) capacity of Unit 3 and less than the 500 cfs minimum operating range of Units 1 and 2 are discharged through the existing bypass channel. The proposed 5–MW addition (Unit 4) would allow Isabella Partners to generate power at flows between 100 and 500 cfs. Water released from the proposed unit would be discharged through the existing tailrace. Isabella Partners would continue to operate the Project under the 1993 Army Corps of Engineers Memorandum of Agreement and there would be no changes in water releases to the Kern River as a result of the proposed action.

n. *Locations of the Application:* This filing may be viewed on the Commission's website at *http://www.ferc.gov* using the ''eLibrary'' link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. You may also register online at *http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp* to be notified via email of new filings and issuances related to this or other pending projects. For assistance, call 1–866–208–3676 or email *FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov,* for TTY, call (202) 502–8659. Agencies may obtain copies of the application directly from the applicant.

o. Individuals desiring to be included on the Commission's mailing list should so indicate by writing to the Secretary of the Commission.

p. *Comments, Protests, or Motions to Intervene:* Anyone may submit comments, a protest, or a motion to intervene in accordance with the requirements of Rules of Practice and Procedure, 18 CFR 385.210, .211, .214, respectively. In determining the appropriate action to take, the Commission will consider all protests or other comments filed, but only those who file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules may become a party to the proceeding. Any comments, protests, or motions to intervene must be received on or before the specified comment date for the particular application.

q. *Filing and Service of Documents:* Any filing must (1) bear in all capital letters the title ''COMMENTS'', ''PROTEST'', or ''MOTION TO INTERVENE'', ''TERMS AND CONDITIONS'', OR ''FISHWAY PRESCRIPTIONS'', as applicable; (2) set forth in the heading the name of the applicant and the project number of the application to which the filing responds; (3) furnish the name, address, and telephone number of the person commenting, protesting or intervening; and (4) otherwise comply with the requirements of 18 CFR 385.2001 through 385.2005. All comments, motions to intervene, or protests must set forth their evidentiary basis and otherwise comply with the requirements of 18 CFR 4.34(b). All comments, motions to intervene, or protests should relate to project works which are the subject of the amendment. Agencies may obtain copies of the application directly from the applicant. A copy of any protest or motion to intervene must be served upon each representative of the applicant specified in the particular application. If an intervener files comments or documents with the Commission relating to the merits of an issue that may affect the responsibilities of a particular resource agency, they must also serve a copy of the document on that resource agency. A copy of all other filings in reference to this application must be accompanied by proof of service on all persons listed in the service list prepared by the Commission in this proceeding, in accordance with 18 CFR 4.34(b) and 385.2010.

r. The Commission's Office of Public Participation (OPP) supports meaningful public engagement and participation in Commission proceedings. OPP can help members of the public, including landowners, environmental justice communities, Tribal members and others, access publicly available information and navigate Commission processes. For public inquiries and assistance with making filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, the public is encouraged to contact OPP at (202) 502–6595 or *OPP@ferc.gov.*

Dated: June 18, 2024.

Debbie-Anne A. Reese,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2024–13930 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RM98–1–000]

Records Governing Off-the-Record Communications; Public Notice

This constitutes notice, in accordance with 18 CFR 385.2201(b), of the receipt of prohibited and exempt off-the-record communications.

Order No. 607 (64 FR 51222, September 22, 1999) requires Commission decisional employees, who make or receive a prohibited or exempt off-the-record communication relevant to the merits of a contested proceeding, to deliver to the Secretary of the Commission, a copy of the communication, if written, or a summary of the substance of any oral communication.

Prohibited communications are included in a public, non-decisional file associated with, but not a part of, the decisional record of the proceeding. Unless the Commission determines that the prohibited communication and any responses thereto should become a part of the decisional record, the prohibited off-the-record communication will not be considered by the Commission in reaching its decision. Parties to a proceeding may seek the opportunity to respond to any facts or contentions made in a prohibited off-the-record communication and may request that the Commission place the prohibited communication and responses thereto in the decisional record. The Commission will grant such a request only when it determines that fairness so requires. Any person identified below as having made a prohibited off-the-record communication shall serve the document on all parties listed on the official service list for the applicable proceeding in accordance with Rule 2010, 18 CFR 385.2010.

Exempt off-the-record communications are included in the decisional record of the proceeding, unless the communication was with a cooperating agency as described by 40 CFR 1501.6, made under 18 CFR 385.2201(e)(1)(v).

The following is a list of off-the-record communications recently received by the Secretary of the Commission. Each filing may be viewed on the Commission's website at *http://www.ferc.gov* using the eLibrary link. Enter the docket number, excluding the last three digits, in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at *FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov* or toll free at (866) 208–3676, or for TTY, contact (202) 502–8659.

Docket Nos.	File date	Presenter or requester
Prohibited:		
NONE.		
Exempt:		
1. P–1889–000, P–2485–000	6–5–2024	U.S. Congress.[1]
2. P–1889–000, P–2485–000	6–5–2024	Commonwealth of Massachusetts.[2]
3. CP22–2–000	6–17–2024	FERC Staff.[3]

Dated: June 18, 2024.

Debbie-Anne A. Reese,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2024–13928 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Combined Notice of Filings

Take notice that the Commission has received the following Natural Gas Pipeline Rate and Refund Report filings:

Filings Instituting Proceedings

Docket Numbers: RP24–661–000.

Applicants: Stingray Pipeline Company, L.L.C.

Description: Response to 06/13/2024 Data Request of Stingray Pipeline Company, L.L.C.

Filed Date: 6/20/24.

Accession Number: 20240620–5173.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 7/2/24.

Docket Numbers: RP24–832–000.

Applicants: Texas Eastern Transmission, LP.

Description: 4(d) Rate Filing: GT&C Section 14 Modification—eff 7–18–24 to be effective 7/18/2024.

Filed Date: 6/18/24.

Accession Number: 20240618–5089.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 7/1/24.

Docket Numbers: RP24–833–000.

Applicants: Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC.

Description: 4(d) Rate Filing: Negotiated Rate Agreement—6/21/2024 to be effective 6/21/2024.

Filed Date: 6/20/24.

Accession Number: 20240620–5205.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 7/2/24.

Any person desiring to intervene, to protest, or to answer a complaint in any of the above proceedings must file in accordance with Rules 211, 214, or 206 of the Commission's Regulations (18 CFR 385.211, 385.214, or 385.206) on or before 5:00 p.m. Eastern time on the specified comment date. Protests may be considered, but intervention is necessary to become a party to the proceeding.

Filings in Existing Proceedings

Docket Numbers: PR24–50–001.

Applicants: BBT Mississippi, LLC.

Description: 284.123(g) Rate Filing: BBT Mississippi Amended SOC Filing to be effective 2/1/2024.

Filed Date: 6/18/24.

Accession Number: 20240618–5072.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 6/25/24.

Docket Numbers: PR24–71–001.

Applicants: Bridgeline Holdings, L.P.

Description: Amendment Filing: Amendment to 50 to be effective 6/1/2024.

Filed Date: 6/20/24.

Accession Number: 20240620–5133.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 7/15/24.

Any person desiring to protest in any to the above proceedings must file in accordance with Rule 211 of the Commission's Regulations (18 CFR 385.211) on or before 5:00 p.m. Eastern time on the specified comment date.

The filings are accessible in the Commission's eLibrary system (*https://elibrary.ferc.gov/idmws/search/fercgensearch.asp*) by querying the docket number.

eFiling is encouraged. More detailed information relating to filing requirements, interventions, protests, service, and qualifying facilities filings can be found at: *http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling/filing-req.pdf.* For other information, call (866) 208–3676 (toll free). For TTY, call (202) 502–8659.

The Commission's Office of Public Participation (OPP) supports meaningful public engagement and participation in Commission proceedings. OPP can help members of the public, including landowners, environmental justice communities, Tribal members and others, access publicly available information and navigate Commission processes. For public inquiries and assistance with making filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, the public is encouraged to contact OPP at (202) 502–6595 or *OPP@ferc.gov.*

Dated: June 20, 2024.

Debbie-Anne A. Reese,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2024–14050 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2674–037]

Green Mountain Power Corporation; Notice of Intent To File License Application, Filing of Pre-Application Document (PAD), Commencement of Pre-Filing Process, and Scoping; Request for Comments on the PAD and Scoping Document, and Identification of Issues and Associated Study Requests

a. *Type of Filing:* Notice of Intent to File License Application for a New License and Commencing Pre-filing Process.

b. *Project No.:* 2674–037.

c. *Date Filed:* May 1, 2024.

d. *Submitted By:* Green Mountain Power Corporation (GMP).

e. *Name of Project:* Vergennes Hydroelectric Project.

f. *Location:* The project is located on Otter Creek in the City of Vergennes in Addison County, Vermont.

g. *Filed Pursuant to:* 18 CFR part 5 of the Commission's Regulations.

h. *Applicant Contact:* John Tedesco, Generation Project Coordinator, Green Mountain Power Corporation, 163 Acorn Lane, Colchester, VT 05446; telephone at (802) 655–8753; email at *John.Tedesco@greenmountainpower.com.*

i. *FERC Contact:* Taconya D. Goar, Project Coordinator, Great Lakes Branch, Division of Hydropower Licensing; telephone at (202) 502–8394; email at *Taconya.Goar@ferc.gov.*

j. *Cooperating agencies:* Federal, State, local, and Tribal agencies with jurisdiction and/or special expertise with respect to environmental issues that wish to cooperate in the preparation of the environmental document should follow the instructions for filing such requests described in item o below. Cooperating

[1] United States Senators Edward J. Markey, Elizabeth Warren, and Congressman James P. McGovern.

[2] Senator Jo Comerford, Representatives Natalie M. Blais, Daniel R. Carey, Mindy Domb, Lindsay Sabadosa, and Aaron L. Saunders.

[3] Governor of the State of Oregon Tina Kotek and Governor of the State of Washington Jay Inslee.

agencies should note the Commission's policy that agencies that cooperate in the preparation of the environmental document cannot also intervene. *See* 94 FERC ¶ 61,076 (2001).

k. With this notice, we are initiating informal consultation with: (a) the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act and the joint agency regulations thereunder at 50 CFR part 402; and (b) the State Historic Preservation Office, as required by section 106, National Historic Preservation Act, and the implementing regulations of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation at 36 CFR 800.2.

l. With this notice, we are designating GMP as the Commission's non-Federal representative for carrying out informal consultation pursuant to section 7 of the Endangered Species Act and section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

m. GMP filed with the Commission a Pre-Application Document (PAD), including a proposed process plan and schedule, pursuant to 18 CFR 5.6 of the Commission's regulations.

n. A copy of the PAD may be viewed on the Commission's website (*http://www.ferc.gov*) using the ''eLibrary'' link. Enter the docket number, excluding the last three digits in the docket number field, to access the document. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support at *FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov* or call toll-free, (866) 208–3676 or TTY, (202) 502–8659.

You may register online at *https://ferconline.ferc.gov/FERCOnline.aspx* to be notified via email of new filings and issuances related to this or other pending projects. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support.

o. With this notice, we are soliciting comments on the PAD and Commission staff's Scoping Document 1 (SD1), as well as study requests. All comments on the PAD and SD1, and study requests should be sent to the address above in paragraph h. In addition, all comments on the PAD and SD1, study requests, requests for cooperating agency status, and all communications to and from staff related to the merits of the potential application must be filed with the Commission.

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filing. Please file all documents using the Commission's eFiling system at *https://ferconline.ferc.gov/FERCOnline.aspx.* Commenters can submit brief comments up to 6,000 characters, without prior registration, using the eComment system at *https://ferconline.ferc.gov/QuickComment.aspx.* You must include your name and contact information at the end of your comments. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at *FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov* or call toll-free, (866) 208–3676 or TTY, (202) 502–8659. In lieu of electronic filing, you may submit a paper copy. Submissions sent via the U.S. Postal Service must be addressed to: Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Acting Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426. Submissions sent via any other carrier must be addressed to: Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Acting Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20852. The first page of any filing should include docket number P–2674–037.

All filings with the Commission must bear the appropriate heading: ''Comments on Pre-Application Document,'' ''Study Requests,'' ''Comments on Scoping Document 1,'' ''Request for Cooperating Agency Status,'' or ''Communications to and from Commission Staff.'' Any individual or entity interested in submitting study requests, commenting on the PAD or SD1, and any agency requesting cooperating status must do so by August 19, 2024.

p. The Commission's Office of Public Participation (OPP) supports meaningful public engagement and participation in Commission proceedings. OPP can help members of the public, including landowners, environmental justice communities, Tribal members and others, access publicly available information and navigate Commission processes. For public inquiries and assistance with making filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, the public is encouraged to contact OPP at (202) 502–6595 or *OPP@ferc.gov.*

q. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Commission staff will prepare either an environmental assessment (EA) or an environmental impact statement (EIS) (collectively referred to as the ''NEPA document'') that describes and evaluates the probable effects, including an assessment of the site-specific and cumulative effects, if any, of the proposed action and alternatives. The Commission's scoping process will help determine the required level of analysis and satisfy the NEPA scoping requirements, irrespective of whether the Commission issues an EA or EIS.

Scoping Meetings

Commission staff will hold two scoping meetings for the project to receive input on the scope of the NEPA document. A daytime meeting will be held at 9:00 a.m. on July 18, 2024, at the Vergennes Opera House in Vergennes, Vermont, and will focus on the concerns of Indian Tribes, resource agencies, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). An evening meeting will be held at 6:00 p.m. on July 18, 2024, at the Vergennes Opera House in Vergennes, Vermont, and will focus on receiving input from the public. We invite all interested agencies, Indian Tribes, non-governmental organizations, and individuals to attend one or both meetings. The times and locations of these meetings are as follows:

Daytime Scoping Meeting

Date: Thursday, July 18, 2024.
Time: 9:00 a.m. EST.
Place: Vergennes Opera House.
Address: 120 Main Street, 2nd Floor, Vergennes, VT 05491.
Phone: (802) 655–8753.

Evening Scoping Meeting

Date: Thursday July 18, 2024.
Time: 6:00 p.m. EST.
Place: Vergennes Opera House.
Address: 120 Main Street, 2nd Floor, Vergennes, VT 05491.
Phone: (802) 655–8753.

Copies of the SD1 outlining the proposed date and subject areas to be addressed in the NEPA document were distributed to the individuals and entities on the Commission's mailing list and GMP's distribution list. Copies of SD1 may be viewed on the web at *http://www.ferc.gov,* using the ''eLibrary'' link. Follow the directions for accessing information in paragraph n above. Based on all oral and written comments, a Scoping Document 2 (SD2) may be issued. SD2 may include a revised process plan and schedule, as well as a list of issues, identified through the scoping process.

Environmental Site Visit

The potential applicant and Commission staff will conduct an environmental site visit of the project. All interested individuals, agencies, Tribes, and NGOs are invited to attend. Please RSVP Mr. John Tedesco of Green Mountain Power Corporation via email at *John.Tedesco@greenmountainpower.com* or by phone at (802) 655–8753 *on or before July 11, 2024,* if you plan to attend the environmental site visit. The time and location of the environmental site visit is as follows:

Vergennes Project Site Visit

Date: Thursday July 18, 2024.
Time: 12:00 p.m. EST.
Place: Vergennes Falls Park.

Address: 103 Mechanic Street, Vergennes, VT 05491.

Participants should meet at the Vergennes Falls Park public parking lot, located at 103 Mechanic Street, Vergennes. From there, participants will walk approximately 0.20 mile to the project. All participants are responsible for their own transportation to the Vergennes Falls Park public parking lot, and should wear sturdy, closed-toe shoes or boots.

Meeting Objectives

At the scoping meetings, Commission staff will: (1) initiate scoping of the issues; (2) review and discuss existing conditions; (3) review and discuss existing information and identify preliminary information and study needs; (4) review and discuss the process plan and schedule for pre-filing activity that incorporates the time frames provided for in Part 5 of the Commission's regulations and, to the extent possible, maximizes coordination of Federal, State, and Tribal permitting and certification processes; and (5) discuss the potential of any Federal or State agency or Indian Tribe to act as a cooperating agency for development of an environmental document.

Meeting participants should come prepared to discuss their issues and/or concerns. Please review the PAD in preparation for the scoping meetings. Directions on how to obtain a copy of the PAD and SD1 are included in item n of this document.

Meeting Procedures

Commission staff are moderating the scoping meetings. The meetings are recorded by an independent stenographer and become part of the formal record of the Commission proceeding on the project. Individuals, NGOs, Indian Tribes, and agencies with environmental expertise and concerns are encouraged to attend the meeting and to assist the staff in defining and clarifying the issues to be addressed in the NEPA document.

Dated: June 18, 2024.

Debbie-Anne A. Reese,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2024–13931 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP24–474–000]

Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline, Inc.; Notice of Application and Establishing Intervention Deadline

Take notice that on June 5, 2024, Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline, Inc. (Southern Star), 4700 State Route 56, Owensboro, KY 42301, filed an application under section 7b of the Natural Gas Act (NGA), and Part 157 of the Commission's regulations requesting authorization for its Temporary Action Project. The Project consists of temporarily abandoning a 21-mile segment of its 26-inch-diameter line known as Line N and placing it in an idled state located in Texas and Beaver Counties, Oklahoma. The Project will allow Southern Star additional time to evaluate whether to bring the line back to a service-ready state to meet future demand or to abandon the pipeline at the appropriate time in the future, all as more fully set forth in the application, which is on file with the Commission and open for public inspection.

In addition to publishing the full text of this document in the **Federal Register**, the Commission provides all interested persons an opportunity to view and/or print the contents of this document via the internet through the Commission's Home Page (*http://www.ferc.gov*). From the Commission's Home Page on the internet, this information is available on eLibrary. The full text of this document is available on eLibrary in PDF and Microsoft Word format for viewing, printing, and/or downloading. To access this document in eLibrary, type the docket number excluding the last three digits of this document in the docket number field.

User assistance is available for eLibrary and the Commission's website during normal business hours from FERC Online Support at (202) 502–6652 (toll free at 1–866–208–3676) or email at *ferconlinesupport@ferc.gov,* or the Public Reference Room at (202) 502–8371, TTY (202) 502–8659. Email the Public Reference Room at *public.referenceroom@ferc.gov.*

Any questions regarding the proposed project should be directed to Will Wathen, Director, Rates, Regulatory & Strategic Planning, Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline, Inc., 4700 State Route 56, Owensboro, KY 42301, by phone at (270) 952–1969, or email at *will.wathen@southernstar.com.*

Pursuant to section 157.9 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure,[1] within 90 days of this Notice the Commission staff will either: complete its environmental review and place it into the Commission's public record (eLibrary) for this proceeding; or issue a Notice of Schedule for Environmental Review. If a Notice of Schedule for Environmental Review is issued, it will indicate, among other milestones, the anticipated date for the Commission staff's issuance of the final environmental impact statement (FEIS) or environmental assessment (EA) for this proposal. The filing of an EA in the Commission's public record for this proceeding or the issuance of a Notice of Schedule for Environmental Review will serve to notify federal and state agencies of the timing for the completion of all necessary reviews, and the subsequent need to complete all federal authorizations within 90 days of the date of issuance of the Commission staff's FEIS or EA.

Public Participation

There are three ways to become involved in the Commission's review of this project: you can file comments on the project, you can protest the filing, and you can file a motion to intervene in the proceeding. There is no fee or cost for filing comments or intervening. The deadline for filing a motion to intervene is 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on July 9, 2024. How to file protests, motions to intervene, and comments is explained below.

The Commission's Office of Public Participation (OPP) supports meaningful public engagement and participation in Commission proceedings. OPP can help members of the public, including landowners, environmental justice communities, Tribal members and others, access publicly available information and navigate Commission processes. For public inquiries and assistance with making filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, the public is encouraged to contact OPP at (202) 502–6595 or *OPP@ferc.gov.*

Comments

Any person wishing to comment on the project may do so. Comments may include statements of support or objections, to the project as a whole or specific aspects of the project. The more specific your comments, the more useful they will be.

[1] 18 CFR 157.9.

Protests

Pursuant to sections 157.10(a)(4)[2] and 385.211[3] of the Commission's regulations under the NGA, any person[4] may file a protest to the application. Protests must comply with the requirements specified in section 385.2001[5] of the Commission's regulations. A protest may also serve as a motion to intervene so long as the protestor states it also seeks to be an intervenor.

To ensure that your comments or protests are timely and properly recorded, please submit your comments on or before July 9, 2024.

There are three methods you can use to submit your comments or protests to the Commission. In all instances, please reference the Project docket number CP24–474–000 in your submission.

(1) You may file your comments electronically by using the eComment feature, which is located on the Commission's website at *www.ferc.gov* under the link to Documents and Filings. Using eComment is an easy method for interested persons to submit brief, text-only comments on a project;

(2) You may file your comments or protests electronically by using the eFiling feature, which is located on the Commission's website (*www.ferc.gov)* under the link to Documents and Filings. With eFiling, you can provide comments in a variety of formats by attaching them as a file with your submission. New eFiling users must first create an account by clicking on ''eRegister.'' You will be asked to select the type of filing you are making; first select ''General'' and then select ''Comment on a Filing''; or

(3) You can file a paper copy of your comments or protests by mailing them to the following address below. Your written comments must reference the Project docket number CP24–474–000.

To file via USPS: Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Acting Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20426

To file via any other courier: Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Acting Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20852

The Commission encourages electronic filing of comments (options 1 and 2 above) and has eFiling staff available to assist you at (202) 502–8258 or *FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov.*

Persons who comment on the environmental review of this project will be placed on the Commission's environmental mailing list, and will receive notification when the environmental documents (EA or EIS) are issued for this project and will be notified of meetings associated with the Commission's environmental review process.

The Commission considers all comments received about the project in determining the appropriate action to be taken. However, the filing of a comment alone will not serve to make the filer a party to the proceeding. To become a party, you must intervene in the proceeding. For instructions on how to intervene, see below.

Interventions

Any person, which includes individuals, organizations, businesses, municipalities, and other entities,[6] has the option to file a motion to intervene in this proceeding. Only intervenors have the right to request rehearing of Commission orders issued in this proceeding and to subsequently challenge the Commission's orders in the U.S. Circuit Courts of Appeal.

To intervene, you must submit a motion to intervene to the Commission in accordance with Rule 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure[7] and the regulations under the NGA[8] by the intervention deadline for the project, which is July 9, 2024. As described further in Rule 214, your motion to intervene must state, to the extent known, your position regarding the proceeding, as well as your interest in the proceeding. For an individual, this could include your status as a landowner, ratepayer, resident of an impacted community, or recreationist. You do not need to have property directly impacted by the project in order to intervene. For more information about motions to intervene, refer to the FERC website at *https://www.ferc.gov/resources/guides/how-to/intervene.asp.*

There are two ways to submit your motion to intervene. In both instances, please reference the Project docket number CP24–474–000 in your submission.

(1) You may file your motion to intervene by using the Commission's eFiling feature, which is located on the Commission's website (*www.ferc.gov)* under the link to Documents and Filings. New eFiling users must first create an account by clicking on ''eRegister.'' You will be asked to select the type of filing you are making; first select ''General'' and then select ''Intervention.'' The eFiling feature includes a document-less intervention option; for more information, visit *https://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling/document-less-intervention.pdf.;* or

(2) You can file a paper copy of your motion to intervene, along with three copies, by mailing the documents to the address below. Your motion to intervene must reference the Project docket number CP24–474–000.

To file via USPS: Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Acting Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20426

To file via any other courier: Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Acting Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20852

The Commission encourages electronic filing of motions to intervene (option 1 above) and has eFiling staff available to assist you at (202) 502–8258 or *FercOnlineSupport@ferc.gov.*

Protests and motions to intervene must be served on the applicant either by mail or email at: Will Wathen, Director, Rates, Regulatory & Strategic Planning, 4700 State Route 56, Owensboro, KY 42301, or email at *will.wathen@southernstar.com.* Any subsequent submissions by an intervenor must be served on the applicant and all other parties to the proceeding. Contact information for parties can be downloaded from the service list at the eService link on FERC Online. Service can be via email with a link to the document.

All timely, unopposed[9] motions to intervene are automatically granted by operation of Rule 214(c)(1).[10] Motions to intervene that are filed after the intervention deadline are untimely, and may be denied. Any late-filed motion to intervene must show good cause for being late and must explain why the time limitation should be waived and provide justification by reference to factors set forth in Rule 214(d) of the Commission's Rules and Regulations.[11] A person obtaining party status will be placed on the service list maintained by the Secretary of the Commission and will receive copies (paper or electronic) of all documents filed by the applicant and by all other parties.

[2] 18 CFR 157.10(a)(4).

[3] 18 CFR 385.211.

[4] Persons include individuals, organizations, businesses, municipalities, and other entities. 18 CFR 385.102(d).

[5] 18 CFR 385.2001.

[6] 18 CFR 385.102(d).

[7] 18 CFR 385.214.

[8] 18 CFR 157.10.

[9] The applicant has 15 days from the submittal of a motion to intervene to file a written objection to the intervention.

[10] 18 CFR 385.214(c)(1).

[11] 18 CFR 385.214(b)(3) and (d).

Tracking the Proceeding

Throughout the proceeding, additional information about the project will be available from the Commission's Office of External Affairs, at (866) 208–FERC, or on the FERC website at *www.ferc.gov* using the ''eLibrary'' link as described above. The eLibrary link also provides access to the texts of all formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings.

In addition, the Commission offers a free service called eSubscription which allows you to keep track of all formal issuances and submittals in specific dockets.

This can reduce the amount of time you spend researching proceedings by automatically providing you with notification of these filings, document summaries, and direct links to the documents. For more information and to register, go to *www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp.*

Intervention Deadline: 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on July 9, 2024.

Dated: June 18, 2024.

Debbie-Anne A. Reese,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2024–13932 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 15284–000]

HGE Energy Storage 1, LLC; Notice of Preliminary Permit Application Accepted for Filing and Soliciting Comments, Motions To Intervene, and Competing Applications

On August 18, 2022, HGE Energy Storage 1, LLC, filed an application for a preliminary permit, pursuant to section 4(f) of the Federal Power Act (FPA), proposing to study the feasibility of the proposed 1,351-megawatt (MW) Vandenberg Pumped Storage Project to be located at the Vandenberg Air Force Base in Santa Barbara County, California. The sole purpose of a preliminary permit is to grant the permit holder priority to file a license application during the permit term. A preliminary permit does not authorize the permit holder to perform any land-disturbing activities or otherwise enter upon lands or waters owned by others without the owners' express permission.

The proposed project would consist of the following new facilities: (1) a 28.4-acre upper reservoir and a storage capacity of 7,104 acre-feet at an water surface elevation of 1,200 feet above mean sea level, created by a 30-foot-high, 4,450 foot-long upper embankment dam with rubber sheet and asphalt lining; (2) a 7,500-foot-long conduit connecting the upper reservoir to the Pacific Ocean; (3) a 250-foot long, 75-foot-wide, 100 foot-high powerhouse, constructed approximately 100 feet below ground level near the Pacific Ocean; (4) seven steel-lined, 7,500-foot-long penstocks; (5) seven 193–MW, reversible variable-speed pump turbines; a (6) a new, single circuit 214-kilovolt transmission line interconnecting the project to the grid at the Lompoc substation in Lompoc, California; and (7) a 400-foot-high, 30-foot-diameter vertical access tunnel approximately constructed from ground level to the powerhouse.

Water for the project would be pumped directly from the Pacific Ocean. A breakwater would be constructed in the Pacific Ocean to reduce water level fluctuations during pumping events, and to dissipate energy during periods of power generation, for the purpose of reducing impacts to marine resources caused by project discharges. The estimated annual energy production of the proposed project would be approximately 3,952,128 megawatt-hours.

Applicant Contact: Mr. Wayne Krouse, Manager, HGE Energy Storage 1 LLC, 2901 4th Avenue South #B 253, Birmingham, AL 35233; email: *wayne@hgenergy.com;* phone (877) 556–6566 x–709.

FERC Contact: Benjamin Mann; email; *benjamin.mann@ferc.gov;* phone (202) 502–8127.

Deadline for filing comments, motions to intervene, competing applications (without notices of intent), or notices of intent to file competing applications: 60 days from the issuance of this notice. Competing applications and notices of intent must meet the requirements of 18 CFR 4.36.

The Commission's Office of Public Participation (OPP) supports meaningful public engagement and participation in Commission proceedings. OPP can help members of the public, including landowners, environmental justice communities, Tribal members, and others, access publicly available information and navigate Commission processes. For public inquiries and assistance with filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, the public is encouraged to contact OPP at (202) 502–6595 or *OPP@ferc.gov.* Comments, motions to intervene, competing applications (without notices of intent), or notices of intent to file competing applications should be submitted within 60 days from the issuance of this notice. Competing applications and notices of intent must meet the requirements of 18 CFR 4.36.

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filing. Please file comments, motions to intervene, notices of intent, and competing applications using the Commission's eFiling system at *https://ferconline.ferc.gov/eFiling.aspx.* Commenters can submit brief comments up to 6,000 characters without prior registration using the eComment system at *https://ferconline.ferc.gov/QuickComment.aspx.* For assistance, please get in touch with FERC Online Support at *FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov,* (866) 208–3676 (toll-free), or (202) 502–8659 (TTY). Instead of electronic filing, you may submit a paper copy. Submissions sent via the U.S. Postal Service must be addressed to: Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Acting Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426. Submissions sent via any other carrier must be addressed to: Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Acting Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20852. The first page of any filing should include docket number P–15284–000.

More information about this project, including a copy of the application, can be viewed or printed on the ''eLibrary'' link of the Commission's website at *https://elibrary.ferc.gov/eLibrary/search.* Enter the docket number (P–15284) in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, do not hesitate to get in touch with FERC Online Support.

Dated: June 18, 2024.

Debbie-Anne A. Reese,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2024–13929 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Combined Notice of Filings #1

Take notice that the Commission received the following exempt wholesale generator filings:

Docket Numbers: EG24–206–000.

Applicants: FRP Gilchrist County Solar, LLC.

Description: FRP Gilchrist County Solar, LLC submits notice of self-certification of exempt wholesale generator status.

Filed Date: 6/17/24.

Accession Number: 20240617–5226.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 7/8/24.

Docket Numbers: EG24–207–000.
Applicants: FRP Columbia County Solar, LLC.
Description: FRP Columbia County Solar, LLC submits notice of self-certification of exempt wholesale generator status.
Filed Date: 6/17/24.
Accession Number: 20240617–5229.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 7/8/24.

Docket Numbers: EG24–208–000.
Applicants: FRP Gadsden County Solar, LLC.
Description: FRP Gadsden County Solar, LLC submits notice of self-certification of exempt wholesale generator status.
Filed Date: 6/17/24.
Accession Number: 20240617–5233.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 7/8/24.

Take notice that the Commission received the following electric rate filings:

Docket Numbers: ER24–1518–001.
Applicants: Nevada Power Company.
Description: Compliance filing: ER24–1518 Compliance Filing to be effective 5/14/2024.
Filed Date: 6/18/24.
Accession Number: 20240618–5114.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 7/9/24. \

Docket Numbers: ER24–1957–000; TS24–3–000.
Applicants: Horus Louisiana 1, LLC, Horus Louisiana 1, LLC.
Description: Supplement to 05/07/2024 request for temporary waiver of Horus Louisiana 1, LLC.
Filed Date: 6/18/24.
Accession Number: 20240618–5082.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 6/28/24.

Docket Numbers: ER24–2298–000.
Applicants: American Transmission Systems, Incorporated, PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.
Description: 205(d) Rate Filing: American Transmission Systems, Incorporated submits tariff filing per 35.13(a)(2)(iii: ATSI submits one Construction Agreement, SA No. 7165 to be effective 6/1/2022.
Filed Date: 6/18/24.
Accession Number: 20240618–5043.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 7/9/24.

Docket Numbers: ER24–2300–000.
Applicants: New York State Electric & Gas Corporation.
Description: 205(d) Rate Filing: NYSEG–NYPA Attachment C—O&M Annual Update to be effective 9/1/2024.
Filed Date: 6/18/24.
Accession Number: 20240618–5045.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 7/9/24.

Take notice that the Commission received the following electric securities filings:

Docket Numbers: ES24–41–000.
Applicants: ISO New England Inc.
Description: Application under Section 204 of the Federal Power Act for authorization to issue securities of ISO New England Inc.
Filed Date: 6/17/24.
Accession Number: 20240617–5248.
Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 7/8/24.

The filings are accessible in the Commission's eLibrary system (*https://elibrary.ferc.gov/idmws/search/fercgensearch.asp*) by querying the docket number.

Any person desiring to intervene, to protest, or to answer a complaint in any of the above proceedings must file in accordance with Rules 211, 214, or 206 of the Commission's Regulations (18 CFR 385.211, 385.214, or 385.206) on or before 5:00 p.m. Eastern time on the specified comment date. Protests may be considered, but intervention is necessary to become a party to the proceeding.

eFiling is encouraged. More detailed information relating to filing requirements, interventions, protests, service, and qualifying facilities filings can be found at: *http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling/filing-req.pdf.* For other information, call (866) 208–3676 (toll free). For TTY, call (202) 502–8659.

The Commission's Office of Public Participation (OPP) supports meaningful public engagement and participation in Commission proceedings. OPP can help members of the public, including landowners, environmental justice communities, Tribal members and others, access publicly available information and navigate Commission processes. For public inquiries and assistance with making filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, the public is encouraged to contact OPP at (202) 502–6595 or *OPP@ferc.gov.*

Dated: June 18, 2024.

Debbie-Anne A. Reese,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2024–13933 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA–HQ–OPPT–2003–0004; FRL–12043–01–OCSPP]

Access to Confidential Business Information by Eastern Research Group

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: EPA has authorized its contractor, Eastern Research Group (ERG) of Concord, MA/Chantilly, VA to access information which has been submitted to EPA under all sections of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). Some of the information may be claimed or determined to be Confidential Business Information (CBI).

DATES: Access to the confidential data will occur no sooner than July 3, 2024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

For technical information contact: Colby Lintner or Adam Schwoerer, Project Management and Operations Division (7407M), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20460–0001; email address: *lintner.colby@epa.gov* or (202) 564–4767; *schwoerer.adam@epa.gov* or (202) 564–4767.

For general information contact: The TSCA-Hotline, ABVI-Goodwill, 422 South Clinton Ave., Rochester, NY 14620; telephone number: (202) 554–1404; email address: *TSCA-Hotline@epa.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. General Information

A. Does this action apply to me?

This action is directed to the public in general. This action may, however, be of interest to all who manufacture, process, or distribute industrial chemicals. Since other entities may also be interested, the Agency has not attempted to describe all the specific entities that may be affected by this action.

B. How can I get copies of this document and other related information?

The docket for this action, identified by docket identification (ID) number EPA–HQ–OPPT–2003–0004 is available at *https://www.regulations.gov* or at the Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics Docket (OPPT Docket), Environmental Protection Agency Docket Center (EPA/DC), West William Jefferson Clinton Bldg., Rm. 3334, 1301 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, DC. The Public Reading Room is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The telephone number for the Public Reading Room is (202) 566–1744, and the telephone number for the OPPT Docket is (202) 566–0280. Please review the visitor instructions and additional information about the docket available at *https://www.epa.gov/dockets.*

II. What action is the Agency taking?

Under EPA contract number GS–00F–079CA/68HERH24P0148, contractor

ERG of 561 Virginia Road, Building 4, Suite 300, MA 017422767/14555 Avion Parkway, Suite 200 Chantilly, VA will assist the Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics (OPPT) in supporting in engineering assessments for the exposure evaluation and assessment of chemical substances and related regulatory actions.

In accordance with 40 CFR 2.306(j), EPA has determined that under EPA contract number GS–00F–079CA/68HERH24P0148, ERG will require access to CBI submitted to EPA under all section(s) of TSCA to perform successfully the duties specified under the contract. ERG personnel will be given access to information submitted to EPA under all section(s) of TSCA. Some of the information may be claimed or determined to be CBI.

EPA is issuing this notice to inform all submitters of information under all sections of TSCA that EPA may provide ERG access to these CBI materials on a need-to-know basis only. All access to TSCA CBI under this contract will take place at EPA Headquarters and ERG's sites located at 561 Virginia Road, Building 4, Suite 300, MA 017422767 and 14555 Avion Parkway, Suite 200, Chantilly, VA, in accordance with EPA's *TSCA CBI Protection Manual*.

Access to TSCA data, including CBI, will continue until October 29, 2024. If the contract is extended, this access will also continue for the duration of the extended contract without further notice.

ERG personnel will be required to sign nondisclosure agreements and will be briefed on appropriate security procedures before they are permitted access to TSCA CBI.

Authority: 15 U.S.C. 2601 *et seq.*

Dated: June 20, 2024.

Todd Holderman,

Acting Director, Project Management and Operations Division, Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics.

[FR Doc. 2024–13976 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA–R08–SFUND–2024–0183; FRL–12045–01–R8]

Administrative Settlement Agreement, United States, the State of Colorado, Settling Parties and Brannan Sand and Gravel Company, LLC, Purchaser

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of proposed agreement; request for public comment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 8, of an Administrative Settlement Agreement for Response Actions by Prospective Purchaser (''Settlement'') is entered into voluntarily by the United States of America (''United States'') on behalf of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (''EPA''), the State of Colorado (''State''), and the prospective purchaser, Brannan Sand and Gravel Company, LLC (''Purchaser''). This Settlement provides for the performance of response actions by Purchaser and the payment for certain response costs incurred by the United States and the State at or in connection with property located in unincorporated Adams County, Colorado, known as the Broderick Wood Products Superfund Site (''Site''). Purchaser agrees to undertake all actions required by this Settlement. In exchange for Purchaser's performance of the work and payment for certain response costs, this Settlement resolves Purchaser's potential CERCLA liability.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before July 26, 2024.

ADDRESSES: The proposed agreement and additional background information relating to the agreement will be available upon request and will be posted at *https://www.epa.gov/superfund.* Comments and requests for an electronic copy of the proposed agreement should be addressed to Natalie Timmons, Enforcement Specialist, Superfund and Emergency Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency—Region 8, Mail Code 8SEM–PAC, 1595 Wynkoop Street, Denver, Colorado 80202, telephone number: (303) 312–6385 or email address: *timmons.natalie@epa.gov* and should reference the Broderick Wood Products Superfund Site.

You may also send comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA–R08–SFUND–2024–0183 to *https://www.regulations.gov.* Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kayleen Castelli, General Attorney, Office of Regional Counsel, Environmental Protection Agency, Region 8, Mail Code 8 ORC–LEB–CES_ 1595 Wynkoop, Denver, Colorado 80202, telephone number: (303) 312–6174, email address: *castelli.kayleen@epa.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: For thirty (30) days following the date of publication of this document, the Agency will receive written comments relating to the agreement. The Agency will consider all comments received and may modify or withdraw its consent to the agreement if comments received disclose facts or considerations that indicate that the agreement is inappropriate, improper, or inadequate.

Aaron Urdiales,

Division Director, Superfund and Emergency Management Division, Region 8.

