

(4) Electronically through the Web Site for the Docket Management System at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

The Docket Management Facility maintains the public docket for this notice. Comments and documents, as indicated in this notice, will become part of this docket and will be available for inspection or copying at room PL-401 on the Plaza Level of the Nassif Building at the same address between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. You may electronically access the public docket for this notice on the Internet at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information concerning this notice or public meeting, contact Mr. John Mikesell, Chief, Plans and Programs Section, Aids to Navigation and Waterways Management Branch, Thirteenth Coast Guard District, telephone (206) 220-7272, or Ms. Barbara Marx, Office of Vessel Traffic Management, U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, telephone (202) 267-0574. For questions on viewing, or submitting material to the docket, contact Dorothy Walker, Chief, Documentary Services Division, U.S. Department of Transportation, telephone 202-366-9329.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Request for Comments

The Coast Guard encourages you to participate by submitting comments and related material, and by attending the public meeting. If you submit written comments, please include your name and address, identify the docket number for this notice (USCG-1999-4974), indicate the specific section of the **Federal Register** notice announcing the study to which each comment applies, and give the reason for each comment. You may submit your written comments and material by mail, hand, fax, or electronic means to the Docket Management Facility at the address under **ADDRESSES**; but please do not submit the same comment or material by more than one means. If you submit them by mail or hand, submit them in an unbound format, no larger than 8½ by 11 inches, suitable for copying and electronic filing. If you submit them by mail and would like to know they were received, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed postcard or envelope. We will consider all comments and materials received during the comment period.

Information on Service for Individuals With Disabilities

For information on facilities or services for individuals with disabilities

or to request special assistance at the public meeting, contact Mr. John Mikesell at the address or phone number under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** as soon as possible.

Background and Purpose

The Coast Guard announced the port access routes study in the **Federal Register** on January 20, 1999 (64 FR 3145). The purpose of the study is to evaluate the continued applicability of and the need for modifications to current vessel routing measures in and around the Strait of Juan de Fuca and adjacent waters including Admiralty Inlet, Rosario Strait, Haro Strait, Boundary Pass, and the Strait of Georgia. The goal of the study is to help reduce the risk of marine casualties and increase vessel traffic management efficiency in the study area. Study recommendations may lead to future rulemaking or appropriate international agreements.

Dated: April 8, 1999.

Joseph J. Angelo,

Acting Assistant Commandant for Marine Safety and Environmental Protection.

[FR Doc. 99-9450 Filed 4-14-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-15-M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

Design Approval of Aircraft Data Communications Systems

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration, (DOT).

ACTION: Notice of availability for public comment.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the availability of and requests comments on proposed Advisory Circular (AC) 20-DC, Guidelines for Design Approval of Aircraft Data Communication Systems. The proposed AC provides guidelines for design approval of aircraft data communication systems and applications primarily used for Air Traffic Services (ATS). This AC is issued to provide installation guidelines and to outline a method of compliance with airworthiness standards contained in Title 14, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Chapter 1, Subchapter C.

DATES: Comments submitted must be received on or before May 24, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Send all comments on the proposed advisory circular to: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Aircraft Certification Service, Aircraft Engineering Division, Avionic Systems Branch, AIR-130, 800 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20591. Or

deliver comments to: Federal Aviation Administration, Room 815.800 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20591.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michelle Swearingen, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Aircraft Certification Service, Aircraft Engineering Division, Avionic Systems Branch, AIR-130, 800 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20591, Telephone: (202) 267-3817, FAX: (202) 493-5173.

Comments Invited

Interested persons are invited to comment on the proposed advisory circular listed in this notice by submitting such written data, views, or arguments, as they desire, to the specified address. Comments received on the proposed advisory circular may be examined, before and after the comment closing date, in Room 815, FAA Headquarters Building (FOB-10A), 800 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20591, weekdays except Federal holidays, between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. All communications received on or before the closing date for comments specified above will be considered by the Director of the Aircraft Certification Service before issuing the final AC.

Background

The AC is intended to provide a means of compliance for both safety of flight, and non-safety of flight, data link communications. In addition to discussing the minimum control, display and alerting standards, this AC suggests that the applicant submit a description of the envisioned operational environment and subsequently perform a safety assessment. The resultant safety assessment classifications are then easily mapped into existing hardware and software design methodology for aircraft certification type design approval. A defined operational environment will form the basis for defining the interoperability expectations and allow for assessment of impact to the derived safety and performance assumptions.

