

Proposed Rules

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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 AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

7 CFR Part 301

[Docket 96-016-13]

Karnal Bunt; Clarification

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Proposed rule; clarification.

SUMMARY: We are advising the public that the Department intends to propose revisions to the current Karnal bunt compensation regulations for the 1996-1997 crop year, and that publication in the Federal Register on August 2, 1996, of the current compensation provisions as part of a proposal to amend other aspects of regulations should not be interpreted to mean that the Department has made a decision on compensation.

DATES: The comment closing date for the proposed rule, Docket No. 96-016-10, remains September 3, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Please send an original and three copies of written comments to Docket No. 96-016-10, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Suite 3C03, 4700 River Road, Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737-1238. Please state that your comments refer to Docket No. 96-016-10. Comments received may be inspected at USDA, room 1141, South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC, between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Persons wishing to inspect comments are requested to call ahead on (202) 690-2817 to facilitate entry into the comment reading room.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Stephen Poe, Operations Officer, Domestic and Emergency Operations, PPQ, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 134, Riverdale, MD 20737-1236, (301) 734-8247.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In a series of interim rules published in the Federal Register since March, 1996, we

established a quarantine and regulations concerning Karnal bunt in the United States.

The interim rules were published on March 28, 1996 (61 FR 13649-13655, Docket No. 96-016-3), April 25, 1996 (61 FR 18233-18235, Docket No. 96-016-5), and July 5, 1996 (61 FR 35107-35109, Docket No. 96-016-6 and 61 FR 35102-35107, Docket No. 96-016-7). Public forums were held in Washington, DC, on July 17, 1996, in Kansas City, MO, on August 13, 1996, in Phoenix, AZ, on August 14, 1996, and in Imperial, CA, on August 15, 1996. A notice of a public forum on August 20, 1996, in Las Cruces, NM, was published in the Federal Register on August 13, 1996 (61 FR 41990-41991, Docket No. 96-016-12). On August 2, 1996, we published a proposed rule (61 FR 40354-40361, Docket No. 96-016-10) in which we proposed changes to certain of the Karnal bunt regulations. Written comments on the interim rules and the proposed rule are required to be received by September 3, 1996.

The Department is reviewing the issue of compensation under the proposed regulatory changes we published in the Federal Register on August 2, 1996. In that proposal, the current compensation provisions were republished with the proposed regulatory changes, which should not be interpreted to mean that the Department has made a decision on compensation for the 1996-1997 crop year. Additionally, there are no provisions in the current regulations for compensation for wheat for propagative purposes or straw. Also, the compensation provisions do not reflect the changed market conditions in the quarantined area as a result of Karnal bunt. The Department plans to publish a proposed rule on compensation for the 1996-1997 crop year as soon as possible after a decision is made on the final rule regarding the regulatory system for Karnal bunt. Comments are welcome on what you believe that proposal should contain, and should be directed as indicated under the heading **ADDRESSES**.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 150bb, 150dd, 150ee, 150ff, 161, 162, and 164-167; 7 CFR 2.22, 2.80, and 371.2(c).

Done in Washington, DC, this 14th day of August 1996.

Terry L. Medley,

Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 96-21068 Filed 8-16-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight

12 CFR Part 1270

RIN 2550-AA02

Risk-Based Capital

AGENCY: Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight, HUD.

ACTION: Extension of public comment period for first notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: On June 11, 1996 (61 FR 29592), the Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight (OFHEO) published a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPR) entitled "Risk-Based Capital," which proposes the methodology for identifying the benchmark loss experience. This NPR is a significant step in the process of developing a regulation to establish risk-based capital standards for the Federal National Mortgage Association and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation. OFHEO has been requested to extend the comment period. To ensure that the public has ample opportunity to participate in the rulemaking process by commenting on the issues involved in the NPR, today's notice extends the public comment period from September 9, 1996, through October 24, 1996.

DATES: The comment period is extended until October 24, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to Anne E. Dewey, General Counsel, Office of General Counsel, Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight, 1700 G Street, N.W., Fourth Floor, Washington, D.C. 20552.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David J. Pearl, Director, Office of Research, Analysis and Capital Standards; or Gary L. Norton, Deputy General Counsel, Office of General Counsel, Office of Federal Housing

Enterprise Oversight, 1700 G Street, N.W., Fourth Floor, Washington, D.C. 20552, telephone (202) 414-3800 (not a toll-free number).

Mark A. Kinsey,

Acting Director, Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight.