[FR Doc. 2024–13952 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[OMB 3060–0233; FR ID 227902]

Information Collection Being Reviewed by the Federal Communications Commission

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: As part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork burdens, and as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC or the Commission) invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the following information collection. Comments are requested concerning: whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information shall have practical utility; the accuracy of the Commission's burden estimate; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and ways to further reduce the information collection burden on small business concerns with fewer than 25 employees.

DATES: Written PRA comments should be submitted on or before August 26, 2024. If you anticipate that you will be submitting comments, but find it difficult to do so within the period of time allowed by this notice, you should advise the contact listed below as soon as possible.

ADDRESSES: Direct all PRA comments to Nicole Ongele, FCC, via email *PRA@fcc.gov* and to *nicole.ongele@fcc.gov.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For additional information about the information collection, contact Nicole Ongele, (202) 418–2991.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FCC may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid control number. No person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information subject to the PRA that does not display a valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number.

OMB Control Number: 3060–0233.

Title: Part 54—Rate-of-Return Carrier Universal Service Reporting Requirements; Waiver of Local Exchange Carrier Study Area Boundary Changes.

Form Number: FCC Form 507, FCC Form 508 and FCC Form 509.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Respondents: Business or other for-profit.

Number of Respondents and Responses: 1,098 respondents; 3,627 responses.

Estimated Time per Response: 1–22 hours.

Frequency of Response: Annual reporting requirements.

Obligation to Respond: Required to obtain or retain benefits. Statutory authority for this information collection is contained in 47 U.S.C. 151–154, 214, 218–220, 221(c), 254, and 303(r).

Total Annual Burden: 34,404 hours.

Total Annual Cost: No Cost.

Needs and Uses: In order to determine which carriers are entitled to universal service support, all rate-of-return regulated (rate-of-return) incumbent local exchange carriers (LECs) must provide the National Exchange Carrier Association (NECA) with the loop cost and loop count data required by section 54.1305 for each of its study areas and, if applicable, for each wire center as that term is defined in 47 CFR part 54. See 47 CFR 54.1305, 54.5. The loop cost and loop count information is to be filed annually with NECA by July 31st of each year. See 47 CFR 54.1305. Pursuant to section 54.1307, the information filed on July 31st of each year will be used to calculate universal service support for each study area and is filed by NECA with the Commission on October 1 of each year. See 47 CFR 54.1307. An incumbent LEC is defined as a carrier that meets the definition of ''incumbent local exchange carrier'' in section 51.5 of the Commission's rules. See 47 CFR 51.5.

In March 2016, the Commission adopted the Rate-of-Return Reform Order to continue modernizing the universal service support mechanisms for rate-of-return carriers. Connect America Fund et al., Report and Order et al., 31 FCC Rcd 3087 (2016) (Rate-of-Return Reform Order). The Rate-of-Return Reform Order replaced the Interstate Common Line Support (ICLS) mechanism with the Connect America Fund—Broadband Loop Support (CAF–BLS) mechanism. Id. at 3117–57, paras. 80–187. While ICLS supported only lines used to provide traditional voice service (including voice service bundled with broadband service), CAF–BLS also supports consumer broadband-only loops. Id. at 3157–62, paras. 188–204. For the purposes of calculating and monitoring CAF–BLS, rate-of-return carriers that receive CAF–BLS must file common line and consumer broadband-only loop counts on FCC Form 507, forecasted common line and consumer broadband-only loop costs and revenues on FCC Form 508, and actual common line and consumer broadband-only loop costs and revenues on FCC Form 509. See 47 CFR 54.903(a).

In December 2018, the Commission adopted the December 2018 Rate-of-Return Reform Order to require rate-of-return carriers that receive Alternative Connect American Model (A–CAM) or Alaska Plan support to file line count data on FCC Form 507 as a condition of high-cost support. Connect America Fund et al., WC Docket No. 10–90 et al., Report and Order, Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Order on Reconsideration, 33 FCC Rcd 11893 (2018) (2018 Rate-of-Return Reform Order). Historically, all rate-of-return carriers that received CAF–BLS or, prior to that, ICLS, were required to file line count data on FCC Form 507 as a condition of that support but Rate-of-return carriers that had elected to receive A–CAM I, A–CAM II, or Alaska Plan instead were not. Id. at 11937, para. 148. In order to restore a data set that the Commission relied on to evaluate the effectiveness of its high-cost universal service programs, the Commission revised its rules in that Order to require all rate-of-return carriers to file that data. See id. at 11937, para. 51. While carriers receiving CAF–BLS must file the line count data on March 31 for line counts as of the prior December 31, the A–CAM I, A–CAM II, and Alaska Plan carriers will be required to file on July 1 of each year to coincide with other existing requirements in OMB Control No. 3060–0986. 47 CFR 54.903(a)(1), 54.313(f)(5).

On October 20, 2023, the Commission made changes to rate-of-return reporting rules by eliminating optional unseparated loop cost data quarterly updates. Connect America Fund et al., WC Docket No. 10–90 et al. WT Docket No. 10–208, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Report and Order, FCC 23–87 at 79–80, paras. 181–82 (Oct. 20, 2023). In addition, the Commission amended section 36.4 of the Commission's rules, 47 CFR 36.4, to require local exchange carriers seeking a change in study area boundaries to submit a petition for waiver of these boundary changes notwithstanding any prior exemptions from such waiver requests including, but not limited to, when a company is combining previously unserved territory with one of its study areas or a holding company is consolidating existing study areas within the same state. See id. at 176–180, paras. 77–79. The Commission therefore proposes to revise this information collection.

Federal Communications Commission.

Katura Jackson,

Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 2024–13986 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712–01–P

FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

Notice of Meeting Held With Less Than Seven Days Advance Notice

TIME AND DATE: 10:00 a.m. on June 20, 2024.

PLACE: The meeting was held in the FDIC Board Room, 550 17th Street NW, Washington, DC, and was webcast to the public.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: Pursuant to the provisions of the ''Government in the Sunshine Act'' (5 U.S.C. 552b), notice is hereby given that the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation's Board of Directors met in open session at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, June 20, 2024, to consider the following matters:

Summary Agenda

Memorandum and resolution re: Proposed Amendments to Bank Secrecy Act Compliance Rule (12 CFR part 326).

Memorandum and resolution re: Final Rule: Quality Control Standards for Automated Valuation Models.

Memorandum and resolution re: Review of FDIC Regulations in Accordance with the Economic Growth and Regulatory Paperwork Reduction Act (EGRPRA).

Disposition of Minutes of a Board of Directors' Meeting Previously Distributed.

Summary reports, status reports, and reports of actions taken pursuant to authority delegated by the Board of Directors.

Discussion Agenda

Memorandum and resolution re: Final Rule to Revise 12 CFR 360.10 and Associated Delegations of Authority.

Memorandum and resolution re: Board Briefings on Certain Merger and Deposit Insurance Applications Outstanding for More Than 270 Days.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Direct requests for further information concerning the meeting to Debra A. Decker, Executive Secretary of the Corporation, at 202–898–8748.

Authority: 5 U.S.C. 552b.

Dated at Washington, DC, on June 20, 2024.

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

James P. Sheesley,

Assistant Executive Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2024–13950 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6714–01–P

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

[Docket No. OP–1831]

Expanded Hours for Fedwire Funds Service & National Settlement Service

AGENCY: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

ACTION: Request for comment; extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: On May 9, 2024, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (Board) published in the **Federal Register** a proposal to expand the operating hours of the Fedwire® Funds Service and the National Settlement Service (NSS). The Board proposed to expand the operating hours of the Fedwire Funds Service to 22 hours per day, 7 days per week, every day of the year (22x7x365) and to correspondingly expand the operating hours of NSS, with NSS closing 30 minutes earlier than the Fedwire Funds Service. The proposal provided for a comment period ending on July 8, 2024. The Board is extending the comment period for 60 days, until September 6, 2024.

DATES: The notification published on May 9, 2024 (89 FR 39613), is extended. Comments must be received by September 6, 2024.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by any of the methods identified in the proposal.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mark Magro, Manager, Division of Reserve Bank Operations and Payment Systems (202–452–3944); Ann Sun, Lead Financial Institution Policy Analyst, Division of Reserve Bank Operations and Payment Systems (202–912–7938); Gavin Smith, Senior Counsel, Legal Division (202 452–3474); or Corinne Milliken Van Ness, Senior Counsel, Legal Division (202–452–2421), Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System. For users of TTY–TRS, please call 711 from any telephone, anywhere in the United States.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On May 9, 2024, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (Board) published a proposal to expand the operating hours of the Fedwire® Funds Service and the National Settlement Service (NSS) in the **Federal Register**. The Board proposed to expand the operating hours of the Fedwire Funds Service to 22 hours per day, 7 days per week, every day of the year (22x7x365) and to correspondingly expand the operating hours of the NSS, with the NSS closing 30 minutes earlier than the Fedwire Funds Service.[1]

The proposal provided for a comment period ending on July 8, 2024. The Board is extending the comment period for 60 days, until September 6, 2024. Since the publication of the proposal, the Board has received comments requesting an extension of the comment period. An extension of the comment period will provide additional opportunity for interested parties to analyze the proposal and prepare and submit comments. Therefore, the Board is extending the end of the comment period for the proposal from July 8, 2024, to September 6, 2024.

By order of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, acting through the Secretary of the Board under delegated authority.

Ann E. Misback,

Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 2024–14018 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. FDA–2024–N–2886]

Food and Drug Administration Information Technology Strategy and Customer Experience Strategy; Request for Comments

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice; request for comment.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA or Agency) is requesting comments on its ''Information Technology (IT) Strategy'' and ''Customer Experience (CX) Strategy.'' In accordance with the Agency's User Fee Program commitments and Omnibus Bill requirements, FDA must annually update and publish its IT Strategy by September 30. The initial strategy, released in September 2023, outlines the future direction of FDA's data and technology capabilities. A key objective of FDA's IT Strategy is to modernize enterprise services and capabilities to improve customer experience. The FDA CX Strategy was created to guide this effort. This comprehensive enterprise plan introduces the Agency's CX framework and considers the perspective of interested parties such as the public, employees, and industry.

DATES: Submit either electronic or written comments on the IT Strategy by July 31, 2024, to ensure that the Agency considers your comments for future iterations of the IT Strategy.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments as follows:

Electronic Submissions

Submit electronic comments in the following way:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal: https://www.regulations.gov*. Follow the instructions for submitting comments. Comments submitted electronically, including attachments, to *https://www.regulations.gov* will be posted to the docket unchanged. Because your comment will be made public, you are solely responsible for ensuring that your comment does not include any confidential information that you or a third party may not wish to be posted, such as medical information, your or anyone else's Social Security number, or confidential business information, such as a manufacturing process. Please note that if you include your name, contact information, or other information that identifies you in the body of your comments, that information will be posted on *https://www.regulations.gov*.
- If you want to submit a comment with confidential information that you do not wish to be made available to the public, submit the comment as a written/paper submission and in the manner detailed (see ''Written/Paper Submissions'' and ''Instructions'').

Written/Paper Submissions

Submit written/paper submissions as follows:

- *Mail/Hand Delivery/Courier (for written/paper submissions):* Dockets Management Staff (HFA–305), Food and Drug Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852.
- For written/paper comments submitted to the Dockets Management

[1] 89 FR 39613 (May 9, 2024).

Staff, FDA will post your comment, as well as any attachments, except for information submitted, marked, and identified, as confidential, if submitted as detailed in ''Instructions.''

Instructions: All submissions received must include the Docket No. FDA–2024–N–2886 for ''FDA IT Strategy and CX Strategy.'' Received comments will be placed in the docket and, except for those submitted as ''Confidential Submissions,'' publicly viewable at *https://www.regulations.gov* or at the Dockets Management Staff between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, 240–402–7500.

• Confidential Submissions—To submit a comment with confidential information that you do not wish to be made publicly available, submit your comments only as a written/paper submission. You should submit two copies total. One copy will include the information you claim to be confidential with a heading or cover note that states ''THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.'' The Agency will review this copy, including the claimed confidential information, in its consideration of comments. The second copy, which will have the claimed confidential information redacted/blacked out, will be available for public viewing and posted on *https://www.regulations.gov*. Submit both copies to the Dockets Management Staff. If you do not wish your name and contact information to be made publicly available, you can provide this information on the cover sheet and not in the body of your comments and you must identify this information as ''confidential.'' Any information marked as ''confidential'' will not be disclosed except in accordance with 21 CFR 10.20 and other applicable disclosure law. For more information about FDA's posting of comments to public dockets, see 80 FR 56469, September 18, 2015, or access the information at: *https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2015-09-18/pdf/2015-23389.pdf*.

Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents or the electronic and written/paper comments received, go to *https://www.regulations.gov* and insert the docket number, found in brackets in the heading of this document, into the ''Search'' box and follow the prompts and/or go to the Dockets Management Staff, 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852, 240–402–7500.

Submit written requests for single copies of this IT Strategy & CX Strategy to the Office of Digital Transformation, Food and Drug Administration, FDA Library, 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1087, Rockville, MD 20857. Send one self-addressed adhesive label to assist that office in processing your request or include a fax number to which the IT Strategy or CX Strategy may be sent. See the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for information on electronic access to the IT Strategy or CX Strategy.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Casi Alexander, Office of Digital Transformation, Food and Drug Administration, FDA Library, 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1087, Rockville, MD 20857, 240–402–5171, email: *Casi.Alexander@fda.hhs.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

FDA is announcing the availability of a request for comment on its strategies entitled ''FDA Information Technology Strategy'' and ''Customer Experience Strategy.''

As part of FDA's fulfillment of requirements in section 3627 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (Pub. L. 117–328), and commitments described in section IV.A.2. of the ''PDUFA Reauthorization Performance Goals and Program Enhancements Fiscal Years 2023–2027'' (PDUFA VII commitment letter), FDA is developing a comprehensive framework for guiding the Agency's work and allocating annual technology budgets and resources. The announcement of the availability of the first Agency-wide IT Strategy was published in the **Federal Register** on September 13, 2023 (88 FR 64435). As part of an annual strategic planning process, FDA reviewed the strategy and made minor updates to align with internal and external changes. FDA's 2024 refresh of the IT Strategy required no change to its IT goals and minimal changes listed below:

• Updated 14 objectives to increase clarity;

• Highlighted our commitment to working with global public health partners and advocating for global standards;

• Clarified mission outcomes the IT Strategy aims to drive; and

• Promoted alignment to relevant strategies, *e.g.,* those of the Department of Health and Human Services.

For additional context on how the IT Strategy will be executed, FDA suggests reading the IT Operating Plan, a companion document to the IT Strategy. The IT Operating Plan, published in February 2024, is a blueprint designed to guide FDA's technological growth and development in accordance with the IT strategic goals. It encompasses an IT strategic roadmap, governance, and organization construct as well as a performance measurement process designed to advance public health outcomes.

One of FDA's IT strategic goals is to ''Modernize Enterprise Services and Capabilities'' which includes an objective to improve customer experience. This objective is focused on creating customer-centric solutions that enhance satisfaction by improving accessibility to IT solutions, streamlining processes, and easing adoption. The CX Strategy was developed to outline FDA's approach to make progress against this objective. The CX Strategy introduces the Agency's CX framework and is written with the perspective of interested parties from the public, employees, and industry in mind.

The Agency continues to take a collaborative approach to strategy development by gathering input from numerous internal and external interested parties. This input is crucial for developing an updated comprehensive plan that best meets the needs and goals of industry and the Agency. Comments on the IT Strategy as well as the CX Strategy will be considered for future iterations.

II. Requested Feedback

Interested persons are invited to provide detailed comments to the Office of Digital Transformation (see **ADDRESSES**) on the specific IT Strategy Goals and Objectives within FDA's Agency-wide IT Strategy as well as the CX Strategy. To facilitate comment, FDA has developed a series of questions in this section. The questions are not meant to be exhaustive, and FDA is also interested in any other pertinent information interested parties would like to share on this topic. FDA encourages interested parties to provide the specific rationale and basis for their comments, including any available supporting data and information.

A. IT Strategy and Operating Plan

This annual update to the IT Strategy contains minimal changes per the summary above. If you previously responded to the Agency's **Federal Register** notice published on September 13, 2023 (88 FR 64435), soliciting feedback, you will see some similar questions. You may choose to refer to your prior response or to provide additional feedback based on your experience since the first IT Strategy publication as well as context provided in our IT Operating Plan, a companion guide to the IT Strategy.

1. Which goals and objectives are most important to you? Why?

2. What are up to three outcomes the IT Strategy has helped or will help you achieve? Please provide examples.

3. What gaps do you see in the IT Strategy?

4. What challenges or risks do you foresee in executing the IT Strategy beyond those captured in the IT Operating Plan?

5. How have you leveraged the IT Strategy and/or IT Operating Plan since they were published in 2023?

6. How might FDA continue to communicate and engage interested parties in developing and implementing the strategy?

B. Customer Experience Strategy

1. Which goals and objectives are most important to you? Why?

2. What gaps do you see in the CX Strategy's goals or objectives?

3. What has been your customer experience when interacting with FDA?

4. What is one thing FDA can do to improve your customer experience?

III. Electronic Access

Persons with access to the internet may obtain electronic versions of the IT Strategy and CX Strategy at *https://www.regulations.gov* and the IT Operating Plan at *https://www.fda.gov/about-fda/office-digital-transformation/odt-reports*.

Dated: June 20, 2024.

Lauren K. Roth,

Associate Commissioner for Policy.

[FR Doc. 2024–13941 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4164–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. FDA–2023–D–3740]

Priority Zoonotic Animal Drug Designation and Review Process; Guidance for Industry; Availability

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA or Agency) is announcing the availability of a final guidance for industry #283 entitled ''Priority Zoonotic Animal Drug Designation and Review Process.'' This guidance is intended to assist sponsors pursuing Priority Zoonotic Animal Drug (PZAD) designation for a new animal drug. This guidance is intended to provide the eligibility criteria for PZAD designation, the process for requesting PZAD designation, and enhancements in the FDA review process for PZADs.

DATES: The announcement of the guidance is published in the **Federal Register** on June 26, 2024.

ADDRESSES: You may submit either electronic or written comments on Agency guidances at any time as follows:

Electronic Submissions

Submit electronic comments in the following way:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal: https://www.regulations.gov.* Follow the instructions for submitting comments. Comments submitted electronically, including attachments, to *https://www.regulations.gov* will be posted to the docket unchanged. Because your comment will be made public, you are solely responsible for ensuring that your comment does not include any confidential information that you or a third party may not wish to be posted, such as medical information, your or anyone else's Social Security number, or confidential business information, such as a manufacturing process. Please note that if you include your name, contact information, or other information that identifies you in the body of your comments, that information will be posted on *https://www.regulations.gov*.
- If you want to submit a comment with confidential information that you do not wish to be made available to the public, submit the comment as a written/paper submission and in the manner detailed (see ''Written/Paper Submissions'' and ''Instructions'').

Written/Paper Submissions

Submit written/paper submissions as follows:

- *Mail/Hand Delivery/Courier (for written/paper submissions):* Dockets Management Staff (HFA–305), Food and Drug Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852.
- For written/paper comments submitted to the Dockets Management Staff, FDA will post your comment, as well as any attachments, except for information submitted, marked and identified, as confidential, if submitted as detailed in ''Instructions.''

Instructions: All submissions received must include the Docket No. FDA–2023–D–3740 for ''Priority Zoonotic Animal Drug Designation and Review Process.'' Received comments will be placed in the docket and, except for those submitted as ''Confidential Submissions,'' publicly viewable at *https://www.regulations.gov* or at the Dockets Management Staff between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, 240–402–7500.

- Confidential Submissions—To submit a comment with confidential information that you do not wish to be made publicly available, submit your comments only as a written/paper submission. You should submit two copies total. One copy will include the information you claim to be confidential with a heading or cover note that states ''THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.'' The Agency will review this copy, including the claimed confidential information, in its consideration of comments. The second copy, which will have the claimed confidential information redacted/blacked out, will be available for public viewing and posted on *https://www.regulations.gov.* Submit both copies to the Dockets Management Staff. If you do not wish your name and contact information to be made publicly available, you can provide this information on the cover sheet and not in the body of your comments and you must identify this information as ''confidential.'' Any information marked as ''confidential'' will not be disclosed except in accordance with 21 CFR 10.20 and other applicable disclosure law. For more information about FDA's posting of comments to public dockets, see 80 FR 56469, September 18, 2015, or access the information at: *https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2015-09-18/pdf/2015-23389.pdf.*

Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents or the electronic and written/paper comments received, go to *https://www.regulations.gov* and insert the docket number, found in brackets in the heading of this document, into the ''Search'' box and follow the prompts and/or go to the Dockets Management Staff, 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852, 240–402–7500.

You may submit comments on any guidance at any time (see 21 CFR 10.115(g)(5)).

Submit written requests for single copies of the guidance to the Policy and Regulations Staff (HFV–6), Center for Veterinary Medicine, Food and Drug Administration, 7500 Standish Pl., Rockville, MD 20855. Send one self-addressed adhesive label to assist that office in processing your requests. See the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for electronic access to the guidance document.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Evgenij Evdokimov, Center for Veterinary Medicine (HFV–108), Food and Drug Administration, 7500 Standish Pl., Rockville, MD 20855, 240–402–0712, *evgenij.evdokimov@fda.hhs.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

In the **Federal Register** of December 18, 2023 (88 FR 87433), FDA published the notice of availability for a draft GFI #283 entitled ''Priority Zoonotic Animal Drug Designation and Review Process'' giving interested persons until February 16, 2024, to comment on the draft guidance. FDA received several comments on the draft guidance and those comments were considered as the guidance was finalized. Changes to the final guidance include the following: providing examples of preliminary clinical evidence for the purposes of PZAD designation; confirming that PZAD indications may appear on the same product labeling as non-PZAD indications; and confirming that PZAD designation does not impact potential qualification for other review incentive programs within or outside of the Center for Veterinary Medicine. In addition, editorial changes were made to improve clarity. The guidance announced in this notice finalizes the draft guidance dated December 2023.

This level 1 guidance is being issued consistent with FDA's good guidance practices regulation (21 CFR 10.115). The guidance represents the current thinking of FDA on the Priority Zoonotic Animal Drug Designation and Review Process. It does not establish any rights for any person and is not binding on FDA or the public. You can use an alternative approach if it satisfies the requirements of the applicable statutes and regulations.

II. Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995

While this guidance contains no collection of information, it does refer to previously approved FDA collections of information. The previously approved collections of information are subject to review by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3501–3521). The collections of information in 21 CFR part 514 have been approved under OMB control number 0910–0032; the collections of information in 21 CFR 511.1 have been approved under OMB control number 0910–0117.

III. Electronic Access

Persons with access to the internet may obtain the guidance at *https://www.fda.gov/AnimalVeterinary/GuidanceComplianceEnforcement/GuidanceforIndustry/default.htm, https://www.fda.gov/regulatory-information/search-fda-guidance-documents,* or *https://www.regulations.gov.*

Dated: June 17, 2024.

Lauren K. Roth,

Associate Commissioner for Policy.

[FR Doc. 2024–13921 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4164–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. FDA–2022–D–2899]

Effectiveness of Anthelmintics: Specific Recommendations for Products Proposed for the Prevention of Heartworm Disease in Dogs; Guidance for Industry; Availability

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA, Agency, or we) is announcing the availability of a final guidance for industry (GFI) #276 entitled ''Effectiveness of Anthelmintics: Specific Recommendations for Products Proposed for the Prevention of Heartworm Disease in Dogs.'' The guidance provides recommendations for the effectiveness evaluation of drugs indicated for the prevention of heartworm disease caused by *Dirofilaria immitis* in dogs. These recommendations should be read in conjunction with related Agency Veterinary International Conference on Harmonization (VICH) guidance documents and are intended to provide additional detail to elements of study design and interpretation under the recommendations laid out in the VICH guidances.

DATES: The announcement of the guidance is published in the **Federal Register** on June 26, 2024.

ADDRESSES: You may submit either electronic or written comments on Agency guidances at any time as follows:

Electronic Submissions

Submit electronic comments in the following way:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal: https://www.regulations.gov*. Follow the instructions for submitting comments. Comments submitted electronically, including attachments, to *https://www.regulations.gov* will be posted to the docket unchanged. Because your comment will be made public, you are solely responsible for ensuring that your comment does not include any confidential information that you or a third party may not wish to be posted, such as medical information, your or anyone else's Social Security number, or confidential business information, such as a manufacturing process. Please note that if you include your name, contact information, or other information that identifies you in the body of your comments, that information will be posted on *https://www.regulations.gov*.
- If you want to submit a comment with confidential information that you do not wish to be made available to the public, submit the comment as a written/paper submission and in the manner detailed (see ''Written/Paper Submissions'' and ''Instructions'').

Written/Paper Submissions

Submit written/paper submissions as follows:

- *Mail/Hand Delivery/Courier (for written/paper submissions):* Dockets Management Staff (HFA–305), Food and Drug Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852.
- For written/paper comments submitted to the Dockets Management Staff, FDA will post your comment, as well as any attachments, except for information submitted, marked and identified, as confidential, if submitted as detailed in ''Instructions.''

Instructions: All submissions received must include the Docket No. FDA–2022–D–2899 for ''Effectiveness of Anthelmintics: Specific Recommendations for Products Proposed for the Prevention of Heartworm Disease in Dogs.'' Received comments will be placed in the docket and, except for those submitted as ''Confidential Submissions,'' publicly viewable at *https://www.regulations.gov* or at the Dockets Management Staff between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, 240–402–7500.

- Confidential Submissions—To submit a comment with confidential information that you do not wish to be made publicly available, submit your comments only as a written/paper submission. You should submit two copies total. One copy will include the information you claim to be confidential with a heading or cover note that states ''THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.'' The Agency will review this copy, including the claimed confidential information, in its consideration of comments. The second copy, which will have the claimed confidential information redacted/blacked out, will be available for public viewing and posted on *https://www.regulations.gov.* Submit both copies to the Dockets Management Staff. If you do not wish your name and contact information to be made publicly available, you can provide this

information on the cover sheet and not in the body of your comments and you must identify this information as ''confidential.'' Any information marked as ''confidential'' will not be disclosed except in accordance with 21 CFR 10.20 and other applicable disclosure law. For more information about FDA's posting of comments to public dockets, see 80 FR 56469, September 18, 2015, or access the information at: *https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2015-09-18/pdf/2015-23389.pdf*.

Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents or the electronic and written/paper comments received, go to *https://www.regulations.gov* and insert the docket number, found in brackets in the heading of this document, into the ''Search'' box and follow the prompts and/or go to the Dockets Management Staff, 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852, 240–402–7500.

You may submit comments on any guidance at any time (see 21 CFR 10.115(g)(5)).

Submit written requests for single copies of the guidance to the Policy and Regulations Staff (HFV–6), Center for Veterinary Medicine, Food and Drug Administration, 7500 Standish Pl., Rockville, MD 20855. Send one self-addressed adhesive label to assist that office in processing your requests. See the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for electronic access to the guidance document.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Steven Fleischer, Center for Veterinary Medicine (HFV–110), Food and Drug Administration, 7500 Standish Pl., Rockville, MD 20855, 240–402–0809, *Steven.Fleischer@fda.hhs.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

In the **Federal Register** of November 30, 2022 (87 FR 73560), FDA announced the availability of draft GFI #276, entitled ''Effectiveness of Anthelmintics: Specific Recommendations for Products Proposed for the Prevention of Heartworm Disease in Dogs,'' giving interested persons until January 30, 2023, to comment on the draft guidance. In response to a request for an extension, the comment period was extended to May 1, 2023 (88 FR 3744). FDA received eight comment submissions on the draft guidance, some with numerous discrete comments within the submission; all comments were considered as the guidance was finalized. We clarified our discussion and recommendations related to geographic locations, laboratory dose confirmation studies, and field effectiveness studies. We also clarified that the recommendations in this guidance are based on current technology and veterinary epidemiology, including available diagnostic methodologies. Individuals are encouraged to discuss deviations from these recommendations with FDA, especially as advances in veterinary medicine related to heartworm disease, including disease epidemiology, isolate characterization, or diagnostic testing are identified.

This guidance is being issued consistent with FDA's good guidance practices regulation (21 CFR 10.115). The guidance represents the current thinking of FDA on ''Effectiveness of Anthelmintics: Specific Recommendations for Products Proposed for the Prevention of Heartworm Disease in Dogs.'' It does not establish any rights for any person and is not binding on FDA or the public. You can use an alternative approach if it satisfies the requirements of the applicable statutes and regulations.

II. Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995

While this guidance contains no collection of information, it does refer to previously approved FDA collections of information. The previously approved collections of information are subject to review by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3501–3521). The collections of information in 21 CFR part 511 have been approved under OMB control number 0910–0117; the collections of information in 21 CFR part 514 have been approved under OMB control number 0910–0032.

III. Electronic Access

Persons with access to the internet may obtain the guidance at *https://www.fda.gov/animal-veterinary/guidance-regulations/guidance-industry, https://www.fda.gov/regulatory-information/search-fda-guidance-documents,* or *https://www.regulations.gov*.

Dated: June 18, 2024.

Lauren K. Roth,

Associate Commissioner for Policy.

[FR Doc. 2024–13922 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4164–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. FDA–2024–N–1201]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission for Office of Management and Budget Review; Comment Request; Voluntary Total Product Life Cycle Advisory Program Pilot

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA or we) is announcing that a proposed collection of information has been submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Submit written comments (including recommendations) on the collection of information by July 26, 2024.

ADDRESSES: To ensure that comments on the information collection are received, OMB recommends that written comments be submitted to *https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain*. Find this particular information collection by selecting ''Currently under Review—Open for Public Comments'' or by using the search function. The title of this information collection is Voluntary Total Product Life Cycle Advisory Program Pilot. Also include the FDA docket number found in brackets in the heading of this document.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: JonnaLynn Capezzuto, Office of Operations, Food and Drug Administration, Three White Flint North, 10A–12M, 11601 Landsdown St., North Bethesda, MD 20852, 301–796–3794, *PRAStaff@fda.hhs.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In compliance with 44 U.S.C. 3507, FDA has submitted the following proposed collection of information to OMB for review and clearance.

Voluntary Total Product Life Cycle (TPLC) Advisory Program (TAP) Pilot

OMB Control Number 0910–NEW

This information collection supports the TPLC TAP. FDA's Center for Devices and Radiological Health launched the voluntary TAP Pilot in 2023 (87 FR 61605; October 12, 2022). The TAP Pilot is one of the commitments agreed to between FDA and industry as part of the reauthorization of the Medical Device

User Fee Amendments for fiscal year (FY) 2023 through FY 2027 [1] (MDUFA V).[2] The long-term vision for TAP is to help spur more rapid development and more rapid and widespread patient access to safe, effective, high-quality medical devices of public health importance. Over the course of MDUFA V, the voluntary TAP Pilot is intended to demonstrate the feasibility and benefits of process improvements to FDA's early interactions with participants and of FDA's facilitation of interactions between participants and stakeholders that support the vision for TAP.

A key goal of the TAP Pilot is to improve various aspects of medical device development and to increase the predictability and reduce the time from concept to commercialization, in part, by facilitating robust engagement early in the process with FDA, industry, and key stakeholders.

The MDUFA V commitment letter states that FDA will conduct an assessment of the overall outcomes of the TAP Pilot that will include a participant satisfaction survey and quantitative and qualitative success metrics that include, but are not limited to: (1) the extent to which FDA is successful at meeting the quantitative goals described in V.J.3.b [3] of the MDUFA V commitment letter; (2) participant satisfaction with the timeliness, frequency, quality, and efficiency of interactions with and written feedback from FDA; (3) participant satisfaction with the timeliness, frequency, quality, and efficiency of voluntary interactions with non-FDA stakeholders facilitated by FDA (if utilized); and (4) an overall assessment of the outcomes of the TAP Pilot and opportunities for improvement.

In the **Federal Register** of March 21, 2024 (89 FR 20209), FDA published a 60-day notice requesting public comment on the proposed collection of information. No comments were received.

FDA estimates the burden of this collection of information as follows:

TABLE 1—ESTIMATED ANNUAL REPORTING BURDEN [1]

Activity	Number of respondents	Number of responses per respondent	Total annual responses	Average burden per response	Total hours
TAP Pilot Manufacturers Requesting to Participate	225	1	225	0.25 (15 minutes)	56
Satisfaction Survey Participants	200	2	400	0.33 (20 minutes)	132
TAP Pilot Participant Interviews	60	1	60	1	60
Passive Observations	100	1	100	0	0
Pulse Survey Participants	105	1	105	0.03 (2 minutes)	3
Total [2]					251

[1] There are no capital costs or operating and maintenance costs associated with this collection of information.
[2] Totals may not sum due to rounding.

Upon further review of the proposed information collection, we updated the burden table to include a distinct line item for Passive Observations for the TAP Pilot and to adjust the estimated number of respondents expected for the Pulse Survey.

FDA estimates that approximately 225 manufacturers will submit a request to participate in the TAP Pilot. Any sponsors who participate in the TAP Pilot will be invited to take the survey. As such, there is no sampling plan; the whole population of TAP Pilot participants will be invited to participate. TAP Pilot participants consist of both applicants and external stakeholders, such as professional societies, payers, and patient advocacy groups.

We estimate that approximately 200 manufacturers will qualify and therefore will be surveyed 2 times per year. In addition, around 60 manufacturers will be interviewed after completing an application to participate. Manufacturers will also be surveyed 1 additional time per year just to gage satisfaction over time with their experience interacting with FDA. This equates to 251 burden hours per year (rounded).

Application To Participate in TAP Pilot Program

FDA is developing a software portal mechanism through which sponsors interested in device enrollment into the TAP Pilot program can submit an application to join.

TAP Pilot Participant Satisfaction Survey

This assessment includes a participant survey utilizing quantitative and qualitative success metrics. Data collected under this survey will help FDA evaluate the TAP Pilot. Specifically, FDA seeks to evaluate:

- participant satisfaction with the timeliness, frequency, quality, and efficiency of interactions with and written feedback from FDA;
- participant satisfaction with the timeliness, frequency, quality, and efficiency of voluntary interactions with non-FDA stakeholders facilitated by FDA (if utilized); and
- other outcomes of the TAP Pilot and opportunities for improvement.

Any sponsors who participate in the TAP Pilot will be invited to take the survey.

TAP Pilot Participant Interviews

In support of qualitative success metrics and sentiments around the operation of the TAP Pilot, FDA seeks to conduct interviews with TAP Pilot participants, including applicants and external stakeholders, such as professional societies, payers, and patient advocacy groups. The purpose of these interviews is to better understand individual participants' experiences in the TAP Pilot. Data collected in these interviews will help FDA understand the impact of the TAP Pilot and potential opportunities for improvement in TAP processes and operations. All

[1] MDUFA V spans from FY 2023 through FY 2027. The fiscal year runs from October 1 through September 30, so FY 2023 runs from October 1, 2022, through September 30, 2023.

[2] For more information on FDA's TAP Pilot, see the TAP Pilot web page at: *https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/how-study-and-market-your-device/total-product-life-cycle-advisory-program-tap*.

[3] See section V.J.3.b of the MDUFA V commitment letter, MDUFA Performance Goals and Procedures, Fiscal Years 2023 Through 2027, available at: *https://www.fda.gov/industry/medical-device-user-fee-amendments-mdufa/medical-device-user-fee-amendments-2023-mdufa-v*.

TAP Pilot participants will make up the potential group of respondents for the interviews, however, FDA intends to interview only a stratified sample of all potential participants.

TAP Pilot Passive Observations

FDA would like to obtain interaction-related data by passively observing meetings between FDA staff, applicants, and external stakeholders. Passive observations impose no burden on respondents, as they are solely conducted by FDA staff without requiring any input or action from the respondents. We plan to use a structured observational meeting form or checklist to standardize data collection. The purpose of these observations is to evaluate meeting attendance, level of collaboration, and the degree to which key processes and activities are being adhered. Data collected may also support identification of improvement opportunities to the TAP Pilot. We do not intend to actively collect information from meeting participants directly (*e.g.,* by asking questions or collecting documents).

TAP Pilot Participant Pulse Surveys

FDA seeks to obtain quantitative satisfaction ratings and free-response data from TAP Pilot participants using a 2-question survey deployed closely following TAP Pilot interactions (*e.g.,* teleconferences, written feedback). The same pulse survey will be administered after each interaction. The purpose of these surveys is to measure level of satisfaction with the interaction and allow for an opportunity for participants to provide feedback regarding the interaction.

Dated: June 20, 2024.

Lauren K. Roth,

Associate Commissioner for Policy.

[FR Doc. 2024–13961 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4164–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

[Document Identifier: OS–0990–0263]

Agency Information Collection Request (ICR). 30-Day Public Comment Request

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Office of the Secretary (OS), Department of Health and Human Services, is publishing the following summary of a proposed collection for public comment.

DATES: Comments on the ICR must be received on or before July 26, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to *www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain.* Find this particular information collection by selecting ''Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments'' or by using the search function.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sherrette Funn, *Sherrette.Funn@hhs.gov* or (202) 264–0041, or *PRA@HHS.GOV.* When submitting comments or requesting information, please include the document identifier 0990–0263–30D and project title for reference.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Interested persons are invited to send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including any of the following subjects: (1) The necessity and utility of the proposed information collection for the proper performance of the agency's functions; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology to minimize the information collection burden.

Title of the Collection: Protection of Human Subjects: Assurance Identification/IRB Certification/ Declaration of Exemption Form.

Type of Collection: Renewal, 3-year extension with non-substantive changes for the Protection of Human Subjects: Assurance Identification/IRB Certification/Declaration of Exemption Form OMB No. 0990–0263 Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health, Office for Human Research Protections

Abstract: The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health, Office for Human Research Protections is requesting a three-year extension with non-substantive changes of the Protection of Human Subjects: Assurance Identification/IRB Certification/Declaration of Exemption Form, OMB No. 0990–0263.

The information collected on the form is to provide a simplified method for institutions engaged in research conducted or supported by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to satisfy the requirements of HHS regulations for the protection of human subjects at 45 CFR 46.103 for assurance identification and institutional review board (IRB) certification and declare exemption status. Non-substantive changes include adding instructions that, if additional assurances apply, those details can be indicated in the ''Comments'' section and clarifying that the form element for IRB expiration date does not apply to all projects.

Likely Respondents: Institutions engaged in research involving human subjects where the research is supported by HHS. Institutional use of the form is also relied upon by other federal departments and agencies that have codified or follow the Federal Policy for the Protection of Human Subjects (Common Rule), which is codified for HHS at 45 CFR part 46, subpart A.

ESTIMATED ANNUALIZED BURDEN TABLE

Form name	Number of respondents	Number of responses per respondent	Hours per response	Response burden hours
Protection of Human Subjects: Assurance Identification/IRB Certification/ Declaration of Exemption	13,000	2	0.5	13,000

Sherrette A. Funn,

Paperwork Reduction Act Reports Clearance Officer, Office of the Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2024–13944 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4150–36–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Indian Health Service

Funding Opportunity for Increasing the Representation of American Indians and Alaska Natives in Sanitation and Engineering Management

Announcement Type: New.

Funding Announcement Number: HHS–2024–IHS–SEM–0001.

