

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

Rural Utilities Service

7 CFR Part 1755

Telecommunications Program— Postloan Engineering Service Contract

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Proposed rule; reopening of comment period.

SUMMARY: On December 27, 1995, the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) published a proposed rule to amend its contract for the procurement of postloan engineering services for telecommunications systems. In response to requests from members of the public, RUS is extending the comment period on this regulation.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations must be received by RUS by March 11, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be addressed to Mr. Orren E. Cameron III, Director, Telecommunications Standards Division, Rural Utilities Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, AG Box 1598, 14th and Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-1598. RUS requires a signed original and three copies of all comments (7 CFR 1700.30(e)). Comments will be available for public inspection during regular business hours (7 CFR 1.27(b)).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Orren E. Cameron III, Director, Telecommunications Standards Division, Rural Utilities Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, room 2835-S, at the above address. Telephone: (202) 720-8663.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On December 27, 1995, at 60 FR 66936, the Rural Utilities Service published a proposed rule on 7 CFR Part 1755, Telecommunications Program—Postloan Engineering Service Contract to amend its contract for the procurement of postloan engineering services for telecommunications systems. The proposed rule had a 30-day period for public comments which

ends on January 26, 1996. Because of exceptionally harsh weather and a mid-holiday proposed rule publishing date the public requested more time to prepare responses. To accommodate commenters and improve the quality of the final rule, RUS is extending this public comment period. The new comment period will expire on March 11, 1996.

Dated: February 1, 1996.

Wally Beyer,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 96-2673 Filed 2-7-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-15-P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

10 CFR Part 35

[Docket No. PRM-35-13]

National Registry of Radiation Protection Technologists; Receipt of a Petition for Rulemaking

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Petition for rulemaking; Notice of receipt.

SUMMARY: The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has received and requests public comment on a petition for rulemaking filed by the National Registry of Radiation Protection Technologists (NRRPT). The petition has been docketed by the Commission and assigned Docket No. PRM-35-13. The petitioner requests that the NRC amend its regulations by including acceptance of NRRPT registration as fulfilling some of the training requirements for a radiation safety officer. The petitioner believes that this amendment would support the objectives of the NRRPT and provide a substantial qualified resource to the medical community throughout the United States.

DATES: Submit comments by April 23, 1996. Comments received after this date will be considered if it is practical to do so, but assurance of consideration cannot be given except to those comments received on or before this date.

ADDRESSES: For a copy of the petition, write: Rules Review Section, Rules Review and Directives Branch, Division

of Freedom of Information and Publications Services, Office of Administration, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001.

Submit comments to: Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001. Attention: Docketing and Services Branch.

Deliver comments to 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland, between 7:45 am and 4:15 pm on Federal workdays.

For information on sending comments by electronic format, see "Electronic Access," under the Supplementary Information section of this notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael T. Lesar, Office of Administration, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001. Telephone: 301-415-7163, or Toll Free: 800-368-5642, or e-mail MTL@NRC.GOV.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background Information

The NRC's training and experience requirements to be a Radiation Safety Officer (RSO) at a medical institution licensed by the NRC are described in 10 CFR Part 35, Subpart J—Training and Experience Requirements, § 35.900, Radiation Safety Officer. Specifically, an applicant must meet the requirements in §§ 35.900(a), 35.900(b) or 35.900(c).

The regulations in § 35.900(a) provide a list of acceptable certification boards (e.g., American Board of Health Physics in Comprehensive Health Physics; American Board of Radiology) for an individual to be qualified to work as an RSO at a medical institution licensed by the NRC.

The NRC regulations in § 35.900(b) are the subject of this petition and are as follows:

"Except as provided in § 35.901, the licensee shall require an individual fulfilling the responsibilities of the Radiation Safety Officer as provided in § 35.32 to be an individual who:

* * * * *

"(b) Has had classroom and laboratory training and experience as follows:

"(1) 200 hours of classroom and laboratory training that includes:

"(i) Radiation physics and instrumentation;

"(ii) Radiation protection;

"(iii) Mathematics pertaining to the use and measurement of radioactivity;

"(iv) Radiation biology; and

“(v) Radiopharmaceutical chemistry; and

“(2) One year of full time experience as radiation safety technologist at a medical institution under the supervision of the individual identified as the Radiation Safety Officer on a Commission or Agreement State license that authorizes the medical use of byproduct material; or * * *.”

The NRC regulations in § 35.900(c) permit an authorized user (i.e., a physician, dentist, or podiatrist) identified on the licenses’s license to serve as the RSO.

The Petitioner

The petitioner is the National Registry of Radiation Protection Technologists (NRRPT). NRRPT was incorporated in 1976 as a nonprofit organization and has a current membership of 3255. The petitioner states its objective is to encourage and promote the education and training of radiation protection technologists and, in so doing, promote and advance the science of health physics.

