

affixed to the product itself.⁶ Under the Care Labeling Rule, items of textile wearing apparel must be labeled with appropriate care instructions. For most such items, the care instructions must appear on a label permanently attached to the product. However, hosiery products have been granted an exemption from the labeling requirement if care instructions accompany the product on a tag or on packaging.⁷

In addition, the Commission notes that industry self-regulation efforts, led by the NAHM, already exist in certain technical areas. For example, the industry currently conforms sizing of all hosiery products to a set of voluntary standards.⁸

For these reasons, the Commission concludes that it is unnecessary to retain guides specific to the hosiery industry and therefore is rescinding the Guides. If, in the future, practices in the sale of hosiery are determined to be materially misleading and to cause consumer harm, the Commission can address such practices under Section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act.⁹

The Commission appreciates the concerns raised by the commenters. It declines, however, to expand the coverage of the guides as recommended. First, some of the areas suggested for inclusion in the guides are beyond the Commission's authority under the FTC Act, which is the basis for the content of the guides. Second, the Commission believes that existing rules governing care labeling and labeling of textile products are adequate to protect consumers from deceptive claims concerning the attributes and care of hosiery products.

List of Subjects in 16 CFR Part 22

Advertising, Hosiery, Labeling, Trade practices.

By direction of the Commission.
Donald S. Clark,
Secretary.

PART 22—[REMOVED]

The Commission, under authority of section 18 of the Federal Trade Commission Act, 15 U.S.C. 57a, amends chapter I of title 16 of the Code of

⁶ 16 CFR 303.15(c).

⁷ In addition, certain hosiery products which can be machine washed and dried at hot settings without damage and without transferring their dye to other fabrics, and which sell at retail for less than \$3.00, need not provide any form of care instructions.

⁸ Commercial Standard CS 46-49 (last revised in 1990).

⁹ Section 5 of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. 45(a)(1), prohibits unfair or deceptive acts or practices in or affecting commerce.

Federal Regulations by removing Part 22.

[FR Doc. 96-2261 Filed 2-1-96; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

22 CFR Part 9b

[Public Notice 2273]

Bureau of Public Affairs; Press Building Passes

AGENCY: Bureau of Public Affairs, State.

ACTION: Direct final rule.

SUMMARY: This rule eliminates the requirement for annual submission of a letter from press pass holders attesting that they continue to cover the Department of State on a regular and substantial basis to maintain their press passes. Instead, press building passes will automatically lose their validity if not used in a 12-month period without further notification to the pass holder. This rule also changes the period of validity for press building passes and allows issuance of press passes pending positive completion of international background investigation. The changes will reduce the administrative burden on press pass holders, as well as on the Department.

DATES: *Effective Date:* April 2, 1996. The rule will become final on April 2, 1996 unless this agency publishes a document withdrawing the rule based on receipt of adverse comments which are due on or before March 4, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments to: Director, Office of Press Relations, Department of State, Washington, DC 20520.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Julie M. Reside, Office of Press Relations (202) 647-2492.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The implementation of this rule as a direct final rule is based upon the "good cause" exception found at 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3). Promulgation notice and comment is "unnecessary" because the rule is noncontroversial and not likely to engender public comment. This rule is not expected to have a significant impact on small business entities. This final rule does not impose information collection requirements under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980. The rule has been reviewed as required under Executive Order 12778 and certified to be in compliance therewith. The rule is exempt from review under Executive Order 12866, but has been reviewed internally by the Department

to ensure consistency with the objectives thereof.

List of Subjects in 22 CFR Part 9b

Administrative practice and procedure, Federal buildings and facilities, News media, Security measures.

For the reasons set forth in the preamble, the Department of State amends 22 CFR part 9b as follows:

PART 9b—[AMENDED]

1. The authority citation for 22 CFR part 9b continues to read as follows:

Authority: 22 U.S.C. 2658.

2. Section 9b.8 is revised to read as follows:

§ 9b.8 Term and renewal of Department of State press building passes.

(a) Department of State press building passes for U.S. citizens are issued with three years' validity. Subject to positive completion of an international background check, passes for non-U.S. citizens are issued with one year's validity and may be renewed for three years. Notwithstanding its initial validity, any press building pass that has not been used for a twelve-month period, as recorded by the Bureau of Diplomatic Security's turnstyle entry devices, will become invalid at the end of that twelve-month period.

(b) For any valid passes issued before October 1, 1995, notification shall be sent by the Department of State to the holder of the pass that the pass has become invalid by reason of lack of use for 12-month period. However, failure of the holder for any reason to receive such a notification shall not affect the invalidity of the pass. Anyone whose pass has become invalid may apply for a new pass in accordance with §§ 9b.2 through 9b.5.

Richard M. Moose,

Under Secretary of State for Management.

[FR Doc. 96-1258 Filed 2-1-96; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Minerals Management Service

30 CFR Parts 206 and 260

RIN 1010-AB93

Bidding Systems for Leases in the Outer Continental Shelf

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service, Interior.

ACTION: Final rule.