Assistance Listing (Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance or CFDA) Number: 93.445.

Key Dates

Application Deadline Date: July 10, 2024.

Earliest Anticipated Start Date: August 1, 2024.

I. Funding Opportunity Description

Statutory Authority

The Indian Health Service (IHS) is accepting applications for a Single (Sole) Source Cooperative Agreement from the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) for Increasing the Representation of American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) people in science, technology, engineering, and mathematic (STEM) fields. This program is authorized under the Snyder Act, 25 U.S.C. 13; and the Transfer Act, 42 U.S.C. 2001(a). The Assistance Listings section of SAM.gov (*https://sam.gov/content/home*) describes this program under 93.445.

Purpose

The purpose of this program is to increase representation of AI/AN people in STEM fields by increasing visibility and awareness of lesser-known STEM applied public health occupational and student opportunities as well as the benefits of these opportunities.

The full Notice of Funding Opportunity and all application materials can be found on *Grants.gov* at *https://grants.gov/search-results-detail/354775*.

II. Award Information

Funding Instrument—Cooperative Agreement

Estimated Funds Available

The total funding identified for fiscal year (FY) 2024 is approximately $30,000. We estimate $215,000 in FY 2025, $175,000 in FY 2026, $175,000 in FY 2027 and $150,000 for FY 2028.

Anticipated Number of Awards

The IHS anticipates issuing approximately one award under this program announcement.

Period of Performance

The period of performance is for 5 years.

III. Eligibility Information

1. Eligibility

This award is offered as a single source cooperative agreement to the AISES.

Note: Please refer to Section IV.2 (Application and Submission Information/Subsection 2, Content and Form of Application Submission) for additional proof of applicant status documents required, such as proof of nonprofit status, etc.

IV. Agency Contacts

1. Questions on the program matters may be directed to: Ms. Melissa de Vera, Assistant Director, Indian Health Service Headquarters, Division of Sanitation Facilities Construction, 5600 Fishers Lane, Mail Stop: 10N13, Rockville, MD 20897, Phone: (240) 462–4126, Email: *Melissa.Devera@ihs.gov*.

2. Questions on awards management and fiscal matters may be directed to: Indian Health Service, Division of Grants Management, 5600 Fishers Lane, Mail Stop: 09E70, Rockville, MD 20857, Email: *DGM@ihs.gov*.

3. For technical assistance with *Grants.gov*, please contact the *Grants.gov* help desk at (800) 518–4726, or by email at *support@grants.gov*.

4. For technical assistance with GrantSolutions, please contact the GrantSolutions help desk at (866) 577–0771, or by email at *help@grantsolutions.gov*.

V. Other Information

The Public Health Service strongly encourages all grant, cooperative agreement, and contract recipients to provide a smoke-free workplace and promote the non-use of all tobacco products. In addition, Public Law 103–227, the Pro-Children Act of 1994, prohibits smoking in certain facilities (or in some cases, any portion of the facility) in which regular or routine education, library, day care, health care, or early childhood development services are provided to children. This is consistent with the HHS mission to protect and advance the physical and mental health of the American people.

Roselyn Tso,

Director, Indian Health Service.

[FR Doc. 2024–13949 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4166–14–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Office of the Director; Notice of Charter Renewal

In accordance with title 41 of the U.S. Code of Federal Regulations, section 102–3.65(a), notice is hereby given that the Charter for the National Institutes of Health Clinical Center Research Hospital Board was renewed for an additional two-year period on June 15, 2024.

It is determined that the National Institutes of Health Clinical Center Research Hospital Board is in the public interest in connection with the performance of duties imposed on the National Institutes of Health by law, and that these duties can best be performed through the advice and counsel of this group.

Inquiries may be directed to Claire Harris, Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy, Office of the Director, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Democracy Boulevard, Suite 1000, Bethesda, Maryland 20892 (Mail code 4875), Telephone (301) 496–2123, or *harriscl@mail.nih.gov.*

Dated: June 21, 2024.

Patricia B. Hansberger,

Deputy Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 2024–14028 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases; Notice of Closed Meeting

Pursuant to section 1009 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, notice is hereby given of the following meeting.

The meeting will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial

property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases Special Emphasis Panel; Time-Sensitive Obesity Review.

Date: July 23, 2024.

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: National Institutes of Health, NIDDK, Democracy II, Suite 7000A, 6707 Democracy Boulevard, Bethesda, MD 20892 (Virtual Meeting).

Contact Person: Michele L. Barnard, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer, National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, National Institute of Health, 6707 Democracy Boulevard, Rm. 7353, Bethesda, MD 20892–2542, (301) 594–8898, *barnardm@extra.niddk.nih.gov.*

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.847, Diabetes, Endocrinology and Metabolic Research; 93.848, Digestive Diseases and Nutrition Research; 93.849, Kidney Diseases, Urology and Hematology Research, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: June 21, 2024.

Miguelina Perez,

Program Analyst, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 2024–14027 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Cancer Institute; Amended Notice of Meeting

Notice is hereby given of a change in the meeting of the National Cancer Institute Council of Research Advocates, June 26, 2024, 12:00 p.m. to June 26, 2024, 3:00 p.m., National Institutes of Health, Building 31, 9000 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD, 20892 (Virtual Meeting), which was published in the **Federal Register** on June 11, 2024, FR Doc. 2024–12736, 89 FR 49181.

This notice is being amended to change the meeting start and end times. The meeting will now be held from 12:15 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. instead of from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. The meeting is open to the public.

Dated: June 21, 2024.

David W. Freeman,

Supervisory Program Analyst, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 2024–14026 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

[Docket Number USCG–2024–0383]

Cooperative Research and Development Agreement: Payload Incorporated With Computer Vision and Machine Learning

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notice of intent; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is announcing its intent to enter into a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) with AeroVironment, Inc. to evaluate payload(s) that can accelerate autonomy to fielded assets and uncrewed platforms, and automated overhead imagery analysis tool software. The Coast Guard is currently considering partnering with AeroVironment, Inc. to investigate their payload that seamlessly integrates with current AeroVironment UAS in use by the Coast Guard and solicits public comment on the possible participation of other parties in the proposed CRADA, and the nature of that participation. While the Coast Guard is currently considering partnering with AeroVironment, Inc., we are soliciting public comment on the possible nature of and participation of other parties in the proposed CRADA. In addition, the Coast Guard also invites other potential Federal participants, who have the interest and capability to bring similar contributions to this type of research, to consider submitting proposals for consideration in similar CRADAs.

DATES: Your comments and related material must reach the Coast Guard on or before July 26, 2024.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments identified by docket number USCG–2024–0383 using the Federal portal at *https://www.regulations.gov.* See the ''Public Participation and Request for Comments'' portion of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for further instructions on submitting comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions about this notice of intent, call or email Ms. Shelly Wyman, U.S. Coast Guard Research and Development Center; telephone 860–271–2600, email *RDC-info@uscg.mil.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Table of Abbreviations

CRADA Cooperative Research and Development Agreement
DHS Department of Homeland Security
MDA Maritime Domain Awareness
U.S.C. United States Code

II. Background and Purpose

The Coast Guard Research and Development Center (R&D Center) is the Coast Guard's sole facility performing research, development, and test and evaluation in support of the service's major missions. The R&D Center supports the evaluation of feasibility and affordability of mission execution solutions. When appropriate, the R&D Center collaborates with relevant professionals in the public and private sectors on technology evaluation and/or technology advancement.

Persistent surveillance can be defined as a collection strategy that emphasizes the ability of some collection systems to linger on demand in an area to detect, locate, characterize, identify, track, target, in near or real-time. Persistent surveillance requires an operationally focused surveillance approach that uses a full range of strategic, operational, and tactical collection methods to dwell on and revisit a target.

In the Coast Guard Strategic Plan, rapidly advancing technologies, including those in uncrewed platforms, data analytics, artificial intelligence, and machine learning need to be harnessed for possible use in mission execution. The ability to detect, locate, characterize, identify, and track people or objects in the water in near or real-time and to apply that technology to Coast Guard sensors and systems has the potential to improve mission support to meet the needs of the Coast Guard today and in the foreseeable future.

In the Coast Guard Strategic Plan, two major goals are to direct efforts to encourage developing innovative ways to increase delivery and efficiency of mission support functions; and to strengthen or expedite acquisition process to adopt new technologies that will enhance frontline operations. The ability to enhance our existing systems to incorporate innovative track processing capabilities that may incorporate computer vision and/or machine learning technology for search and rescue missions may greatly increase mission performance on select platforms and improve Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA).

III. Public Participation and Request for Comments

We request public comments on this notice. Although we do not plan to respond to comments in the **Federal Register**, we will respond directly to commenters and may modify our proposal in light of comments.

We encourage you to submit comments in response to this notice of inquiry through the Federal Decision Making portal at *https://www.regulations.gov.* To do so, go to *https://www.regulations.gov,* type USCG–2024–0383 in the search box and click ''Search.'' Next, look for this document in the Search Results column, and click on it. Then click on the Comment option. In your submission, please include the docket number for this notice of intent and provide a reason for each suggestion or recommendation. If your material cannot be submitted using *https://www.regulations.gov,* contact the person in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this document for alternate instructions. To view documents mentioned in this notice of intent as being available in the docket, find the docket as described in the previous paragraph, and then select ''Supporting & Related Material'' in the Document Type column. Public comments will also be placed in our online docket and can be viewed by following instructions on the *https://www.regulations.gov* Frequently Asked Questions web page. We review all comments received, but we may choose not to post off-topic, inappropriate, or duplicate comments that we receive.

We accept anonymous comments. Comments we post to *https://www.regulations.gov* will include any personal information you have provided. For more about privacy and submissions in response to this document, see DHS's eRulemaking System of Records notice (85 FR 14226, March 11, 2020).

IV. Discussion

Cooperative Research and Development Agreements (CRADAs) are authorized under 15 U.S.C. 3710a.[1] A CRADA promotes the transfer of technology to the private sector for commercial use, as well as specified research or development efforts that are consistent with the mission of the Federal parties to the CRADA. The Federal party or parties agree with one or more non-Federal parties to share research resources, but the Federal party does not contribute funding.

CRADAs are not procurement contracts. Care is taken to ensure that CRADAs are not used to circumvent the contracting process. CRADAs have a specific purpose and should not be confused with procurement contracts, grants, and other type of agreements.

Under the proposed CRADA, the R&D Center will collaborate with one non-Federal participant. Together, the R&D Center and the non-Federal participant will evaluate payloads and software incorporating computer vision and machine learning systems designed for autonomous detection and tracking to determine their potential for search and rescue planning that may greatly increase mission performance on select USCG platforms and improve MDA capability.

We anticipate that the Coast Guard's contributions under the proposed CRADA will include the following:

1. In conjunction with the non-Federal participant(s), develop the demonstration a test plan to be executed under the CRADA;
2. Provide access to and coordinate the use of necessary Coast Guard facilities, surface assets, and R&D Center equipment to facilitate assessments and ensure that all necessary approvals have been obtained before the execution of the test plan;
3. Collaboratively collect and analyze demonstration test plan data; and
4. Collaboratively develop a summary documenting the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of this CRADA work.

We anticipate that the non-Federal participants' contributions under the proposed CRADA will include the following:

1. Provide and integrate the payload and imagery software equipment to conduct the demonstration described in the demonstration test plan;
2. Provide engineering support, including all required operators and technicians to conduct the demonstration
3. Provide shipment and delivery of all payload and software equipment required for the demonstration;
4. Provide travel and associated personnel and other expenses as required; and
5. Assist with compiling the results of the demonstration(s) with the R&D Center that documents the findings, conclusions, and recommendations under this CRADA

The Coast Guard reserves the right to select for CRADA participants all, some, or no proposals submitted for this CRADA. The Coast Guard will provide no funding for reimbursement of proposal development costs. Proposals and any other material submitted in response to this notice will not be returned. Proposals submitted are expected to be unclassified and have not more than five single-sided pages (excluding cover page, DD 1494, JF–12, etc.). The Coast Guard will select proposals at its sole discretion on the basis of:

1. How well they communicate an understanding, of and ability to meet, the proposed CRADA's goal; and

2. How well they address the following criteria:

a. Technical capability to support the non-Federal party contributions described, and

b. Resources available for supporting the non-Federal party contributions described.

Currently, the Coast Guard is considering AeroVironment, Inc. for participation in this CRADA. This consideration is because AeroVironment Inc. has a solution in place that is designed for seamless integration with existing R&D Center systems with potential for increased mission performance. However, we do not wish to exclude other viable participants from this or similar CRADAs in the future.

This is a technology assessment effort. The goal of the Coast Guard for this CRADA is to evaluate new payloads on current systems in conjunction with software tools using computer vision and machine learning models to determine how they can be utilized in the field, while providing user feedback and use cases in a maritime environment. The software tools can not only utilize AV optical sensors but also pull additional input from other optical sensors across multiple platforms that have feeds with different inputs and resolutions, as well as connect everything to a common operating picture. The ability for the equipment to locate, characterize, identify, and track objects in the water in different scenarios will be tested. Special consideration will be given to small business firms and consortia, and preference will be given to business units located in the U.S.

This notice is issued under the authority of 5 U.S.C. 552(a).

Dated: June 20, 2024.

M.P. Chien,

Captain, Commanding Officer, U.S. Coast Guard Research and Development Center.

[FR Doc. 2024–13926 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9110–04–P

[1] The statute confers this authority on the head of each Federal agency. The Secretary of DHS's authority is delegated to the Coast Guard and other DHS organizational elements by DHS Delegation No. 0160.1, para. II.B.34.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

[Docket Number USCG–2024–0339]

Cooperative Research and Development Agreement: Incident Driven Video Recording Systems (IDVRS) in the Form of Body-Worn Cameras (BWC), Various Accessories, Docking Stations, Video Management System (VMS) Software, and Cloud Storage Technology

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notice of intent; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is announcing its intent to enter into a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) with Axon Enterprise, Inc. to evaluate Incident Driven Video Recording Systems (IDVRS) in the form of body-worn cameras (BWC), various accessories, docking stations, video management system (VMS) software, and cloud storage technology. While the Coast Guard is currently considering partnering with Axon Enterprise, Inc., we are soliciting public comment on the possible nature of and participation of other parties in the proposed CRADA. In addition, the Coast Guard also invites other potential Federal participants, who have the interest and capability to bring similar contributions to this type of research, to consider submitting proposals for consideration in similar CRADAs.

DATES: Your comments and related material must reach the Coast Guard on or before July 26, 2024.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments identified by docket number USCG–2024–0339 using the Federal portal at *https://www.regulations.gov.* See the ''Public Participation and Request for Comments'' portion of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for further instructions on submitting comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions about this notice of intent, call or email Matt Burton, Rapid Reaction Technology Branch, U.S. Coast Guard Research and Development Center; telephone 860–271–2600, email *rdc-info@uscg.mil.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Table of Abbreviations

BWC Body-worn cameras
CRADA Cooperative Research and Development Agreement
DHS Department of Homeland Security
LEOs Law enforcement officers
U.S.C. United States Code

II. Background and Purpose

The Coast Guard is developing a material solution to meet the requirements for body-worn cameras (BWC) as specified in Executive Order 14074 of May 25, 2022, and DHS's BWC Policy 045–47 (2023). The BWC policy mandates the use of body cameras for Law Enforcement Officer's (LEO's) while engaged in interactions with the public, pre-planned arrest warrants, and during the execution of search and seizure warrants or orders. The BWC program has limited implementation within the Coast Guard and is currently utilized by select operational units on a small scale. The Research and Development Center is supporting a technology understanding of the Coast Guard's interest in expanding BWC usage to all LEO's.

III. Public Participation and Request for Comments

We request public comments on this notice. Although we do not plan to respond to comments in the **Federal Register**, we will respond directly to commenters and may modify our proposal in light of comments.

We encourage you to submit comments in response to this notice of inquiry through the Federal Decision Making portal at *https://www.regulations.gov.* To do so, go to *https://www.regulations.gov,* type USCG–2024–0339 in the search box and click ''Search.'' Next, look for this document in the Search Results column, and click on it. Then click on the Comment option. In your submission, please include the docket number for this notice of inquiry and provide a reason for each suggestion or recommendation. If your material cannot be submitted using *https://www.regulations.gov,* contact the person in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this document for alternate instructions. Public comments will also be placed in our online docket and can be viewed by following instructions on the *https://www.regulations.gov* Frequently Asked Questions web page. We review all comments received, but we may choose not to post off-topic, inappropriate, or duplicate comments that we receive.

We accept anonymous comments. Comments we post to *https://www.regulations.gov* will include any personal information you have provided. For more about privacy and submissions in response to this document, see DHS's eRulemaking System of Records notice (85 FR 14226, March 11, 2020).

IV. Discussion

Cooperative Research and Development Agreements (CRADAs) are authorized under 15 U.S.C. 3710a.[1] A CRADA promotes the transfer of technology to the private sector for commercial use, as well as specified research or development efforts that are consistent with the mission of the Federal parties to the CRADA. The Federal party or parties agree with one or more non-Federal parties to share research resources, but the Federal party does not contribute funding.

CRADAs are not procurement contracts. Care is taken to ensure that CRADAs are not used to circumvent the contracting process. CRADAs have a specific purpose and should not be confused with procurement contracts, grants, and other type of agreements.

Under the proposed CRADA, the R&D Center will collaborate with one non-Federal participant. Together, the R&D Center and the non-Federal participant will conduct an evaluation of the BWC technology and support systems in various test scenarios to determine the technology's performance and suitability to Coast Guard LEO missions.

We anticipate that the Coast Guard's contributions under the proposed CRADA will include the following:

1. Provide appropriate staff with pertinent expertise to take the lead in accomplishing the required tasks;
2. Provide information regarding the ensemble items and parameters needed for creating the test plan;
3. Provide all support resources, including travel, for Coast Guard staff that supports this CRADA;
4. Obtain, transport and provide all of the ensemble items to be used during the testing;
5. Provide personnel support to non-Federal participant to assist with setting up and execute testing in accordance with the agreed upon test plan; and
6. Work with non-Federal participant to develop a Final Report, which will document the methodologies, findings, conclusions, and recommendations of this CRADA work.

We anticipate that the non-Federal participants' contributions under the proposed CRADA will include the following:

1. Provide appropriate staff with pertinent expertise to support the above mentioned tasks;

[1] The statute confers this authority on the head of each Federal agency. The Secretary of DHS's authority is delegated to the Coast Guard and other DHS organizational elements by DHS Delegation No. 0160.1, para. II.B.34.

2. Provide necessary technology equipment and services needed to conduct test scenarios;

3. Provide technical assistance for the test plan;

4. Provide support services during the Coast Guard's test scenarios in accordance with the agreed upon test plan; and

5. Provide test data review and feedback as agreed upon completion of testing.

The Coast Guard reserves the right to select for CRADA participants all, some, or no proposals submitted for this CRADA. The Coast Guard will provide no funding for reimbursement of proposal development costs. Proposals and any other material submitted in response to this notice will not be returned. Proposals submitted are expected to be unclassified and have not more than five single-sided pages (excluding cover page, DD 1494, JF–12, etc.). The Coast Guard will select proposals at its sole discretion on the basis of:

1. How well they communicate an understanding, of and ability to meet, the proposed CRADA's goal; and

2. How well they address the following criteria:

a. Technical capability to support the non-Federal party contributions described, and

b. Resources available for supporting the non-Federal party contributions described.

Currently, the Coast Guard is considering Axon Enterprise, Inc. for participation in this CRADA. This consideration is based on the fact that Axon Enterprise, Inc. has demonstrated its technical capability and ability to comply with DHS and DoD requirements for BWC implementation. However, we do not wish to exclude other viable participants from this or similar CRADAs in the future.

This is a technology evaluation effort. The goal of this CRADA is to evaluate technology for its potential compatibility, integration, and ease of use with Coast Guard uniforms, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), and enforcement gear used by Coast Guard personnel as well as the compatibility, integration, and ease of use with Coast Guard Information Technology (IT) systems. Special consideration will be given to small business firms and consortia, and preference will be given to business units located in the U.S.

This notice is issued under the authority of 5 U.S.C. 552(a).

Dated: June 20, 2024.

M.P. Chien,

Captain, Commanding Officer, U.S. Coast Guard Research and Development Center.

[FR Doc. 2024–13927 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9110–04–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

[Docket No. CISA–2024–0013]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Incident Reporting Form and Associated Submission Tools (ICR 1670–0037)

AGENCY: Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

ACTION: 60-Day notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: DHS CISA Cybersecurity Division (CSD) submits the following Information Collection Request (ICR) renewal to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Comments are encouraged and will be accepted until August 26, 2024.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by docket number CISA–2024–0013 at;

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov.* Please follow the instructions for submitting comments.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the words ''Department of Homeland Security'' and the docket number for this action. Comments received will be posted without alternation to *http://www.regulations.gov,* including any personal information provided.

Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents or comments received, please go to *http://www.regulations.gov* and enter docket number CISA–2024–0013.

Comments submitted in response to this notice may be made available to the public through relevant websites. For this reason, please do not include in your comments information of a confidential nature, such as sensitive personal information or proprietary information. If you send an email comment, your email address will be automatically captured and included as part of the comment that is placed in the public docket and made available on the internet. Please note that responses to this public comment request containing any routine notice about the confidentiality of the communication will be treated as public comments that may be made available to the public notwithstanding the inclusion of the routine notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brian DeWyngaert; 703–235–5737; *Brian.dewyngaert@cisa.dhs.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: CISA serves as ''a Federal civilian interface for the multi-directional and cross-sector sharing of information related to cyber threat indicators, defensive measures, cybersecurity risks, incidents, analysis, and warnings for Federal and non-Federal entities.'' 6 U.S.C. 659(c)(1).

CISA is responsible for performing, coordinating, and supporting response to information security incidents, which may originate outside the Federal community and affect users within it, or originate within the Federal community and affect users outside of it. CISA uses the information from incident reports to develop timely and actionable information for distribution to federal departments and agencies; state, local, tribal and territorial (SLTT) governments; critical infrastructure owners and operators; private industry; and international organizations. Often, the effective handling of security incidents relies on information sharing among individual users, industry, and the Federal Government, which may be facilitated by and through CISA.

Pursuant to the *Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2014 (FISMA), 44 U.S.C. 3552 et seq.*, CISA operates the federal information security incident center for the United States Federal Government. 44 U.S.C. 3556. Federal agencies notify and consult with CISA regarding information security incidents involving federal information systems. CISA provides federal agencies with technical assistance and guidance on detecting and handling security incidents, compile and analyze incident information that threatens information security, inform agencies of current and potential threats and vulnerabilities, and provide intelligence or other information about cyber threats, vulnerabilities, and incidents to agencies. 44 U.S.C. 3556(a). CISA also receives voluntary incident reports from non-federal entities.

CISA's website (at *https://www.cisa.gov/*) is a primary tool used by constituents to report incident information, access information sharing products and services, and interact with CISA. Constituents, which may include anyone or any entity in the public, use forms located on the website to complete these activities. Incident reports are primarily submitted using CISA's internet reporting system,

available at *https://www.cisa.gov/forms/report.* CISA collects cyber threat indicators and defensive measures in accordance with the requirements of the Cybersecurity Information Sharing Act of 2015 through CISA's Cyber Threat Indicator and Defensive Measure Submission System, *https://www.cisa.gov/forms/share-indicators.* CISA shares cyber threat indicators and defensive measures it receives with certain federal entities in an automated and real-time manner. 6 U.S.C. 1504(c).

By accepting incident reports and feedback, and interacting among federal agencies, industry, the research community, state and local governments, and others to disseminate reasoned and actionable cybersecurity information to the public, CISA has provided a way for citizens, businesses, and other institutions to communicate and coordinate directly with the Federal Government about cybersecurity. The information is collected via the following forms:

1. The Incident Reporting Form, DHS Cyber Threat Indicator and Defensive Measure Submission System, and Malware Analysis Submission Form enable end users to report incidents and indicators as well as submit malware artifacts associated with incidents to CISA. This information is used by DHS to conduct analyses and provide warnings of system threats and vulnerabilities, and to develop mitigation strategies as appropriate. These forms also request the user's name, email address, organization, and infrastructure sector. The primary purpose for the collection of this information is to allow DHS to contact requestors regarding their request.

2. The Mail Lists Form enables end users to subscribe to the National Cyber Awareness System's mailing lists, which deliver the content of and links to CISA's information sharing products. The user must provide an email address in order to subscribe or unsubscribe, though subscribing or unsubscribing are optional. The primary purpose for the collection of this information is to allow DHS to contact requestors regarding their request.

3. The Cyber Security Evaluation Tool (CSET) Download Form, which requests the name, email address, organization, infrastructure sector, country, and intended use of those seeking to download the CSET. All requested fields are optional. The primary purpose for the collection of this information is to allow DHS to contact requestors regarding their request.

Web form submission is also used as the collection method for the other forms listed. In addition to web-based electronic forms, information may be collected through email or telephone. These methods enable individuals, private sector entities, personnel working at other federal or state agencies, and international entities, including individuals, companies and other nations' governments to submit information.

This information collection request is a renewal of an existing collection of information. There are minor changes to the forms, questions, or other collection instruments. These changes reflect the addition of questions for reporting purposes. With this renewal, CISA is replacing the current Advanced Malware Analysis Capability (AMAC) submission form with the Malware Analysis Submission Form (''Malware Next-Gen''), but that form's questions will not change. CISA is also updating the Incident Reporting Form by removing one question, modifying some of the existing questions, and adding questions in order to both improve user experience and help the agency efficiently categorize incident reporting data. To review the developmental digital copy of this updated information collection, please contact the POC listed above in this notice request.

This collection of information will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. Due to increases in wage rates, the changes to the collection since the previous OMB approval include updated burden and cost estimates. The annual burden cost increased by $42,540, from $543,401 to $585,941. The annual government cost increased by $610,548, from $1,886,112 to $2,496,660.

The Office of Management and Budget is particularly interested in comments which:

1. Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

2. Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

3. Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and,

4. Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, *e.g.,* permitting electronic submissions of responses.

Analysis

Agency: Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

Title: Clearance for the Collection of Information through CISA Reporting Forms.

OMB Number: 1670–0037.

Frequency: Annually.

Affected Public: State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Governments, Private Sector, and Academia.

Number of Respondents: 139,125.

Estimated Time per Respondent: 0.3333 hours, 0.1667 hours, or 0.0167 hours.

Total Burden Hours: 13,852 hours.

Annualized Respondent Cost: $585,941.

Total Annualized Respondent Out-of-Pocket Cost: $0.

Total Annualized Government Cost: $2,496,660.

Robert J. Costello,

Chief Information Officer, Department of Homeland Security, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency.

[FR Doc. 2024–14009 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9111–LF–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR–7083–N–02]

60-Day Notice of Proposed Information Collection; Affirmative Fair Housing Marketing Plan—HUD 935.2A, HUD 935.2B, and HUD 935.2C; OMB Control Number: 2529–0013

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, HUD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice solicits public comment for a period of 60 days, consistent with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), on the Affirmative Fair Housing Marketing Plan (AFHMP) forms. The AFHMP forms collect information on the advertising and outreach activities of owners/developers of HUD Multifamily, Single Family, and Condominium/Cooperative Housing projects to attract applicants/buyers that are least likely to apply due to their race, color, national origin, religion, sex (including sexual orientation and gender identity), disability, or familial status. The purpose of this notice is to allow for 60 days of public comment.

DATES: *Comment Due Date:* August 26, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments regarding this notice to Colette Pollard, Reports Management Officer, REE, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street SW, Room 8120, Washington, DC 20410. Communications must refer to the above docket number and title. There are two methods for submitting public comments.

1. *Submission of Comments by Mail.* Comments may be submitted by mail to Colette Pollard, REE, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street SW, Room 8120, Washington, DC 20410;

2. *Electronic Submission of Comments.* Interested persons may submit comments electronically through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at *www.regulations.gov.* HUD strongly encourages commenters to submit comments electronically. Electronic submission of comments allows the commenter maximum time to prepare and submit a comment, ensures timely receipt by HUD, and enables HUD to make them immediately available to the public. Comments submitted electronically through the *www.regulations.gov* website can be viewed by other commenters and interested members of the public. Commenters should follow the instructions provided on that site to submit comments electronically.

Note: To receive consideration as public comments, comments must be submitted through one of the two methods specified above. Again, all submissions must refer to the docket number and title of the notice. Facsimile (FAX) comments are not acceptable.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jacy Gaige, Acting Director, Office of Enforcement, Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street SW, Room 7272, Washington, DC 20410; telephone (202) 402–1481 (This is not a toll-free number). HUD welcomes and is prepared to receive calls from individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing, as well as individuals with speech or communication disabilities. To learn more about how to make an accessible telephone call, please visit *https://www.fcc.gov/consumers/guides/telecommunications-relay-service-trs.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice informs the public that HUD is seeking approval from OMB for the information collection described in Section A.

A. Overview of Information Collection

Title of Information Collection: Affirmative Fair Housing Marketing Plan—HUD 935.2A, HUD 935.2B, and HUD 935.2C.

OMB Approval Number: 2529–0013.

Type of Request: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Form Number: HUD 935.2A, HUD 935.2B, HUD 935.2C.

Description of the need for the information and proposed use:

HUD is requesting that the OMB approve the revision of forms: HUD–935.2A Affirmative Fair Housing Marketing Plan—Multifamily Housing, HUD–935.2B Affirmative Fair Housing Marketing Plan—Single Family Housing, and HUD–935.2C Affirmative Fair Housing Marketing Plan—Condominiums or Cooperatives. These forms assist HUD in fulfilling its duty under the Fair Housing Act to administer its programs and activities relating to housing and urban development in a manner that affirmatively furthers fair housing, by promoting a condition in which individuals of similar income levels in the same housing market area have available a like range of housing choices, regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, sex (including sexual orientation and gender identity), disability, or familial status. These forms assist HUD grantees and insured housing with their compliance with the Fair Housing Act and other civil rights requirements. This collection also promotes compliance with Executive Order 11063, which requires Federal agencies to take all necessary and appropriate action to prevent discrimination in federally insured and subsidized housing. Under the Affirmative Fair Housing Marketing Regulations (24 CFR part 200, subpart M), an AFHMP must be submitted by all applicants for participation in Federal Housing Administration (FHA) subsidized and unsubsidized housing programs that involve the development or rehabilitation of the following types of housing: (1) multifamily projects or manufactured home parks of five or more lots, units, or spaces; (2) a single family property, where the property is located in a subdivision and the builder or developer intends to sell five or more properties in the subdivision, and a lender is making an initial application for mortgage insurance; or (3) dwelling units, when the applicant's participation in FHA housing programs had exceeded or would thereby exceed the development of five or more of such dwelling units during the year preceding the application (not counting the development of single family dwelling units for occupancy by a mortgagor on property owned by the mortgagor and in which the applicant had no interest prior to entering into the contract for construction or rehabilitation). The regulations require applicants to submit the AFHMP on a form prescribed by the Department (*i.e.,* HUD–935A; HUD–935B and HUD 935–C). If this information was not collected, it would prevent HUD from ensuring compliance with affirmative fair housing marketing requirements.

HUD is revising the HUD–935.2A to clarify the instructions involving marketing activities and reduce the need to provide information that has already been reported to HUD. The revision also substantially reduces the burden hours of completing the form using Microsoft Excel to automate the retrieval of project demographics and geocoded Census data once users enter an existing nine-digit Property ID.

Respondents: Applicants for FHA subsidized and unsubsidized housing programs.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 5,703 For the HUD 935.2A: On an annual basis, there are approximately 303 respondents that submit new plans and 1,080 respondents that review their existing plans and submit updated plans. There are 4,320 respondents who will review their AFHMP and determine that it does not need to be submitted for HUD approval.

For HUD 935.2.B & C: On an annual basis, there are approximately 30 respondents that submit new plans.

Estimated Number of Responses: 5,733.

Frequency of Response: 1 per annum.

Average Hours per Response: The average hours per response is 2.7 hours. (For HUD–935.2A, the hours per response are: 4 hours (new plans) and 2 hours (to review and update plans. Census data needed for updates are now automated) and 2 hours (review only, *i.e.,* those who review and determine that an update is not needed). For HUD–935.2B & C, the hours per response is 3 hours (average hours between those that will certify that they do not need to complete the form and those that will complete the form).

Total Estimated Burden: 12,102 hours.

Information collection	Number of respondents	Frequency of response	Responses per annum	Burden hour per response	Annual burden hours	Hourly cost per response	Annual cost
HUD–935.2A (MFH)	5,703	1	5,703	New 4 × 303 Review & Update 2 × 1,080. Review 2 × 4,320.	New 1,212 Review & Update 2, 160. Review 8,640	*Respondents* $40/hr (professional work). $18/hr (clerical work) $1.35 per report mailing. *Government* $40.45/hr* (professional work). $18.40/hr** (clerical work).	*Respondents* New = ($40 × 4 × 303) + ($18 × 2 × 303) = $59,388. Updates = ($40 × 2 × 1,080) + ($18 × 2 × $1,080) = $125,280. Reviews = ($40 × 2 × 4,320) =$345,600. Mailing Costs = $1.35 × 100 = $135. Annual Cost = $59,388 +$125,280 + $345,600 + $135 = $530,403. *Government* New = ($40.45 × 3 × 303) + ($18.40 × 0.5 × 303) = $39,556.65. Reviews & Updates = ($40.45 × 3 × 1,080) + ($18.40 × 0.5 × 1,080) = $140,994. Annual Cost = $39,556.65+ $140,994 = $180,550.65.
HUD–935.2B (SFH) & C (Condos and Co-Ops).	30	1	30	3	90	*Respondents* $40/hr (professional work). $18/hr (clerical work) $1.35 per report mailing. *Government* $40.42/hr (professional work). $18.40/hr (clerical work).	*Respondents* ($40 × 3 × 30) + ($18 × 2 × 30) = $4,680. $1.35 × 0 = $0. Annual Cost = $4,680 + $0 = $4,680. *Government* Annual Cost = ($40.42 × 3 × 30) + ($18.40 × 0.5 × 30) = $3,918.8.
Total	5,733	1 each	5,733	Avg. of 3.5	12,102	Avg. of $17.84	*Respondents:* $535,083. *Government:* $184,469.49.

*Base rate for GS 12 Step 5 ($40.42/hr) based on the salary information available on *OPM.gov.*
**Base rate for GS 5 step 5 ($18.40/hr) based on the salary information available on *OPM.gov.*

Solicitation of Public Comment

In accordance with 5 CFR 1320.8(d)(1), HUD is specifically soliciting comment from members of the public and affected parties concerning the collection of information described in Section A on the following:

(1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) The accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information;

(3) Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology, *e.g.,* permitting electronic submission of responses.

HUD encourages interested parties to submit comments in response to these questions.

Charles McNally,

Director of Program Standards and Compliance, Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity.

[FR Doc. 2024–13987 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4210–67–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[BLM_CO_FRN_MO4500179867]

Southwest Colorado Resource Advisory Council Public Meetings

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of public meetings.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, as amended, and the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972, the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Colorado Southwest Resource Advisory Council (RAC) is announcing two public meetings in August and November 2024.

DATES: The Southwest Colorado RAC will meet as follows:

- The RAC will participate in a field tour on August 7, 2024, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Mountain Time (MT), and an in-person meeting on August 8, 2024, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. MT.
- The RAC will participate in a field tour on November 13, 2024, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. MT, and an in-person meeting on November 14, 2024, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. MT.

Both meetings will have a virtual participation option. All meetings and field tours are open to the public.

ADDRESSES: The RAC field tours will be held as follows:

- The August 7, 2024, field tour will commence and conclude at the BLM Uncompahgre Field Office, 2465 S Townsend Ave., Montrose, CO 81401. The August 8, 2024, meeting will be held at the Uncompahgre Field Office.
- The November 13, 2024, field tour will commence and conclude at the BLM Tres Rios Field Office, 29211 State Highway CO–184, Dolores, CO 81323. The November 14, 2024, meeting will be held at the Tres Rios Field Office.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: D. Maggie Magee, Public Affairs Specialist; BLM Southwest District Office, 2465 S Townsend Ave., Montrose, CO 81401; telephone: (970) 240–5323; email: *dmagee@blm.gov*. Individuals in the United States who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunications relay services for contacting D. Maggie Magee. Individuals outside the United States should use the relay services offered within their country to make international calls to the point-of-contact in the United States.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The 15-member RAC advises the Secretary of the Interior, through the BLM, on a variety of public land issues in the Southwest District, which consists of the Gunnison, Tres Rios, and Uncompahgre field offices.

The RAC will participate in a field tour on August 7, 2024, to view proposed Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs) being considered for designation through the Uncompahgre Field Office resource management plan (RMP) amendment process. Planned agenda items for the August 8, 2024, meeting include field manager updates, a presentation and discussion of the Uncompahgre Field Office RMP amendment, and the evaluation process for considering ACECs.

The RAC will participate in a field tour on November 13, 2024, to view areas being analyzed in the Tres Rios Field Office Transportation and Access Plan for Travel Area 2, Dolores, Montrose, and San Miguel Counties (TAP2). Planned agenda items for the November 14, 2024, meeting include field manager updates and presentations, discussions on TAP2 and a proposed trail interpreting the area's uranium-vanadium mining history.

Participants wishing to attend virtually must register in advance. Registration, participation information, and final agendas will be posted on the RAC's web page at *https://www.blm.gov/getinvolved/resource-advisory-council/near-you/colorado/southwest-rac* at least 2 weeks prior to the meetings.

Members of the public planning to attend field tours must provide their own meals and transportation and RSVP 1 week in advance to the Southwest District contact listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this notice. Please make requests in advance for sign language interpreter services, assistive listening devices, language translation services, or other reasonable accommodations. We ask that you contact the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this notice at least 7 business days prior to the meeting to give the BLM sufficient time to process your request. All reasonable accommodation requests are managed on a case-by-case basis.

A 30-minute public comment period is scheduled for 2 p.m. MT during each of the meetings. Depending on the number of people who wish to comment during the public comment period, time for individual comments may be limited. Written comments may be submitted in advance to the contact listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this notice. Comments received at least 1 week in advance of the meeting will be provided to RAC members prior to the meeting. Please include ''RAC Comment'' in your submission. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, please be aware that your entire comment—including your personally identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While individuals may request their personally identifying information to be withheld from public view, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Detailed summary minutes of the RAC meetings will be maintained in the Southwest District Office and will be available for public inspection and reproduction during regular business hours within 90 days following the meeting. Minutes and agendas will also be posted on the RAC's web page.

(Authority: 43 CFR 1784.4–2)

Douglas J. Vilsack,

BLM Colorado State Director.

