coordinates of the airport to coincide with the FAA's aeronautical database;

And modifies the Class E airspace extending upward from 700 feet above the surface at Ottumwa Regional Airport by removing the Ottumwa VOR/DME and the associated extensions from the airspace legal description; and updates the name (previously Ottumwa Industrial Airport) and geographic coordinates of the airport to coincide with the FAA's aeronautical database.

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 action qualifies for categorical exclusion under the National Environmental Policy Act in accordance with FAA Order 1050.1F, ''Environmental Impacts: Policies and Procedures,'' paragraph 5–6.5.a. This airspace action is not expected to cause any potentially significant environmental impacts, and no extraordinary circumstances exist that warrant preparation of an environmental assessment.

Lists of Subjects in 14 CFR 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); 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 7400.11J, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, dated July 31, 2024, and effective September 15, 2024, is amended as follows:

Paragraph 6002 Class E Airspace Areas Designates as a Surface Area.

* * * * *

ACE IA E2 Ottumwa, IA [Amended]

Ottumwa Regional Airport, IA
(Lat. 41°06′26″ N, long. 92°26′50″ W)

Within a 4.1-mile radius of Ottumwa Regional Airport.

* * * * *

Paragraph 6005 Class E Airspace Areas Extending Upward From 700 Feet or More Above the Surface of the Earth.

* * * * *

ACE IA E5 Ottumwa, IA [Amended]

Ottumwa Regional Airport, IA
(Lat. 41°06′26″ N, long. 92°26′50″ W)

That airspace extending upward from 700 feet above the surface within a 6.6-mile radius of Ottumwa Regional Airport.

* * * * *

Issued in Fort Worth, Texas, on December 9, 2024.

Steven T. Phillips,

Acting Manager, Operations Support Group, ATO Central Service Center.

[FR Doc. 2024–29225 Filed 12–11–24; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

19 CFR Part 356

[Docket No. 241206–0314]

RIN 0625–AB20

Procedures and Rules for Article 10.12 of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement; Correction

AGENCY: Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Rule; correction.

SUMMARY: On January 31, 2024, the Department of Commerce (Commerce) updated and made final an interim final rule that amended its regulations pertaining to the procedures and rules related to Article 1904 of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) with appropriate references to the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA), which went into effect on July 1, 2020. This rule is correcting language in the regulations which was erroneously duplicated.

DATES: Effective December 12, 2024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Scott D. McBride, Associate Deputy Chief Counsel, at (202) 482–6292 or Spencer Neff, Senior Attorney, at (202) 482–8184.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On January 31, 2024, the Department of Commerce published a final rule amending its regulations pertaining to the procedures and rules related to Article 1904 of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) with appropriate references to the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA), which went into effect on July 1, 2020 (89 FR 6011). The final rule erroneously duplicated language in 19 CFR 356.8(b)(2) from § 356.8(b)(1). This amendment corrects § 356.8(b)(2).

List of Subjects in 19 CFR Part 356

Administrative practice and procedure, Antidumping, Business and industry, Confidential business information, Countervailing duties, Imports.

Dated: December 6, 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.

Accordingly, 19 CFR part 356 is corrected by making the following correcting amendment:

PART 356—PROCEDURES AND RULES FOR ARTICLE 10.12 OF THE UNITED STATES-MEXICO-CANADA AGREEMENT

■ 1. The authority citation for part 356 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 19 U.S.C. 1516a and 1677f(f), unless otherwise noted.

■ 2. In § 356.8, revise paragraph (b)(2) to read as follows:

§ 356.8 Continued suspension of liquidation.

* * * * *

(b) * * *

(2) A participant in a binational panel review that was a party to the proceeding, as described in section 771(9)(A) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1677(9)(A)), may request continued suspension of liquidation of the merchandise which it manufactured, produced, exported, or imported and which is covered by the administrative determination under review by the panel. Foreign governments are not listed as interested parties who may

request the continuation of suspension under 19 U.S.C. 1516a(g)(5)(C)(iii).

* * * * *

[FR Doc. 2024–29091 Filed 12–11–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–DS–P

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Office of Workers' Compensation Programs

20 CFR Part 726

RIN 1240–AA16

Black Lung Benefits Act: Authorization of Self-Insurers

AGENCY: Office of Workers' Compensation Programs, Labor.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This final rule revises the regulations under the Black Lung Benefits Act (BLBA) governing authorization of self-insurers. The updated regulations determine the process for coal mine operators to apply for authorization to self-insure, the requirements operators must meet to qualify to self-insure, the amount of security self-insured operators must provide, and the process for operators to appeal determinations made by the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP).

DATES: This rule is effective January 13, 2025.