[FR Doc. 96-21016 Filed 8-16-96; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. 96-NM-140-AD]

RIN 2120-AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Aerospatiale Model ATR72 Series Airplanes

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

SUMMARY: This document proposes the adoption of a new airworthiness directive (AD) that is applicable to certain Aerospatiale Model ATR72 series airplanes. This proposal would require modification of the pitch uncoupling mechanism of both elevators. This proposal is prompted by reports of fatigue cracking of the pitch uncoupling mechanism and the torque tube of the elevator. Failure of the pitch uncoupling mechanism due to fatigue cracking could result in the uncommanded uncoupling of the elevators. The actions specified by the proposed AD are intended to prevent such fatigue cracking and subsequent uncommanded uncoupling of the elevators, which could result in reduced controllability of the airplane.

DATES: Comments must be received by September 27, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments in triplicate to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Transport Airplane Directorate, ANM-103, Attention: Rules Docket No. 96-NM-140-AD, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98055-4056. Comments may be inspected at this location between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

The service information referenced in the proposed rule may be obtained from Aerospatiale, 316 Route de Bayonne, 31060 Toulouse, Cedex 03, France. This information may be examined at the FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Gary Lium, Aerospace Engineer, Standardization Branch, ANM-113, FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98055-4056; telephone (206) 227-1112; fax (206) 227-1149.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Comments Invited

Interested persons are invited to participate in the making of the proposed rule by submitting such written data, views, or arguments as they may desire. Communications shall identify the Rules Docket number and be submitted in triplicate to the address specified above. All communications received on or before the closing date for comments, specified above, will be considered before taking action on the proposed rule. The proposals contained in this notice may be changed in light of the comments received.

Comments are specifically invited on the overall regulatory, economic, environmental, and energy aspects of the proposed rule. All comments submitted will be available, both before and after the closing date for comments, in the Rules Docket for examination by interested persons. A report summarizing each FAA-public contact concerned with the substance of this proposal will be filed in the Rules Docket.

Commenters wishing the FAA to acknowledge receipt of their comments submitted in response to this notice must submit a self-addressed, stamped postcard on which the following statement is made: "Comments to Docket Number 96-NM-140-AD." The postcard will be date stamped and returned to the commenter.

Availability of NPRMs

Any person may obtain a copy of this NPRM by submitting a request to the FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, ANM-103, Attention: Rules Docket No. 96-NM-140-AD, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98055-4056.

Discussion

The Direction Générale de l'Aviation Civile (DGAC), which is the airworthiness authority for France recently notified the FAA that an unsafe condition may exist on certain Aerospatiale Model ATR72 series airplanes. The DGAC advises that it has received reports indicating that fatigue cracks have been found at the junction of the center section of the pitch uncoupling mechanism of the elevators, and the torque tube that connects the operation of both elevators. Such fatigue cracking could cause failure of the

elevator coupling mechanism, and result in the uncommanded uncoupling of the elevators. This condition, if not detected and corrected in a timely manner, could result in reduced controllability of the airplane.

Explanation of Relevant Service Information

Avions de Transport Regional (ATR) has issued Service Bulletin ATR72-27-1044, dated March 5, 1996, which describes procedures for modifying the pitch uncoupling mechanism of the elevators. Among other actions, the modification involves replacing the aluminum flanges of the pitch uncoupling mechanism with steel flanges, and reidentifying the uncoupling mechanism with a new part number after modification. The replacement will prevent fatigue cracking of the pitch uncoupling mechanism and the torque tube of the elevators. The DGAC classified this service bulletin as mandatory and issued French airworthiness directive (CN) 96-019-028(B), dated January 17, 1996, in order to assure the continued airworthiness of these airplanes in France.

FAA's Conclusions

This airplane model is manufactured in France and is type certificated for operation in the United States under the provisions of section 21.29 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR 21.29) and the applicable bilateral airworthiness agreement. Pursuant to this bilateral airworthiness agreement, the DGAC has kept the FAA informed of the situation described above. The FAA has examined the findings of the DGAC, reviewed all available information, and determined that AD action is necessary for products of this type design that are certificated for operation in the United States.

Explanation of Requirements of Proposed Rule

Since an unsafe condition has been identified that is likely to exist or develop on other airplanes of the same type design registered in the United States, the proposed AD would require modification of the elevator uncoupling mechanism. This action would be required to be accomplished in accordance with the service bulletin described previously.

Cost Impact

The FAA estimates that 51 airplanes of U.S. registry would be affected by this proposed AD, that it would take approximately 55 work hours per airplane to accomplish the proposed