[FR Doc. 2024–13979 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4331–16–P

INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation Nos. 701–TA–731 and 731–TA–1700 (Preliminary)]

Low Speed Personal Transportation Vehicles From China; Institution of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Investigations and Scheduling of Preliminary Phase Investigations

AGENCY: United States International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Commission hereby gives notice of the institution of investigations and commencement of preliminary phase antidumping and countervailing duty investigation Nos. 701–TA–731 and 731–TA–1700 (Preliminary) pursuant to the Tariff Act of 1930 (''the Act'') to determine whether there is a reasonable indication that an industry in the United States is materially injured or threatened with material injury, or the establishment of an industry in the United States is materially retarded, by reason of imports of low speed personal transportation vehicles from China, provided for in subheadings 8703.10.50, 8703.90.01, 8706.00.15, and 8707.10.00 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States, that are alleged to be sold in the United States at less than fair value and alleged to be subsidized by the Government of China. Unless the Department of Commerce (''Commerce'') extends the time for initiation, the Commission must reach preliminary determinations in antidumping and countervailing duty investigations in 45 days, or in this case by August 5, 2024. The Commission's views must be transmitted to Commerce within five business days thereafter, or by August 12, 2024.

DATES: June 20, 2024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nitin Joshi ((202) 708–1669), Office of Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436. Hearing-impaired persons can obtain information on this matter by contacting the Commission's TDD terminal on 202–205–1810. Persons with mobility impairments who will need special assistance in gaining access to the Commission should contact the Office of the Secretary at 202–205–2000. General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its internet server (*https://www.usitc.gov*). The public record for these investigations may be viewed on the Commission's electronic docket (EDIS) at *https://edis.usitc.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background.—These investigations are being instituted, pursuant to sections 703(a) and 733(a) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1671b(a) and 1673b(a)), in response to these petitions filed on June 20, 2024, by the American Personal Transportation Vehicle Manufacturers Coalition.[1]

For further information concerning the conduct of these investigations and rules of general application, consult the

[1] The American Personal Transportation Vehicle Manufacturers Coalition is comprised of Club Car, LLC, Evans, Georgia, and Textron Specialized Vehicles, Inc., Augusta, Georgia.

Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, part 201, subparts A and B (19 CFR part 201), and part 207, subparts A and B (19 CFR part 207).

Participation in the investigations and public service list.—Persons (other than petitioners) wishing to participate in the investigations as parties must file an entry of appearance with the Secretary to the Commission, as provided in §§ 201.11 and 207.10 of the Commission's rules, not later than seven days after publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. Industrial users and (if the merchandise under investigation is sold at the retail level) representative consumer organizations have the right to appear as parties in Commission antidumping duty and countervailing duty investigations. The Secretary will prepare a public service list containing the names and addresses of all persons, or their representatives, who are parties to these investigations upon the expiration of the period for filing entries of appearance.

Limited disclosure of business proprietary information (BPI) under an administrative protective order (APO) and BPI service list.—Pursuant to § 207.7(a) of the Commission's rules, the Secretary will make BPI gathered in these investigations available to authorized applicants representing interested parties (as defined in 19 U.S.C. 1677(9)) who are parties to the investigations under the APO issued in the investigations, provided that the application is made not later than seven days after the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. A separate service list will be maintained by the Secretary for those parties authorized to receive BPI under the APO.

Conference.—The Office of Investigations will hold a staff conference in connection with the preliminary phase of these investigations beginning at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, July 11, 2024. Requests to appear at the conference should be emailed to *preliminaryconferences@usitc.gov* (DO NOT FILE ON EDIS) on or before Tuesday, July 9, 2024. Please provide an email address for each conference participant in the email. Information on conference procedures, format, and participation, including guidance for requests to appear as a witness via videoconference, will be available on the Commission's Public Calendar (Calendar (USITC) | United States International Trade Commission). A nonparty who has testimony that may aid the Commission's deliberations may request permission to participate by submitting a short statement.

Please note the Secretary's Office will accept only electronic filings during this time. Filings must be made through the Commission's Electronic Document Information System (EDIS, *https://edis.usitc.gov*). No in-person paper-based filings or paper copies of any electronic filings will be accepted until further notice.

Written submissions.—As provided in §§ 201.8 and 207.15 of the Commission's rules, any person may submit to the Commission on or before 5:15 p.m. on July 16, 2024, a written brief containing information and arguments pertinent to the subject matter of the investigations. Parties shall file written testimony and supplementary material in connection with their presentation at the conference no later than noon on July 10, 2024. All written submissions must conform with the provisions of § 201.8 of the Commission's rules; any submissions that contain BPI must also conform with the requirements of §§ 201.6, 207.3, and 207.7 of the Commission's rules. The Commission's *Handbook on Filing Procedures,* available on the Commission's website at *https://www.usitc.gov/documents/handbook_on_filing_procedures.pdf,* elaborates upon the Commission's procedures with respect to filings.

In accordance with §§ 201.16(c) and 207.3 of the rules, each document filed by a party to the investigations must be served on all other parties to the investigations (as identified by either the public or BPI service list), and a certificate of service must be timely filed. The Secretary will not accept a document for filing without a certificate of service.

Certification.—Pursuant to § 207.3 of the Commission's rules, any person submitting information to the Commission in connection with these investigations must certify that the information is accurate and complete to the best of the submitter's knowledge. In making the certification, the submitter will acknowledge that any information that it submits to the Commission during these investigations may be disclosed to and used: (i) by the Commission, its employees and Offices, and contract personnel (a) for developing or maintaining the records of these or related investigations or reviews, or (b) in internal investigations, audits, reviews, and evaluations relating to the programs, personnel, and operations of the Commission including under 5 U.S.C. appendix 3; or (ii) by U.S. Government employees and contract personnel, solely for cybersecurity purposes. All contract personnel will sign appropriate nondisclosure agreements.

Authority: These investigations are being conducted under authority of title VII of the Tariff Act of 1930; this notice is published pursuant to § 207.12 of the Commission's rules.

By order of the Commission.

Issued: June 20, 2024.

Lisa Barton,

Secretary to the Commission.

[FR Doc. 2024–13970 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7020–02–P

INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation Nos. 701–TA–729–730 and 731–TA–1698–1699 (Preliminary)]

Brake Drums From China and Turkey; Institution of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Investigations and Scheduling of Preliminary Phase Investigations

AGENCY: United States International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Commission hereby gives notice of the institution of investigations and commencement of preliminary phase antidumping and countervailing duty investigation Nos. 701–TA–729–730 and 731–TA–1698–1699 (Preliminary) pursuant to the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (''the Act''), to determine whether there is a reasonable indication that an industry in the United States is materially injured or threatened with material injury, or the establishment of an industry in the United States is materially retarded, by reason of imports of brake drums from China and Turkey, provided for in subheading 8708.30.50 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States, that are alleged to be sold in the United States at less than fair value and alleged to be subsidized by the Governments of China and Turkey. Unless the Department of Commerce (''Commerce'') extends the time for initiation, the Commission must reach a preliminary determination in antidumping and countervailing duty investigations in 45 days, or in this case by August 5, 2024. The Commission's views must be transmitted to Commerce within five business days thereafter, or by August 12, 2024.

DATES: June 20, 2024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mary Messer (202–205–3193), Office of Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436. Hearing-impaired persons can obtain information on this matter by contacting

the Commission's TDD terminal on 202–205–1810. Persons with mobility impairments who will need special assistance in gaining access to the Commission should contact the Office of the Secretary at 202–205–2000. General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its internet server (*https://www.usitc.gov*). The public record for these investigations may be viewed on the Commission's electronic docket (EDIS) at *https://edis.usitc.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background.—These investigations are being instituted, pursuant to sections 703(a) and 733(a) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1671b(a) and 1673b(a)), in response to a petition filed on June 20, 2024, by Webb Wheel Products, Inc., Cullman, Alabama.

For further information concerning the conduct of these investigations and rules of general application, consult the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, part 201, subparts A and B (19 CFR part 201), and part 207, subparts A and B (19 CFR part 207).

Participation in the investigations and public service list.—Persons (other than petitioners) wishing to participate in the investigations as parties must file an entry of appearance with the Secretary to the Commission, as provided in §§ 201.11 and 207.10 of the Commission's rules, not later than seven days after publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. Industrial users and (if the merchandise under investigation is sold at the retail level) representative consumer organizations have the right to appear as parties in Commission antidumping duty and countervailing duty investigations. The Secretary will prepare a public service list containing the names and addresses of all persons, or their representatives, who are parties to these investigations upon the expiration of the period for filing entries of appearance.

Limited disclosure of business proprietary information (BPI) under an administrative protective order (APO) and BPI service list.—Pursuant to § 207.7(a) of the Commission's rules, the Secretary will make BPI gathered in these investigations available to authorized applicants representing interested parties (as defined in 19 U.S.C. 1677(9)) who are parties to the investigations under the APO issued in the investigations, provided that the application is made not later than seven days after the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. A separate service list will be maintained by the Secretary for those parties authorized to receive BPI under the APO.

Conference.—The Office of Investigations will hold a staff conference in connection with the preliminary phase of these investigations beginning at 9:30 a.m. on July 11, 2024. Requests to appear at the conference should be emailed to *preliminaryconferences@usitc.gov* (DO NOT FILE ON EDIS) on or before 5:15 p.m. on July 9, 2024. Please provide an email address for each conference participant in the email. Information on conference procedures, format, and participation, including guidance for requests to appear as a witness via videoconference, will be available on the Commission's Public Calendar (Calendar (USITC) | United States International Trade Commission). A nonparty who has testimony that may aid the Commission's deliberations may request permission to participate by submitting a short statement.

Please note the Secretary's Office will accept only electronic filings during this time. Filings must be made through the Commission's Electronic Document Information System (EDIS, *https://edis.usitc.gov*). No in-person paper-based filings or paper copies of any electronic filings will be accepted until further notice.

Written submissions.—As provided in §§ 201.8 and 207.15 of the Commission's rules, any person may submit to the Commission on or before 5:15 p.m. on July 16, 2024, a written brief containing information and arguments pertinent to the subject matter of the investigations. Parties shall file written testimony and supplementary material in connection with their presentation at the conference no later than noon on July 10, 2024. All written submissions must conform with the provisions of § 201.8 of the Commission's rules; any submissions that contain BPI must also conform with the requirements of §§ 201.6, 207.3, and 207.7 of the Commission's rules. The Commission's *Handbook on Filing Procedures,* available on the Commission's website at *https://www.usitc.gov/documents/handbook_on_filing_procedures.pdf,* elaborates upon the Commission's procedures with respect to filings.

In accordance with §§ 201.16(c) and 207.3 of the rules, each document filed by a party to the investigations must be served on all other parties to the investigations (as identified by either the public or BPI service list), and a certificate of service must be timely filed. The Secretary will not accept a document for filing without a certificate of service.

Certification.—Pursuant to § 207.3 of the Commission's rules, any person submitting information to the Commission in connection with these investigations must certify that the information is accurate and complete to the best of the submitter's knowledge. In making the certification, the submitter will acknowledge that any information that it submits to the Commission during these investigations may be disclosed to and used: (i) by the Commission, its employees and Offices, and contract personnel (a) for developing or maintaining the records of these or related investigations or reviews, or (b) in internal investigations, audits, reviews, and evaluations relating to the programs, personnel, and operations of the Commission including under 5 U.S.C. appendix 3; or (ii) by U.S. Government employees and contract personnel, solely for cybersecurity purposes. All contract personnel will sign appropriate nondisclosure agreements.

Authority: These investigations are being conducted under authority of title VII of the Tariff Act of 1930; this notice is published pursuant to § 207.12 of the Commission's rules.

By order of the Commission.
Issued: June 20, 2024.

Lisa Barton,

Secretary to the Commission.

[FR Doc. 2024–13969 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7020–02–P

INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation No. 337–TA–1386]

Certain Self-Balancing Electric Skateboards and Components Thereof; Notice of Issuance of a Limited Exclusion Order Against the Respondent Found in Default; Termination of Investigation

AGENCY: International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the U.S. International Trade Commission has issued a limited exclusion order (''LEO'') against certain self-balancing electric skateboards and components thereof of respondent Floatwheel of Guilin City, GuangXi Province, China (''Floatwheel,'' or Respondent). The investigation is terminated.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael Liberman, Esq., Office of the General Counsel, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436, telephone (202) 205–2737. Copies of non-confidential

documents filed in connection with this investigation may be viewed on the Commission's electronic docket (EDIS) at *https://edis.usitc.gov*. For help accessing EDIS, please email *EDIS3Help@usitc.gov*. General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its internet server at *https://www.usitc.gov*. Hearing-impaired persons are advised that information on this matter can be obtained by contacting the Commission's TDD terminal, telephone (202) 205–1810.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On January 16, 2024, the Commission instituted this investigation based on a complaint filed by Future Motion, Inc. of Santa Cruz, California (''Future Motion,'' or ''Complainant''). 89 FR 2644–45 (Jan. 16, 2024). The complaint alleged violations of section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, 19 U.S.C. 1337, based upon the importation into the United States, the sale for importation, or sale within the United States after importation of certain self-balancing electric skateboards and components thereof by reason of infringement of one or more of claims 1, 2, 4–6, 8–10, 13–15, and 17–19 of U.S. Patent No. 9,400,505 (''the '505 patent''). *Id.* at 2644. The Commission's notice of investigation named as respondents Floatwheel; Changzhou Smilo Motors Co., Ltd. of Changzhou, Jiangsu Province, China (''Smilo''); Changzhou Gaea Technology Co., Ltd. of Changzhou, Jiangsu, China (''Gaea''); and Shanghai Loyal Industry Co., Ltd., d/b/a ''SoverSky'' of Shanghai, China (''SoverSky''). *Id.* at 2645. The Office of Unfair Import Investigations was also named as a party in this investigation. *Id.*

On March 12, 2024, Complainant moved to withdraw its complaint and terminate this investigation with respect to respondents Smilo, Gaea, and SoverSky. Motion Docket No. 1386–06 (EDIS Doc. ID 815981). On March 13, 2024, the ALJ granted the unopposed motion. Order No. 13 (Mar. 13, 2024); *unreviewed by* Notice (April 12, 2024).

The complaint and notice of investigation were served on Floatwheel on January 17, 2024. *See* Order No. 8 at 5 (Feb. 6, 2024). Floatwheel failed to respond to the complaint and notice of investigation.

On February 23, 2024, the presiding ALJ issued Order No. 10, ordering, *inter alia,* Floatwheel to show cause why it should not be found in default and why judgment should not be rendered against it for failing to respond to the complaint and notice of investigation. No response was filed to the show cause order.

On March 13, 2024, the ALJ issued an ID (Order No. 15) finding Floatwheel in default under Commission Rule 210.16 (19 CFR 210.16). On April 12, 2024, the Commission determined not to review and issued a **Federal Register** Notice to that effect. 89 FR 27450–27451 (Apr. 17, 2024). The Commission also requested briefing from the parties and the public on the issues of remedy, the public interest, and bonding. *Id.* at 42938.

The Commission has determined that the appropriate form of relief in this investigation is an LEO prohibiting the unlicensed entry of self-balancing electric skateboards and components thereof by reason of the infringement of one or more of claims 1, 2, 4–6, 8–10, 13–15, and 17–19 of the '505 patent and that are manufactured abroad by or on behalf of, or imported by or on behalf of, Respondent. The Commission has further determined that the public interest factors enumerated in section 337(g)(l) (19 U.S.C. 1337(g)(l)) do not preclude issuance of the LEO. The Commission has determined that the bond for importation during the period of Presidential review shall be in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the entered value of the imported subject articles of Respondent.[1] The Commission's order was delivered to the President and the United States Trade Representative on the day of the issuance.

The authority for the Commission's determination is contained in section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1337), and in part 210 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (19 CFR part 210).

By order of the Commission.

Issued: June 20, 2024.

Lisa Barton,

Secretary to the Commission.

[FR Doc. 2024–13968 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7020–02–P

[1] Chairman Schmidtlein finds that section 337 does not authorize respondents subject to remedial relief under subsection 337(g)(1) to import infringing products under bond during the Presidential review period for the reasons explained in *Certain Centrifuge Utility Platform and Falling Film Evaporator Systems and Components Thereof,* Inv. No. 337–TA–1311, Comm'n Notice at 5, n.5 (March 23, 2023). She therefore would not permit Floatwheel to import infringing products under bond during the Presidential review period.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation No. 337–TA–1334 (Enforcement)]

Certain Raised Garden Beds and Components Thereof; Notice of Institution of Formal Enforcement Proceeding

AGENCY: U.S. International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the U.S. International Trade Commission (''Commission'') has determined to institute a formal enforcement proceeding relating to the limited exclusion order (''LEO'') and cease and desist order (''CDO'') issued on March 21, 2024, in the above-referenced investigation.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Edward S. Jou, Esq., Office of the General Counsel, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436, telephone (202) 205–3316. Copies of non-confidential documents filed in connection with this investigation may be viewed on the Commission's electronic docket (EDIS) at *https://edis.usitc.gov.* For help accessing EDIS, please email *EDIS3Help@usitc.gov.* General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its internet server at *https://www.usitc.gov.* Hearing-impaired persons are advised that information on this matter can be obtained by contacting the Commission's TDD terminal on (202) 205–1810.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Commission instituted the underlying investigation on October 19, 2022, based on an amended complaint filed by Vego Garden, Inc. of Houston, Texas (''Vego Garden''). 87 FR 63527–28 (Oct. 19, 2022). The Commission determined to investigate alleged violations of section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, 19 U.S.C. 1337, based upon the importation into the United States, and in the sale of, certain raised garden beds and components thereof by reason of misappropriation of trade secrets and unfair competition, the threat or effect of which is to destroy or substantially injure a domestic industry. *Id.* at 63527.

The Commission's notice of investigation named five respondents, and the name of one of the respondents was corrected by amendment. *See* 88 FR 2637–38 (Jan. 17, 2023). The five named respondents, as amended, were: Huizhou Green Giant Technology Co., Ltd. (''Green Giant'') of Guangdong,

China; Utopban International Trading Co., Ltd. d/b/a Vegega (''Utopban International'') of Rosemead, California; Utopban Limited (''Utopban'') of Hong Kong; Forever Garden of El Monte, California; and VegHerb, LLC d/b/a Frame It All (''VegHerb'') of Cary, North Carolina. *See id.* at 2638. The Office of Unfair Import Investigations (''OUII'') was also named as a party. *Id.*

The investigation was terminated as to Utopban International based on withdrawal of the complaint's allegations. Order No. 9 (Jan. 30, 2023), *unreviewed by* Comm'n Notice (Feb. 27, 2023). The investigation was terminated as to Forever Garden and VegHerb based on settlement agreements. Order No. 11 (Feb. 23, 2023) (VegHerb) and Order No. 12 (Feb. 23, 2023) (Forever Garden), *both unreviewed by* Comm'n Notice (Mar. 23, 2023).

The presiding Administrative Law Judge issued a final initial determination (the ''Final ID'') on September 8, 2023, finding a violation of section 337 based on trade secret misappropriation and false advertising.

On January 9, 2024, the Commission determined to review the Final ID's findings in part. 89 FR 2645–47 (Jan. 16, 2024). On March 21, 2024, the Commission affirmed-in-part and reversed-in-part the Final ID, finding a violation of section 337 based on trade secret misappropriation and false advertising. 89 FR 21270–71 (Mar. 27, 2024). On the same day, the Commission issued an opinion explaining the basis for its final determination and issued a LEO for Green Giant and Utopban and a CDO for Utopban. *Id.*

On May 21, 2024, complainant Vego Innovations, Inc. f/k/a Vego Garden (''Vego'') filed a complaint (the ''Enforcement Complaint'') requesting that the Commission institute an enforcement proceeding to investigate alleged violations of the LEO and CDO by Green Giant and Utopban d/b/a Vegega. In the Enforcement Complaint, Vego alleges that Green Giant and Utopban have continued to import, sell, offer for sale, market, advertise, distribute, transfer, and/or solicit agents or distributors for products that are manufactured using a misappropriated trade secret.

Having examined the Enforcement Complaint and the supporting documents, the Commission has determined to institute a formal enforcement proceeding, pursuant to Commission Rule 210.75(a) (19 CFR 210.75(a)), to determine whether a violation of the LEO and CDO, issued on March 21, 2024, in this investigation has occurred and to determine what, if any, enforcement measures are appropriate. The named respondents are Huizhou Green Giant Technology Co., Ltd. of Guangdong, China and Utopban Limited d/b/a Vegega of Hong Kong.

The Commission vote for this determination took place on June 20, 2024.

The authority for the Commission's determination is contained in section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1337), and in part 210 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (19 CFR part 210).

By order of the Commission.

Issued: June 20, 2024.

Lisa Barton,

Secretary to the Commission.

[FR Doc. 2024–13971 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7020–02–P

INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation Nos. 701–TA–699–702 and 731–TA–1659–1660 (Final)]

Frozen Warmwater Shrimp From Ecuador, India, Indonesia, and Vietnam; Scheduling of the Final Phase of Countervailing Duty and Antidumping Duty Investigations

AGENCY: International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Commission hereby gives notice of the scheduling of the final phase of antidumping and countervailing duty investigation Nos. 701–TA–699–702 and 731–TA–1659–1660 (Final) pursuant to the Tariff Act of 1930 (''the Act'') to determine whether an industry in the United States is materially injured or threatened with material injury, or the establishment of an industry in the United States is materially retarded, by reason of imports of frozen warmwater shrimp from Ecuador, India, Indonesia, and Vietnam, provided for in subheadings 0306.17.00, 1605.21.10, and 1605.29.10 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States, preliminarily determined by the Department of Commerce (''Commerce'') to be subsidized and sold at less-than-fair-value.

DATES: May 30, 2024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Calvin Chang ((202) 205–3062), Office of Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20436. Hearing-impaired persons can obtain information on this matter by contacting the Commission's TDD terminal on 202–205–1810. Persons with mobility impairments who will need special assistance in gaining access to the Commission should contact the Office of the Secretary at 202–205–2000. General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its internet server (*https://www.usitc.gov*). The public record for these investigations may be viewed on the Commission's electronic docket (EDIS) at *https://edis.usitc.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Scope.—For purposes of these investigations, Commerce has defined the subject merchandise as certain frozen warmwater shrimp and prawns whether wild-caught (ocean harvested) or farm-raised (produced by aquaculture), head-on or head-off, shell-on or peeled, tail-on or tail-off, deveined or not deveined, cooked or raw, or otherwise processed in frozen form. ''Tails'' in this context means the tail fan, which includes the telson and the uropods. The frozen warmwater shrimp and prawn products included in the scope, regardless of definitions in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS), are products which are processed from warmwater shrimp and prawns through freezing and which are sold in any count size.

The products described above may be processed from any species of warmwater shrimp and prawns. Warmwater shrimp and prawns are generally classified in, but are not limited to, the Penaeidae family. Some examples of the farmed and wild-caught warmwater species include, but are not limited to, whiteleg shrimp (Penaeus vannemei), banana prawn (Penaeus merguiensis), fleshy prawn (Penaeus chinensis), giant river prawn (Macrobrachium rosenbergii), giant tiger prawn (Penaeus monodon), redspotted shrimp (Penaeus brasiliensis), southern brown shrimp (Penaeus subtilis), southern pink shrimp (Penaeus notialis), southern rough shrimp (Trachypenaeus curvirostris), southern white shrimp (Penaeus schmitti), blue shrimp (Penaeus stylirostris), western white shrimp (Penaeus occidentalis), and Indian white prawn (Penaeus indicus).

Frozen shrimp and prawns that are packed with marinade, spices or sauce are included in the scope. In addition, food preparations, which are not ''prepared meals,'' that contain more than 20 percent by weight of shrimp or prawn are also included in the scope.

Excluded from the scope are: (1) breaded shrimp and prawns (HTSUS subheading 1605.21.1020); (2) shrimp

and prawns generally classified in the Pandalidae family and commonly referred to as coldwater shrimp, in any state of processing; (3) fresh shrimp and prawns whether shell-on or peeled (HTSUS subheadings 0306.36.0020 and 0306.36.0040); (4) shrimp and prawns in prepared meals (HTSUS subheadings 1605.21.0500 and 1605.29.0500); (5) dried shrimp and prawns; (6) canned warmwater shrimp and prawns (HTSUS subheading 1605.29.1040); and (7) certain battered shrimp. Battered shrimp is a shrimp-based product: (1) that is produced from fresh (or thawed-from-frozen) and peeled shrimp; (2) to which a ''dusting'' layer of rice or wheat flour of at least 95 percent purity has been applied; (3) with the entire surface of the shrimp flesh thoroughly and evenly coated with the flour; (4) with the non-shrimp content of the end product constituting between four and ten percent of the product's total weight after being dusted, but prior to being frozen; and (5) that is subjected to individually quick frozen (IQF) freezing immediately after application of the dusting layer. When dusted in accordance with the definition of dusting above, the battered shrimp product is also coated with a wet viscous layer containing egg and/or milk, and par-fried.

Background.—The final phase of these investigations is being scheduled pursuant to sections 705(b) and 731(b) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1671d(b) and 1673d(b)), as a result of affirmative preliminary determinations by Commerce that certain benefits which constitute subsidies within the meaning of § 703 of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1671b) are being provided to manufacturers, producers, or exporters in Ecuador, India, and Vietnam of frozen warmwater shrimp, and that such products from Ecuador and Indonesia are being sold in the United States at less than fair value within the meaning of § 733 of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1673b). The investigations were requested in petitions filed on October 25, 2023, by the American Shrimp Processors Association, Port Arthur, Texas.

For further information concerning the conduct of this phase of the investigations, hearing procedures, and rules of general application, consult the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, part 201, subparts A and B (19 CFR part 201), and part 207, subparts A and C (19 CFR part 207).

Although Commerce has preliminarily determined that imports of frozen warmwater shrimp from Indonesia are not being subsidized, for purposes of efficiency, the Commission hereby waives rule 207.21(b) [1] so that the final phase of the investigation may proceed concurrently in the event that Commerce makes a final affirmative determination with respect to such imports.

Participation in the investigations and public service list.—Persons, including industrial users of the subject merchandise and, if the merchandise is sold at the retail level, representative consumer organizations, wishing to participate in the final phase of these investigations as parties must file an entry of appearance with the Secretary to the Commission, as provided in § 201.11 of the Commission's rules, no later than 21 days prior to the hearing date specified in this notice. A party that filed a notice of appearance during the preliminary phase of the investigations need not file an additional notice of appearance during this final phase. The Secretary will maintain a public service list containing the names and addresses of all persons, or their representatives, who are parties to the investigations.

Please note the Secretary's Office will accept only electronic filings during this time. Filings must be made through the Commission's Electronic Document Information System (EDIS, *https://edis.usitc.gov*). No in-person paper-based filings or paper copies of any electronic filings will be accepted until further notice.

Limited disclosure of business proprietary information (BPI) under an administrative protective order (APO) and BPI service list.—Pursuant to § 207.7(a) of the Commission's rules, the Secretary will make BPI gathered in the final phase of these investigations available to authorized applicants under the APO issued in the investigations, provided that the application is made no later than 21 days prior to the hearing date specified in this notice. Authorized applicants must represent interested parties, as defined by 19 U.S.C. 1677(9), who are parties to the investigations. A party granted access to BPI in the preliminary phase of the investigations need not reapply for such access. A separate service list will be maintained by the Secretary for those parties authorized to receive BPI under the APO.

Staff report.—The prehearing staff report in the final phase of these investigations will be placed in the nonpublic record on October 2, 2024, and a public version will be issued thereafter, pursuant to § 207.22 of the Commission's rules.

Hearing.—The Commission will hold a hearing in connection with the final phase of these investigations beginning at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, October 16, 2024. Requests to appear at the hearing should be filed in writing with the Secretary to the Commission on or before Thursday, October 10, 2024. Any requests to appear as a witness via videoconference must be included with your request to appear. Requests to appear via videoconference must include a statement explaining why the witness cannot appear in person; the Chairman, or other person designated to conduct the investigation, may in their discretion for good cause shown, grant such a request. Requests to appear as remote witness due to illness or a positive COVID–19 test result may be submitted by 3 p.m. the business day prior to the hearing. Further information about participation in the hearing will be posted on the Commission's website at *https://www.usitc.gov/calendarpad/calendar.html.*

A nonparty who has testimony that may aid the Commission's deliberations may request permission to present a short statement at the hearing. All parties and nonparties desiring to appear at the hearing and make oral presentations should attend a prehearing conference, if deemed necessary, to be held at 9:30 a.m. on Friday, October 11, 2024. Parties shall file and serve written testimony and presentation slides in connection with their presentation at the hearing by no later than 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 10, 2024. Oral testimony and written materials to be submitted at the public hearing are governed by sections 201.6(b)(2), 201.13(f), and 207.24 of the Commission's rules. Parties must submit any request to present a portion of their hearing testimony *in camera* no later than 7 business days prior to the date of the hearing.

Written submissions.—Each party who is an interested party shall submit a prehearing brief to the Commission. Prehearing briefs must conform with the provisions of § 207.23 of the Commission's rules; the deadline for filing is October 9, 2024. Parties shall also file written testimony in connection with their presentation at the hearing, and posthearing briefs, which must conform with the provisions of § 207.25 of the Commission's rules. The deadline for filing posthearing briefs is October 23, 2024. In addition, any person who has not entered an appearance as a party to the investigations may submit a written statement of information

[1] § 207.21(b) of the Commission's rules provides that, where Commerce has issued a negative preliminary determination, the Commission will publish a Final Phase Notice of Scheduling upon receipt of an affirmative final determination from Commerce.

pertinent to the subject of the investigations, including statements of support or opposition to the petition, on or before October 23, 2024. On November 4, 2024, the Commission will make available to parties all information on which they have not had an opportunity to comment. Parties may submit final comments on this information on or before November 7, 2024, but such final comments must not contain new factual information and must otherwise comply with § 207.30 of the Commission's rules. All written submissions must conform with the provisions of § 201.8 of the Commission's rules; any submissions that contain BPI must also conform with the requirements of §§ 201.6, 207.3, and 207.7 of the Commission's rules. The Commission's *Handbook on Filing Procedures,* available on the Commission's website at *https://www.usitc.gov/documents/handbook_on_filing_procedures.pdf,* elaborates upon the Commission's procedures with respect to filings.

Additional written submissions to the Commission, including requests pursuant to § 201.12 of the Commission's rules, shall not be accepted unless good cause is shown for accepting such submissions, or unless the submission is pursuant to a specific request by a Commissioner or Commission staff.

In accordance with §§ 201.16(c) and 207.3 of the Commission's rules, each document filed by a party to the investigations must be served on all other parties to the investigations (as identified by either the public or BPI service list), and a certificate of service must be timely filed. The Secretary will not accept a document for filing without a certificate of service.

Authority: These investigations are being conducted under authority of title VII of the Tariff Act of 1930; this notice is published pursuant to § 207.21 of the Commission's rules.

By order of the Commission.

Issued: June 20, 2024.

Lisa Barton,

Secretary to the Commission.

[FR Doc. 2024–13967 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7020–02–P

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; Workforce Flexibility (Workflex) Plan Submission and Reporting Requirements

ACTION: Notice of availability; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor (DOL) is submitting this Employment and Training Administration (ETA)-sponsored information collection request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA). Public comments on the ICR are invited.

DATES: The OMB will consider all written comments that the agency receives on or before July 26, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to *www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain.* Find this particular information collection by selecting ''Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments'' or by using the search function.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael Howell by telephone at 202–693–6782, or by email at *DOL_PRA_PUBLIC@dol.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under Workflex, governors are granted the authority to approve requests submitted by their local areas to waive certain statutory and regulatory provisions of WIOA Title I programs. States may also request waivers from the Secretary of certain requirements of the Wagner-Peyser Act (sections 8–10) and the Older Americans Act of 1965. The Act provides that the Secretary may only grant Workflex waiver authority in consideration of a Workflex plan submitted by a State. For additional substantive information about this ICR, see the related notice published in the **Federal Register** on March 1, 2024 (89 FR 15221).

Comments are invited on: (1) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimates of the burden and cost of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information collection; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

This information collection is subject to the PRA. A Federal agency generally cannot conduct or sponsor a collection of information, and the public is generally not required to respond to an information collection, unless the OMB approves it and displays a currently valid OMB Control Number. In addition, notwithstanding any other provisions of law, no person shall generally be subject to penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information that does not display a valid OMB Control Number. *See* 5 CFR 1320.5(a) and 1320.6.

DOL seeks PRA authorization for this information collection for three (3) years. OMB authorization for an ICR cannot be for more than three (3) years without renewal. The DOL notes that information collection requirements submitted to the OMB for existing ICRs receive a month-to-month extension while they undergo review.

Agency: DOL–ETA.

Title of Collection: Workforce Flexibility (Workflex) Plan Submission and Reporting Requirements.

OMB Control Number: 1205–0432.

Affected Public: State, local, and Tribal governments.

Total Estimated Number of Respondents: 5.

Total Estimated Number of Responses: 25.

Total Estimated Annual Time Burden: 235 hours.

Total Estimated Annual Other Costs Burden: $0.

(Authority: 44 U.S.C. 3507(a)(1)(D))

Michael Howell,

Senior Paperwork Reduction Act Analyst.

[FR Doc. 2024–13937 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510–FN–P

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Mine Safety and Health Administration

[OMB Control No. 1219–0048]

Proposed Revision of a Currently Approved Information Collection; Respirator Program Records

AGENCY: Mine Safety and Health Administration, Labor.

ACTION: Request for public comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor (DOL), as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a pre-clearance consultation program to provide the

general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed collections of information, in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. This program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. The Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) is soliciting comments on the information collection for Respirator Program Records.

DATES: All comments must be received by MSHA's Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances on or before August 26, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Comments concerning the information collection requirements of this notice may be sent by any of the methods listed below. Please note that late comments received after the deadline will not be considered.

- *Federal E-Rulemaking Portal: https://www.regulations.gov*. Follow the on-line instructions for submitting comments for docket number MSHA–2024–0011.
- *Mail/Hand Delivery:* DOL–MSHA, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances, 201 12th Street South, 4th Floor West, Arlington, VA 22202–5452. Before visiting MSHA in person, call 202–693–9455 to make an appointment, in keeping with the Department of Labor's COVID–19 policy. Special health precautions may be required.
- MSHA will post all comments as well as any attachments, except for information submitted and marked as confidential, in the docket at *https://www.regulations.gov*.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: S. Aromie Noe, Director, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances, MSHA, at *MSHA.information.collections@dol.gov* (email); (202) 693–9440 (voice); or (202) 693–9441 (facsimile). These are not toll-free numbers.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Section 103(h) of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977, as amended (the Mine Act), 30 U.S.C. 813(h), authorizes MSHA to collect information necessary to carry out its duty in protecting the safety and health of miners. Further, section 101(a) of the Mine Act, 30 U.S.C. 811(a), authorizes the Secretary of Labor (Secretary) to develop, promulgate, and revise, as may be appropriate, improved mandatory health or safety standards for the protection of life and prevention of injuries in coal, metal and nonmetal mines.

In order to fulfill statutory mandates, MSHA requires the collection of information associated with respirator program records. Under the previous 30 CFR 56.5005 and 57.5005, a mine's respirator program must be consistent with the requirements of ANSI Z88.2–1969, published by the American National Standards Institute, entitled ''American National Standards Practices for Respiratory Protection ANSI Z88.2–1969,'' and approved on August 11, 1969. In the currently approved information collection, MSHA listed three types of information collection—development of respiratory protection program, medical evaluation/fit testing records, and emergency respirator inspection records—and provides the estimated burden for each of the three information collection activities.

A final rule titled ''Lowering Miners' Exposure to Respirable Crystalline Silica and Improving Respiratory Protection'' (RIN 1219–AB36) and issued on April 18, 2024 (89 FR 28218) made changes related to the currently approved information collection. The final rule amends 30 CFR 56.5005 and 57.5005 to incorporate by reference ASTM F3387–19, entitled ''*Standard Practice for Respiratory Protection,*'' because it is the most recent consensus standard developed by experts in government and professional associations on the selection, use, and maintenance for respiratory equipment. The final rule requires that approved respirators be selected, fitted, used, and maintained in accordance with the provision of a written respiratory protection program consistent with the requirements of ASTM F3387–19.

Under the revised 30 CFR 56.5005(b) and 57.5005(b), the ASTM F3387–19 incorporated by reference mandates that metal and nonmetal (MNM) mines where miners must wear respirators have written standard operating procedures (SOPs) for their respiratory programs; such miners who must wear respirators are fit-tested in a medical evaluation to the respirators that they will use; and mines perform emergency respirator inspections, among other safety-related activities. Emergency respirator inspections are regular inspections of respirators reserved for use during emergencies; the inspections are used to ensure that respirators would properly function if needed during an emergency. In the revised information collection, MSHA requires the collection of four types of information in connection with respirators in MNM mines—revised written SOPs governing the selection and use of respirators; medical evaluation/fit testing results; emergency respirators inspection records; and records relating to the respiratory programs, which are all consistent with ASTM F3387–19 requirements.

II. Desired Focus of Comments

MSHA is soliciting comments concerning the proposed information collection related to Respirator Program Records. MSHA is particularly interested in comments that:

- Evaluate whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information has practical utility;
- Evaluate the accuracy of MSHA's estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- Suggest methods to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, *e.g.,* permitting electronic submission of responses.

The information collection request will be available on *https://www.regulations.gov*. MSHA cautions the commenter against providing any information in the submission that should not be publicly disclosed. Full comments, including personal information provided, will be made available on *https://www.regulations.gov* and *https://www.reginfo.gov*.

The public may also examine publicly available documents at DOL–MSHA, Office of Standards, Regulations and Variances, 201 12th Street South, 4th Floor West, Arlington, VA 22202–5452. Sign in at the receptionist's desk on the 4th Floor via the West elevator. Before visiting MSHA in person, call 202–693–9455 to make an appointment, in keeping with the Department of Labor's COVID–19 policy. Special health precautions may be required.

Questions about the information collection requirements may be directed to the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION** section of this notice.

III. Current Actions

This information collection request concerns provisions for Respirator Program Records. MSHA has updated the data with respect to the number of respondents, responses, time burden,

and burden costs supporting this information collection request from the previous information collection request.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved information collection.

Agency: Mine Safety and Health Administration.

OMB Number: 1219–0048.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit.

Number of Annual Respondents: 2,305.

Frequency: Annual.

Number of Annual Responses: 43,795.

Annual Time Burden: 23,626 hours.

Annual Other Burden Costs $140,000.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the proposed information collection request; they will become a matter of public record and be available at *https://www.reginfo.gov*.

Song-ae Aromie Noe,

Certifying Officer, Mine Safety and Health Administration.

[FR Doc. 2024–13935 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510–43–P

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

Susan Harwood Training Grant Program, FY 2024; Availability of Funds and Funding Opportunity Announcements

AGENCY: Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Labor.

ACTION: Notice of availability of funds and funding opportunity announcements.

SUMMARY: This notice announces available funding for Susan Harwood Training Grant Program grants. Three separate funding opportunity announcements are available for Targeted Topic Training grants, Training and Educational Materials Development grants, and new Capacity Building grants.

DATES: Grant applications for Susan Harwood Training Program grants must be received electronically by the *Grants.gov* system no later than 11:59 p.m., ET, on July 26, 2024.

