

j. Evaluation of properties of solid bulk cargoes.

Members of the public may attend this meeting up to the seating capacity of the room. Interested persons may seek information by writing: Mr. E.P. Pfersich, U.S. Coast Guard (G-MSO-3), 2100 Second Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20593-0001 or by calling (202) 267-1577.

Dated: December 26, 1996.

Russell A. LaMantia,
Chairman, Shipping Coordinating Committee.
[FR Doc. 97-885 Filed 1-14-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4610-07-M

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

Request for Public Comments on the Negotiation of a Bilateral Trade Agreement Between the United States and Laos

AGENCY: Office of the United States
Trade Representative.

ACTION: Notice; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) is providing notice that the United States is in the process of negotiating a bilateral trade agreement with the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Laos). USTR invites comments from the public on concerns or goals of U.S. persons and businesses with respect to trade with Laos, and the extent to which the bilateral trade agreement can address those concerns or help promote those goals. Comments in particular might address current Lao practices that affect (a) market access for U.S. exports, such as tariffs and non-tariff measures, (b) trade and investment in services; and (c) any other measure that impedes trade in goods and services with the United States. Comments received will be considered in developing U.S. positions and objectives in the process of negotiating the bilateral trade agreement.

DATES: Comments should be submitted on or before noon on Monday, February 17, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted to Joseph Damond, Director for South-East Asian Affairs, Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, 600 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20508.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joseph Damond, Director for Southeast Asia, at (202)395-6813, or Thomas Robertson, Associate General Counsel, at (202)395-6800.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The United States is currently in the process

of negotiating a bilateral trade agreement with Laos. One of the central elements of that agreement would be a bilateral commitment to extend non-discriminatory, most-favored-nation treatment to the products of the other country. We expect legislative action to fulfill this obligation on the part of the United States. The agreement may also address a wide range of other issues, including: (1) Suspension or termination for national security reasons; (2) safeguard arrangements; (3) the protection of intellectual property rights; (4) the settlement of commercial differences and disputes; (5) the promotion of trade; (6) consultations; (7) the grant of national treatment to the products of the other country; (8) the grant of trading rights; (9) the elimination of market access barriers (e.g., tariffs, import and export restrictions, quotas, licensing requirements, customs valuation, and fees and charges); (10) the transparency of legal and regulatory regimes; (11) state trading and industrial subsidies; (12) government procurement; (13) trade-related investment measures; (14) trade in services; and (15) investment restrictions.

USTR invites written comments from the public on market access and any other issues to be addressed in the course of the negotiations with Laos on the bilateral trade agreement. All comments will be considered in developing U.S. positions and objectives during these negotiations on each of the issues noted above or otherwise raised by the public. Issues of interest might include, but are not necessarily limited to: (a) Comments on possible tariff reductions and the removal of border measures such as quotas or import licensing requirements; (b) uniform application of the trading system; (c) the provision of national treatment and nondiscriminatory treatment for imports, especially in the area of domestic taxation; (d) transparency in application of trade laws and regulations; (e) right of appeal in cases involving application of trade laws and other laws concerning trade-related issues, such as protection and enforcement of intellectual property rights (IPR) and services; (f) customs processing issues, such as document certification prior to export, fees, customs valuation, and certification requirements; (g) subsidies and domestic supports and incentives; (h) safeguard and unfair trade practice procedures applied to imports; (i) plant, animal, and human health and safety requirements; (j) food standards and other technical barriers to trade; (k)

activities of state trading enterprises, including restrictions and other trade-distorting practices; (l) price controls and policies; (m) government procurement practices; and (n) the trade-related aspects of investment policies and the protection and enforcement of IPRs. Market access issues for services include, but are not limited to, the right of establishment for U.S. services providers, the ability to provide services on a cross-border basis, and the ability of persons to enter temporarily to provide services. Information on products or practices subject to these negotiations should include, whenever appropriate, the relevant import or export tariff classification number used.

Public Comment: Requirements for Submissions

Comments must be in English and provided with fifteen copies. A person requesting that information contained in a comment submitted by that person be treated as privileged or confidential business information must certify that such information is privileged or business confidential and would not customarily be released to the public by the commenting party. Privileged or confidential business information must be clearly marked "BUSINESS CONFIDENTIAL" in a contrasting color ink at the top of each page of each copy. Persons are encouraged to provide a non-confidential summary of the information designated as privileged or business confidential.

A person requesting that information or advice contained in a comment submitted by that person, other than privileged or business confidential information, be treated as confidential in accordance with section 135(g)(2) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2155)

- (1) Must so designate that information or advice;
- (2) Must clearly mark the material as "CONFIDENTIAL" in a contrasting color ink at the top of each page of each copy; and
- (3) Is encouraged to provide a non-confidential summary of the information or advice.