Receipt of Petition for Rulemaking

The NRC received the NRRPT petition for rulemaking on November 24, 1995. The petition is dated November 17, 1995, and was docketed as PRM-35-13 on November 27, 1995.

Petitioner’s Request

The petitioner requests that the NRC amend its regulations in 10 CFR 35.900 specifying training and experience requirements for a radiation safety officer. Specifically, the petitioner requests that the NRC accept NRRPT registration for the current requirement of 200 hours of classroom and laboratory training, as specified in § 35.900(b)(1), and for nine months of the current one year requirement specified in § 35.900(b)(2).

The petitioner states that the NRRPT Certificate of Registration certifies that its holder has met general requirements and passed a multiple choice comprehensive examination to test competence in fundamental concepts required as a Radiation Protection Technologist.

The general requirements an applicant for registration must meet are as follows:

1. The applicant shall have a high school diploma or equivalent.
2. The applicants’ minimum age at the time of application shall be 21 years.
3. An applicant must have a minimum of five (5) years experience in applied radiation protection. Credit, up to a maximum of two (2) years, for formal education, company training

programs and military training programs applicable to the field of radiation protection may be substituted for experience.

4. An applicant must provide two references recommending the applicant for approval to take the NRRPT Registration Examination.

The petitioner states that each successful applicant is also required to pass a broad-based multiple choice examination on radiation protection. The subject categories and the associated knowledge factors used by the petitioner are as follows:

Applied Radiation Protection: Surveys and Inspections; Emergency Preparedness; Evaluating Internal and External Exposures and Controls; Prescribed Dosimetry and Radiation Equipment; Contamination Control; Radioactive Material Control and Transportation; Guides and Regulation; and Procedures and Programs (ALARA);

Detection and Measurement: Analytical Methods; Instrument Calibration and Maintenance; Personnel Dosimetry; and Equipment Operation;

Fundamentals: Sources of Radiation; Biological Effects; Mathematics Chemistry; Physics; and Units and Terminology.

The petitioner states that the examination consists of one-hundred fifty “multiple choice” type questions based on these elements.

Discussion of the Petition

The petitioner states that one of the minimum qualifications for NRRPT registration is 5 years experience as a radiation protection technologist. For some registered members, the requirement of § 35.900(b)(2) either currently or as amended in accordance with this petition, may be included in their historical work experience upon application for registration. For those individuals (who are registered in the NRRPT and have three months experience in a medical institution), the petitioner believes that the requirement of § 35.900(b)(2) would be satisfied and need not be repeated prior to eligibility for Radiation Safety Officer at NRC or Agreement State licensed medical facilities.

The petitioner believes that for individuals completing 200 hours of classroom and laboratory training required under the current requirement of § 35.900(b)(2), the one year full-time work experience as a radiation safety technologist at a medical institution is appropriate and necessary for hands-on operational experience. The petitioner states that the previous work experience and qualifications for some registered members of the NRRPT may be

reviewed and found acceptable for upper level job classifications such as specialist or health physicist positions, depending on the job requirements, job descriptions, and the needs of the employer.

The petitioner believes that language should be included in current § 35.900 to allow for work in upper-level positions to minimize a potential conflict between the specific regulatory requirement for job title and the potential availability of upper-level employment for registered members.

The petitioner acknowledges that acceptance for radiation safety officers at licensed medical facilities is based on NRC’s review of an applicant’s credentials and experience. The petitioner believes that the applicant’s credentials and experience may be mitigated at the time of the NRC’s review. However, the petitioner believes that the current § 35.900 allows that certain opportunities for NRRPT, as well as the job applicant, may be waived due to an overly restrictive job title.

In support of the petition, the petitioner has provided a statement of the general requirements necessary for an individual to apply for registration as a radiation protection technologist, a copy of their bylaws, and a copy of the application package.

The Petitioner’s Proposed Amendment

The petitioner recommends the following amendments to 10 CFR Part 35.

1. In § 35.900, paragraphs (b) and (c) are redesignated as paragraphs (c) and (d), respectively, and a new paragraph (b) is added to read as follows:

§ 35.900 Radiation Safety Officer.

* * * * *

(b) Is registered by the National Registry of Radiation Protection Technologists and has had three months full-time experience as a radiation safety technologist or radiation safety specialist at a medical institution under the supervision of the individual identified as the Radiation Safety Officer on a Commission or Agreement State license that authorizes the use of byproduct material; or

* * * * *

Electronic Access

Comments may be submitted electronically, in either ASCII text or WordPerfect format (version 5.1 or later), by calling the NRC Electronic Bulletin Board (BBS) on FedWorld. The bulletin board may be accessed using a personal computer, a modem, and one of the commonly available communications software packages, or

directly via Internet. Background documents on the petition for rulemaking are also available, as practical, for downloading and viewing on the bulletin board.