ADDRESSES: The complete Susan Harwood Training Grant Program funding opportunity announcements and all information needed to apply are available at the *Grants.gov* website, *www.grants.gov.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions regarding the funding opportunity announcement should be emailed to Donna Robertson at *HarwoodGrants@dol.gov* or directed to OSHA via telephone at 847–725–7805. Personnel will not be available to answer questions after 5:00 p.m. ET. To obtain further information on the Susan Harwood Training Grant Program, visit the OSHA website at *www.osha.gov/harwoodgrants.* Questions regarding *Grants.gov* should be emailed to *Support@grants.gov* or directed to Applicant Support toll free at 1–800–518–4726. Applicant Support is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week except Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The complete Susan Harwood Training Grant Program funding opportunity announcements instructions and information needed to apply are available at the *Grants.gov* website, *www.grants.gov.* On the grants.gov website, please reference the following Funding Opportunity Numbers and Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number below to find the relevant announcements and information:

Funding Opportunity Number: SHTG–FY–24–01 (Targeted Topic Training).

Funding Opportunity Number: SHTG–FY–24–02 (Training and Educational Materials Development).

Funding Opportunity Number: SHTG–FY–24–03 (Capacity Building).

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number: 17.502.

Authority and Signature

Douglas L. Parker, Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health, directed the preparation of this notice. The authority for this notice is Section 21 of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, (29 U.S.C. 670), Public Law 118–47, and Secretary of Labor's Order No. 8–2020 (85 FR 58393, September 18, 2020).

Signed at Washington, DC, on June 20, 2024.

Douglas L. Parker,

Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health.

[FR Doc. 2024–13934 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510–26–P

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

[NASA Document No: NASA–24–039; NASA Docket No: NASA–24–0002]

National Environmental Policy Act; Berkeley Space Center at NASA Research Park

AGENCY: National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

ACTION: Notice of intent; notice of meetings; request for comments.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended, the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA's) procedures for implementing NEPA, NASA, in cooperation with the University of California, Berkeley (UC Berkeley), will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed development of the Berkeley Space Center at NASA Research Park. The EIS will be a joint EIS/environmental impact report (EIR) that fulfills the requirements of both NEPA and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). This notice opens a 30-day public scoping period during which the public and other interested parties are encouraged to submit comments as provided for under **ADDRESSES** to inform the scope of environmental issues which should be considered in the EIS/EIR, including alternatives to the proposed action. The public scoping period is for a period of 30 days from publication of this notice.

DATES: Comments are due by July 26, 2024.

UC Berkeley and NASA will hold two joint online public scoping meetings to inform interested parties about the project, and to provide agencies and the public with an opportunity to provide oral and written comments on the scope and content of the joint EIR/EIS. The first scoping meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 10, 2024 and the second scoping meeting will be held on Monday, July 15, 2024. Information regarding public scoping meetings and the location of project materials is found under **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this notice.

ADDRESSES: Advance registration to attend or provide a comment at the virtual public meetings described under **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** is not required. Public meeting attendees may submit comments during the public meeting, or by other means described below throughout the 30-day comment

period. You may submit written comments and materials by one of the following methods:

- *U.S. mail:* NASA Ames Research Center, Attn: Berkeley Space Center at NASA Research Park, M/S 204–15, Moffett Field, CA 94035–0001.
- *Federal E-Rulemaking Portal:* Written comments and recommendations for this information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to ensure consideration in the Draft EIS/EIR. You may send comments, identified by NASA Docket Number NASA–24–0002 to the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal: *http://www.regulations.gov.* Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

We encourage you to submit comments electronically through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at *http://www.regulations.gov. If* submitting your comments electronically, it is not necessary to also submit a hard copy. All comments received will be posted without change to *http://www.regulations.gov.* Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, be advised that your entire comment—including any personal identifying information you provide—may be publicly available at any time. While you may request, in your comment, to withhold from public review your personal identifying information, we cannot guarantee that your request will be granted.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Andrés Estrada, NEPA Program Manager, Natural Resources Manager. NASA Ames Research Center, M/S 204–15, Moffett Field, CA 94035–0001, email *andres.v.estrada@nasa.gov,* or phone 650–224–8532. Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Relay Service at 1–800–877–8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., eastern time, Monday through Friday.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose and Need for the Proposed Action

The joint EIS/EIR will evaluate the environmental impacts of the proposed action related to the proposed construction and occupancy of the Berkeley Space Center at NASA Research Park, which would redevelop the project site with academic and research facilities, including office, laboratories, and research and development (collectively, ''research and office uses''); conference and amenity facilities, including a gym, lobbies, and other amenities (collectively, ''active uses''); student/faculty housing; short-term lodging; transportation networks; and public open spaces as well as landscaped spaces, to create a state-of-the-art research and education hub that shapes the future of technology and innovation and to advance UC Regents' educational, scientific research, charitable, and other exempt purposes (within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code). The Berkeley Space Center at NASA Research Park would be located at the NASA owned and operated Ames Research Center (NASA ARC) in Santa Clara County, California.

The purpose of the proposed project is to:

- Facilitate the development and long-term operation of a collaborative research environment at NASA ARC as contemplated in the NASA Ames Development Plan (NADP).
- Create a research development that combines UC Berkeley's mission to accelerate scientific discovery, create innovative technologies, and advance knowledge for the benefit of humanity with NASA's mission to enable exploration, innovative technologies and interdisciplinary scientific discovery through the integration of public and private research and development efforts.
- Strengthen and expand the NASA ARC's global profile, attracting and retaining new research talent as well as generating innovative ideas for use throughout the world and the cosmos.
- Promote collaborative research and development activities among NASA ARC, UC Berkeley, private industry, and non-profit organizations.
- Provide convenient short-term housing and lodging options to primarily support faculty, students, and guests at the NASA ARC.
- Enable more efficient use of land at NASA ARC by demolishing older underutilized buildings and constructing new facilities involved in the creation of the new research space.

The need for the proposed project is as follows:

- To maintain NASA's position at the forefront of technological innovation and as catalyst for space and aeronautical research and technology transfer.
- To strengthen our nation's ability to address the research problems of tomorrow by combining NASA's unique ability to focus on high-risk long-term research; industry's ability to react quickly with applied technology; and the University of California's expertise in educating and providing a vibrant workforce for the future.

Project Location

The project site is on Federal land within the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Ames Research Center (NASA ARC) in Santa Clara County, California (refer to the attached Project Location map). The NASA ARC is located on approximately 2,000 acres between U.S. 101 and the southwestern edge of San Francisco Bay. The city of Mountain View borders the NASA ARC to the south and west; the city of Sunnyvale borders the NASA ARC to the south and east. The NASA ARC is approximately 33 miles south of the city of San Francisco and 8 miles north of the city of San José. As part of the NADP, which is NASA's vision for development of the NASA ARC, development was considered in four areas commonly referred to as the NASA Research Park (NRP), Eastside/Airfield, Bay View, and Ames Campus. The project site is within the NRP.

The approximately 36-acre triangular project site is currently developed with approximately 16 one- or two-story buildings that total approximately 112,000 square feet, along with surface parking lots, roadways, and utility infrastructure. The existing buildings are mostly vacant and many were formerly used as ancillary buildings that supported Navy operations (*e.g.,* office buildings, food service, gas station).

The project site is bounded by Wescoat Road to the north and Cody Road to the east. The southern boundary of the project site is between Edquiba Road and Girard Road. Northwest of the project site, across Wescoat Road, is Shenandoah Plaza, a linear open space surrounded by buildings. Approximately 0.3 mile northeast of the project site, across from the intersection of Wescoat Road and Cody Road, is Hangar One, one of the largest freestanding structures in the world. Hangar One and many of the buildings, landscapes, and objects north of the project site are part of the Shenandoah Plaza Historic District. East of the project site, across Cody Road, is Moffett Federal Airfield. South of the project site is a planned residential development that would include approximately 2,000 residential units; the planned residential development would be located within the NRP, but is not part of the proposed project.

With respect to hazardous materials, ongoing remediation activities in the vicinity of the project site continue to be implemented under the jurisdictions of the United States Environmental

Protection Agency and California Regional Water Quality Control Board.

Background

The project site is within the NRP, which was incorporated into the NASA ARC in 1994 following the closure of the former Naval Air Station Moffett Field. In 2002, a programmatic EIS (PEIS) was prepared pursuant to NEPA and was completed with a Record of Decision that provided environmental review for the implementation of the NADP. Since 2002, NASA (or other authorized parties) has redeveloped portions of the NASA ARC with entitled uses under the terms of several ground leases. The project site is one of the parcels considered for redevelopment in the 2002 PEIS. In 2019, NASA invited UC Berkeley, on behalf of the University of California system and its constituent campuses, to explore the feasibility of developing the project site for public and private sector research, professional education, and housing. In May 2021, the Regents authorized UC Berkeley to enter into a joint venture with SKSP NRP, LLC to create Moffett Partners, LLC for the proposed project.

Proposed Action and Alternative

The following two build alternatives (Build Alternative 1 and Build Alternative 2) and the No Action Alternative will be evaluated in the Draft EIS/EIR.

- *Build Alternative 1:* Build Alternative 1 would create approximately 2.3 million square feet of research uses, a conference center, active uses, student/faculty housing, and short-term lodging for visitors and conference attendees. Build Alternative 1 would include approximately 1.99 million square feet (87 percent) research and office uses; 22,000 square feet (1 percent) conference center uses; 89,000 square feet (4 percent) active uses; 126,0000 square feet (5 percent) student/faculty housing; and 73,000 square feet (3 percent) short-term lodging uses. Build Alternative 1 is considered the proposed project under CEQA and the Proposed Action under NEPA.
- *Build Alternative 2:* Build Alternative 2 would create approximately 1.4 million square feet of research uses, a conference center, active uses, student/faculty housing, and short-term lodging for visitors and conference attendees. Compared to Build Alternative 1, Build Alternative 2 would provide the same types of uses and the same square footage for most uses, with the exception that Build Alternative 2 would provide less space for research and office uses. Build Alternative 2 would include approximately 1.09 million square feet (78 percent) research and office uses; 22,000 square feet (2 percent) conference center uses; 89,000 square feet (6 percent) active uses; 126,0000 square feet (9 percent) student/faculty housing; and 73,000 square feet (5 percent) short-term lodging uses. Build Alternative 2 is considered one of the alternatives to the proposed project under CEQA; it is also one of the alternatives under NEPA. Build Alternative 2 will be evaluated at the same level of detail as Build Alternative 1 in the joint EIR/EIS.
- *No Action Alternative:* For the purposes of NEPA, under the No Action Alternative, the project would not be approved by NASA, and would not be constructed and operated at the project site.

As discussed below, Build Alternative 1 and Build Alternative 2 would have the same general site layout; the same maximum building heights; the same conference center, active uses, student/faculty housing, short-term lodging, and open space; the same amount of student/faculty housing; the same amount of short-term lodging; the same utility infrastructure and roadways; and the same ratio of parking spaces.

- *Site Layout:* Both build alternatives would include buildings that would be oriented around a large open space in the center of the project site, the Central Green. This area would include retail and amenity uses. The proposed research uses would be located along the perimeter of the project site. The proposed student/faculty housing, short-term lodging uses, and conference center would be located in the southwestern corner of the project site. The proposed parking garages would be located in the southwestern and southeastern corners of the project site. Vehicular access would be provided along Wescoat Road, the realigned Cody Road, and the realigned Girard Road (refer to the discussion of Utility Infrastructure and Roadways for more details on roadway realignments).
- *Maximum Building Heights:* Under both build alternatives, maximum structure heights would be 80 feet, with an exceedance allowed of up to 25 feet for mechanical screens and equipment.
- *Conference Center, Active Uses, Student/Faculty Housing, Short-term Lodging Uses, and Open Space:* Both build alternatives would include an approximately 20,000-square-foot conference center, approximately 92,000 square feet of active uses, and approximately 199,000 square feet of student/faculty housing and short-term lodging. In addition, both build alternatives would include approximately 10.9 acres of open space, including pathways, active uses (*e.g.,* occupied areas that pedestrians could access via sidewalks or pathways), and passive uses (*e.g.,* open lawns, patios). Landscaping would include a mix of native, climate-adaptive, and drought-resistant plant materials.
- *Student/Faculty Housing:* Both build alternatives would include approximately 141 student/faculty housing units, which would house approximately 352 residents. The proposed student/faculty housing would be used by students or faculty on a short-term basis (*i.e.,* academic calendar year, semester, summer).
- *Short-term Lodging:* Both build alternatives would include approximately 99 short-term lodging units, which would accommodate approximately 197 guests. The proposed short-term lodging would be used as temporary lodging for staff, researchers, academics, tenants, and their families visiting the project site for conferences, meetings, research projects, and other short-term events affiliated with or at NASA ARC.
- *Utility Infrastructure and Roadways:* Both build alternatives would include building-level air source heat pumps for all heating, package air conditioning units for cooling at buildings without office or lab space, and water-cooled chillers for cooling at buildings with office and/or lab spaces. In addition, both build alternatives would have the same infrastructure for utilities (*i.e.,* wet and dry utilities) installed offsite and the same utility connection points to those utilities. Existing NASA critical infrastructure would remain within the project site. Both build alternatives would realign Girard Road north to form the southern boundary of the project site and construct a new connector road between the realigned Girard Road and Wescoat Road along the southwestern corner of the project site. Both build alternatives would also realign Cody Road east to align with centerline of Hanger One, incorporating the design intent from the NADP, which was evaluated in the 2002 PEIS.
- *Ratio of Parking Spaces:* Parking would be located off the realigned Girard Road within parking structures and/or podium parking at designated areas. While Build Alternative 1 would have more parking spaces than Build Alternative 2 because it would include more space for research and office uses, both build alternatives would have the same parking ratios for each land use, establishing a blended parking ratio of

approximately 1.43 parking spots per 1,000 square feet.

As discussed below, the primary differences between Build Alternative 1 and Build Alternative 2 would be the square footage of the research uses, the number of employees, the number of students, and the number of parking spaces.

- *Research and Office Uses:* Build Alternative 1 would include approximately 1.99 million square feet for research and office uses, whereas Build Alternative 2 would include approximately 1.09 million square feet for research and office uses.
- *Employees:* Build Alternative 1 would result in approximately 5,789 employees, whereas Build Alternative 2 would result in approximately 3,260 employees. Build Alternative 1 would result in more employees because it would include more space for research and office uses.
- *Students:* Build Alternative 1 would accommodate up to approximately 177 students at a time, whereas Build Alternative 2 would accommodate up to approximately 96 students at a time. Build Alternative 1 would accommodate more students because it would include more space for research and office uses.
- *Parking Spaces:* Build Alternative 1 would include approximately 3,290 parking spaces, whereas Build Alternative 2 would include approximately 2,009 parking spaces.

The future sub-tenant users for the proposed research space are not yet known and because the project would be constructed over a period of years, the exact configuration of certain project elements has not yet been determined. Thus, the joint EIR/EIS will evaluate the potential environmental impacts of the project based on conservative, worst case assumptions regarding certain aspects of the project design within specific areas of the project site (referred to as subareas). Specifically, it is anticipated that variations to the following project design elements could occur within seven subareas in the project site: the number and configuration of buildings, the design of the buildings, the allocation of permitted uses among or within the buildings, and the specific locations of mechanical equipment. On the other hand, it is anticipated that the following project elements would be known at the time the joint EIR/EIS is prepared: types of permitted uses, maximum square footage by use and in total, maximum building heights, parking ratios by use, locations of access roads, types and general locations of mechanical equipment, and other project parameters. This approach to the analysis will ensure that the joint EIR/EIS will evaluate the proposed project's maximum potential impact based on potential future building design and configuration to accommodate specific future sub-tenants of the proposed research and office space.

Prior to construction of the proposed project, all of the existing buildings and utilities infrastructure within the project site would be demolished except for the existing NASA critical infrastructure that would remain.

Summary of Expected Impacts

Based on the initial evaluation of the build alternatives, the following impacts would be expected: temporary increases in dust and other air pollutants during construction; temporary increases in noise and vibration during construction; temporary increases in construction traffic on roadways; temporary changes to existing public access; short-term disturbance to and changes in habitat conditions for listed and sensitive species; air quality and greenhouse gas emissions during operation; increases in traffic due to employees, residents, and visitors during operation; increases in building density and height, which could affect visual resources and historic resources in the vicinity of the site; and remediation of soil and groundwater issues known to be present related to historical uses at and near the project site. The proposed action would be required to follow existing soil and groundwater remediation protocols. Details regarding the required remediation would be coordinated with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Responsible Parties in charge of ongoing remediation efforts.

Anticipated Permits and Authorizations

The permits and other authorizations anticipated to be required for the proposed project include but are not limited to the list below:

- Bay Area Air Quality Management District permit for stationary sources,
- San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board Clean Water Act Section 401 water quality certification,
- Consultation pursuant to section 7 of the Federal Endangered Species Act with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service,
- Consultation with tribes and the State Historic Preservation Officer pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and CEQA,
- Encroachment permit or similar permit for any roadway in the city of Mountain View, city of Sunnyvale, Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority, and California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) rights-of-way, and
- Completion of a Bona fide Prospective Lessee agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Schedule for the Decision-Making Process

The EIS/EIR process is expected to take approximately 1.5 years and end with a record of decision signed by NASA. Subsequent Federal actions would include review and approval of project plans through the NASA Ames Design Review Process, NASA construction permitting, and securing of permits, approvals, and/or authorizations from external Federal or State agencies as required by applicable laws.

Environmental Impact Statement Public Scoping Process

This notice of intent initiates the 30-day scoping process, which guides the development of the Draft EIS. The scoping process is designed to elicit comments from the public, public agencies, Tribal governments, and other interested parties on the scope of the Draft EIS. UC Berkeley and NASA will hold two joint online public scoping meetings to inform interested parties about the project and its location as well as to provide agencies and the public with an opportunity to provide oral and written comments on the scope and content of the joint EIR/EIS. The scoping meetings will be held exclusively through Zoom videoconference. Members of the public will be able to provide written comments during the meetings in the chat or verbally during an open mic session. The information for the two scoping meetings is as follows:

- Scoping Meeting No. 1, Wednesday, July 10, 2024, Time: 6:00 to 7:30 p.m., Meeting Link: *https://capitalstrategies.berkeley.edu/public-meetings*
- Scoping Meeting No. 2, Monday, July 15, 2024, Time: 6:00 to 7:30 p.m., Meeting Link: *https://capitalstrategies.berkeley.edu/public-meetings*

Request for Identification of Potential Alternatives, Information, and Analyses Relevant to the Proposed Action

NASA requests comments concerning the scope of the analysis and identification of relevant information and studies. All interested parties are invited to provide input related to the identification of potential alternatives, information, and analyses relevant to the Proposed Action Alternatives in

writing. All written comments should be submitted via any of the methods provided under **ADDRESSES**.

Lead and Cooperating Agencies

NASA is the lead agency for the EIS. The Regents of the University of California will serve as the lead State agency for the EIR. Cooperating agencies have not been identified at this time; however, NASA continues to coordinate with external agencies and may identify one or multiple cooperating agencies during the scoping period.

Joel Carney,

Associate Administrator of the Office of Strategic Infrastructure, Mission Support Directorate, National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

[FR Doc. 2024–13756 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7510–13–P

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Notice of Permit Applications Received Under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978

AGENCY: National Science Foundation.

ACTION: Notice of permit applications received.

SUMMARY: The National Science Foundation (NSF) is required to publish a notice of permit applications received to conduct activities regulated under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978. NSF has published regulations under the Antarctic Conservation Act in the Code of Federal Regulations. This is the required notice of permit applications received.

DATES: Interested parties are invited to submit written data, comments, or views with respect to this permit application by July 26, 2024. This application may be inspected by interested parties at the Permit Office, address below.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be addressed to Permit Office, Office of Polar Programs, National Science Foundation, 2415 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, Virginia 22314 or *ACApermits@nsf.gov.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Andrew Titmus, ACA Permit Officer, at the above address, 703–292–4479.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Science Foundation, as directed by the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978 (Pub. L. 95–541, 45 CFR 671), as amended by the Antarctic Science, Tourism and Conservation Act of 1996, has developed regulations for the establishment of a permit system for various activities in Antarctica and designation of certain animals and certain geographic areas as requiring special protection. The regulations establish such a permit system to designate Antarctic Specially Protected Areas.

Application Details

Permit Application: 2025–003

1. *Applicant:* Birgitte McDonald, Moss Landing Marine Labs, 8272 Moss Landing Rd. Moss landing, CA 95039

Activity for Which Permit is Requested: Take, Harmful Interference, Enter Antarctic Specially Protected Area, Import to USA. The applicant requests authorization to enter Antarctic Specially Protected Area (ASPA) No. 124, Cape Crozier, to conduct physiological and ecological studies on emperor penguins (*Aptenodytes forsteri*). The two-part project aims to address fundamental information gaps about the foraging ecology and habitat use of emperor penguins at two stages of their life history. The applicant proposes capturing up to 35 adult breeding emperor penguins as they depart colonies to forage. Penguins will be captured over 100 m away from the colony to minimize disturbance to the colony. Captured penguins will undergo morphological and physiological sampling, including blood, feathers, and guano, and will be fitted with instrumentation used for collecting foraging data. Up to five penguins will also be fitted with a video data logger. Up to 12 penguins would be measured for field metabolic rate using injected sterile doubly labeled water requiring the penguins to be corralled for up to 3.5 hours. Previous experience has show the penguins remain calm during this period. After penguins return from a foraging trip (~1–3 weeks), the would be recaptured, weighted, measured, and a blood sample collected. An additional 200 guano samples would be collected from penguins at the colony by collecting fresh guano from clean ice or snow at the periphery of the colony.

Location: ASPA 124—Cape Crozier, Ross Island.

Dates of Permitted Activities: 1 October 2024–31 May 2025.

Kimiko S. Bowens-Knox,

Program Analyst, Office of Polar Programs.

[FR Doc. 2024–13965 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555–01–P

NEIGHBORHOOD REINVESTMENT CORPORATION

Sunshine Act Meetings

TIME AND DATE: 11:30 a.m., Friday, June 28, 2024.

PLACE: via Zoom.

STATUS: Parts of this meeting will be open to the public. The rest of the meeting will be closed to the public.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: Special Audit Committee of the Board of Directors meeting.

The General Counsel of the Corporation has certified that in her opinion, one or more of the exemptions set forth in the Government in the Sunshine Act, 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(2) and (4) permit closure of the following portion(s) of this meeting:

- Executive (Closed) Session

Agenda

I. Call to Order
II. Sunshine Act Approval of Executive (Closed) Session
III. Executive Session: Selection of External Auditor
IV. Executive Session: Quality Assurance Review Update
V. Action Item: Approval of External Auditor Selection

PORTIONS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Everything except the Executive (Closed) Session.

PORTIONS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC: Executive (Closed) Session.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Jenna Sylvester, Paralegal, (202) 568–2560; *jsylvester@nw.org.*

Jenna Sylvester,

Paralegal.

[FR Doc. 2024–14135 Filed 6–24–24; 4:15 pm]

BILLING CODE 7570–01–P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. 72–1041, 50–498, and 50–499; NRC–2024–0104]

South Texas Project Nuclear Operating Company; South Texas Project Electric Generating Station, Units 1 and 2; Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation; Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice; issuance.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is issuing an environmental assessment (EA) and a

finding of no significant impact (FONSI) for an exemption request submitted by South Texas Project Nuclear Operating Company (STPNOC) that would permit South Texas Project Electric Generating Station (STP) to shuffle (relocate) 10 loaded and load two new 37 multi-purpose canisters (MPC) with continuous basket shims (CBS) in January and March 2025, respectively, in the HI–STORM Flood/Wind (FW) MPC Storage System at its STP Units 1 and 2 independent spent fuel storage installation (ISFSI) in a storage condition where the terms, conditions, and specifications in the Certificate of Compliance (CoC) No. 1032, Amendment No. 2, are not met.

DATES: The EA and FONSI referenced in this document are available on June 26, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Please refer to Docket ID NRC–2024–0104 when contacting the NRC about the availability of information regarding this document. You may obtain publicly available information related to this document using any of the following methods:

- *Federal Rulemaking website:* Go to *https://www.regulations.gov* and search for Docket ID NRC–2024–0104. Address questions about Docket IDs in *Regulations.gov* to Stacy Schumann; telephone: 301–415–0624; email: *Stacy.Schumann@nrc.gov.* For technical questions, contact the individual listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this document.
- *NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS):* You may obtain publicly available documents online in the ADAMS Public Documents collection at *https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html.* To begin the search, select ''Begin Web-based ADAMS Search.'' For problems with ADAMS, please contact the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR) reference staff at 1–800–397–4209, at 301–415–4737, or by email to *PDR.Resource@nrc.gov*. For the convenience of the reader, instructions about obtaining materials referenced in this document are provided in the ''Availability of Documents'' section.
- *NRC's PDR:* The PDR, where you may examine and order copies of publicly available documents, is open by appointment. To make an appointment to visit the PDR, please send an email to *PDR.Resource@nrc.gov* or call 1–800–397–4209 or 301–415–4737, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. eastern time (ET), Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Yen-Ju Chen, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555; telephone: 301–415–1018; email: *Yen-Ju.Chen@nrc.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Introduction

The NRC is reviewing an exemption request from STPNOC, dated May 7, 2024, and supplemented on May 15, 2024. STPNOC is requesting an exemption, pursuant to section 72.7 of title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), in paragraphs 72.212(a)(2), 72.212(b)(3), 72.212(b)(5)(i), 72.212(b)(11), and 72.214 that require STPNOC to comply with the terms, conditions, and specifications of CoC No. 1032, Amendment No. 2. If approved, the exemption would allow STPNOC to shuffle (relocate) 10 loaded MPC–37–CBS in the HI–STORM FW MPC Storage System on the ISFSI pad at the STP ISFSI in January 2025, and load two MPC–37–CBS in March 2025 in the HI–STORM FW MPC Storage System at the STP ISFSI in a storage condition where the terms, conditions, and specifications in CoC No. 1032, Amendment No. 2, are not met.

II. Environmental Assessment

Background

STP is located in Bay City, Texas. STP occupies a 12,200-acre site west of the Colorado River and approximately 70 miles southwest of Houston. Unit 1 began operating in 1988 and Unit 2 began operating in 1989. STPNOC has been storing spent nuclear fuel in an ISFSI at STP under a general license as authorized by 10 CFR part 72, subpart K, ''General License for Storage of Spent Fuel at Power Reactor Sites.'' STPNOC currently uses the HI–STORM FW MPC Storage System under CoC No. 1032, Amendment No. 2, for dry storage of spent nuclear fuel in a specific MPC (*i.e.,* MPC–37) at the STP ISFSI.

Description of the Proposed Action

The CoC is the NRC approved design for each dry cask storage system. The proposed action would exempt the applicant from the requirements of 10 CFR 72.212(a)(2), 72.212(b)(3), 72.212(b)(5)(i), 72.212(b)(11), and 72.214 only as these requirements pertain to the use of the MPC–37–CBS in the HI–STORM FW MPC Storage System for the near-term planned shuffling and loading of the systems. The exemption would allow STPNOC to shuffle (relocate) 10 loaded MPC–37–CBS in the HI–STORM FW MPC Storage System on the ISFSI pad at the STP ISFSI in January 2025, and load two new MPC–37–CBS in March 2025 in the HI–STORM FW MPC Storage System at the STP ISFSI in a storage condition, despite the MPC–37–CBS in the HI–STORM FW MPC Storage System not being in compliance with the terms, conditions, and specifications in the CoC No. 1032, Amendment No. 2.

The HI–STORM FW MPC Storage System CoC provides the requirements, conditions, and operating limits necessary for the use of the system to store spent fuel. Holtec International (Holtec), the designer and manufacturer of the HI–STORM FW MPC Storage System, developed a variant of the design with CBS for the MPC–37, known as MPC–37–CBS. Holtec originally implemented the CBS variant design under the provisions of 10 CFR 72.48, which allows licensees to make changes to cask designs without a CoC amendment under certain conditions (listed in 10 CFR 72.48(c)). After evaluating the specific changes to the cask designs, the NRC determined that Holtec erred when it implemented the CBS variant design under 10 CFR 72.48, as this was not the type of change allowed without a CoC amendment. For this reason, the NRC issued three Severity Level IV violations to Holtec. STPNOC plans to shuffle (relocate) the 10 loaded MPC–37–CBS canisters on the ISFSI pad in January 2025 and to load two new MPC–37–CBS in the HI–STORM FW MPC Storage System in March 2025. This exemption considers the relocation of the 10 already loaded canisters and the near-term planned loading of the two canisters with the CBS variant basket design.

Need for the Proposed Action

STPNOC requested this exemption in order to allow STP to shuffle (relocate) 10 loaded MPC–37–CBS in the HI–STORM FW MPC Storage System on the ISFSI pad at the STP ISFSI in January 2025, and load two new MPC–37–CBS in the HI–STORM FW MPC Storage System at the STP ISFSI in a storage condition in March 2025.

Approval of the exemption request would allow STPNOC to effectively manage the margin for full core offload in the STP spent nuclear fuel pool to maintain its ability to offload fuel from the reactor and account for unplanned outages and cask storage component fabrication challenges that could drive rescheduling the loading campaign. It would reduce the decay heat removal demand on the spent fuel pool cooling system, and thus reduce the consequence of a design basis accident associated with a loss of spent fuel pool cooling event and the likelihood of a fuel handling accident. Approval of the exemption request would also allow

STPNOC to shuffle already loaded MPC–37–CBS canisters, and thus optimize available space on STP ISFSI pad for cask transporter maneuverability and minimize long-term damage to the STP ISFSI pad and personnel radiation exposure from cask transporter use.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action

This EA evaluates the potential environmental impacts of granting an exemption from the terms, conditions, and specifications in CoC No. 1032, Amendment No. 2. The exemption would allow STPNOC to shuffle (relocate) 10 loaded MPC–37–CBS in the HI–STORM FW MPC Storage System on the ISFSI pad at the STP ISFSI in January 2025, and load two new MPC–37–CBS in March 2025 in the HI–STORM FW MPC Storage System at the STP ISFSI in a storage condition.

The potential environmental impacts of storing spent nuclear fuel in NRC-approved storage systems have been documented in previous assessments. On July 18, 1990, the NRC amended 10 CFR part 72 to provide for the storage of spent nuclear fuel under a general license in cask designs approved by the NRC. The EA for the 1990 final rule analyzed the potential environmental impacts of using NRC-approved storage casks. The EA for the HI–STORM FW MPC Storage System, CoC No. 1032, Amendment No. 2, published on August 23, 2016, tiers off of the EA issued for the July 18, 1990, final rule. ''Tiering'' off earlier EAs is a standard process encouraged by the regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) that entails the use of impact analyses of previous EAs to bound the impacts of a proposed action where appropriate. The Holtec HI–STORM FW MPC Storage System is designed to mitigate the effects of design basis accidents that could occur during storage. Considering the specific design requirements for the accident conditions, the design of the cask would prevent loss of containment, shielding, and criticality control. If there is no loss of containment, shielding, or criticality control, the environmental impacts would not be significant.

The exemptions requested by STPNOC at the STP site as they relate to CoC No. 1032, Amendment No. 2, for the HI–STORM FW MPC Storage System are limited to the use of the CBS variant basket design only for shuffling the 10 already loaded canisters and near-term planned loading of two canisters utilizing the CBS variant basket design. The staff has determined that this change in the basket would not result in either radiological or non-radiological environmental impacts that significantly differ from the environmental impacts evaluated in the EA supporting the issuance of CoC No. 1032, Amendment No. 2. If the exemption is granted, there would be no significant change in the types or amounts of any effluents released, no significant increase in individual or cumulative public or occupational radiation exposure, and no significant increase in the potential for or consequences from radiological accidents. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that there would be no significant environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

Alternative to the Proposed Action

The staff considered the no-action alternative. The no-action alternative (denial of the exemption request) would require STPNOC to keep the spent nuclear fuel in the spent fuel pool until the approved design canisters can be fabricated and delivered to the site in April 2025 which is after the planned March 2025 loading campaign. Because the March 2025 loading campaign was scheduled, budgeted, and planned several years in advance based on planned refueling outages, new fuel receipts, and other enterprise-level projects while considering the availability of specialty resources (equipment, vendors), any delay would have cascading impacts to future new fuel receipt, refueling outage, and other enterprise projects. Delay beyond 2025, if unable to reschedule in 2025, would result in loading these two canisters during the next scheduled loading campaign in 2028. Then, the number of canisters to be loaded could increase even more based on the new criticality analysis for the spent fuel pools to accommodate the planned use of accident tolerant fuel.

Further, if STPNOC does not shuffle the 10 loaded canisters, this could challenge the cask transporter maneuverability on the STP ISFSI pad, and thus increase the use of a cask transporter on the STP ISFSI pad, which could increase the long-term damage to the STP ISFSI pad and result in likely longer personnel radiation exposure from increased transporter use.

The NRC has determined that these potential impacts of the no-action alternative could be avoided by proceeding with the proposed exemption, especially given that the staff has concluded in NRC's Safety Determination Memorandum, issued with respect to the enforcement action against Holtec regarding these violations, that fuel can be stored safely in the MPC–37–CBS canisters.

Agencies Consulted

The NRC provided the Texas Department of State Health Services (TDSHS) a copy of this draft EA for review by an email dated June 3, 2024. On June 18, 2024, the TDSHS provided its concurrence by email.

III. Finding of No Significant Impact

The environmental impacts of the proposed action have been reviewed in accordance with the requirements in 10 CFR part 51, which implement NEPA. Based upon the foregoing EA, the NRC finds that the proposed action of granting the exemption from the regulations in 10 CFR 72.212(a)(2), 72.212(b)(3), 72.212(b)(5)(i), 72.212(b)(11) and 72.214, which require the licensee to comply with the terms, conditions, and specifications of the CoC, would not significantly impact the quality of the human environment. The exemption in this case would be limited to the shuffling and near-term loading of specific canisters with the CBS variant basket design. Accordingly, the NRC has determined that a FONSI is appropriate, and an environmental impact statement is not warranted.

IV. Availability of Documents

The documents identified in the following table are available to interested persons through ADAMS, as indicated.

Document description	ADAMS Accession No. or **Federal Register** notice
STPNOC's request for exemption, dated May 7, 2024	ML24128A157.
Supplement to request for exemption, dated May 15, 2024	ML24136A284.
Certificate of Compliance No. 1032, Amendment 2, dated November 7, 2016	ML16280A008 (Package).
Holtec International, Inc.—Notice of Violation; The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Inspection Report No. 07201014/2022–201, EA–23–044, dated January 30, 2024.	ML24016A190.
10 CFR part 72 amendment to allow spent fuel storage in NRC-approved casks, dated July 18, 1990	55 FR 29181.

Document description	ADAMS Accession No. or **Federal Register** notice
EA for part 72 amendment to allow spent fuel storage in NRC-approved casks, dated March 8, 1989	ML051230231.
Direct Final Rule for List of Approved Spent Fuel Storage Casks: Holtec International HI–STORM Flood/Wind Multipurpose Canister Storage System, Amendment 2, dated August 23, 2016.	81 FR 57442.
Safety Determination of a Potential Structural Failure of the Fuel Basket During Accident Conditions for the HI–STORM 100 and HI–STORM Flood/Wind Dry Cask Storage Systems, dated January 31, 2024.	ML24018A085.
NRC email to TDSHS requesting review of EA/FONSI for STP Exemption, dated June 3, 2024	ML24170A886.
TDSHS email response regarding review of EA/FONSI for TSP Exemption, dated June 18, 2024	ML24170A887.

Dated: June 21, 2024.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Yoira Diaz-Sanabria,

Chief, Storage and Transportation Licensing Branch, Division of Fuel Management, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards.

[FR Doc. 2024–13978 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 030–00001; License No. 24–04206–01; EA–21–055; NRC–2024–0109]

In the Matter of Curium US LLC; Confirmatory Order Modifying License

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice; issuance.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is issuing a Confirmatory Order to Curium US LLC to memorialize the agreement reached during an alternative dispute resolution mediation session held on March 5–6, 2024. The Confirmatory Order contains commitments made to resolve 10 apparent violations of NRC requirements relating to an August 2019 contamination incident involving molybdenum-99 and technetium-99m. The commitments include actions by Curium US LLC to enhance its operating procedures, corrective action program, employee training, and safety culture. The Confirmatory Order is effective upon issuance.

DATES: The Confirmatory Order was issued on June 13, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Please refer to Docket ID NRC–2024–0109 when contacting the NRC about the availability of information regarding this document. You may obtain publicly available information related to this document using any of the following methods:

- *Federal Rulemaking website:* Go to *https://www.regulations.gov* and search for Docket ID NRC–2024–0109. Address questions about Docket IDs in *Regulations.gov* to Stacy Schumann; telephone: 301–415–0624; email: *Stacy.Schumann@nrc.gov.* For technical questions, contact the individual listed in the ''**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**'' section of this document.
- *NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS):* You may obtain publicly available documents online in the ADAMS Public Documents collection at *https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html.* To begin the search, select ''Begin Web-based ADAMS Search.'' For problems with ADAMS, please contact the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR) reference staff at 1–800–397–4209, at 301–415–4737, or by email to *PDR.Resource@nrc.gov.* The NRC Reactive Inspection Report No. 03000001/2019003(DRSS)—Curium US LLC. is available in ADAMS under Accession No. ML24005A060.
- *NRC's PDR:* The PDR, where you may examine and order copies of publicly available documents, is open by appointment. To make an appointment to visit the PDR, please send an email to *PDR.Resource@nrc.gov* or call 1–800–397–4209 or 301–415–4737, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. eastern time (ET), Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Diana Betancourt-Roldan, Region III, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, telephone: 630–810–4373; email: *Diana.Betancourt-Roldan@nrc.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The text of the order is attached.

Dated: June 20, 2024.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

John B. Giessner,

Regional Administrator, Region III.

Attachment—Confirmatory Order

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

In the Matter of: Curium US LLC, Docket No. 030–00001, License No. 24–04206–01, EA–21–055

Confirmatory Order Modifying License (Effective Upon Issuance)

I

Curium US LLC holds Materials License No. 24–04206–01 issued on May 18, 2023 (Amendment No. 105), by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC or Commission) pursuant to Part 30 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR). At the time of the events that led to the NRC's October 2019 reactive inspection, Curium conducted operations under Amendment 99 of License No. 24–04206–01, which was issued on July 2, 2019. The license authorizes the use of byproduct material, as described in the application dated December 22, 2011, in accordance with conditions specified in the license.

This Confirmatory Order is the result of an agreement reached during an Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) mediation session conducted on March 5–6, 2024, in Lisle, Illinois.

