

Comments may also be sent electronically to the following internet address: 9-NPRM-CMNTS@faa.dot.gov.

The petition, any comments received, and a copy of any final disposition are filed in the assigned regulatory docket and are available for examination in the Rules Docket (AGC-200), Room 915G, FAA Headquarters Building (FOB 10A), 800 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC, 20591; telephone (202) 267-3132.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Heather Thorson, (202) 267-7470 or Angela Anderson (202) 267-9681 Office of Rulemaking (ARM-1), Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20591.

This notice is published pursuant to paragraphs (c), (e), and (g) of § 11.27 of Part 11 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR part 11).

Issued in Washington, D.C., on November 6, 1997.

Donald P. Byrne,

Assistant Chief Counsel for Regulations.

Petitions for Exemption

Docket No.: 29038.

Petitioner: GE Varig.

Sections of the FAR Affected: 14 CFR 145.47(b).

Description of Relief Sought: To permit the petitioner to substitute the calibration standards of the Instituto Nacional de Metrologia, Normalização e Qualidade Industrial, Brazil's national standards organization, for the calibration standards of the U.S. National Institute of Standards and Technology to test its inspection equipment.

Docket No.: 29039.

Petitioner: Worldwide Aircraft Services, Inc.

Sections of the FAR Affected: 14 CFR 25.807(g)(1), 25.807(i)(1), and 25.857(e).

Description of Relief Sought: To exempt Worldwide Aircraft Services from the requirements of 14 CFR §§ 25.807(g)(1), 25.807(i)(1), and 25.857(e) for the carriage of supernumeraries on Embraer model 120 airplanes with a Class E cargo compartment.

Docket No.: 26734.

Petitioner: Sierra Industries, Inc.

Sections of the FAR Affected: 14 CFR 91.9(a) and 91.531(a)(1) and (2).

Description of Relief Sought: To permit certain qualified pilots of Cessna Model 500 Citation (CE-500) airplanes with Supplemental Type Certificate (STC) No. SA09377SC to operate those airplanes within a pilot who is designated as second in command.

Docket No.: 29027.

Petitioner: National Business Aviation Association, Inc.

Sections of the FAR Affected: 14 CFR 61.57(b).

Description of Relief Sought: To permit NBAA-member companies to meet night takeoff and landing recent flight experience requirements using a Level C or Level D flight simulator, and to accomplish the required takeoffs and landings every 180 days rather than every 90 days.

Docket No.: 27052.

Petitioner: Petroleum Helicopters, Inc.

Sections of the FAR Affected: 14 CFR 135.143(c).

Description of Relief Sought: To permit the petitioner to continue to operate its Bell Model 206L-1 helicopters (Registration Nos. N2761X, N5005B, N50182, and N50046; and Serial Nos. 45283, 45175, 45242, 45173, respectively) without having a TSO-C112 (Mode S) transponder installed on those aircraft.

Docket No.: 29034.

Petitioner: Eagle Jet Charter, Inc.

Sections of the FAR Affected: 14 CFR 93.316(b).

Description of Relief Sought: To permit the petitioner to continue to operate its Fokker F-27 turboprop aircraft after January 31, 1998, under instrument flight rules in the Grand Canyon National Park Special Flight rules Area at cruise altitudes of 15,000 and 16,000 feet mean sea level without those aircraft being listed on its operations specifications as commercial sightseeing aircraft.

Dispositions of Petitions

Docket No.: 012SW.

Petitioner: Frank D. Robinson.

Sections of the FAR Affected: 14 CFR 27.1(a).

Description of Relief Sought/Disposition: To permit certification of hydraulically boosted controls on the Model R44 helicopter without the necessity of considering the jamming of a control valve as a possible single failure. *Grant, October 17, 1997, Exemption No. 6692.*

Docket No.: 23771.

Petitioner: Cessna Aircraft Company.

Sections of the FAR Affected: 14 CFR 91.9(a) and 91.531(a)(1) and (2).

Description of Relief Sought/Disposition: To permit certain qualified pilots of Cessna Citation Model 550, S550, 552, or 560 aircraft to operate those aircraft without a pilot who is designated as second in command. *Grant, October 28, 1997, Exemption No. 4050J.*

[FR Doc. 97-29902 Filed 11-12-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

Flight Standards District Office at Scottsdale, AZ; Certificate Management Office at Phoenix, AZ; Notice of Consolidation

Notice is hereby given that on or about November 10, 1997, the Flight Standards District Office at Scottsdale, Arizona and the Certificate Management Office at Phoenix, Arizona will be consolidated as Arizona Flight Standards District Office. Services to the general public of Arizona will continue to be provided by the new organization at the same physical locations. This information will be reflected in the FAA Organizational Statement the next time it is reissued.

(Sec. 313(a), 72 Stat. 752; 49 U.S.C. 1354.)

Issued in Los Angeles, CA, on October 27, 1997.

Lynore C. Brekke,

Acting Regional Administrator, Western-Pacific Region.

[FR Doc. 97-29903 Filed 11-12-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[Sec. 5a Application No. 61]

National Classification Committee—Agreement

AGENCY: Surface Transportation Board, DOT.

ACTION: Request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Surface Transportation Board is commencing a proceeding to determine whether, under 49 U.S.C. 13703(d) and (e), it is in the public interest to renew the bureau agreement of the National Classification Committee, which administers the National Motor Freight Classification.