ADDRESSES: For access to the rulemaking docket and to read background documents or comments received, go to *https://www.regulations.gov.* Although some information (*e.g.,* copyrighted material) may not be available through the website, the entire rulemaking record, including any copyrighted material, will be available for inspection at OWCP. Please contact the individual named below if you would like to inspect the record.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael Chance, Director, Division of Coal Mine Workers' Compensation, Office of Workers' Compensation Programs, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue NW, Suite C–3520–DCWMC, Washington, DC 20210. Telephone: 1–800–347–2502. This is a toll-free number. TTY/TDD callers may dial toll-free 1–877–889–5627 for further information.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background of This Rulemaking

The BLBA, 30 U.S.C. 901–944, provides for the payment of benefits to coal miners and certain of their dependent survivors for total disability or death due to pneumoconiosis, commonly known as black lung disease. 30 U.S.C. 901(a); *Usery* v. *Turner Elkhorn Mining Co.,* 428 U.S. 1, 5 (1976). The BLBA places the primary responsibility for paying benefits on coal mine operators. 30 U.S.C. 932(b). When a coal miner is determined to be eligible for benefits, the operator responsible for paying benefits (the responsible operator) is generally the one that most recently employed the miner for a period of at least one year and is financially capable of paying benefits. 20 CFR 725.495(a)(1). If a responsible operator cannot be determined, is unable to pay, or defaults on its obligation to pay, the responsibility for paying benefits falls to the Black Lung Disability Trust Fund (the Trust Fund), which is financed by an excise tax on coal mined for domestic use and, as necessary, borrowing from the U.S. Treasury's general fund. 30 U.S.C. 932(j), 934(b); 26 U.S.C. 4121, 9501.

Because coal mine operators are principally responsible for paying benefits, the BLBA requires every operator to secure the payment of benefits for which it may be found liable. 30 U.S.C. 932(b). Each operator must secure the payment of benefits either by purchasing commercial insurance or by qualifying as a self-insurer ''in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Secretary.'' 30 U.S.C. 933(a); *see also* 20 CFR 726.1.

The current regulations—part 726, subpart B—establish the standards for a coal mine operator to qualify as a self-insurer. They provide that, to qualify as a self-insurer, an operator must meet certain minimum requirements, including ''obtain[ing] security . . . in a form approved by [OWCP] and . . . in an amount to be determined by [OWCP].'' 20 CFR 726.101(b)(4). The regulations identify four forms of security that OWCP may allow an operator to provide: (1) indemnity bonds; (2) deposits of negotiable securities; (3) letters of credit; or (4) trust funds under section 501(c)(21) of the Internal Revenue Code. 20 CFR 726.104(b). The regulations further provide that ''[OWCP] shall require the amount of security which it deems necessary and sufficient to secure the performance by the applicant of all obligations imposed upon him as an operator by the Act.'' 20 CFR 726.105. The regulations also set forth a non-exhaustive list of factors that OWCP will consider in setting the amount of security an operator must provide, including the operator's net worth, the existence of a guarantee by a parent corporation, and the operator's existing liability for benefits. *Id.*

OWCP historically has not required self-insured operators to post security with a face value that would cover all of the operator's expected black lung liability. *See* 62 FR 3338, 3370 (Jan. 22, 1997). Instead, OWCP has relied in part on a company's size as evidence of its ability to make future benefits payments. *Id.* Depending on the operator's assets, OWCP usually required security sufficient to cover from three to fifteen years of the operator's payments on claims currently in award status, rather than the operator's total liability for current and future claims. *Id.* Under this model, most large operators therefore posted fewer years of payment relative to smaller operators.

A number of bankruptcies in the mining industry revealed weaknesses in that process and demonstrated that a more substantial security amount would be required to adequately protect the Trust Fund. Specifically, beginning in 2014, three large self- insured operators filed for bankruptcy. Because these operators had insufficient securities to cover the full amount of expected benefits, an estimated $865 million in liabilities will ultimately transfer to the Trust Fund. *See* U.S. Government Accountability Office, *Federal Black Lung Benefits Program: Improved Oversight of Coal Mine Operator Insurance is Needed,* at 13 (Feb. 2020), *available at https://www.gao.gov/products/gao-20-21.*

In response, OWCP developed revised guidelines and procedures for authorizing coal mine operators to self-insure, which it began to implement in 2019. These guidelines were intended to standardize the process by which applicants provide financial and actuarial information to OWCP. OWCP required each company to calculate and report its projected black lung liabilities through actuarial reports using a set of standardized assumptions, including discount rate, claim cost trends, and the probability of awards. OWCP also developed a set of financial metrics and a methodology to assess each operator's solvency, profitability, and risk of default. This assessment would determine the proportion of the operator's projected liabilities it would be required to post as security. Operators determined to be at less risk of not meeting their obligations would be required to provide smaller amounts of security, while operators at higher risk would be required to provide larger amounts of security. These guidelines were summarized in a December 2020