II

On October 29–30, 2019, the NRC conducted a reactive inspection with continued in-office review through December 21, 2023. On January 11, 2024, the NRC issued Inspection Report 03000001/2019003 to Curium US LLC which documented the identification of 10 apparent violations that occurred at the Maryland Heights, Missouri facility as the result of a contamination event on August 19, 2019. The apparent violations were being considered for escalated enforcement action in accordance with the NRC Enforcement Policy. The apparent violations involved the failure to: (1) report, within 24 hours of discovery, an event that involved loss of control of licensed material that caused the release of radioactive material, so that, had an individual been present for 24 hours in the area, the individual could have received an intake in excess of one occupational annual limit on intake, as required by 10 CFR 20.2202(b)(2); (2) notify the NRC within 24 hours after the discovery of an unplanned contamination event as required by 10 CFR 30.50(b)(1); (3) assess dose to determine the compliance with occupational dose equivalent limits by taking suitable and timely measurements of concentrations of radioactive materials in air in the work area, quantities of radionuclides in the body, or quantities of radionuclides

excreted from the body as required by 10 CFR 20.1204(a); (4) conduct an adequate survey to ensure compliance with limits on licensed material released into sanitary sewerage, as required by 10 CFR 20.1501 and 10 CFR 20.2003(a)(2); (5) furnish dose information to an individual as required by 10 CFR 19.13(b)(1); (6) maintain records of surveys as required by 10 CFR 20.2103(a); (7) provide information to the Commission that is complete and accurate in all material respects as required by 10 CFR 30.9; (8) maintain Curium's Corrective Action Program as required by License Condition 18; (9) comply with the terms and conditions of the Certificate of Compliance (CoC) No. 9320 as required by 10 CFR 71.71(c)(2); and (10) implement Curium's standard operating procedure (SOP) for performing personal contamination surveys as required by License Condition 21.

By letter dated January 11, 2024, the NRC provided Curium with a reactive inspection report with the opportunity to: (1) request a Predecisional Enforcement Conference (PEC); or (2) request ADR.

In response to the NRC's offer, Curium requested the use of the NRC's ADR process to resolve differences it had with the NRC. On March 5–6, 2024, the NRC and Curium met in an ADR session mediated by a professional mediator, arranged through Cornell University's Institute on Conflict Resolution. The ADR process is one in which a neutral mediator, with no decision-making authority, assists the parties in reaching an agreement on resolving any differences regarding the dispute. The Confirmatory Order is issued pursuant to the agreement reached during the ADR process.

III

During the ADR session, Curium and the NRC reached a preliminary settlement in an Agreement in Principle, which is reproduced in full below:

Pursuant to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission Office of Enforcement's Enforcement Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Program, the following are the terms and conditions agreed upon in principle by Curium US LLC (Curium) and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) relating to the apparent violations identified in the inspection report No. 03000001/2019003 (DRSS) issued by the NRC to Curium on January 11, 2024.

The NRC seeks lasting and effective corrective actions to preclude any additional contamination incidents similar to the incident that occurred at Curium's Maryland Heights, Missouri, manufacturing facility on August 19, 2019.

Therefore, the parties agree to the following terms and conditions:

I. Hot Cell Procedures

Curium will revise its relevant Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), including the SOP for hot cell operations, to ensure that payload internals, including the secondary container (R2 sleeve), are removed from shipping casks before the casks are removed from the hot cell except as provided in paragraph 3 of this section of the Agreement.

1. Curium will use a tool that Curium has developed to remove detached R2 sleeves from casks while they are in the hot cell.

2. In the event that a R2 sleeve becomes detached, Curium will include in the revised SOP for hot cell operations a requirement that a second person be present to observe and assist in removal of the R2 sleeve in the hot cell.

3. If Curium is unable to remove a detached R2 sleeve from a cask:

a. Curium will reseal the cask in the hot cell and place the cask in storage in Building 650;

b. The cask containing the R2 sleeve will be labeled with prominent identification that the cask contains an R2 sleeve prior to removing the cask from Building 650;

c. Once an external reading on contact of the cask is below 5 mR per hour, the cask may be removed from Building 650 and moved to Building 500;

d. Once an external reading on contact of the cask is below 3 mR per hour, the R2 sleeve may be removed provided that:

i. A Health Physics support employee is present; and

ii. Air sampling for airborne radioactivity is performed for the duration of the cleaning of the cask;

e. Each occurrence shall be documented in the Radiation Safety Corrective Action Program.

4. Within 120 days of the effective date of the Confirmatory Order (CO), Curium will submit the revised procedures to the NRC for review and comment to verify that the revised procedures meet the requirements of Section I of this Agreement.

5. Within 120 days after receiving the results of the NRC's review, Curium will implement the revised SOPs and provide initial training to all V4 technicians and their supervisors.

6. Curium will add to their procedures a requirement to provide training to all new V4 technicians and all new V4 technician supervisors on these revised SOPs.

7. For a period of 5 years after the effective date of the CO, prior implementing any subsequent revisions to these SOPs with respect to the requirements of Section I of this Agreement, Curium will submit the proposed revisions to the NRC for review to verify that the revised procedures meet Section I requirements.

II. Safety Culture

The NRC acknowledges that Curium has taken the following actions with respect to safety culture: (a) 2022 Safety Culture Assessment; (b) Curium's CEO provided a site wide safety culture statement to all employees in North America; (c) conducted initial Safety Leadership Training; and (d) developed a safety culture plan (Project VPP-Safety Culture).

1. Within 270 days of the effective date of the CO, Curium will contract with the same vendor that conducted the 2022 Safety Culture Assessment to perform a follow-up fleet wide safety culture assessment.

a. Curium will evaluate the results of the assessment, including any recommendations, and take appropriate actions.

b. Curium will make the assessment available to the NRC upon request.

2. Between 12 and 18 months after the completion of the follow-up fleet wide safety culture assessment, Curium will conduct a subsequent assessment of the fleet-wide safety culture using the same vendor.

a. Curium will evaluate the results of the assessment, including any recommendations, and take appropriate actions.

b. Curium will make the assessment available to the NRC upon request.

3. Within 180 days of the effective date of the CO, Curium will conduct Safety Leadership Training for their Executive Leadership Team (ELT) and the People Leaders in Operations, R&D, and Quality groups (hereinafter referred to as ''SLT'') with at least 90 percent participation for each of the ELT and of the SLT.

III. Corrective Action Program for Radiation Safety

Curium will contract with an independent external reviewer to conduct an independent assessment of the Corrective Action Program for radiation safety (CAP) governed by SOP 33–201 and prepare a report of the findings.

1. Prior to entering into a contract with the independent reviewer, Curium will provide the reviewer's name and qualifications to the NRC for review to verify independence and qualification.

2. The assessment will look backwards at least 4 years from the effective date of the CO and will evaluate, at a minimum, the following items: (a) Curium's ability to identify and enter items into the CAP; (b) Curium's ability to evaluate and prioritize issues in the CAP; and (c) Curium's ability to track and implement timely corrective actions.

3. If issues are identified in the assessment that indicate the CAP is not functioning properly, the independent reviewer will make specific recommendations in the report on how to address and correct those issues. Curium will evaluate the results of the assessment, including any recommendations, and take appropriate actions if necessary.

4. The CAP assessment and final report will be completed within one year of the effective date of the CO. Curium will make the final CAP assessment report available to the NRC upon request.

IV. Event Reporting

Within 180 days of the effective date of the CO, Curium will develop and implement a procedure for reporting events to the NRC.

1. The procedure will include instructions for evaluating an event to determine whether it meets NRC reportability requirements in 10 CFR part 20 and 10 CFR part 30 and for documenting the results of the evaluation. This procedure will ensure that at least two qualified individuals are involved in the evaluation. The instructions will specifically address how to evaluate whether each criterion in 10 CFR 20.2202 and 30.50 has been met.

2. Within 120 days of implementing the procedure, Curium will train all health physics personnel and any other personnel involved in making reportability determinations on the procedure.

3. Curium will train all new health physics personnel and any other new personnel involved in making reportability determinations on the procedure.

4. Curium will make the procedure available to the NRC upon request.

V. Training

Curium will develop and implement live training as specified below:

1. Within 180 days of the effective date of CO, Curium will insert a brief case study about the 2019 contamination event and lessons learned into the annual radiation safety training provided to all radiation workers.

2. Within 180 days of the effective date of the CO, Curium will develop an in-depth case study (*e.g.* 45–60 minutes) about the 2019 contamination event and lessons learned and provide that training to the Curium SLT.

3. Within 180 days of the effective date of the CO, Curium will develop an in-depth case study (*e.g.* 45–60 minutes) about the 2019 contamination event and lessons learned and provide that training to the Curium ELT.

4. Within 180 days of the effective date of the CO, all health physics personnel will receive training on managing contamination events and contaminated personnel. Topics for this training will include, at a minimum, the following: conducting surveys and air sampling for contamination events; maintain records of surveys; estimating of extent of contamination; internal dosimetry and dose assessment, including bioassays; decontamination/treatment of contaminated persons and items; relevant licensee procedures; and relevant NRC regulations and guidance. This training will be provided on a recurring basis. All new health physics personnel will receive the training during qualification.

5. Curium will ensure that the annual radiation safety training for radiation workers will include training on what to do if the worker becomes contaminated.

6. The Health Physics department will send out periodic safety messages, at least quarterly, to the facility regarding current radiation safety topics for two years from effective date of the CO.

VI. Internal Dose Assessment and Updated Dose Records

Within 180 days of the effective date of the CO, Curium will contract with an independent consultant to complete an internal dose assessment for the individual who was involved in the August 19, 2019, contamination event (the ''affected individual'').

1. Prior to entering into a contract with an independent consultant, Curium will provide the consultant's qualifications to the NRC for review to verify independence and qualifications.

2. Curium will provide the consultant with a complete copy of Investigation Report 19–0088, including attachments, for use in conducting the assessment.

3. The independent consultant will provide Curium with a written report that includes the estimated internal dose to the affected individual and a description of the methods and assumptions used to perform the dose calculations. Curium will make the written report available to the NRC upon request.

4. Upon completion of the internal dose assessment, Curium's Radiation Safety Officer (RSO) will review the written report and decide whether the estimated dose is reasonable. The RSO will then present the results of the assessment to the Maryland Heights facility's Radiation Safety Committee (RSC).

5. The decision and endorsement will be documented in the minutes of the RSC. If the RSC or the RSO disagree with the independent dose assessment, the basis for the disagreement will be explained in the minutes of the RSC. Curium will make the minutes of the RSC available to the NRC upon request.

6. Curium will provide an updated NRC Form 5 for the affected individual as appropriate.

VII. Sharing Operating Experience

Within one year of the effective date of the CO, Curium will offer to make a presentation on the 2019 contamination event and management of the response to one national organization, including local chapters, whose membership comprises health physics and radiation professionals (*e.g.,* the Health Physics Society, Society of Nuclear Medicine, or the American Nuclear Society).

1. If the presentation is accepted, Curium will inform the NRC at least a month in advance of the date and location.

2. Curium will provide the slides for the presentation to the NRC upon request.

VIII. Building 500 Evaluation

Within 180 days of the effective date of the CO, Curium will evaluate the Building 500 facilities at Maryland Heights, Missouri, based on the assessment that the facilities in Building 500 are not appropriate for cask cleaning activities other than wipe downs, as stated on pages 16 and 17 of Curium's Investigation of Incident No. 19–0088.

1. Curium will document the assessment and develop and implement appropriate corrective actions, if necessary, to provide sufficient radiation protection measures for the cask cleaning activities conducted in Building 500.

IX. Sanitary Sewage

Within 180 days of the effective date of the CO, Curium will revise the SOP for responding to a contamination event (33–141) to establish a process for assessing any discharge of radioactive material into the public sanitary sewer system to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements. The revised procedure will require that the results of

this assessment will be documented. Curium will make the revised procedure available to the NRC upon request.

X. Administrative

1. In exchange for the commitments and corrective actions agreed to by Curium;

a. The NRC agrees not to pursue any further enforcement action in connection with the August 19, 2019, contamination event as described in NRC's January 11, 2024, reactive inspection report to Curium US LLC.

b. The NRC agrees to exercise discretion to refrain from issuing a Notice of Violation or proposed civil penalty for any violations arising from the results of the independent internal dose evaluation that Curium has agreed to perform.

c. The NRC agrees not to issue a civil penalty for apparent violations identified in the NRC's January 11, 2024, reactive inspection report to Curium US LLC.

2. This agreement is binding upon all successors and assigns of Curium.

The NRC acknowledges that Curium has completed the following corrective actions: (1) conducting a fleet-wide safety culture assessment in 2022, (2) providing a site-wide safety culture statement from Curium's CEO to all employees in North America, (3) conducting initial ''Safety Leadership Training,'' (4) developing a safety culture plan (Project VPP-Safety Culture), (5) updating the shallow dose assessment for the contaminated individual, and (6) informing the individual of the updated dose assessment results. Based on these completed actions, and the commitments described in Section V below, the NRC agrees not to pursue any further enforcement action in connection with the August 19, 2019, contamination event; not to issue a civil penalty for the apparent violations identified in NRC Inspection Report 03000001/2019003; and to exercise discretion to refrain from issuing a Notice of Violation or civil penalty for any violations arising from the results of the independent internal dose evaluation that Curium will perform.

On May 31, 2024, Curium consented to issuing the Confirmatory Order with the commitments as described in Section V below. Curium further agreed that this Confirmatory Order is to be effective upon issuance, that the agreement memorialized in this Confirmatory Order settles the matter between the parties, and that it has waived its right to a hearing.

IV

I find that Curium's completed actions, as described in Section III above, combined with the commitments as set forth in Section V are acceptable and necessary, and conclude that with these commitments the public health and safety are reasonably assured. In view of the foregoing, I have determined that public health and safety require that Curium's commitments be confirmed by this Confirmatory Order. Based on the above and Curium's consent, this Confirmatory Order is effective upon issuance.

By no later than thirty (30) days after the completion of the commitments specified in Section V, Curium is required to notify the NRC in writing and summarize its actions.

V

Accordingly, pursuant to Sections 81, 161b, 161i, 161o, 182, and 187 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, and the Commission's regulations in 10 CFR 2.202 and 10 CFR parts 30 and 35, *it is hereby ordered, effective upon issuance, that license No. 24–04206–01 is modified as follows:*

A. Hot Cell Procedures

1. Curium will revise its relevant Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), including the SOP for hot cell operations, to ensure that payload internals, including the secondary container (R2 sleeve), are removed from shipping casks before the casks are removed from the hot cell, except as provided in paragraph V.A.1.c below. The revisions will address the following items:

a. A tool developed by Curium will be used to remove detached R2 sleeves from casks while they are in the hot cell.

b. In the event that a R2 sleeve becomes detached, a second person will be present to observe and assist in removal of the R2 sleeve in the hot cell.

c. If Curium is unable to remove a detached R2 sleeve from a cask in the hot cell:

i. Curium will reseal the cask in the hot cell and place the cask in storage in Building 650;

ii. The cask containing the R2 sleeve will be labeled with prominent identification that the cask contains an R2 sleeve prior to removing the cask from Building 650;

iii. Once an external reading on contact of the cask is below 5 mR per hour, the cask may be removed from Building 650 and moved to Building 500;

iv. Once an external reading on contact of the cask is below 3 mR per hour, the R2 sleeve may be removed in Building 500 provided that a Health Physics support employee is present and air sampling for airborne radioactivity is performed for the duration of cask cleaning.

v. Each occurrence shall be documented in the Radiation Safety Corrective Action Program.

2. Within 120 days of the effective date of the Confirmatory Order (CO), Curium will submit the revised SOPs to the NRC for review and comment to verify that the revised SOPs meet the requirements of paragraph V.A.1.

3. Within 120 days after receiving the results of the NRC's review, Curium will implement the revised SOPs and provide initial training to all manufacturing technicians assigned to work V4 hot cells and their supervisors.

4. Curium will add to their procedures a requirement to provide training to all new manufacturing technicians assigned to work V4 hot cells and supervisors of these manufacturing technicians on these revised SOPs.

5. For a period of 5 years after the effective date of the CO, prior to implementing any subsequent revisions to these SOPs with respect to the requirements of paragraph V.A.1, Curium will submit the proposed revisions to the NRC for review to verify that the revisions meet the requirements of paragraph V.A.1.

B. Safety Culture

1. Within 270 days of the effective date of the CO, Curium will contract with the same vendor that conducted the 2022 Safety Culture Assessment, or a vendor with similar qualifications, to perform a follow-up fleet-wide safety culture assessment.

a. Curium will evaluate the results of the assessment, including any recommendations, take appropriate actions, and document any actions taken.

b. Curium will make the assessment available to the NRC upon request.

2. Between 12 and 18 months after the completion of the follow-up fleet wide safety culture assessment, Curium will conduct a subsequent assessment of the fleet-wide safety culture using the same vendor or a vendor with similar qualifications.

a. Curium will evaluate the results of the assessment, including any recommendations, take appropriate actions, and document any actions taken.

b. Curium will make the assessment available to the NRC upon request.

3. Within 180 days of the effective date of the CO, Curium will conduct the

Aubrey Daniels International ''Safety Leadership Training'' for their Executive Leadership Team (ELT) and the People Leaders in Operations, R&D, and Quality groups (hereinafter referred to as ''SLT'') with at least 90 percent participation for each of the ELT and of the SLT.

C. Corrective Action Program for Radiation Safety

1. Curium will contract with an independent external reviewer to conduct an independent assessment of the Corrective Action Program (CAP) for radiation safety governed by SOP 33–201 and prepare a written report of the findings. Prior to entering into a contract with the independent reviewer, Curium will provide the reviewer's name and qualifications to the NRC for review to verify the reviewer's independence and qualifications.

2. The assessment will look backwards at least 4 years from the effective date of the CO and will evaluate, at a minimum, the following items: (a) Curium's ability to identify and enter items into the CAP; (b) Curium's ability to evaluate and prioritize issues in the CAP; and (c) Curium's ability to track and implement timely corrective actions.

3. If issues are identified in the assessment that indicate the CAP is not functioning properly, the independent reviewer will make specific recommendations in the report on how to address and correct those issues. Curium will evaluate the results of the assessment, including any recommendations, take appropriate actions if necessary, and document any actions taken.

4. The CAP assessment and final written report will be completed within one year of the effective date of the CO. Curium will make the final written report available to the NRC upon request.

D. Event Reporting

1. Within 180 days of the effective date of the CO, Curium will develop and implement a procedure for reporting events to the NRC. The procedure will include instructions for evaluating an event to determine whether it meets NRC reportability requirements in 10 CFR part 20 and 10 CFR part 30 and for documenting the results of the evaluation. This procedure will ensure that at least two qualified individuals are involved in the evaluation. The instructions will specifically address how to evaluate whether each criterion in 10 CFR 20.2202 and 30.50 has been met.

2. Within 120 days of implementing the procedure, Curium will provide training on the procedure to all health physics personnel and any other personnel involved in making reportability determinations.

3. Curium will provide training on the procedure to all new health physics personnel and any other new personnel involved in making reportability determinations.

4. Curium will make the procedure available to the NRC upon request.

E. Training

1. Curium will develop and implement live training as specified below:

a. Within 180 days of the effective date of CO, Curium will insert a brief case study about the 2019 contamination event and lessons learned into the annual radiation safety training provided to all radiation workers.

b. Within 180 days of the effective date of the CO, Curium will develop an in-depth case study (*e.g.* 45–60 minutes) about the 2019 contamination event and lessons learned and provide that training to the Curium SLT.

c. Within 180 days of the effective date of the CO, Curium will develop an in-depth case study (*e.g.* 45–60 minutes) about the 2019 contamination event and lessons learned and provide that training to the Curium ELT.

d. Within 180 days of the effective date of the CO, all health physics personnel will receive training on managing contamination events and contaminated personnel. Topics for this training will include, at a minimum, the following: conducting surveys and air sampling for contamination events; maintain records of surveys; estimating of extent of contamination; internal dosimetry and dose assessment, including bioassays; decontamination/treatment of contaminated persons and items; relevant licensee procedures; and relevant NRC regulations and guidance. This training will be provided on a recurring basis (not less frequently than every three years). All new health physics personnel will receive the training during qualification.

2. Curium will ensure that the annual radiation safety training for radiation workers will include training on what to do if a worker becomes contaminated.

3. The Health Physics department will send out periodic safety messages, at least quarterly, to the facility regarding current radiation safety topics for two years starting on the effective date of the CO.

F. Internal Dose Assessment and Updated Dose Records

1. Within 180 days of the effective date of the CO, Curium will contract with an independent consultant to complete an internal dose assessment for the individual who was involved in the August 19, 2019, contamination event (the ''affected individual'').

a. Prior to entering into a contract with an independent consultant, Curium will provide the consultant's qualifications to the NRC for review to verify the consultant's independence and qualifications.

b. Curium will provide the consultant with a complete copy of Investigation of Incident Report 19–0088, including attachments, for use in conducting the assessment.

c. The independent consultant will provide Curium with a written report that includes the estimated internal dose to the affected individual and a description of the methods and assumptions used to perform the dose calculations. Curium will make the written report available to the NRC upon request.

2. Within 90 days of completion of the internal dose assessment, Curium's Radiation Safety Officer (RSO) will (a) review the written report and decide whether the estimated dose is reasonable, and (b) present the results of the assessment to the Maryland Heights facility's Radiation Safety Committee (RSC).

3. The RSO's decision and RSC's views will be documented in the minutes of the RSC. If the RSC or the RSO disagree with the independent dose assessment, the basis for the disagreement will be explained in the minutes of the RSC. Curium will make the minutes of the RSC available to the NRC upon request.

4. Curium will provide an updated NRC Form 5 for the affected individual as appropriate.

G. Sharing Operating Experience

1. Within one year of the effective date of the CO, Curium will offer to make a presentation on the 2019 contamination event and management of the response to one national organization, including local chapters, whose membership comprises health physics and radiation professionals (*e.g.,* the Health Physics Society, Society of Nuclear Medicine, or the American Nuclear Society). If the presentation is accepted, Curium will designate an appropriate person to make the presentation. Curium will inform the NRC at least a month in advance of the date and location.

2. Curium will provide the slides for the presentation to the NRC upon request.

H. Building 500 Evaluation

1. Within 180 days of the effective date of the CO, Curium will evaluate the Building 500 facilities at its Maryland Heights, Missouri, location based on Curium's assessment that the facilities in Building 500 are not appropriate for cask cleaning activities other than wipe downs, as stated on pages 16 and 17 of Curium's Investigation of Incident Report No. 19–0088.

2. Curium will document the evaluation and develop and implement appropriate corrective actions, if necessary, to provide sufficient radiation protection measures for the cask cleaning activities conducted in Building 500.

I. Sanitary Sewage

1. Within 180 days of the effective date of the CO, Curium will revise SOP 33–141 (the procedure for responding to a contamination event) to establish a process for assessing any discharge of radioactive material into the public sanitary sewer system to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements. The revised procedure will require that the results of this assessment will be documented.

2. Curium will make the revised procedure available to the NRC upon request.

This agreement is binding upon successors and assigns of Curium US LLC. The Regional Administrator, Region III may, in writing, relax or rescind any of the above conditions upon demonstration of good cause by Curium or its successors.

VI

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.202 and 10 CFR 2.309, any person adversely affected by this Confirmatory Order, other than Curium, may request a hearing within thirty (30) calendar days of the date of issuance of this Confirmatory Order. Where good cause is shown, consideration will be given to extending the time to request a hearing. A request for extension of time must be made in writing to the Director, Office of Enforcement, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, and include a statement of good cause for the extension.

All documents filed in NRC adjudicatory proceedings, including a request for hearing, a petition for leave to intervene, any motion or other document filed in the proceeding prior to the submission of a request for hearing or petition to intervene (hereinafter ''petition''), and documents filed by interested governmental entities participating under 10 CFR 2.315(c), must be filed in accordance with the NRC's E-Filing rule (72 FR 49139; August 28, 2007, as amended at 77 FR 46562, August 3, 2012). The E-Filing process requires participants to submit and serve all adjudicatory documents over the internet, or in some cases to mail copies on electronic storage media. Participants may not submit paper copies of their filings unless they seek an exemption in accordance with the procedures described below.

To comply with the procedural requirements of E-Filing, at least 10 days prior to the filing deadline, the participant should contact the Office of the Secretary by email at *hearing.docket@nrc.gov,* or by telephone at 301–415–1677, to (1) request a digital identification (ID) certificate, which allows the participant (or its counsel or representative) to digitally sign submissions and access the E-Filing system for any proceeding in which it is participating; and (2) advise the Secretary that the participant will be submitting a petition or other adjudicatory document (even in instances in which the participant, or its counsel or representative, already holds an NRC-issued digital ID certificate). Based upon this information, the Secretary will establish an electronic docket for the hearing in this proceeding if the Secretary has not already established an electronic docket.

Information about applying for a digital ID certificate is available on the NRC's public website at *http://www.nrc.gov/site-help/e-submittals/getting-started.html.* Once a participant has obtained a digital ID certificate and a docket has been created, the participant can then submit adjudicatory documents. Submissions must be in Portable Document Format (PDF). Additional guidance on PDF submissions is available on the NRC's public website at *http://www.nrc.gov/site-help/electronic-sub-ref-mat.html.* A filing is considered complete at the time the document is submitted through the NRC's E-Filing system. To be timely, an electronic filing must be submitted to the E-Filing system no later than 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on the due date. Upon receipt of a transmission, the E-Filing system time-stamps the document and sends the submitter an email notice confirming receipt of the document. The E-Filing system also distributes an email notice that provides access to the document to the NRC's Office of the General Counsel and any others who have advised the Office of the Secretary that they wish to participate in the proceeding, so that the filer need not serve the document on those participants separately. Therefore, applicants and other participants (or their counsel or representative) must apply for and receive a digital ID certificate before adjudicatory documents are filed so that they can obtain access to the documents via the E-Filing system.

A person filing electronically using the NRC's adjudicatory E-Filing system may seek assistance by contacting the NRC's Electronic Filing Help Desk through the ''Contact Us'' link located on the NRC's public website at *http://www.nrc.gov/site-help/e-submittals.html,* by email to *MSHD.Resource@nrc.gov,* or by a toll-free call at 1–866–672–7640. The NRC Electronic Filing Help Desk is available between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m., Eastern Time, Monday through Friday, excluding government holidays.

Participants who believe that they have a good cause for not submitting documents electronically must file an exemption request, in accordance with 10 CFR 2.302(g), with their initial paper filing requesting authorization to continue to submit documents in paper format. Such filings must be submitted by: (1) first class mail addressed to the Office of the Secretary of the Commission, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555–0001, Attention: Rulemaking and Adjudications Staff; or (2) courier, express mail, or expedited delivery service to the Office of the Secretary, Sixteenth Floor, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852, Attention: Rulemaking and Adjudications Staff. Participants filing a document in this manner are responsible for serving the document on all other participants. Filing is considered complete by first-class mail as of the time of deposit in the mail, or by courier, express mail, or expedited delivery service upon depositing the document with the provider of the service. A presiding officer, having granted an exemption request from using E-Filing, may require a participant or party to use E-Filing if the presiding officer subsequently determines that the reason for granting the exemption from use of E-Filing no longer exists.

Documents submitted in adjudicatory proceedings will appear in NRC's electronic hearing docket, which is available to the public at *http://adams.nrc.gov/ehd,* unless excluded pursuant to an order of the Commission or the presiding officer. Participants are requested not to include personal privacy information, such as social security numbers, home addresses, or

home phone numbers in their filings, unless an NRC regulation or other law requires submission of such information. With respect to copyrighted works, except for limited excerpts that serve the purpose of the adjudicatory filings and would constitute a Fair Use application, participants are requested not to include copyrighted materials in their submission.

The Commission will issue a notice or order granting or denying a hearing request or intervention petition, designating the issues for any hearing that will be held and designating the Presiding Officer. A notice granting a hearing will be published in the **Federal Register** and served on the parties to the hearing.

If a person (other than Curium) requests a hearing, that person shall set forth with particularity the manner in which his interest is adversely affected by this Confirmatory Order and shall address the criteria set forth in 10 CFR 2.309(d) and (f).

If a hearing is requested by a person whose interest is adversely affected, the Commission will issue an order designating the time and place of any hearings. If a hearing is held, the issue to be considered at such hearing shall be whether this Confirmatory Order should be sustained.

In the absence of any request for hearing, or written approval of an extension of time in which to request a hearing, the provisions specified in Section V above shall be final 30 days from the date of this Confirmatory Order without further order or proceedings. If an extension of time for requesting a hearing has been approved, the provisions specified in Section V shall be final when the extension expires if a hearing request has not been received.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

/RA/

John B. Giessner,

Regional Administrator, NRC Region III.

Dated this 13th day of June 2024.

[FR Doc. 2024–13977 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590–01–P

RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

Agency Forms Submitted for OMB Review, Request for Comments

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 35), the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) is forwarding an Information Collection Request (ICR) to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA), Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Our ICR describes the information we seek to collect from the public. Review and approval by OIRA ensures that we impose appropriate paperwork burdens.

The RRB invites comments on the proposed collections of information to determine (1) the practical utility of the collections; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden of the collections; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information that is the subject of collection; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of collections on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments to the RRB or OIRA must contain the OMB control number of the ICR. For proper consideration of your comments, it is best if the RRB and OIRA receive them within 30 days of the publication date.

1. *Title and purpose of information collection:* Application for Employee Annuity Under the Railroad Retirement Ac; OMB 3220–0002.

Section 2(a) of the Railroad Retirement Act (RRA) (45 U.S.C. 231a) provides for payments of age and service, disability, and supplemental annuities to qualified employees. An annuity cannot be paid until the employee stops working for a railroad employer. In addition, the age and service employee must relinquish any rights held to such jobs. A disabled employee does not need to relinquish employee rights until attaining Full Retirement Age, or if earlier, when their spouse is awarded a spouse annuity. Benefits become payable after the employee meets certain other requirements, which depend on the type of annuity payable. The requirements for obtaining the annuities are prescribed in 20 CFR 216 and 220.

To collect the information needed to help determine an applicant's entitlement to, and the amount of, an employee retirement annuity the RRB uses Forms AA–1, *Application for Employee Annuity;* AA–1d, *Application for Determination of Employee Disability;* G–204, *Verification of Workers Compensation/Public Disability Benefit Information,* and electronic Forms AA–1cert, *Application Summary and Certification,* and AA–1sum, *Application Summary.*

The AA–1 application process obtains information from an applicant about their marital history, work history, military service, benefits from other governmental agencies, railroad pensions and Medicare entitlement for either an age and service or disability annuity. An RRB representative interviews the applicant either at a field office, an itinerant point, or by telephone. During the interview, the RRB representative enters the information obtained into an on-line information system. Upon completion of the interview, the on-line information system generates Form AA–1cert, *Application Summary and Certification,* or Form AA–1sum, *Application Summary,* a summary of the information that was provided for the applicant to review and approve. Form AA–1cert documents approval using the traditional pen and ink ''wet'' signature, and Form AA–1sum documents approval using the alternative signature method called Attestation. When the RRB representative is unable to contact the applicant in person or by telephone, for example, the applicant lives in another country, a manual version of Form AA–1 is used.

Form AA–1d, *Application for Determination of Employee's Disability,* is completed by an employee who is filing for a disability annuity under the RRA, or a disability freeze under the Social Security Act, for early Medicare based on a disability. Form G–204, *Verification of Worker's Compensation/Public Disability Benefit Information,* is used to obtain and verify information concerning a worker's compensation or a public disability benefit that is or will be paid by a public agency to a disabled railroad employee.

One response is requested of each respondent. Completion of the forms is required to obtain/retain a benefit.

Previous Requests for Comments: The RRB has already published the initial 60-day notice (89 FR 29375 on April 22, 2024) required by 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2). That request elicited no comments.

Information Collection Request (ICR)

Title: Application for Employee Annuity Under the Railroad Retirement Act.

OMB Control Number: 3220–0002.

Form(s) submitted: AA–1, AA–1cert, AA–1d, AA–1sum and G–204.

Type of request: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Affected public: Individuals or Households.

Abstract: The Railroad Retirement Act provides for payment of age, disability and supplemental annuities to qualified employees. The application and related forms obtain information about the applicant's family work history, military service, disability benefits from other government agencies and public or private pensions. The information is used to determine entitlement to and the amount of the annuity applied for.

Changes proposed: The RRB proposes no changes to Form AA–1, Form AA–1

(internet), and Form G–204. The RRB proposes a minor editorial change to Form AA–1cert and Form AA–1sum to correct the title of the RB–9 booklet. The RRB proposes minor changes to Form AA–1d:

- Section 1, General Instructions, the date is being updated to 06/06/23 in the 3rd paragraph.
- Section 7 question 38, The entry in parentheses associated with the question now reads (Do not include any self-employment, unemployment, or sickness benefits.)
- Section 8 question 45, has been changed to: Are you filing a form AA–1, *Application for Employee Annuity,* in connection with this application?
- Section 12 of the form. Under the Receipt for your claim section, the last sentence should read: Offices are open to public 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, and closed Federal Holidays.

The burden estimate for the ICR is as follows:

Form No.	Annual responses	Time (minutes)	Burden (hours)
AA–1 (without assistance)	30	62	31
AA–1cert (with assistance)	5,425	30	2,712
AA–1sum (with assistance)	2,750	29	1,329
AA–1 (Internet) (without assistance)	0	45	0
AA–1d (with assistance)	2,600	60	2,600
AA–1d (without assistance)	5	85	7
G–204	20	15	5
Total	10,830	.....	6,684

2. *Title and purpose of information collection:* Railroad Service and Compensation Reports/System Access Application; OMB 3220–0008.

Under section 9 of the Railroad Retirement Act (RRA) (45 U.S.C. 231h) and section 6 of the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act (RUIA) (45 U.S.C. 356), the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) maintains for each railroad employee, a record of compensation paid to that employee by all railroad employers for whom the employee worked after 1936. This record, which is used by the RRB to determine eligibility for, and amount of, benefits due under the laws it administers, is conclusive as to the amount of compensation paid to an employee during such period(s) covered by the report(s) of the compensation by the employee's railroad employer(s), except in cases when an employee files a protest pertaining to his or her reported compensation within the statute of limitations cited in section 9 of the RRA and section 6 of the RUIA.

To enable the RRB to establish and maintain the record of compensation, employers are required to file with the RRB, reports of their employees' compensation, in such manner and form and at such times as the RRB prescribes. Railroad employers' reports and responsibilities are prescribed in 20 CFR part 209. The RRB currently utilizes Form BA–3, *Annual Report of Creditable Compensation,* and Form BA–4, *Report of Creditable Compensation Adjustments,* to secure the required information from railroad employers. Form BA–3 provides the RRB with information regarding annual creditable service and compensation for each individual who worked for a railroad employer covered by the RRA and RUIA in a given year. Form BA–4 provides for the adjustment of any previously submitted reports and also the opportunity to provide any service and compensation that had been previously omitted. Requirements specific to Forms BA–3 and BA–4 are prescribed in 20 CFR 209.8 and 209.9.

Employers currently have the option of submitting BA–3 and BA–4 reports electronically by CD–ROM, secure Email, File Transfer Protocol (FTP), or online via the RRB's Employer Reporting System (ERS).

The information collection also includes RRB Form BA–12, Application for Employer Reporting internet Access, and Form G–440, Report Specifications Sheet. Form BA–12 is completed by railroad employers to obtain system access to ERS. Once access is obtained, authorized employees may submit reporting forms online to the RRB. The form determines what degree of access (view/only, data entry/modification or approval/submission) is appropriate for that employee. It is also used to terminate an employee's access to ERS. Form G–440, Report Specifications Sheet, serves as a certification document for Forms BA–3 and BA–4 as well as other RRB employer reporting forms (Form BA–6a, BA–6 Address Report (OMB 3220–0005), Form BA–9, Report of Separation Allowance or Severance Pay (OMB 3220–0173) and Form BA–11, Report of Gross Earnings (OMB 3220–0132)). It records the type of medium the report was submitted on and serves as a summary recapitulation sheet for reports filed on paper.

Previous Requests for Comments: The RRB has already published the initial 60-day notice (89 FR 29376 on April 22, 2024) required by 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2). That request elicited no comments.

Information Collection Request (ICR)

Title: Railroad Service and Compensation Reports/System Access Application.

OMB Control Number: 3220–0008.

Form(s) submitted: BA–3, BA–3 (internet), BA–4, BA–4 (internet), BA–12 and G–440.

Type of request: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Affected public: Private Sector; Businesses or other for-profits.

Abstract: Under the Railroad Retirement Act and the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act, employers are required to report service and compensation for each employee to update Railroad Retirement Board records for payments of benefits. The collection obtains service and compensation information and information needed to ensure secure system access from employers who voluntarily opt to use the RRB's internet-based Employer Reporting System to submit reporting forms and information needed to certify employer reporting transactions.

Changes proposed: The RRB proposes no changes to Forms BA–3 (internet), BA–4 (internet), and G–440. The RRB proposes Form BA–12 to add the statement ''I understand that I am acting as a trusted referee on behalf of the RRB and I have identity proofed the applicant by resolving, validating, and verifying a state and/or federal government-issued photo ID from the applicant. I also understand that I am responsible for notifying the RRB if, in the future, this individual's access should be terminated.''

The burden estimate for the ICR is as follows:

Reporting	Responses	Time (minutes)	Burden (hours)
BA–3:			
Electronic Media *2/*	96	46.25 (2,775)	4,440
BA–3 (Internet)	617	46.25 (2,775)	28,536
Total BA–3	713		32,976
BA–4:			
Electronic Media *2/*	355	1.00 (60)	355
BA–4 (Internet)	3,942	.33 (20)	1,314
Total BA–4	4,297		1,669
BA–12:			
Initial Access	295	.33 (20)	98
Access Termination	38	.166 (10)	7
Total BA–12	333		105
G–440 (certification):			
Form BA–3 (no employees)	19	.25 (15)	5
Form BA–11 (no employees)	60	.25 (15)	15
Paper forms (without recap)	7	.25 (15)	1
Form BA–15	600	.25 (15)	150
Electronic transactions	94	.50 (30)	47
BA–3 and BA–4 (with recap)	125	1.25 (75)	156
Total G–440	905		374
Grand Total	6,248		35,194

3. Title and purpose of information collection: Certification of Termination of Service and Relinquishment of Rights; OMB 3220–0016.

Under section 2(e)(2) of the Railroad Retirement Act (RRA) (45 U.S.C. 231a), an age and service annuity, spouse annuity, or divorced spouse annuity cannot be paid unless the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) has evidence that the applicant has ceased railroad employment and relinquished rights to return to the service of a railroad employer. Under section 2(f)(6) of the RRA, earnings deductions are required for each month an annuitant works in certain non-railroad employment termed Last Pre-Retirement Non-Railroad Employment.

Normally, the employee, spouse, or divorced spouse relinquishes rights and certifies that employment has ended as part of the annuity application process. However, this is *not always* the case. In limited circumstances, the RRB utilizes Form G–88, *Certification of Termination of Service and Relinquishment of Rights,* to obtain an applicant's report of termination of employment and relinquishment of rights. One response is required of each respondent. Completion is required to obtain or retain benefits.

Previous Requests for Comments: The RRB has already published the initial 60-day notice (89 FR 29377 on April 22, 2024) required by 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2). That request elicited no comments.

Information Collection Request (ICR)

Title: Certification of Termination of Service and Relinquishment of Rights.

OMB Control Number: 3220–0016.

Form(s) submitted: G–88.

Type of request: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Affected public: Individuals or Households.

Abstract: Under section 2(e)(2) of the Railroad Retirement Act, the Railroad Retirement Board must have evidence that an annuitant for an age and service, spouse, or divorced spouse annuity has ceased railroad employment and relinquished their rights to return to the service of a railroad employer. The collection provides the means for obtaining this evidence.

Changes proposed: The RRB proposes no changes to Form G–88.