USTR will maintain a file containing the public versions of comments, accessible to the public, in the USTR Reading Room: Room 101, Office of the United States Trade Representative, 600 17th Street, N.W., Washington DC 20508. The public file will include a listing of any comments made to USTR from the public with respect to the proceeding. An appointment to review the public file may be made by calling Brenda Webb, (202) 395-6186. The

USTR Reading Room is open to the public from 10 a.m. to 12 noon and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Robert Cassidy,

Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for Asia and the Pacific.

[FR Doc. 97-1018 Filed 1-14-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3190-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

Advisory Circular (AC) 23-15, Small Airplane Certification Compliance Program

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of issuance of advisory circular.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the issuance of Advisory Circular (AC) 23-15, Small Airplane Certification Compliance Program. The principal certification activity of general aviation airplanes for the past two decades has been directed toward sophisticated products, i.e., pressurized single-engine airplanes, twin-engine turboprop airplanes, and commuters. These programs necessitated the development of advanced means of compliance. Over time, these more sophisticated procedures became the standard and threatened to obscure simpler means of compliance that are essential for economical development of simple low performance airplanes. A team of industry personnel, Designated Engineering Representatives, and Aircraft Certification Office personnel, who were either directly involved or had access to files related to certification of low performance airplanes during the 1950-1970 era, was assembled to document the most appropriate past practices. This AC is the result of the teams' effort.

DATES: Advisory Circular 23-15 was issued on January 2, 1997, by the Manager of the Small Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service, in Kansas City, Missouri.

How to Obtain Copies: A copy of AC 23-15 may be obtained by writing to the U.S. Department of Transportation, Subsequent Distribution Office, Ardmore East Business Center, 3341 Q 75th Avenue, Landover, MD 20785.

Issued in Kansas City, Missouri, on January 2, 1997.

Michael Gallagher,
Manager, Small Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 97-1020 Filed 1-14-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-M

Notice of Intent To Rule on Application To Impose and Use the Revenue From a Passenger Facility Charge (PFC) at Burlington Regional Airport, Burlington, IA

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration, (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of Intent To Rule on Application.

SUMMARY: The FAA proposes to rule and invites public comment on the application to impose and use the revenue from a PFC at Burlington Regional Airport under the provisions of the Aviation Safety and Capacity Expansion Act of 1990 (Title IX of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990) (Pub. L. 101-508) and part 158 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR part 158).

DATES: Comments must be received on or before February 14, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Comments on this application may be mailed or delivered in triplicate to the FAA at the following address: Federal Aviation Administration, Central Region, Airports Division, 601 E. 12th Street, Kansas City, MO 64106.

In addition, one copy of any comments submitted to the FAA must be mailed or delivered to Mr. Michael R. Salamone, Executive Director, at the following address: Burlington Regional Airport, 2515 Summer Street, Burlington, Iowa 52601-3330.

Air carriers and foreign air carriers may submit copies of written comments previously provided to the Southeast Iowa Regional Airport Authority, under § 158.23 of Part 158.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lorna Sandridge, PFC Program Manager, FAA, Central Region, 601 E. 12th Street, Kansas City, MO 64106, (816) 426-4730. The application may be reviewed in person at this same location.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FAA proposes to rule and invites public comment on the application to impose and use the revenue from a PFC at the Burlington Regional Airport under the provisions of the Aviation Safety and Capacity Expansion Act of 1990 (Title IX of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990) (Pub. L. 101-508) and Part 158 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR Part 158).

On February 27, 1996, the FAA determined that the application to impose and use the revenue from a PFC submitted by the City of Burlington, Iowa, was not substantially complete within the requirements of § 158.25 of Part 158. The Southeast Iowa Regional Airport Authority submitted supplemental information on November 4, 1996, to complete the application. The FAA will approve or disapprove the supplemental application, in whole or in part, no later than March 4, 1997.

The following is a brief overview of the application.

Level of the proposed PFC: \$3.00.

Proposed charge effective date: July, 1997.

Proposed charge expiration date: February, 2003.

Total estimated PFC revenue: \$460,000.

Brief description of proposed project(s): Install security fencing; install lighting, signage and reflectors on Runways 18/36 and 12/30; acquire aircraft rapid intervention firefighting vehicle; update the airport master plan; acquire Tracts 601, 602, and 603 in the runway protection zone; replace existing airfield generator; rehabilitate and narrow Runway 12/30; conduct a feasibility study for Runway 12/30 edge drains; acquire snow removal equipment; construct joint-use (airport/city) aircraft rapid intervention firefighting equipment building; conduct new terminal feasibility study; rehabilitate taxiway and hangar taxiway road.

Any person may inspect the application in person at the FAA office listed above under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

In addition, any person may, upon request, inspect the application, notice and other documents germane to the application in person at the Burlington Regional Airport.

Issued in Kansas City, Missouri on December 2, 1996.

George A. Hendon,

Manager, Airports Division, Central Region.

[FR Doc. 97-1019 Filed 1-14-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-M

Federal Highway Administration

Environmental Impact Statement; Sequoyah and LeFlore Counties, OK

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The FHWA is issuing this notice to advise the public that an environmental impact statement will be