

(3) Are removed from service for any other reason.

(c) *Recognizing other quality assurance programs.* The MMS will consider approving other quality assurance programs covering the manufacture of SPPE. If you want MMS to evaluate other quality assurance programs, submit relevant information about the program and reasons for MMS approval to the Deputy Associate Director for Operations and Safety Management; Minerals Management Service; Mail Stop 4600; 381 Elden Street; Herndon, Virginia 20170-4817.

[FR Doc. 96-32041 Filed 12-17-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-MR-M

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 52

[ID5-2-7075b; FRL-5664-9]

Clean Air Act Promulgation of Reclassification of PM-10 Nonattainment Areas in Idaho

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: This action identifies those nonattainment areas in the State of Idaho which have failed to attain the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter of less than or equal to ten micrometers (PM-10) by the applicable attainment date of December 31, 1995. This action also proposes to grant a second one-year extension to the attainment date for the Power-Bannock Counties PM-10 nonattainment in Idaho. In the Final Rules Section of this Federal Register, the EPA is granting this extension as a direct final rule without prior proposal because the Agency views this action as noncontroversial and anticipates no adverse comments. A detailed rationale for granting the extension is set forth in the direct final rule. If no adverse comments are received in response to this proposed rule, no further activity is contemplated in relation to this rule. If the EPA receives adverse comments, the direct final rule will be withdrawn and all public comments received will be addressed in a subsequent final rule. The EPA will not institute a second comment period on this action.

DATES: Comments on this proposal must be received in writing by January 17, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on this action should be addressed to Montel

Livingston, SIP Manager, Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Air Quality, 1200 Sixth Avenue, Seattle Washington, 98101. Copies of the documents relevant to this action are available for public inspection during normal business hours at the same address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Steven K. Body, Office of Air Quality, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Sixth Avenue, Seattle, Washington, 98101, 206/553-0782.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: See the information provided in the Direct Final action which is located in the Rules Section of this Federal Register.

Dated: December 5, 1996.

Chuck Clarke,
Regional Administrator.

[FR Doc. 96-32055 Filed 12-17-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Coast Guard

46 CFR Parts 10 and 15

[CGD 94-055]

RIN 2115-AF23

Licensing and Manning for Officers of Towing Vessels

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard intends to modify the proposed rule on Licensing and Manning for Officers of Towing Vessels and to publish a supplemental notice of proposed rulemaking (SNPRM) before issuing a final rule. The SNPRM will include a new comment period and it may announce additional public meetings.

ADDRESSES: The Executive Secretary maintains the public docket for this rulemaking. Comments previously received have become part of this docket and are available for inspection or copying at room 3406, U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, 2100 Second Street, SW., Washington, DC 20593, between 9:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: LCDR Don Darcy, Project Manager, Operating and Environmental Standards Division (G-MSO-1), U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, 2100 Second Street, SW., Washington, DC 20593, telephone (202) 267-0221.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background and Purpose

On June 19, 1996, the Coast Guard published in the Federal Register a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) that proposed changes to the licensing and manning requirements for officers of towing vessels in order to provide a safer towing industry (61 FR 31332). The NPRM proposed changes including, but not limited to, the following: A graduated series of master and mate (pilot) licenses (allowing holders of current licenses to be grandfathered); an additional license level for new entries—apprentice mate (steersman); route endorsements for particular geographical areas; a limited and unlimited licensing structure based on a 3000-horsepower breakpoint; a practical demonstration of skills; a check-ride with a designated examiner, or completion of a refresher course for renewals and upgrades of licenses; and a clarification that the master of the vessel is responsible for the overall safety of the vessel, but not for another individual's misconduct or incompetence.

The comment period under the NPRM closed on October 17, 1996. Because of the very active public response to the NPRM, through a public meeting, speaking engagements, and numerous written comments, the Coast Guard intends to modify the proposed rule. The Coast Guard will develop a supplemental notice of proposed rulemaking (SNPRM) to help it re-evaluate the proposed rule and the cost-benefit analysis, and to incorporate certain recommendations. Public comments are being reviewed and may be instrumental in the development of the new proposal. The SNPRM will include a comment period, similar to the NPRM, allowing mariners and companies within the industry to express their views on the new changes.

Issuing an SNPRM, before an interim rule or final rule, will also create the potential for further public meetings. Notice will be given in the SNPRM, and otherwise in the Federal Register, regarding dates and times of any further public meetings for this rulemaking.

Requests for Comments

With publication of the SNPRM, the Coast Guard will encourage interested persons to participate in this rulemaking by submitting written data, views, or arguments on the new proposals. There is no need or occasion to refile comments already submitted.

Dated: November 26, 1996.

J.C. Card,

Rear Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard, Chief,
Marine Safety and Environmental Protection.
[JR Doc. 96-32026 Filed 12-17-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-14-M

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

48 CFR Parts 1819, 1834, 1845, 1852 and 1870

Revision to the NASA FAR Supplement to Eliminate Non-Statutory Certification Requirements

AGENCY: National Aeronautics and
Space Administration (NASA).