The burden estimate for the ICR is as follows:

Form No.	Annual responses	Time (minutes)	Burden (hours)
G–88	20	6	2

4. Title and Purpose of information collection: Statement of Authority to Act for Employee; OMB 3220–0034.

Under section 5(a) of the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act (RUIA) (45 U.S.C. 355), claims for benefits are to be made in accordance with such regulations as the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) shall prescribe. The provisions for claiming sickness benefits as provided by section 2 of the RUIA are prescribed in 20 CFR 335.2. Included in these provisions is the RRB's acceptance of forms executed by someone else on behalf of an employee if the RRB is satisfied that the employee is sick or injured to the extent of being unable to sign forms.

The RRB utilizes Form SI–10, Statement of Authority to Act for Employee, to provide the means for an individual to apply for authority to act on behalf of an incapacitated employee and also to obtain the information necessary to determine that the delegation should be made. Part I of the form is completed by the applicant for the authority and Part II is completed by the employee's doctor. One response is requested of each respondent. Completion is required to obtain benefits.

Previous Requests for Comments: The RRB has already published the initial 60-day notice (89 FR 29377 on April 24,

2024) required by 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2). That request elicited no comments.

Information Collection Request (ICR)

Title: Statement of Authority to Act for Employee.

OMB Control Number: 3220–0034.

Form(s) submitted: SI–10.

Type of request: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Affected public: Individuals or Households.

Abstract: Under 20 CFR 335.2, the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) accepts claims for sickness benefits by other than the sick or injured employees, provided the RRB has the information needed to satisfy itself that the delegation should be made.

Changes proposed: The RRB proposes no changes to Form SI–10.

The burden estimate for the ICR is as follows:

Form No.	Annual responses	Time (minutes)	Burden (hours)
SI–10	17	6	2

5. Title and purpose of information collection: Supplemental Information on Accident and Insurance; OMB 3220–0036.

Under section 12(o) of the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act (RUIA) (45 U.S.C. 362 (o)), the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) is entitled to reimbursement of the sickness benefits paid to a railroad employee if the employee receives a sum or damages for the same infirmity for which the benefits are paid. Section 2(f) of the RUIA requires employers to reimburse the RRB for days in which salary, wages, pay for time lost or other remuneration is later determined to be payable. Reimbursements under section 2(f) generally result from the award of pay for time lost or the payment of guaranteed wages. The RUIA prescribes that the amount of benefits paid be deducted and held by the employer in a special fund for reimbursement to the RRB.

The RRB currently utilizes Forms SI–1c, Supplemental Information on Accident and Insurance; SI–5, Report of Payments to Employee Claiming Sickness Benefits Under the RUIA; ID–3s and ID–3s (internet), Request for Lien Information—Report of Settlement; ID–3s–1, Lien Information Under section 12(o) of the RUIA; ID–3u and ID–3u (internet), Request for Section 2(f) Information; ID–30k, Notice to Request Supplemental Information on Injury or Illness; and ID–30k–1, Notice to Request Supplemental Information on Injury or Illness; to obtain the necessary information from claimants and railroad employers. Completion is required to obtain benefits. One response is requested of each respondent.

Previous Requests for Comments: The RRB has already published the initial 60-day notice (89 FR 29377 on April 22, 2024) required by 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2). That request elicited no comments.

Information Collection Request (ICR)

Title: Supplemental Information on Accident and Insurance.

OMB Control Number: 3220–0036.

Form(s) submitted: SI–1c, SI–5, ID–3s, ID–3s (internet), ID–3s.1, ID3u, ID–3u (internet), ID–30k, and ID–30k.1.

Type of request: Revision of a currently approved collection of information.

Affected public: Individuals or Households.

Abstract: The Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act provides for the recovery of sickness benefits paid if an employee receives a settlement for the same injury for which benefits were paid. The collection obtains information that is needed to determine the amount of the RRB's reimbursement from the person or company responsible for such payments.

Changes proposed: The RRB proposes no changes to Forms SI–1c, SI–5, ID–3s-1, ID–30k, ID–3s (internet), ID–3u (internet). The RRB proposes the following minor non-burden impacting editorial changes to Form ID–3u & Form ID–3s:

- change PRA/PA notice to update the officer title and
- update RRB zip code.

The burden estimate for the ICR is as follows:

Form No.	Annual responses	Time (minutes)	Burden (hours)
SI–1c	890	5	74
SI–5	10	5	1
ID–3s (paper & telephone)	1,700	3	85
ID–3s (Internet)	4,853	3	243
ID–3s-1 (paper & telephone)	1,845	3	93
ID–3u (paper & telephone)	152	3	8
ID–3u (Internet)	596	3	30
ID–30k	24	5	3
Total	10,070	.....	537

6. Title and Purpose of information collection: Employee Non-Covered Service Pension Questionnaire; OMB 3220–0154.

Section 215(a)(7) of the Social Security Act provides for a reduction in social security benefits based on employment not covered under the Social Security Act or the Railroad Retirement Act (RRA). This provision applies a different social security benefit formula to most workers who are first eligible after 1985 to both a pension based in whole or in part on non-covered employment and a social security retirement or disability benefit. There is a guarantee provision that limits the reduction in the social security benefit to one-half of the portion of the pension based on non-covered employment after 1956. Section 8011 of Public Law 100–647 changed the effective date of the onset from the first month of eligibility to the first month of concurrent entitlement to the non-covered service benefit and the RRA benefit.

Section 3(a)(1) of the RRA (45 U.S.C. 231b) provides that the Tier I benefit of an employee annuity shall be equal to

the amount (before any reduction for age or deduction for work) the employee would receive if entitled to a like benefit under the Social Security Act. The reduction for a non-covered service pension also applies to a Tier I portion of the employee annuity under the RRA when the annuity or non-covered service pension begins after 1985. Since the amount of a spouse's Tier I benefit is one-half of the employee's Tier I, the spouse annuity is also affected.

Form G–209, Employee Non-Covered Service Pension Questionnaire, is used by the RRB to obtain needed information (1) from a railroad employee who while completing Form AA–1, Application for Employee Annuity (OMB No. 3220–0002), indicates entitlement to or receipt of a pension based on employment not covered under the Railroad Retirement Act or the Social Security Act; or (2) from a railroad employee when an independently-entitled divorced spouse applicant believes the employee to be entitled to a non-covered service pension. However, this development is unnecessary if RRB records indicate the employee has 30 or more years of coverage; or (3) from an employee annuitant who becomes entitled to a pension based on employment not covered under the Railroad Retirement Act or the Social Security Act. One response is requested of each respondent. Completion is required to obtain or retain benefits.

Previous Requests for Comments: The RRB has already published the initial 60-day notice (89 FR 29378 on April 22, 2024) required by 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2). That request elicited no comments.

Information Collection Request (ICR)

Title: Employee Non-Covered Service Pension Questionnaire.

OMB Control Number: 3220–0154.

Form(s) submitted: G–209.

Type of request: Extension without change of a currently approved collection.

Affected public: Individuals or Households.

Abstract: Under section 3 of the Railroad Retirement Act, the Tier I portion of an employee annuity may be subjected to a reduction for benefits received based on work not covered under the Social Security Act or Railroad Retirement Act. The questionnaire obtains the information needed to determine if the reduction applies and the amount of such reduction.

Changes proposed: The RRB proposes no changes to Form G–209.

The burden estimate for the ICR is as follows:

Form No.	Annual responses	Time (minutes)	Burden (hours)
G–209 (Partial Questionnaire)	50	1	1
G–209 (Full Questionnaire)	100	8	13
Total	150		14

7. Title and purpose of information collection: Availability for Work; OMB 3220–0164.

Under section 1(k) of the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act (45 U.S.C. 231k), unemployment benefits are not payable for any day for which the claimant is not available for work.

Under Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) regulation 20 CFR 327.5, ''available for work'' is defined as being willing and ready for work. A claimant is ''willing'' to work if willing to accept and perform for hire such work as is reasonably appropriate to his or her employment circumstances. A claimant is ''ready'' for work if he or she (1) is in a position to receive notice of work and is willing to accept and perform such work, and (2) is prepared to be present with the customary equipment at the location of such work within the time usually allotted.

Under RRB regulation 20 CFR 327.15, a claimant may be requested at any time to show, as evidence of willingness to work, that reasonable efforts are being made to obtain work. In order to determine whether a claimant is; (a) available for work, and (b) willing to work, the RRB utilizes Forms UI–38, UI Claimant's Report of Efforts to Find Work, and UI–38s, School Attendance and Availability Questionnaire, to obtain information from the claimant and Form ID–8k, Questionnaire—Reinstatement of Discharged or Suspended Employee, from the union representative. One response is completed by each respondent.

Previous Requests for Comments: The RRB has already published the initial 60-day notice (89 FR 76629 on April 22, 2024) required by 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2). That request elicited no comments.

Information Collection Request (ICR)

Title: Availability for Work.

OMB Control Number: 3220–0164.

Form(s) submitted: UI–38, UI–38s, and ID–8k.

Type of request: Revision of a currently approved collection of information.

Affected public: Individuals or Households, Non-profit institutions.

Abstract: Under section 1(k) of the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act, unemployment benefits are not payable for any day in which the claimant is not available for work. The collection obtains information needed by the RRB to determine whether a claimant is willing and ready to work.

Changes proposed: The RRB proposes no changes to Forms UI–38 and ID–8k. The RRB proposes the following minor non-burden editorial changes to Form UI–38s:

- change PRA/PA notice to update the officer title and
- update RRB zip code.

The burden estimate for the ICR is as follows:

Form No.	Annual responses	Time (minutes)	Burden (hours)
UI–38s (in person)	59	6	6
UI–38s (by mail)	119	10	20
UI–38	3,485	11.5	668
ID–8k	6,461	5	538
Total	10,124		1,232

8. Title and purpose of information collection: Representative Payee Parental Custody Monitoring; OMB 3220–0176.

Under section 12(a) of the Railroad Retirement Act (RRA) (45 U.S.C. 231k), the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) is authorized to select, make payments to, and to conduct transactions with, a beneficiary's relative or some other person willing to act on behalf of the beneficiary as a representative payee. The RRB is responsible for determining if direct payment to the beneficiary or payment to a representative payee would best serve the beneficiary's interest. Inherent in the RRB's authorization to select a representative payee is the responsibility to monitor the payee to assure that the beneficiary's interests are protected. The RRB utilizes Form G–99D, Parental Custody Report, to obtain information needed to verify that a parent-for-child representative payee still has custody of the child. One response is required from each respondent.

Previous Requests for Comments: The RRB has already published the initial 60-day notice (89 FR 29379 on April 22, 2024) required by 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2). That request elicited no comments.

Information Collection Request (ICR)

Title: Representative Payee Parental Custody Monitoring.

OMB Control Number: 3220–0176.

Form(s) submitted: G–99D.

Type of request: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Affected public: Individuals or households.

Abstract: Under section 12(a) of the Railroad Retirement Act, the RRB is authorized to select, make payments to, and conduct transactions with an annuitant's relative or some other person willing to act on behalf of the annuitant as a representative payee. The collection obtains information needed to verify the parent-for-child payee still retains custody of the child.

Changes proposed: The RRB proposes the following changes to Form G–99d:

- update office hours in top left corner, and
- add the Reporting Period at the top of the form.

The burden estimate for the ICR is as follows:

Form No.	Annual responses	Time (minutes)	Burden (hours)
G–99D	2,100	15	525

Additional Information or Comments: Copies of the forms and supporting documents can be obtained from Kennisha Money at (312) 469–2591 or *Kennisha.Money@rrb.gov.* Comments regarding the information collection should be addressed to Brian Foster, Railroad Retirement Board, 844 North Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois, 60611–1275 or *Brian.Foster@rrb.gov.*

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to *www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain.* Find this particular information collection by selecting ''Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments'' or by using the search function.

Brian Foster,

Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2024–14023 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7905–01–P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34–100390; File No. SR–NYSEARCA–2024–27]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; NYSE Arca, Inc.; Order Instituting Proceedings To Determine Whether To Approve or Disapprove a Proposed Rule Change To List and Trade Shares of the 7RCC Spot Bitcoin and Carbon Credit Futures ETF Under NYSE Arca Rule 8.500–E (Trust Units)

June 20, 2024.

I. Introduction

On March 13, 2024, NYSE Arca, Inc. (''NYSE Arca'' or ''Exchange'') filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (''Commission''), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (''Act'') [1] and Rule 19b–4 thereunder,[2] a proposed rule change to list and trade shares (''Shares'') of the 7RCC Spot Bitcoin and Carbon Credit Futures ETF (''Fund'') under NYSE Arca Rule 8.500–E (Trust Units). The proposed rule change was published for comment in the **Federal Register** on March 26, 2024.[3]

On May 2, 2024, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act,[4] the Commission designated a longer period within which to approve the proposed rule change, disapprove the proposed rule change, or institute proceedings to determine whether to disapprove the proposed rule change.[5] The Commission is publishing this order to institute proceedings pursuant to Section 19(b)(2)(B) of the Act [6] to determine whether to approve or disapprove the proposed rule change.

II. Exchange's Description of the Proposed Rule Change [7]

The Exchange proposes to list and trade Shares of the Fund under NYSE Arca Rule 8.500–E, which governs the listing and trading of Trust Units.[8] The Fund is a series of the Tidal Commodities Trust I (''Trust''), a Delaware statutory trust organized on February 10, 2023.[9] The Trust will not

[1] 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

[2] 17 CFR 240.19b–4.

[3] *See* Securities Exchange Act Release No. 99801 (Mar. 20, 2024), 89 FR 21104 (''Notice''). Comments on the proposed rule change are available at: *https://www.sec.gov/comments/sr-nysearca-2024-27/srnysearca202427.htm.*

[4] 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

[5] *See* Securities Exchange Act Release No. 100050, 89 FR 38932 (May 8, 2024). The Commission designated June 24, 2024, as the date by which the Commission shall approve or disapprove, or institute proceedings to determine whether to disapprove, the proposed rule change.

[6] 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2)(B).

[7] Additional information regarding the Fund and the Shares, carbon markets and Carbon Credit Futures (as defined herein), and bitcoin and bitcoin markets, among other things, can be found in the Notice, *supra* note 3.

[8] NYSE Arca Rule 8.500–E defines Trust Units as securities issued by a trust or other similar entity that is constituted as a commodity pool that holds investments comprising or otherwise based on any combination of futures contracts, options on futures contracts, forward contracts, swap contracts, commodities, and/or securities.

[9] The Exchange represents that, on December 18, 2023, the Trust filed with the Commission a registration statement on Form S–1 (''Registration Statement'') under the Securities Act of 1933. According to the Exchange, the Registration

be registered as an investment company under the Investment Company Act of 1940. The sponsor of the Trust, Tidal Investments LLC (''Sponsor''), is registered as a commodity pool operator and a commodity trading adviser with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission and is a member of the National Futures Association.

The administrator of the Fund is Tidal ETF Services (''Administrator''). The custodian of the Fund's bitcoin holdings is Gemini Trust Company, LLC. The Sponsor will appoint a non-digital custodian, who will serve as the Fund's custodian with respect to its cash and cash equivalents,[10] as well as any investments in connection with its exposure to Carbon Credit Futures (as defined herein).

The Fund's Investment Objective and Strategy

According to the Exchange, the Fund's investment objective is to reflect the daily changes of the price of bitcoin [11] and the value of carbon credit futures contracts (''Carbon Credit Futures''),[12] as represented by the Vinter Bitcoin Carbon Credits Index (''Index''), less expenses from the Fund's operations. The Fund will pursue its investment objective by investing 80% of its assets in bitcoin and the remaining 20% of its assets in financial instruments, including swap agreements, that provide exposure to Carbon Credit Futures represented by the Index.

The Index

The Index is designed to track the performance of investing in a portfolio comprised of 80% bitcoin and 20% Carbon Credit Futures, which are linked to the value of emissions allowances issued under the following cap-and-trade regimes: the European Union Emissions Trading System (''EU ETS''); the California Carbon Allowance (''CCA''); and Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (''RGGI'').[13] Because the Fund's investment objective is to track the daily changes of the price of bitcoin and Carbon Credit Futures, changes in the price of the Shares will vary from changes in the spot price of bitcoin, carbon credits, and Carbon Credit Futures individually.[14] The Index is rebalanced quarterly, starting at the end of January. After a rebalance, the portfolio is updated so that its current weights per asset equal the rebalancing weights per asset.[15]

Invierno AB (''Vinter'') [16] is the benchmark administrator for the bitcoin portion of the Index and is the central recipient of input data and evaluates the integrity and accuracy of input data on a consistent basis.[17] To calculate the value of bitcoin, Vinter selects what it considers to be reputable bitcoin trading platforms and takes the last price on each trading platform. Vinter then takes the median price across these trading platforms and calculates the average price during the selected time window to determine the value of bitcoin at 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time.[18]

Solactive is the benchmark administrator for the Carbon Credit Futures portion of the Index. Solactive calculates the value of the Carbon Credit Futures portion of the Index and the value of the overall Index.[19] The Carbon Credit Futures component of the Index is built with a combination of three carbon credit indices, each of which is calculated and administered by a third party: (i) Solactive Carbon European Union Allowance Futures ER Index (SOCARBN), which tracks EU ETS futures; (ii) Solactive California Carbon Rolling Futures ER Index (SOCCAER), which tracks CCA futures; and (iii) an index that tracks RGGI futures.[20] The weights of the components are adjusted once per year (in November) and the weights are proportional to the trading volume over the last six months. The combination of exposure to the three underlying indices provides the Index with returns tied to futures contracts on carbon credits connected to EU ETS, CCA, and RGGI. The value of the Carbon Credit Futures that comprise the Index will be based on market prices. The Index includes only Carbon Credit

Statement is not yet effective, and the Shares will not trade on the Exchange until such time that the Registration Statement is effective.

[10] According to the Exchange, ''Cash Equivalents'' shall mean such investments that, in the view of the Sponsor, are of high credit quality and liquidity and can be converted to cash quickly. Such investments shall include, but are not limited to, (a) cash; (b) debt securities issued or directly or indirectly fully guaranteed or insured by the United States or any agency or instrumentality thereof; (c) commercial paper or finance company paper of sufficient credit quality in the view of the Sponsor; or (d) money market mutual funds.

[11] According to the Exchange, bitcoin is the digital asset that is native to, and created and transmitted through the operations of, the peer-to-peer Bitcoin Network, a decentralized network of computers that operates on cryptographic protocols. *See* Notice, *supra* note 3, 89 FR at 21105.

[12] According to the Exchange, carbon markets are designed to reduce greenhouse gas (''GHG'') emissions and promote sustainable development by putting a price on carbon. Carbon markets are markets where GHG emissions are commodified as a tradable unit either as an emission allowance in government compliance markets or as a verified emission reduction/removal credit in voluntary markets. There are two types of instruments that are traded in carbon markets: carbon credits (sometimes called ''allowances'') and carbon offsets. The two main types of carbon markets are compliance carbon markets and voluntary carbon markets. *See* Notice, *supra* note 3, 89 FR at 21108–09. The Exchange further explains that Carbon Credit Futures are futures contracts on emissions allowances issued by various ''cap-and-trade'' regulatory regimes that seek to reduce GHGs over time. A cap-and-trade regime typically involves a regulator setting a limit on the total amount of specific GHGs (such as carbon dioxide (''CO_2'')) that can be emitted by regulated entities. Capping and reducing the cap on GHGs is viewed as a key policy tool in reaching climate change objectives. The regime is designed to promote sustainable development by putting a price on carbon emissions. The regulator will then issue or sell ''emissions allowances'' to regulated entities, which in turn may buy or sell the emissions allowances to the open market. To the extent that the regulator may then reduce the cap on emission allowances, regulated entities are incentivized to reduce their emissions; otherwise, they must purchase additional emission allowances on the open market, where the price of such allowances will likely be increasing as a result of demand, and regulated entities that reduce their emissions will be able to sell unneeded emission allowances for profit. An emission allowance or carbon credit is a unit of emissions (typically one ton of CO_2) that the owner of the allowance or credit is permitted to emit. Futures contracts linked to the value of emission allowances are known as carbon credit futures. *See* Notice, *supra* note 3, 89 FR at 21105.

[13] *See* Notice, *supra* note 3, 89 FR at 21109.

[14] *See id.*

[15] *See id.*

[16] According to the Exchange, Vinter is a registered benchmark administrator governed by the European Benchmarks Regulation (2016/1011) and included in the European Securities and Markets Authority's register over benchmark administrators. *See id.*

[17] *See id.*

[18] *See id.* According to the Exchange, the Fund uses the same methodology as the Index to determine the value of bitcoin for purposes of calculating the net asset value of the Fund. The Index requires each digital asset trading platform used to calculate the price of bitcoin to meet each of the following criteria: operating history as a digital asset trading platform for a minimum of two years; implemented trading, deposits, and withdrawal fees for a minimum of one month without interruption; met a minimum monthly volume threshold of $30 million with respect to total trading volume; provided reliable, continuous, and valid market data for a minimum of one month; offered the possibility to withdraw and deposit for a minimum of one month, settling in two to seven business days; chosen a jurisdiction of incorporation that offers sufficient investor protection, such as Financial Action Task Force (''FATF''), FATF-style regional bodies, or Moneyval member states; complied with relevant anti-money laundering and know-your-customer regulations; cooperated with requests from Vinter and relevant regulatory bodies; has not been domiciled in a jurisdiction subject to European Union restrictive measures (sanctions); provided information concerning ownership and corporate structure; and has not been declared unlawful by any governmental authority or agency with jurisdiction over the exchange. The Exchange states that digital asset trading platforms meeting these criteria are used to calculate the price of the bitcoin portion of the Index (''Index Pricing Sources''). The selection of Index Pricing Sources may evolve from time to time, and Vinter may make changes to the eligibility requirements. The Exchange represents that the following digital asset trading platforms are used to calculate the Index price: Kraken, Coinbase, Bitstamp, Itbit, Gemini, Gate.io, and *Crypto.com*. *See id.*

[19] *See id.*

[20] *See id.*

Futures that mature in December of the next one to two years.[21]

III. Proceedings To Determine Whether To Approve or Disapprove SR–NYSEARCA–2024–27 and Grounds for Disapproval Under Consideration

The Commission is instituting proceedings pursuant to Section 19(b)(2)(B) of the Act[22] to determine whether the proposed rule change should be approved or disapproved. Institution of such proceedings is appropriate at this time in view of the legal and policy issues raised by the proposal. Institution of proceedings does not indicate that the Commission has reached any conclusions with respect to any of the issues involved. Rather, as described below, the Commission seeks and encourages interested persons to provide comments on the proposed rule change.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(2)(B) of the Act,[23] the Commission is providing notice of the grounds for disapproval under consideration. The Commission is instituting proceedings to allow for additional analysis of the proposal's consistency with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act, which requires, among other things, that the rules of a national securities exchange be ''designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices'' and ''to protect investors and the public interest.''[24]

The Commission asks that commenters address the sufficiency of the Exchange's statements in support of the proposal, which are set forth in the Notice, including the information provided about the investment objective of and the underlying assets held by the Fund, particularly regarding the Carbon Credit Futures, in addition to any other comments they may wish to submit about the proposed rule change. Given the nature of the underlying assets held by the Fund, the Commission seeks commenters' views on whether the proposed Fund and Shares would be susceptible to manipulation, as well as commenters' views, generally, on whether the Exchange's proposal is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices.

IV. Procedure: Request for Written Comments

The Commission requests that interested persons provide written submissions of their views, data, and arguments with respect to the issues identified above, as well as any other concerns they may have with the proposal. In particular, the Commission invites the written views of interested persons concerning whether the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)(5) or any other provision of the Act, and the rules and regulations thereunder. Although there do not appear to be any issues relevant to approval or disapproval that would be facilitated by an oral presentation of views, data, and arguments, the Commission will consider, pursuant to Rule 19b–4, any request for an opportunity to make an oral presentation.[25]

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments regarding whether the proposed rule change should be approved or disapproved by July 17, 2024. Any person who wishes to file a rebuttal to any other person's submission must file that rebuttal by July 31, 2024.

Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

Electronic Comments

- Use the Commission's internet comment form (*https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml*); or
- Send an email to *rule-comments@sec.gov.* Please include file number SR–NYSEARCA–2024–27 on the subject line.

Paper Comments

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549–1090.

All submissions should refer to file number SR–NYSEARCA–2024–27. This file number should be included on the subject line if email is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's internet website (*https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml*). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Copies of the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. Do not include personal identifiable information in submissions; you should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. We may redact in part or withhold entirely from publication submitted material that is obscene or subject to copyright protection. All submissions should refer to file number SR–NYSEARCA–2024–27 and should be submitted on or before July 17, 2024. Rebuttal comments should be submitted by July 31, 2024.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.[26]

Vanessa A. Countryman,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2024–13940 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011–01–P

[21] *See id.*

[22] 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2)(B).

[23] *Id.*

[24] 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

[25] Section 19(b)(2) of the Act, as amended by the Securities Acts Amendments of 1975, Public Law 94–29 (June 4, 1975), grants the Commission flexibility to determine what type of proceeding—either oral or notice and opportunity for written comments—is appropriate for consideration of a particular proposal by a self-regulatory organization. *See* Securities Acts Amendments of 1975, Senate Comm. on Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs, S. Rep. No. 75, 94th Cong., 1st Sess. 30 (1975).

[26] 17 CFR 200.30–3(a)(57).

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34–100391; File No. SR–IEX–2024–12]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Investors Exchange LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change To Amend the Exchange's Fee Schedule Pursuant to IEX Rule 15.110(a) and (c)

June 20, 2024.

Pursuant to section 19(b)(1)[1] of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the ''Act'')[2] and Rule 19b–4 thereunder,[3] notice is hereby given that on June 12, 2024, the Investors Exchange LLC (''IEX'' or the ''Exchange'') filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the ''Commission'') the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by the self-regulatory organization. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

[1] 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

[2] 15 U.S.C. 78a.

[3] 17 CFR 240.19b–4.

I. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

Pursuant to the provisions of section 19(b)(1) under the Act,[4] and Rule 19b–4 thereunder,[5] the Exchange is filing with the Commission a proposed rule change to amend the Exchange's fee schedule applicable to Members [6] (the ''Fee Schedule'') pursuant to IEX Rule 15.110(a) and (c) to clarify the fees associated with two fee code combinations. Changes to the Fee Schedule pursuant to this proposal are effective upon filing.[7]

The text of the proposed rule change is available at the Exchange's website at *www.iextrading.com,* at the principal office of the Exchange, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

II. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, the self-regulatory organization included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The self-regulatory organization has prepared summaries, set forth in Sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

A. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

1. Purpose

The Exchange recently filed a fee change proposal that increased the rebate paid for executions of displayed liquidity adding orders in Tape A and C securities with an execution price of $1.00 per share or more from $0.0004 to $0.0014 per share, increased the fee for executions of displayed liquidity removing orders in Tape A or C securities from $0.0010 to $0.0020 per share (unless a lower fee applies), and updated the fee codes in the Fee Schedule to reflect these changes.[8] The Tape A & C Fee Filing took effect on June 1, 2024.[9]

The Tape A & C Fee Filing updated all the relevant fee code combinations in the Fee Code Combinations and Associated Fees table of the Transaction Fees section of the Fee Schedule. In particular, the filing updated Fee Code Combination ''ML'', which applies to an order that adds displayed liquidity in a Tape A or C security, to raise the rebate from $0.0004 to $0.0014 per share. And the filing updated Fee Code Combination ''TL'', which applies to an order that removes displayed liquidity in a Tape A or C security, to raise the fee from $0.0010 per share to $0.0020 per share.

Fee codes ML and TL also appear in the ''Base Rates'' table in the Transaction Fees section of the Fee Schedule, where they still reflect the prior fees for adding and removing displayed liquidity in Tape A and C securities (a $0.0004 rebate and $0.0010 fee respectively). However, the Fee Schedule specifies that the rates ''listed in the Base Rates table apply unless a Member's transaction is assigned a Fee Code other than a Base Fee Code (an ''Additional Fee Code''). If a Member's transaction is assigned an Additional Fee Code, the rates listed in the Fee Code Combinations and Associated Fees table will apply.'' [10] Because both Fee Codes ML and TL appear in the Fee Code Combinations and Associated Fees table, the fees listed in that table apply to any order assigned those fee codes, and therefore, any order with Fee Code Combination ML will receive a rebate of $0.0014 per share and any order with Fee Code Combination TL will be charged a fee of $0.0020 per share.

Nevertheless, as of June 1, 2024, the fees listed in the Base Rates table for Base Fee Codes ML and TL are no longer correct, and IEX is making this filing to update and clarify the fees listed in the Base Rates table to make them consistent with the fees listed in the Fee Code Combinations and Associated Fees table and avoid any confusion regarding the applicable fees. Specifically, IEX proposes to change the Base Rate for Base Fee Code ML for executions at or above $1.00 from a $0.0004 rebate to a $0.0014 rebate. And IEX proposes to change the Base Rate for Base Fee Code TL for executions at or above $1.00 from a fee of $0.0010 per share to a fee of $0.0020 per share.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with section 6(b) of the Act,[11] in general, and furthers the objectives of section 6(b)(5),[12] in particular, in that it would remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system because it is designed to enforce compliance by the Exchange's Members and the public with the provisions of the rules of the Exchange. In particular, the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change will provide greater clarity to Members and the public regarding the fees charged by the Exchange by eliminating any possible confusion caused by the inadvertent discrepancy between the fees listed for codes ML and TL in the Base Rates table and the fees listed for codes ML and TL in the Fee Code Combinations and Associated Fees table.

This rule filing does not propose any substantive changes to the fees the Exchange charges, but rather simply clarifies the base rebates and fees for adding and removing displayed liquidity. Therefore, the Exchange does not believe that these proposed changes raise any new or novel issues not already considered by the Commission. IEX also believes that the proposed rule change is nondiscriminatory since it charges the same fees for Fee Code Combinations ML and TL to all Members.

B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. As described in the Purpose, this rule filing merely proposes to clarify the fees associated with Base Fee Codes ML and TL. This proposal is not designed to address any competitive issues. Because the proposal does not substantively modify system functionality or processes on the Exchange, the proposed changes will not impose any burden on competition.

C. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received From Members, Participants, or Others

Written comments were neither solicited nor received.

[4] 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

[5] 17 CFR 240.19b–4.

[6] *See* IEX Rule 1.160(s).

[7] 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

[8] *See* Securities Exchange Act Release No. 100257 (May 31, 2024), 89 FR 48458 (June 6, 2024) (SR–IEX–2024–09) (''Tape A & C Fee Filing''). All of the fee changes in the Tape A & C Filing, and in this fee filing, apply to transactions with an execution price of $1.00 per share or more.

[9] *See supra* note 8.

[10] *See* the third instruction bullet in the Transaction Fees section of the IEX Fee Schedule, available at *https://www.iexexchange.io/resources/trading/fee-schedule#transaction-fees.*

[11] 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

[12] 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) [13] of the Act.

At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission shall institute proceedings under section 19(b)(2)(B) [14] of the Act to determine whether the proposed rule change should be approved or disapproved.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

Electronic Comments

- Use the Commission's internet comment form (*https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml*); or
- Send an email to *rule-comments@sec.gov.* Please include file number SR–IEX–2024–12 on the subject line.

Paper Comments

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549–1090.

All submissions should refer to file number SR–IEX–2024–12. This file number should be included on the subject line if email is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's internet website (*https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml*). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Copies of the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. Do not include personal identifiable information in submissions; you should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. We may redact in part or withhold entirely from publication submitted material that is obscene or subject to copyright protection. All submissions should refer to file number SR–IEX–2024–12 and should be submitted on or before July 17, 2024.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.[15]

Sherry R. Haywood,

Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2024–13958 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011–01–P

[13] 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

[14] 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2)(B).

[15] 17 CFR 200.30–3(a)(12).

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[SEC File No. 270–095, OMB Control No. 3235–0084]

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; Extension: Rule 17Ac2–1

Upon Written Request, Copies Available From: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of FOIA Services, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549–2736

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (''PRA'') (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), the Securities and Exchange Commission (''Commission'') has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (''OMB'') a request for approval of extension of the previously approved collection of information provided for in Rule 17Ac2–1 (17 CFR 240.17Ac2–1), under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78a *et seq.*).

Rule 17Ac2–1, pursuant to Section 17A(c) of the Exchange Act, generally requires transfer agents for whom the Commission is the transfer agent's Appropriate Regulatory Agency (''ARA''), to file an application for registration with the Commission on Form TA–1 and to amend their registrations under certain circumstances.

Specifically, Rule 17Ac2–1 requires transfer agents to file a Form TA–1 application for registration with the Commission where the Commission is their ARA. Such transfer agents must also amend their Form TA–1 if the existing information on their Form TA–1 becomes inaccurate, misleading, or incomplete within 60 days following the date the information became inaccurate, misleading, or incomplete. Registration filings on Form TA–1 and amendments thereto must be filed with the Commission electronically, absent an exemption, on EDGAR pursuant to Regulation S–T (17 CFR 232).

The Commission annually receives approximately 209 filings on Form TA–1 from transfer agents required to register as such with the Commission. Included in this figure are approximately 196 amendments made annually by transfer agents to their Form TA–1 as required by Rule 17Ac2–1(c) to address information that has become inaccurate, misleading, or incomplete and approximately 13 new applications by transfer agents for registration on Form TA–1 as required by Rule 17Ac2–1(a). Based on past submissions, the staff estimates that on average approximately twelve hours are required for initial completion of Form TA–1 and that on average one and one-half hours are required for an amendment to Form TA–1 by each such firm. Thus, the subtotal burden for new applications for registration filed on Form TA–1 each year is approximately 156 hours (12 hours times 13 filers = 156), and the subtotal burden for amendments to Form TA–1 filed each year is approximately 294 hours (1.5 hours times 196 filers = 294). The cumulative total is approximately 450 burden hours per year (156 hours plus 294 hours).

Of the approximately 450 hours per year associated with Rule 17Ac2–1, the Commission staff estimates that (i) sixty percent (270 hours) are spent by compliance staff at an estimated hourly wage of $344, for a total of $92,880 per year (270 hours × $344 per hour = $92,880); (ii) forty percent (180 hours) are spent by attorneys at an estimated hourly wage of $462, for a total of $83,160 per year (180 hours × $462 per hour = $83,160 per year); and (iii) the total internal cost of compliance associated with the Rule is thus approximately $176,040 per year ($92,880 in compliance staff costs + $83,160 in attorney costs = $176,040 per year).

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information under the PRA unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

The public may view background documentation for this information

collection at the following website: *www.reginfo.gov.* Find this particular information collection by selecting ''Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments'' or by using the search function. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent by July 26, 2024 to (i) *www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain* and (ii) David Bottom, Director/Chief Information Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, c/o John Pezzullo, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549, or by sending an email to: *PRA_Mailbox@sec.gov.*

Dated: June 20, 2024.

Sherry R. Haywood,

Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2024–13947 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011–01–P

SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM

Forms Submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for Extension of Clearance

AGENCY: Selective Service System.

ACTION: Notice.

The following form has been submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for extension of clearance without change in compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. chapter 35):

SSS Forms 1

Title: Selective Service System Registration Form.

Purpose: Used to register males and establish a database for use in identifying manpower to the military services during a national emergency.

Respondents: All 18-year-old males who are United States citizens and those male immigrants residing in the United States at the time of their 18th birthday.

Frequency: Registration with the Selective Service System is a one-time occurrence.

Burden: A burden of two minutes or less on the individual respondent.

Change: None.

Copies of the above-identified forms can be obtained upon written request to the Selective Service System, Public & Intergovernmental Affairs Directorate, 1501 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, Virginia 22209.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed extension of clearance of the forms should be sent within 60 days of the publication of this notice to: Daniel A. Lauretano, Sr., General Counsel/Federal Register Liaison, Selective Service System, 1501 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, Virginia 22209.

A copy of the comments should be sent to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Desk Officer, Selective Service System, Office of Management and Budget, New Executive Office Building, Room 3235, Washington, DC 20503.

Daniel A. Lauretano,

General Counsel/Federal Register Liaison.

[FR Doc. 2024–13997 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8015–01–P

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

[Disaster Declaration #20401 and #20402; Tennessee Disaster Number TN–20014]

Presidential Declaration of a Major Disaster for Public Assistance Only for the State of Tennessee

AGENCY: Small Business Administration.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This is a Notice of the Presidential declaration of a major disaster for Public Assistance Only for the State of Tennessee (FEMA—4792–DR), dated 06/17/2024.

Incident: Severe Storms, Tornadoes, and Flooding.

Incident Period: 05/08/2024 through 05/09/2024.

DATES: Issued on 06/17/2024.

Physical Loan Application Deadline Date: 08/16/2024.

Economic Injury (EIDL) Loan Application Deadline Date: 03/17/2025.

ADDRESSES: Visit the MySBA Loan Portal at *https://lending.sba.gov* to apply for a disaster assistance loan.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Alan Escobar, Office of Disaster Recovery & Resilience, U.S. Small Business Administration, 409 3rd Street SW, Suite 6050, Washington, DC 20416, (202) 205–6734.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given that as a result of the President's major disaster declaration on 06/17/2024, Private Non-Profit organizations that provide essential services of a governmental nature may file disaster loan applications online using the MySBA Loan Portal *https://lending.sba.gov* or other locally announced locations. Please contact the SBA disaster assistance customer service center by email at *disastercustomerservice@sba.gov* or by phone at 1–800–659–2955 for further assistance.

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

Primary Counties:

Cannon, Cheatham, Giles, Hamilton, Jackson, Macon, Maury, Montgomery, Polk, Smith, Sumner, Warren.

The Interest Rates are:

	Percent
For Physical Damage:	
Non-Profit Organizations with Credit Available Elsewhere ...	3.250
Non-Profit Organizations without Credit Available Elsewhere	3.250
For Economic Injury:	
Non-Profit Organizations without Credit Available Elsewhere	3.250

The number assigned to this disaster for physical damage is 20401C and for economic injury is 204020.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number 59008)

Francisco Sánchez, Jr.,

Associate Administrator, Office of Disaster Recovery & Resilience.

[FR Doc. 2024–13948 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8026–09–P

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

[Disaster Declaration #20407 and #20408; New Mexico Disaster Number NM–20004]

Presidential Declaration of a Major Disaster for the State of New Mexico

AGENCY: Small Business Administration.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This is a Notice of the Presidential declaration of a major disaster for the State of New Mexico (FEMA–4795–DR), dated 06/20/2024.

Incident: South Fork Fire and Salt Fire.

Incident Period: 06/17/2024 and continuing.

DATES: Issued on 06/20/2024.

Physical Loan Application Deadline Date: 08/19/2024.

Economic Injury (EIDL) Loan Application Deadline Date: 03/20/2025.

ADDRESSES: *Visit the MySBA Loan Portal at https://lending.sba.gov* to apply for a disaster assistance loan.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Alan Escobar, Office of Disaster Recovery & Resilience, U.S. Small Business Administration, 409 3rd Street SW, Suite 6050, Washington, DC 20416, (202) 205–6734.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given that as a result of the President's major disaster declaration on 06/20/2024, applications for disaster

loans may be submitted online using the MySBA Loan Portal *https://lending.sba.gov* or other locally announced locations. Please contact the SBA disaster assistance customer service center by email at *disastercustomerservice@sba.gov* or by phone at 1–800–659–2955 for further assistance.