If using a personal computer and modem, the NRC rulemaking subsystem on FedWorld can be accessed directly by dialing the toll free number (800) 303-9672. Communication software parameters should be set as follows: parity to none, data bits to 8, and stop bits to 1 (N,8,1). Using ANSI or VT-100 terminal emulation, the NRC rulemaking subsystem can then be accessed by selecting the "Rules Menu" option from the "NRC Main Menu." Users will find the "FedWorld Online User's Guides" particularly helpful. Many NRC subsystems and data bases also have a "Help/Information Center" option that is tailored to the particular subsystem.

The NRC subsystem on FedWorld can also be accessed by a direct dial phone number for the main FedWorld BBS, (703) 321-3339, or by using Telnet via Internet: fedworld.gov. If using (703) 321-3339 to contact FedWorld, the NRC subsystem will be accessed from the main FedWorld menu by selecting the "Regulatory, Government Administration and State Systems," then selecting "Regulatory Information Mall." At that point, a menu will be displayed that has an option "U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission" that will take you to the NRC Online main menu. The NRC Online area also can be accessed directly by typing "/go nrc" at a FedWorld command line. If you access NRC from FedWorld's main menu, you may return to FedWorld by selecting the "Return to FedWorld" option from the NRC Online Main Menu. However, if you access NRC at FedWorld by using NRC's toll-free number, you will have full access to all NRC systems, but you will not have access to the main FedWorld system.

If you contact FedWorld using Telnet, you will see the NRC area and menus, including the Rules Menu. Although you will be able to download documents and leave messages, you will not be able to write comments or upload files (comments). If you contact FedWorld using FTP, all files can be accessed and downloaded but uploads are not allowed; all you will see is a list of files without descriptions (normal Gopher look). An index file listing all files within a subdirectory, with descriptions, is available. There is a 15-minute time limit for FTP access.

Although FedWorld also can be accessed through the World Wide Web, like FTP that mode only provides access

for downloading files and does not display the NRC Rules Menu.

For more information on NRC bulletin boards call Mr. Arthur Davis, Systems Integration and Development Branch, NRC, Washington, DC 20555-0001, telephone (301) 415-5780; e-mail AXD3@nrc.gov.

Single copies of this petition for rulemaking may be obtained by written request or telefax ((301) 415-5144) from: Rules Review and Directives Branch, Division of Freedom of Information and Publications Services, Office of Administration, Mail Stop T6-D59, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington DC 20555-0001. Certain documents related to this petition for rulemaking, including comments received, may be examined at the NRC Public Document Room, 2120 L Street NW. (Lower Level), Washington, DC. These same documents may also be viewed and downloaded electronically via the Electronic Bulletin Board established by NRC for this petition for rulemaking as indicated above.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 2nd day of February 1996.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

John C. Hoyle

Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 96-2699 Filed 2-7-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. 95-CE-89-AD]

Airworthiness Directives; Beech Aircraft Corporation Model 58P and 58PA Airplanes

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

SUMMARY: This document proposes to adopt a new airworthiness directive (AD) that would apply to certain Beech Aircraft Corporation (Beech) Model 58P and 58PA airplanes. The proposed action would require inspecting for cracks and missing rivets in the cabin structure (longeron) adjacent to and aft of the second right hand cabin window, and repairing any cracked structure and installing rivets, if missing. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has received reports of airplanes with cracks in the cabin structure. The airplanes are missing rivets that should have been installed in the cabin structure to secure

the frame, splice, and longeron together. The missing rivets, which could lead to cabin structure cracks, prompted the proposed AD action. The actions specified by the proposed AD are intended to prevent structural damage to the cabin caused by missing rivets, which if not corrected, could cause decompression injuries to passengers, structural damage to the fuselage, and loss of the airplane.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before April 12, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments in triplicate to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Central Region, Office of the Assistant Chief Counsel, Attention: Rules Docket No. 95-CE-89-AD, Room 1558, 601 E. 12th Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64106. Comments may be inspected at this location between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, holidays excepted.

Service information that applies to the proposed AD may be obtained from Beech Aircraft Corporation, P.O. Box 85, Wichita, Kansas 67201-0085. This information also may be examined at the Rules Docket at the address above.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David Ostrodka, Aerospace Engineer, FAA, Wichita Aircraft Certification Office, 1801 Airport Road, Room 100, Mid-Continent Airport, Wichita, Kansas 67209; telephone (316) 946-4129, facsimile (316) 946-4407.

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 should 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 that summarizes 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