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: The National Aeronautics and
Space Administration is publishing a
notice of proposed rulemaking to amend
the NASA FAR Supplement (NFS) to
eliminate all non-statutory imposed
contractor and offeror certification
requirements.

DATES: Written comments on the
proposed rulemaking must be received on
or before February 18, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Comments (3 copies) should
be addressed to Donald G. Abrams,
Office of Procurement, Contract
Management Division, Code HK, NASA
Headquarters, Washington DC 20546.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Donald G. Abrams, telephone (202) 358-
0512; facsimile (202) 358-3083; or
electronic mail
donald.abrams@hq.nasa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Section 4301(b)(1)(B) of the Federal
Acquisition Reform Act of 1996 (FARA),
Pub. L. 104-106, requires agencies that
have procurement regulations
containing one or more certification
requirements for contractors and
offerors that are not specifically
imposed by statute to issue for public
comment a proposal to amend their
regulations to remove the certification
requirements. Such certification
requirements may be omitted from the
agency proposal if (i) the senior
procurement executive for the executive
agency provides the head of the
executive agency with a written
justification for the requirement and a
determination that there is no less
burdensome means for administering
and enforcing the particular regulation
that contains the certification
requirement; and (ii) the head of the
executive agency approves in writing

the retention of such certification
requirement.

The proposed rule constitutes NASA's
proposal for the elimination of all non-
statutory imposed contractor and offeror
certification requirements from the NFS
pursuant to section 430(b)(1)(B) of
FARA. NASA has not identified any
regulatory certification requirement
contained in the NFS which it has
determined should be proposed for
retention. Consequently, the Agency is
not pursuing approval from the
Administrator of NASA to retain any
certification requirement not
specifically imposed by statute. The
Agency invites public comment on its
proposal to eliminate all regulatory
certification requirements from the NFS
and on its determination that there are
no certification requirements which
should be proposed for retention.

Agency Proposal to Eliminate Non- Statutory Certification Requirements

The following is the Agency's
proposal pertaining to each contractor
and offeror certification requirement
contained in the NFS.

1. 1816.303 Cost Sharing Contracts

This requirement, which dealt with
the certification requested from a
university to the fact that it has "no
commercial, production, educational, or
service activities on which to use the
results of the research and no means of
recovering any cost sharing on such
projects", has been deleted from the
rewrite of the NFS.

2. 1819.7211 Application Process for Mentor Firms to Participate in the Program

This section, which required that "a
proposed mentor must submit the
following information (1) certification
that the mentor firm is currently
performing under at least one active
approved subcontracting plan * * *" will
be rewritten to require simply a
statement to the same effect.

3. 1832.7002 Responsibility

This section has been removed due to
the rewrite of the NFS (effective October
29, 1996, 61 FR 55765-55774).

4. 1832.7004(b) Contractual Implementation (Milestone Billing)

The section has been removed due to
the rewrite of the NFS (effective October
29, 1996, 61 FR 55765-55774).

5. 1834-005-1 Competition (Major Systems Acquisition)

The passing reference under "(4)
Phase D, Development, involves final
detailed design, fabrication,
certification, and delivery of an
operational system that meets program

requirements," will be deleted from the
rewrite to the NFS.

6. 1845.302-73 Determination and Findings (Decision to Provide Government Property)

Whereas the previous section was
worded, "contractor has certified
inability to acquire the facilities", this
will be rewritten to have the contractor
"demonstrate inability to
acquire* * *".

7. 1852.223-70 Safety and Health

Previously, the clause required the
contractor to submit a certification
program for personnel involved in
hazardous operations as required by the
contract schedule or the contracting
officer." This will be rewritten to
require "qualification standards for
personnel* * *". This clause was
published in the Federal Register
October 29, 1996 (61 FR 55753-55764).

8. 1852-247-73 Shipment by Government Bills of Lading

This optional transportation clause for
use in f.o.b. Origin contracts instructs
the contractor to certify on his/her
invoices that the material has been
shipped. It will be rewritten to require
simply a statement that the material has
been shipped.

9. 1870.102-703 VI Proposal Submission Information (Investigation Acquisition System)

Section 2.6, entitled Certification,
previously required that "the proposal
must be signed by an institutional
official authorized to certify
institutional support * * *". It will be
rewritten to be entitled "Signatory" and
require "signed by institutional official
authorized to ensure* * *".

Public Comments

NASA invites interested persons to
participated by submitting data, views,
or arguments with respect to the NFS
amendments set forth in this proposed
rule. Three copies of written comments
should be submitted to the address
indicated in the ADDRESSES section of
this rule. All comments received will be
available for public inspection during
normal work hours. All written
comments received by the date
indicated in the DATES section of this
notice will be carefully assessed and full
considered prior to the effective date of
these amendments as a final rule. Any
information considered to be
confidential must be so identified and
submitted in writing, one copy only.
NASA reserves the right to determine
the confidential status of the
information and to treat it according to