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

Primary Counties (Physical Damage and Economic Injury Loans): Lincoln.

Tribal Region (Physical Damage and Economic Injury Loans): Mescalero Apache Tribe.

Contiguous Counties (Economic Injury Loans Only):

New Mexico: Chaves, De Baca, Guadalupe, Otero, Sierra, Socorro, Torrance.

The Interest Rates are:

	Percent
For Physical Damage:	
Homeowners with Credit Available Elsewhere	5.375
Homeowners without Credit Available Elsewhere	2.688
Businesses with Credit Available Elsewhere	8.000
Businesses without Credit Available Elsewhere	4.000
Non-Profit Organizations with Credit Available Elsewhere	3.250
Non-Profit Organizations without Credit Available Elsewhere	3.250
For Economic Injury:	
Business and Small Agricultural Cooperatives without Credit Available Elsewhere	4.000
Non-Profit Organizations without Credit Available Elsewhere	3.250

The number assigned to this disaster for physical damage is 204075 and for economic injury is 204080.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number 59008)

Francisco Sánchez, Jr.,

Associate Administrator, Office of Disaster Recovery & Resilience.

[FR Doc. 2024–14003 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8026–09–P

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

[Docket No: SSA–2024–0023]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Request

The Social Security Administration (SSA) publishes a list of information collection packages requiring clearance by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in compliance with Public Law 104–13, the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, effective October 1, 1995. This notice includes one new collection for OMB-approval.

SSA is soliciting comments on the accuracy of the agency's burden estimate; the need for the information; its practical utility; ways to enhance its quality, utility, and clarity; and ways to minimize burden on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Mail, email, or fax your comments and recommendations on the information collection(s) to the OMB Desk Officer and SSA Reports Clearance Officer at the following addresses or fax numbers.

(OMB) Office of Management and Budget, Attn: Desk Officer for SSA, Fax: 202–395–6974

(SSA) Social Security Administration, OLCA, Attn: Reports Clearance Director, Mail Stop 3253 Altmeyer, 6401 Security Blvd., Baltimore, MD 21235, Fax: 833–410–1631, Email address: *OR.Reports.Clearance@ssa.gov*

Or you may submit your comments online through *https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAmain* by clicking on Currently under Review—Open for Public Comments and choosing to click on one of SSA's published items. Please reference Docket ID Number [SSA–2024–0023] in your submitted response.

The information collection below is pending at SSA. SSA will submit it to OMB within 60 days from the date of this notice. To be sure we consider your comments, we must receive them no later than August 26, 2024. Individuals can obtain copies of the collection instruments by writing to the above email address.

Transition Exploration Demonstration (TED)—0960–NEW

Background

SSA is requesting clearance to collect data necessary to evaluate the Transition Exploration Demonstration (TED) under the Interventional Cooperative Agreement Program (ICAP). SSA awarded its second set of cooperative agreements for ICAP on December 22, 2022. ICAP allows SSA to partner with various non-federal groups and organizations to advance interventional research connected to the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) programs. SSA awarded Mathematica a cooperative agreement to lead the Transition Exploration Demonstration (TED), which will help youth with disabilities transition successfully into the adult labor force and competitive, integrated employment.

In addition, Mathematica is partnering with the Pennsylvania Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) to recruit youth and deliver intervention services and the University of Maryland's Center for Transition and Career Innovation (UMD) to provide training and technical assistance to OVR.

TED Project Description

The Transition Exploration (TE) intervention is part of a broader effort by policymakers to identify new approaches to help potential beneficiaries and their families many of whom have low income, increase their incomes and self-sufficiency through work. The TE evaluation will assess the effect of TED services on employment and earnings; Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) benefit receipt; satisfaction; and well-being. TED will include the following three components: (1) implementation analysis; (2) impact analysis; and (3) benefit cost analysis:

- *Implementation Analysis:* will yield critical information about the rollout and administration of TED, such as implications for the impact analysis and for developing relationships with community partners. Specifically, the implementation analysis will assess (1) whether the intervention was implemented as intended; (2) what successes and challenges were encountered during service delivery, and (3) how OVR developed new or stronger collaborative relationships with community partners.
- *Impact Analysis:* will leverage the experimental design to provide rigorous quantitative estimates of the effects of TED on the outcomes of enrollees. Because the study uses random assignment, the treatment and control group members will have similar observed and unobserved characteristics in statistical expectation when they enroll in the study. Hence, the evaluation's impact estimates will provide an unbiased assessment of whether the intervention can help youth with disabilities earn or work more, become less reliant on SSI or SSDI benefits, and experience greater satisfaction and well-being.
- *Benefit-Cost Analysis:* will assess whether the impacts of TED on enrollee outcomes are large enough to justify the resources required to produce them. By placing a dollar value on each benefit and cost of the intervention, a benefit-

cost analysis can summarize in one statistic all the intervention's diverse impacts and cost.

TED will provide SSA with empirical evidence on the impact of the intervention on youth in several outcome areas: (1) employment and earnings; (2) SSI and SSDI benefit receipt; and (3) other related outcomes, such as satisfaction and well-being. A rigorous evaluation of TED is important to help SSA and other interested parties assess promising options to improve employment-related outcomes and decrease benefit receipts. Mathematica is directing TED and evaluating it via a randomized controlled trial.

OVR will recruit 700 youth into TED over a two-year period. Potential enrollees include all residents in the city of Philadelphia and the surrounding four counties in Pennsylvania (Bucks, Chester, Delaware, and Montgomery) ages 16 to 24 who qualify for vocational rehabilitation (VR) services; have never signed an individualized plan for employment with OVR; and are capable of giving informed consent or assent. Once enrolled, youth assigned to the control group will remain eligible for standard VR services and receive information about how to apply to OVR. Youth assigned to the treatment group will open a case with OVR and receive enhanced Transition Exploration (TE) services. Treatment group members will receive services from a specially trained OVR counselor called a Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor-TED (VRC–TED) for up to 12 months. Key enhanced services provided by a VRC–TED will include career goal development, referral to intensive training programs, referral to other employment-related resources, and intensive engagement and follow up. As part of the TE intervention, OVR will develop strong collaborative relationships with intensive training programs like Job Corps and Year Up to facilitate seamless referrals and cooperation. OVR will also provide counseling on SSI, SSDI, and other benefits with a goal of helping youth to access them temporarily while pursuing full-time work. The respondents are youth with disabilities who qualify and are selected by SSA to enroll in TED.

Modality of completion	Number of respondents	Frequency of response	Total number of respondents	Average burden per response (in minutes)	Total annual burden (hours)	Average theoretical hourly cost	Total annual opportunity cost
Informed consent form and release form	700	1	700	10	117	*$7.25	**$848
Baseline survey	700	1	700	15	175	*7.25	**1,269
12-month follow-up survey	560	1	560	20	187	*7.25	**1,356
Qualitative data collection with site staff	18	2	36	68	41	*31.48	**1,291
Qualitative data collection with treatment group members	4	3	12	45	9	*7.25	**65
Total	1,982		2,008		529		42,829

*We based this figure on the average minimum wage, as reported by Pennsylvania's Current data at Department of Labor & Industry data (*https://www.dli.pa.gov/Individuals/Labor-Management-Relations/llc/Pages/Wage-FAQs.aspx*).

***This figure does not represent actual costs that SSA is imposing on recipients of Social Security payments to complete this application; rather, these are theoretical opportunity costs for the additional time respondents will spend to complete the application. *There is no actual charge to respondents to complete the application.*

Dated: June 21, 2024.

Naomi Sipple,

Reports Clearance Officer, Social Security Administration.

[FR Doc. 2024–14025 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4191–02–P

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice: 12433]

Notice of Public Meeting

The Department of State will conduct a public meeting at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, July 18, 2024, by way of teleconference. The primary purpose of the meeting is to prepare for the tenth session of the International Maritime Organization's (IMO) Sub-Committee on Implementation of IMO Instruments (III 10) to be held at the IMO headquarters, London, United Kingdom, from Monday, July 22, 2024, to Friday, July 26, 2023.

Members of the public may participate up to the capacity of the teleconference phone line, which can handle 500 participants. The meeting will be held virtually, and the teleconference line will be provided to those who RSVP. To RSVP, participants should contact the meeting coordinator, Mr. Chris Gagnon, by email at *christopher.j.gagnon@uscg.mil,* and Mr. Gagnon will provide access information for virtual attendance.

The agenda items to be considered at the advisory committee mirror those to be considered at III 10, and include:

—Decisions of other IMO bodies;
—Consideration and analysis of reports on alleged inadequacy of port reception facilities;
—Lessons learned and safety issues identified from the analysis of marine safety investigation reports;
—Measures to harmonize port state control (PSC) activities and procedures worldwide;
—Validate model training courses;
—Identified issues related to the implementation of IMO instruments from the analysis of data;
—Analysis of consolidated audit summary reports;
—Updated survey guidelines under the Harmonized System of Survey and Certification (HSSC);
—Non-exhaustive list of obligations under the instruments relevant to the IMO Instruments Implementation Code (III Code);
—Development of guidance on assessments and applications of remote surveys, ISM Code audits and ISPS Code verifications;
—Unified interpretation of provisions of IMO safety, security, and environment related conventions;
—Follow-up work emanating from the Action Plan to address plastic litter from ships; and
—Development of guidance to assist competent authorities in the implementation of the Cape Town Agreement of 2012.

Please note: the IMO may, on short notice, adjust the III 10 agenda to accommodate the constraints associated with the hybrid meeting format. Any changes to the agenda will be reported to those who RSVP and those in attendance at the meeting.

Those who plan to participate may contact the meeting coordinator, Mr. Christopher Gagnon, by email at *christopher.j.gagnon@uscg.mil,* by phone at (202) 372–1231, or in writing at 2703 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave. SE, Stop 7501, Washington, DC 20593–7509. Members of the public needing reasonable accommodation should advise Mr. Gagnon not later than July 11, 2024. Requests made after that date will be considered but might not be possible to fulfill.

Additional information regarding this and other IMO public meetings may be

found at: *https://www.dco.uscg.mil/IMO*.

(Authority: 22 U.S.C. 2656 and 5 U.S.C. 522)

Leslie W. Hunt,

Coast Guard Liaison Officer, Office of Ocean and Polar Affairs, Department of State.

[FR Doc. 2024–13955 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710–09–P

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice: 12440]

Notice of Federal Advisory Committee Meeting

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act and applicable regulations, the Department of State hereby provides notice of the next meeting of the President's Advisory Council on African Diaspora Engagement (''the Advisory Council'').

DATES: July 15, 2024.

ADDRESSES: This event will take place in-person in Lagos, Nigeria.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For additional information and for those interested in participating, please contact Mr. Matthew Becker, Senior Foreign Affairs Officer in the Office of the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of African Affairs, U.S. Department of State by email at *BeckerMA@state.gov* or by phone at (202) 647–1790.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. 1001 *et seq.,* and 41 CFR 102–3.65, the Advisory Council will host a plenary session meeting. The primary mission of the Advisory Council is to provide counsel to the President on enhancing connections between the United States Government and the African diaspora within the United States, aligning with the objectives outlined in the U.S. Strategy Toward Sub-Saharan Africa.

Text: In accordance with Executive Order 14089, the Advisory Council will host its second engagement of the year from July 15–17, 2024, in Lagos and Abuja, Nigeria. Members of the Advisory Council will meet in Lagos before engaging in a series of on-site discussions relating to diaspora-led investments on the continent such as education, youth engagement, and the creative industries sector in sports, film, music, and arts. They will meet with representatives from the Nigerian government, Nigerian civil society, youth leaders, and professionals in the creative industries sector and finance sector.

Meetings are open to the public. Priority for in-person seating will be given to the members of the Advisory Council and remaining seating will be reserved on a first-come, first-served basis. Interested members of the public may reserve a seat by contacting Matthew Becker at *BeckerMA@state.gov*.

Established in accordance with Executive Order 14089, the Advisory Council operates under the overarching authority of the Secretary of State and the Department of State, as outlined in Title 22 of the United States Code. Specifically, its mandate aligns with section 2656 of that Title and adheres to the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

Authority: 5 U.S.C. 1001 *et seq.* and 22 U.S.C. 2651a.

Matthew A. Becker,

Designated Federal Officer, President's Advisory Council on African Diaspora Engagement, Department of State.

[FR Doc. 2024–13954 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710–26–P

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

[Docket No. FD 36785]

City of Charlotte, NC—Acquisition Exemption—Norfolk Southern Railway Company

The City of Charlotte, NC (the City), a noncarrier, has filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1150.31 to acquire from Norfolk Southern Railway Company (NSR) its right, title, and interests in the right-of-way, track, and related physical assets (the Assets) of an approximately 29.04-mile portion of NSR's O Line in Mecklenburg and Iredell Counties, NC (O Line Segment).[1] The O Line Segment extends from milepost O–0.04 in Charlotte, NC, to milepost O–29.08 in Mooresville, NC.

According to the City, under the terms of its agreements with NSR,[2] the City will acquire the Assets, with NSR retaining a permanent and exclusive easement preserving NSR's ability to fulfill its common carrier and related freight services over the O Line Segment. The City states that the acquisition is part of a planned expansion of the Charlotte Area Transit System, the City's regional transit network, which will better link northern suburban communities with the City of Charlotte. The City also states that it will be prohibited under the Agreements from providing freight rail service or unreasonably interfering with NSR's freight service over the O Line Segment. According to the verified notice, NSR will retain the easement to provide rail service to customers over, on, and connecting to the Assets.

The City certifies that the proposed transaction does not include any provision or agreement that would limit future interchange with a third-party connecting carrier. The City also certifies that, because it will not conduct any freight rail carrier operations over the Assets, its projected annual revenues will not exceed $5 million and will not exceed those that would qualify the City as being a Class III rail carrier.

The transaction may be consummated on or after July 10, 2024, the effective date of the exemption (30 days after the verified notice of exemption was filed).

If the verified notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void ab initio. Petitions to revoke the exemption under 49 U.S.C. 10502(d) maybe filed at any time. The filing of a petition to revoke will not automatically stay the effectiveness of the exemption. Petitions for stay must be filed no later than July 3, 2024 (at least seven days before the exemption becomes effective).

All pleadings, referring to Docket No. FD 36785, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board either via e-filing on the Board's website or in writing addressed to 395 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20423–0001. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on the City's representative, Robert A. Wimbish, Fletcher & Sippel LLC, 29 North Wacker Drive, Suite 800, Chicago, IL 60606–3208.

According to the City, this action is categorically excluded from environmental reporting requirements under 49 CFR 1105.6(c) and from historic preservation reporting requirements under 49 CFR 1105.8(b).

Board decisions and notices are available at *www.stb.gov*.

Decided: June 21, 2024.

By the Board, Mai T. Dinh, Director, Office of Proceedings.

Kenyatta Clay,

Clearance Clerk.

[FR Doc. 2024–13991 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915–01–P

[1] The City also filed a motion to dismiss the notice of exemption on the grounds that the transaction does not require authorization from the Board. The motion to dismiss will be addressed in a subsequent Board decision.

[2] Public and confidential versions of the Purchase and Sale Agreement and the Draft Comprehensive Rail Agreement (Agreements) were filed with the motion to dismiss. The confidential versions were submitted under seal concurrently with a motion for protective order, which is addressed in a separate decision.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

[Docket No. FAA–2024–1902]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Requests for Comments; Clearance of a Renewed Approval of Information Collection: Rotorcraft External Load Operator Certificate Application

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, FAA invites public comments about our intention to request Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval to renew an information collection. The collection involves the submission of FAA Form 8710–4 for the certification process of rotorcraft external-load operators. The information to be collected is necessary to evaluate the applicants' eligibility for certification.

DATES: Written comments should be submitted by August 26, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Please send written comments:

By Electronic Docket: www.regulations.gov (Enter docket number into search field).

By mail: Chris Morris, 800 Independence Ave. SW, Washington, DC 20591.

By email: chris.morris@faa.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Raymond Plessinger by email at: *raymond.plessinger@faa.gov;* phone: 717–443–7296.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Public Comments Invited: You are asked to comment on any aspect of this information collection, including (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for FAA's performance; (b) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (c) ways for FAA to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information collection; and (d) ways that the burden could be minimized without reducing the quality of the collected information. The agency will summarize and/or include your comments in the request for OMB's clearance of this information collection.

OMB Control Number: 2120–0044.

Title: Rotorcraft External Load Operator Certificate Application.

Form Numbers: FAA Form 8710–4.

Type of Review: Renewal.

Background: This collection involves the application for issuance or renewal of a 14 CFR part 133 Rotorcraft External Load Operator Certificate. Application for an original certificate or renewal of a certificate issued under 14 CFR part 133 is made on a form, and in a manner prescribed by the Administrator. The FAA form 8710–4 may be obtained from an FAA Flight Standards District Office, or online at *https://www.faa.gov/documentLibrary/media/form/faa8710-4.pdf.* The completed application is sent to the district office that has jurisdiction over the area in which the applicant's home base of operation is located.

The information collected includes: type of application, operator's name/DBA, telephone number, mailing address, physical address of the principal base of operations, chief pilot/designee name, airman certificate grade and number, rotorcraft make, model and registration numbers to be used, and load combinations requested.

Respondents: 357 active part 133 certificate-holders.

Frequency: New applications when needed; current 14 CFR part 133 certificate-holders must renew every 24 months.

Estimated Average Burden per Response: 30 minutes per application.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 89 total hours per year.

Issued in Washington, DC, on June 21, 2024.

D.C. Morris,

Aviation Safety Analyst, Flight Standards Service, General Aviation and Commercial Division.

[FR Doc. 2024–14019 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–13–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

Membership in the National Parks Overflights Advisory Group

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Solicitation of applications.

SUMMARY: The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the National Park Service (NPS) invite interested persons to apply to fill 1 current and 1 upcoming vacancy on the National Parks Overflights Advisory Group (NPOAG). This notice invites interested persons to apply for the openings. The current opening is for a representative of Native American tribes. The upcoming opening is for one of the three commercial air tour representatives.

DATES: Persons interested in these membership openings will need to apply by July 26, 2024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sandi Fox, Environmental Protection Specialist, FAA Office of Environment and Energy, 800 Independence Ave. SW, Suite 900W, Washington, DC 20591, telephone: (202) 267–0928, email: *Sandra.Y.Fox@faa.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The National Parks Air Tour Management Act of 2000 (the Act) was enacted on April 5, 2000, as Public Law 106–181, and subsequently amended in the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012. The Act required the establishment of the advisory group within one year after its enactment. The NPOAG was established in March 2001. The advisory group is comprised of representatives of general aviation, commercial air tour operators, environmental concerns, and Native American tribes. The Administrator of the FAA and the Director of NPS (or their designees) serve as ex officio members of the group. Representatives of the Administrator and Director serve alternating 1-year terms as chairman of the advisory group.

In accordance with the Act, the advisory group provides ''advice, information, and recommendations to the Administrator and the Director—

(1) On the implementation of this title [the Act] and the amendments made by this title;

(2) On commonly accepted quiet aircraft technology for use in commercial air tour operations over a national park or tribal lands, which will receive preferential treatment in a given air tour management plan;

(3) On other measures that might be taken to accommodate the interests of visitors to national parks; and

(4) At the request of the Administrator and the Director, safety, environmental, and other issues related to commercial air tour operations over a national park or tribal lands.''

Membership

The current NPOAG is made up of one member representing general aviation, three members representing commercial air tour operators, four members representing environmental concerns, and two members representing Native American tribes. Members serve three-year terms. Current members of the NPOAG are as follows: Murray Huling representing general aviation; Eric Lincoln, James Viola, and John Becker representing commercial air

tour operators; Robert Randall, Dick Hingson, Les Blomberg, and John Eastman representing environmental interests; and Carl Slater representing Native American tribes, with one current opening for a Native American tribe representative. The three-year term of Mr. Lincoln expires on July 27, 2024.

Selections

To retain balance within the NPOAG, the FAA and NPS are seeking candidates interested in filling the one current vacant seat representing Native American tribes and one upcoming vacancy representing the commercial air tour industry. The FAA and NPS invite persons interested in these openings on the NPOAG to contact the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section.

Requests to serve on the NPOAG must be made in writing and postmarked or emailed on or before July 26, 2024. Any request to fill one of these seats must describe the requestor's affiliation with commercial air tour operators, environmental concerns, or federally recognized Native American tribes, as appropriate. The request should also explain what expertise the requestor would bring to the NPOAG as related to issues and concerns with aircraft flights over national parks or tribal lands. The term of service for NPOAG members is 3 years. Members may re-apply for another term.

On August 13, 2014, the Office of Management and Budget issued revised guidance regarding the prohibition against appointing or not reappointing federally registered lobbyists to serve on advisory committees (79 FR 47482). Therefore, before appointing an applicant to serve on the NPOAG, the FAA and NPS will require the prospective candidate to certify that they are not a federally registered lobbyist.

Issued in Washington, DC, on June 20, 2024.

Sandra Fox,

Environmental Protection Specialist, FAA Office of Environment and Energy.

[FR Doc. 2024–13945 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–13–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

[Docket No. NHTSA–2024–0027]

Denial of Motor Vehicle Defect Petition, DP22–004

AGENCY: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), Department of Transportation.

ACTION: Denial of petition for a defect investigation.

SUMMARY: This notice sets forth the reasons for the denial of a petition submitted to NHTSA on August 18, 2022, requesting that the agency commence an investigation of collisions of passenger vehicles and vulnerable road users (pedestrians, bicyclists, or motorcyclists) with van-type (also known as box) semi-trailers that result in significant injuries or death due to a lack of effective rear impact guards. On January 17, 2023, NHTSA opened Defect Petition DP22–004 to evaluate petitioners' request. After consideration of the petition and other information, NHTSA believes that the issues raised here are best addressed through its recent rulemaking and the ongoing actions under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). Accordingly, the agency has denied the petition.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Nate Seymour, Medium and Heavy Duty Vehicle Division, Office of Defects Investigation (ODI), NHTSA, 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE, Washington, DC 20590. Email: *nate.seymour@dot.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Office of Defects Investigation (ODI) received a petition dated August 18, 2022, requesting an investigation of collisions of passenger vehicles and vulnerable road users (pedestrians, bicyclists, or motorcyclists) with van-type (also known as box) semi-trailers that result in significant injuries or death due to a lack of effective rear impact guards (RIGs).[1] No specific trailer manufacturer or equipment supplier was identified. The petition acknowledges that the issues presented may be addressed by the actions the agency is taking pursuant to the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL).

The petitioners cite crashes exemplifying their concerns, including those in NHTSA's Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS), stating that there are ''hundreds of underride deaths and serious injuries annually from collisions with semitrailers.'' Petitioners observe that from 1994 to 2015, FARS reports 1,803 rear underride deaths, and they further assert that FARS is ''known to underreport these deaths.'' This data, according to petitioners, ''indicate[s] that semitrailers without effective [RIGs] contain a defect that presents an unreasonable risk.''

Petitioners also submitted to NHTSA, between January 30 and May 15, 2023, various materials—the vast majority of which were over 200 news articles pertaining to fatal incidents involving a heavy vehicle. NHTSA reviewed these materials. Of the news articles, over a third regarded the same crash event, or regarded a non-crash event. Through extensive additional research, ODI determined that twenty-two of the events involved van-type (or ''box'') semitrailers. Of those twenty-two events, ODI was able to identify the trailer manufacturer in nine; however, none of the model years could be determined. There were no crash reports of vulnerable road user fatalities or injuries included in the materials received from the petitioners.

Approximately one month before submission of the petition, NHTSA updated the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS) for RIGs (FMVSS 223 and 224). *See* 87 FR 42339. FMVSS provide minimum safety standards for vehicles or items of motor vehicle equipment sold in the United States. Such rulemaking efforts involve extensive research and analysis, including requirements to consider economic impacts. NHTSA relied on a collection of crash databases and published research to update these FMVSS. Among other sources, NHTSA used the University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute (UMTRI) study of Trucks Involved in Fatal Accidents (TIFA) in updating the FMVSS for RIGs—not the Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) data that petitioners claim underreport deaths from collisions with semitrailers. *See* 87 FR 42354.

These updated standards replace the original standards released in 1996 and adopt requirements similar to the Canada Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (CMVSS) 223 for RIG protection. They provide for upgraded protection in crashes where the passenger motor vehicle hits the center of the rear of the trailer or semitrailer, and crashes in which 50 percent of the width of the passenger motor vehicle overlaps the rear of the trailer or semitrailer. The updated standards went into effect on January 11, 2023, and have a compliance date of no later than July 15, 2024. The updated standards also satisfy BIL requirements. 87 FR 42342.

[1] The petition is available at *https://www.nhtsa.gov/recalls?nhtsaId=11481272.*

Further, pursuant to BIL, in July 2022, NHTSA published a notice soliciting nominations for an advisory committee on Underride Protection, to provide advice and recommendations to the Secretary of Transportation on safety regulations to reduce underride crashes and fatalities relating to underride crashes. *See* 87 FR 40346. In April 2023, NHTSA announced 16 members of that committee, which include petitioner Marianne Karth as well as another representative of underride crash victims. The committee is further comprised of representatives of truck safety organizations; motor vehicle crash investigators; law enforcement; labor organizations; motor vehicle engineers; the insurance industry; motor carriers, including independent owner-operators; and truck and trailer manufacturers.

In addition to the advisory committee, NHTSA previously announced several additional actions related to truck trailer underride safety, including improving data collection of underride crashes by recommending inclusion of underride data in state crash data systems and by providing educational materials to state and local police departments on identifying and recording underride crashes. NHTSA is also conducting research on rear impact guard designs that better protect occupants of passenger vehicles in even more rear underride crash scenarios. NHTSA, with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), published a pamphlet in August 2022—which was also distributed to law enforcement through various channels—that explains how to identify and record such crashes.[2]

After consideration of the petition, including the reports provided by the petitioners, NHTSA believes the issues raised are best addressed through its recent rulemaking and the ongoing actions under BIL. Accordingly, NHTSA has decided not to open a defect investigation and the petition is denied. The denial of this petition does not foreclose the agency from taking further action if warranted or making a future finding that a safety-related defect exists based upon additional information the agency may receive.

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 30162(d) and 49 CFR part 552; delegation of authority at 49 CFR 1.95(a).[3]

Eileen Sullivan,

Associate Administrator, Enforcement.

[FR Doc. 2024–13953 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–59–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

[DOT–OST–2023–0175]

Department of Transportation Advisory Committee on Human Trafficking: Notice of Public Meetings

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary of Transportation, U.S. Department of Transportation.

ACTION: Notice of public meetings.

SUMMARY: This notice announces two virtual meetings of the Department of Transportation Advisory Committee on Human Trafficking.

DATES: The meetings will be held on August 14, 2024, from 10:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. EDT and September 6, 2024, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. EDT.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held virtually. Any person requiring accessibility accommodations should contact the Official listed in the next section.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Maha Alkhateeb, Office of International Transportation and Trade, U.S. Department of Transportation, at *trafficking@dot.gov* or (202) 366–4398. Also visit the ACHT website at *https://www.transportation.gov/stophumantrafficking/acht.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

ACHT was re-chartered on July 29, 2022, using the Department's authorities under the *Bipartisan Infrastructure Law* (BIL) (Pub. L. 117–58).[1] Sec. 23020 of BIL requires the Secretary of Transportation, acting through the ACHT and in coordination with the Attorney General, to submit a triennial counter-trafficking report with (1) recommendations for countering human trafficking; (2) an assessment of best practices by transportation stakeholders; and (3) human trafficking violations involving commercial motor vehicles.

II. Agenda

At the August 14, 2024, meeting, the agenda will cover the following topics:

10:30–10:45 a.m.—Welcome & Call to Order
10:50 a.m.–12:00 p.m.—USG Presentation(s)
12:05–1:00 p.m.—Lunch
1:05–1:30 p.m.—ACHT Report Overview
- *David Saperstein, Chair*
- *Esther Goetsch, Vice Chair*

1:35–3:30 p.m.—Discussion and Deliberation
- *David Saperstein, Chair*
- *Esther Goetsch, Vice Chair*

3:35–3:50 p.m.—Break
3:55–4:25 p.m.—Public Comment
- *Maha Alkhateeb, Designated Federal Officer*

4:30–4:45 p.m.—Next Steps and Closing Remarks

At the September 6, 2024, meeting, the agenda will cover the following topics:

11:00–11:30 a.m.—Welcome & Call to Order
- *Julie Abraham, Director*

11:35 a.m.–12:00 p.m.—ACHT Report Overview
- *David Saperstein, Chair*
- *Esther Goetsch, Vice Chair*

12:05–12:35 p.m.—Vote to Adopt the ACHT Final Report Overview
- *David Saperstein, Chair*

12:40–12:50 p.m.—Break
12:55–1:25 p.m.—Committee Member Reflections
- *Esther Goetsch, Vice Chair*

1:30–2:00 p.m.—Public Comment
- *Maha Alkhateeb, Designated Federal Officer*

2:05–2:15 p.m.—Closing Remarks

Final agendas that include a virtual participation link will be posted on the ACHT internet website at *https://www.transportation.gov/stophumantrafficking/acht,* at least one week in advance of the meetings.

III. Public Participation

The virtual meetings will be open to the public.

Members of the public who wish to attend the August 14, 2024, meeting are asked to register, including name and affiliation, at *trafficking@dot.gov,* by August 6, 2024. Individuals requesting accessibility accommodations, such as sign language, interpretation, or other ancillary aids, may do so via email to *trafficking@dot.gov,* by August 6, 2024.

Members of the public who wish to attend the September 6, 2024 meeting are asked to register, including name and affiliation, at *trafficking@dot.gov,* by August 28, 2024. Individuals requesting accessibility accommodations, such as

[2] This pamphlet is available at *https://www.nhtsa.gov/sites/nhtsa.gov/files/2022-08/Underride-Crash-Pamphlet_071522_v6a-tag.pdf.*

[3] The authority to determine whether to approve or deny defect petitions under 49 U.S.C. 30162(d) and 49 CFR part 552 has been further delegated to the Associate Administrator for Enforcement.

[1] *https://www.congress.gov/117/plaws/publ58/PLAW-117publ58.pdf.*

sign language, interpretation, or other ancillary aids, may do so via email to *trafficking@dot.gov,* by August 28, 2024.

There will be 30 minutes allotted for oral comments from members of the public joining the meetings. To accommodate as many speakers as possible, the time for each speaker may be limited. Individuals wishing to reserve speaking time during the meetings must submit a request at the time of registration, as well as the name, address, and organizational affiliation of the proposed speaker. If the number of registrants requesting to make statements is greater than can be reasonably accommodated during the meetings, the Office of the Secretary may conduct a lottery to determine the speakers. Speakers are requested to submit a written copy of their prepared remarks no later than 5:00 p.m. EDT on August 6, 2024, for the August 14, 2024, meeting, and no later than 5:00 p.m. EDT on August 28, 2024, for the September 6, 2024, meeting, for inclusion in the meeting records and for circulation to ACHT members. Written comments timely submitted from those participants not selected to speak will be accepted and considered as part of the meeting record.

Persons who wish to submit written comments for consideration by ACHT during the meeting must submit them no later than 5:00 p.m. EDT on August 6, 2024, for the August 14, 2024, meeting, and on August 28, 2024, for the September 6, 2024, meeting, to ensure transmission to ACHT prior to the meetings. Comments received after those date and time will be distributed to the members, but may not be reviewed prior to the meetings.

Copies of the meeting minutes will be available on the ACHT internet website at *https://www.transportation.gov/stophumantrafficking/acht.*

Issued in Washington, DC, on June 20, 2024.

Carol Annette Petsonk,

Assistant Secretary, Aviation and International Affairs, U.S. Department of Transportation.

[FR Doc. 2024–13980 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–9X–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; Multiple Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Information Collection Requests

AGENCY: Departmental Offices, U.S. Department of the Treasury.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury will submit the following information collection requests to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, on or after the date of publication of this notice. The public is invited to submit comments on these requests.

DATES: Comments should be received on or before July 26, 2024 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to *www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain.* Find this particular information collection by selecting ''Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments'' or by using the search function.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Copies of the submissions may be obtained from Melody Braswell by emailing *PRA@treasury.gov,* calling (202) 622–1035, or viewing the entire information collection request at *www.reginfo.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Internal Revenue Service (IRS)

1. Title: Methods to Determine Taxable Income in connection with a Cost Sharing Arrangement—IRC section 482.

OMB Number: 1545–1364.

Treasury Decision Numbers: 9568.

Abstract: This document contains final regulations regarding methods to determine taxable income in connection with a cost sharing arrangement under section 482 of the Internal Revenue Code (Code). The final regulations address issues that have arisen in administering the current cost sharing regulations. The final regulations affect domestic and foreign entities that enter into cost sharing arrangements described in the final regulations.

Current Actions: There are no changes to the information collection.

Type of Review: Extension without change of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 500.

Estimated Time per Response: 18 hours, 42 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 9,350.

2. Title: IRS e-file Signature Authorization for Forms 720, 2290, and 8849.

OMB Number: 1545–2081.

Form Number: 8879–EX.

Abstract: Form 8879–EX, IRS *e-file* Signature Authorization for Forms 720, 2990, and 8849, will be used in the Modernized e-File program. Form 8879–EX authorizes a taxpayer and an electronic return originator (ERO) to use a personal identification number (PIN) to electronically sign an electronic excise tax return and, if applicable, authorize an electronic funds withdrawal.

Current Actions: There are no changes being made to the form at this time.

Type of Review: Extension of a previously approved collection.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 15,000.

Estimated Time per Respondent: 1 hr., 12 mins.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 16,750.

3. Title: IRS Paid Preparer Tax Identification Number (PTIN) Application and Renewal.

OMB Number: 1545–2190.

Form Project Number: Form W–12.

Abstract: A paid tax preparer uses Form W–12 to apply and renew for a preparer tax identification number (PTIN).

Current Actions: Updates to the indicators used to calculate burden for Form W–12 will increase the overall burden estimate by 1,740,000 hours.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Individuals, business, or other for-profit organization.

Estimated Number of Responses: 1,200,000.

Estimated Time per Respondent: 2 hrs., 40 min.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 3,204,000.

4. Title: Application for Employee Retention Credit (ERC) Voluntary Disclosure Program.

OMB Number: 1545–2316.

Form Number: 15434.

Abstract: The Employee Retention Credit Voluntary Disclosure Program (ERC–VDP) was created in order to provide a streamlined avenue for taxpayers to return funds for improperly claimed ERC credits and be afforded a 20% reduction in the amount to return.

To participate in the initiative, taxpayers must submit information about the improper ERC claimed, refund received, their identifying information, and the identifying information of any preparer/advisor who assisted them with the ERC claim.

Current Actions: There are no changes to the form at this time. This notice is

administrative process to renew the OMB approval on the form.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Individuals and Households.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 5,000.

Estimated Time per Respondent: 2 hrs., 22 mins.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 11,800.

5. Title: Miscellaneous Changes Under the SECURE 2.0 Act of 2022.

OMB Number: 1545–2317.

Notice Number: 2024–2.

Abstract: Section 72(t)(1) generally imposes a 10 percent additional tax on any distribution from a qualified retirement plan within the meaning of section 4974(c), unless the distribution qualifies for one of the exceptions listed in section 72(t)(2). Section 72(t)(2)(L)(iii) provides that, in order to be considered a terminally ill individual, an employee must furnish sufficient evidence to the plan administrator. This information will be used by a plan administrator to determine whether an individual is eligible for a terminal illness distribution and thus eligible for the exception to the 10 percent additional tax under section 72(t)(2)(L).

Current Actions: There are no changes to the notice at this time.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Individuals and Households.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 225,500.

Estimated Time per Respondent: 15 mins.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 11,375.

Authority: 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*

Melody Braswell,

Treasury PRA Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2024–13990 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; Generic Clearance for Improving Customer Experience (OMB Circular A–11, Section 280 Implementation)

AGENCY: Departmental Offices, U.S. Department of the Treasury.

ACTION: Notice of information collection; request for comment.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury will submit the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, on or after the date of publication of this notice. The public is invited to submit comments on this request.

DATES: Comments should be received on or before July 26, 2024 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to *www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain.* Find this particular information collection by selecting ''Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments'' or by using the search function.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Copies of the submissions may be obtained from Spencer W. Clark by emailing *PRA@treasury.gov,* calling (202) 927–5331, or viewing the entire information collection request at *www.reginfo.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Bureau of the Fiscal Service

Title: Generic Clearance for Improving Customer Experience (OMB Circular A–11, Section 280 Implementation).

OMB Control Number: 1530–0073.

Type of Review: Extension without change of a currently approved collection.

Description: On September 11, 1993, President Clinton issued Executive Order 12862, ''Setting Customer Service Standards'' which clearly define his vision that the Federal agencies will put the people first. Executive Order 12862 directs Federal agencies to provide service to the public that matches or exceeds the best service available in the private sector. Section 1(b) of Executive Order 12862 requires Government agencies to ''survey customers to determine the kind and quality of services they want and their level of satisfaction with existing services'' and section 1(e) requires agencies ''survey front-line employees on barriers to, and ideas for, matching the best in business.''

On March 30, 2016, President Obama established the Core Federal Services Council, which again emphasized the need to deliver world-class customer service to the American people. The Council, composed of the major high-volume, high-impact Federal programs that provide transactional services directly to the public, were encouraged ''to improve the customer experience by using public and private sector management best practices, such as conducting self-assessments and journey mapping, collecting transactional feedback data, and sharing such data with frontline and other staff.''

In March 2018, the Administration of President Trump launched the President's Management Agenda (PMA) and established new Cross-Agency Priority (CAP) Goals. Excellent service was established as a core component of the mission, service, stewardship model that frames the entire PMA, embedding a customer-focused approach in all of the PMA's initiatives. This model was also included in the 2018 update of the Federal Performance Framework in Circular A–11, ensuring 'excellent service' as a focus in future agency strategic planning efforts. The PMA included a CAP Goal on Improving Customer Experience with Federal Services, with a primary strategy to drive improvements within 25 of the nation's highest impact programs. This effort is supported by an interagency team and guidance in Circular A–11 requiring the collection of customer feedback data and increasing the use of industry best practices to conduct customer research.

These Presidential actions and requirements establish an ongoing process of collecting customer insights and using them to improve services. This new request will enable the Department of Treasury to act in accordance with OMB Circular A–11 Section 280 to ultimately transform the experience of its customers to improve both efficiency and mission delivery, and increase accountability by communicating about these efforts with the public.

Form: None.

Affected Public: Businesses, individuals and state or local governments.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 2,001,550.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Total Number of Annual Responses: 2,001,550.

Estimated Time per Response: Varies. Feedback survey (3 minutes), User testing (15–30 minutes), Customer interviews (30 minutes), Focus groups (90 minutes).

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 101,125.

Authority: 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*

Spencer W. Clark,

Treasury PRA Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2024–13995 Filed 6–25–24; 8:45 am]

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