DATES: Written notices of intent to participate are due by November 28, 1997. Shortly thereafter, we will serve a preliminary service list and request for written corrections. By December 11, 1997, we will serve any necessary corrections to the service list. Opening comments are due by January 8, 1998. Reply comments are due by February 5, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Send an original and 10 copies of notices of intent to participate and comments, referring to "Section 5a Application No. 61," to: Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20423.

Opening and reply comments must be served on the persons identified as "parties of record" on the service list.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joseph H. Dettmar, (202) 565-1600. [TDD for the hearing impaired: (202) 565-1695.]

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under 49 U.S.C. 13703, we have the authority to immunize approved motor carrier bureau agreements from the antitrust laws. One such bureau, the National Motor Freight Traffic Association, operating through its National Classification Committee (NCC), administers the National Motor Freight Classification (NMFC). The NMFC groups all articles moving by truck into classes based on their transportation characteristics. The NCC operates pursuant to a bureau agreement approved in *National Classification Committee—Agreement*, 299 I.C.C. 519 (1956), and renewed in *National Classification Committee—Agreement*, Section 5a Application No. 61 (ICC served May 18, 1987).¹ Under 49 U.S.C. 13703(d) and (e), all motor carrier bureau agreements will expire on December 31, 1998, unless we approve renewal. Renewal of the collective rate setting bureau agreements of the motor carriers is under investigation in Section 5a Application No. 118 (Amendment No. 1), *et al.*²

By this notice, we are commencing a separate proceeding to explore whether we should renew the NCC's agreement before its statutory expiration. In particular, we question whether the NCC needs antitrust immunity given the fact that its activities, such as grouping freight with common transportation characteristics, publishing bill of lading formats, and gathering information, would not, on the surface, appear to involve antitrust violations. The parties are invited to address, and organize their discussion of, this and other public interest issues by answering the following specific questions:

1. Does the NCC in fact engage in activities that would violate the antitrust laws in the absence of antitrust immunity conferred under 49 U.S.C. 13703?

2. If the NCC engages in activities that would violate the antitrust laws in the absence of antitrust immunity under section 13703, does the public interest require (a) continued exemption of these activities from antitrust law, subject to our regulation, or (b) a regime of marketplace competition subject to antitrust law? Are there "borderline" areas of NCC activity that might be subject to antitrust enforcement in the absence of immunization under 49 U.S.C. 13703, where the public interest warrants continued antitrust immunity for those activities under that section?

3. Should we exclude from any immunity we might confer activities that would *not* violate the antitrust laws in the absence of antitrust immunity, so as to avoid confusing the public about the scope and impact of our regulatory jurisdiction?

4. How do the public interests aspects of the NCC's activities relate to the public interest aspects of the activities of the operating motor carrier rate bureaus, whose renewal is the subject of the proceedings in Section 5a Application No. 118 (Amendment No. 1), *et al.*, *supra*? If we decide not to renew the rate setting immunity of those bureaus, could we, and should we, nonetheless continue immunity for classification?

Decided: November 5, 1997.

By the Board, Chairman Morgan and Vice Chairman Owen.

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-29901 Filed 11-12-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB CONTROL NO. 2900-0546]

Proposed Information Collection Activity; Proposed Collection; Comment Request, Revision

AGENCY: National Cemetery System, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The National Cemetery System (NCS) is announcing an opportunity for public comment on the proposed collection of certain information by the agency. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, Federal agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register**

concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed revision of a currently approved collection, and allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments on requirements relating to the biennial survey of individuals holding gravesite set-asides in national cemeteries to determine if they wish to retain their set-aside, or wish to relinquish it.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before January 12, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments on the collection of information to Rosetta Holloway, National Cemetery System (402D), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0546" in any correspondence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rosetta Holloway at (202) 273-5185.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA of 1995 (Public Law 104-13; 44 U.S.C., 3501-3520), Federal Agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. This request for comment is being made pursuant to Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA.

With respect to the following collection of information, NCS invites comments on: (1) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of NCS's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of NCS's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or the use of other forms of information technology.

Title and Form Number: Adjacent Gravesite Set-Aside Survey (2 Year), VA Form Letter 40-40.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0546.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: In the past, the survey was conducted annually. VA Form Letter 40-40 will be sent biennially (once every two years on a 24 month rotating basis) to individuals holding gravesite set-asides in national cemeteries to ascertain their wish to retain their set-aside, or wish to relinquish it. The collection of information is necessary to assure that gravesite set-asides are not

¹ Traditionally, motor carrier rate bureau proceedings have been identified as "Section 5a" proceedings, in reference to section 5a of the Interstate Commerce Act as it existed prior to its 1978 codification as 49 U.S.C. 10706. In the ICC Termination Act of 1995, the statutory provisions governing motor carrier rate bureau agreements were severed from the rail provisions of section 10706 and recodified as section 13703.

² See the notice published in the **Federal Register** on May 20, 1997, at 62 FR 27653, and the Board's decisions in those consolidated proceedings served on May 20, 1997, and August 15, 1997. In the decision served on August 15, 1997, we denied a petition to expand the consolidated proceedings to consider whether antitrust immunity should be continued for activities under the NCC agreement, but stated that we would in the future address matters relating to antitrust immunity for NCC activities separately.