The FAA is currently developing operational environment descriptions and safety assessment, interoperability and performance definitions for those services supported by the NAS infrastructure. The guidelines specified in this AC provide a means, but not the only means, of demonstrating compliance to Title 14, CFR, Chapter 1, Subchapter C, for airborne data link equipment installation on any airframe and intended for any data link service.

How To Obtain Copies

A copy of the proposed AC 20-DC may be obtained via Internet (<http://www.faa.gov/avr/air/air100/100home.htm>) or on request from the office listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

Issued in Washington, DC, on April 9, 1999.

Richard E. Jennings,

Acting Manager, Aircraft Engineering Division Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 99-9430 Filed 4-14-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Federal Aviation Administration****Deadline for Submission of Application Under the Airport Improvement Program (AIP) for Fiscal Year 1999 for Sponsor Entitlement and Cargo Funds**

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) announces May 1, 1999, as the deadline for each airport sponsor to have on file with the FAA an acceptable fiscal year 1999 grant application for funds apportioned to it under the AIP.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mr. Stanley Lou, Manager, Programming Branch, Airports Financial Assistance Division, Office of Airport Planning and Programming, APP-520, on (202) 267-8809.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 47105(f) of Title 49, United States Code, provides that the sponsor of each airport to which funds are apportioned shall notify the Secretary by such time and in a form as prescribed by the Secretary, of the sponsor's intent to apply for the funds apportioned to it (entitlements). Notification of the sponsor's intent to apply during fiscal year 1999 for any of its available entitlement funds including those unused from prior years, shall be in the form of a project application submitted to the cognizant FAA Airports office no later than May 1, 1999.

This notice is promulgated to expedite and prioritize grants prior to the May 31, 1999, AIP expiration date as established by Public Law 106-6 (the Interim Federal Aviation Administration Authorization Act). Absent an acceptable application by May 1, FAA will defer an airport's entitlement funds until the next fiscal year. Pursuant to the authority and

limitations in section 47117(g), FAA will issue discretionary grants in an aggregate amount not to exceed the aggregate amount of deferred entitlement funds.

In prior fiscal years, FAA has had sufficient program flexibility to permit sponsors to provide notice later than the deadline date, or to use entitlement funds later in a fiscal year in spite of filing no notice to that effect. In FY 1999, however, FAA must make all discretionary grant awards prior to June 1, 1999, including discretionary grants of entitlement funds that are available to, but will not be used by, the airport sponsors to which they have been apportioned. Airport sponsors that fail to notify FAA by the deadline date that they intend to use all or a portion of their entitlement funds in FY 1999 may have access to these funds in FY 1999 after May 31, only if legislation is enacted prior to October 1, 1999, to authorize the AIP beyond September 30. This includes prior year entitlement funds that remain available to an airport sponsor only through fiscal year 1999. In all other cases, airport sponsors may request unused entitlements after September 30, 1999.

The FAA views the receipt of this notice from the sponsors of primary commercial service airports as particularly important this fiscal year. The ability to use the contract authority associated with unused entitlement funds on a discretionary basis during the current truncated program will allow FAA to obligate additional critically needed AIP funds by May 31. This abbreviated "year-end conversion" will result in more discretionary dollars for airport development. For these reasons, the FAA will rely heavily upon the extent to which responses to the required notice indicate the availability of unused entitlement funds for discretionary use. Inasmuch as the FAA will be able to obligate these funds after May 31 as entitlements only with the enactment of follow-on authorizing legislation, sponsors are advised to give careful consideration to decisions related to the use of entitlement funds during fiscal year 1999.

Issued in Washington, DC on April 4, 1999.

Stan Lou,

Manager, Programming Branch.

[FR Doc. 99-9428 Filed 4-14-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Federal Aviation Administration****Transcript of February 11, 1999, Public Meeting Regarding Draft Interim Safety Guidance for Reusable Launch Vehicles**

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the availability of a transcript from a public meeting held on February 11, 1999, at DOT Headquarters in Washington D.C., regarding draft interim safety guidance for reusable launch vehicles (RLVs). The Associate Administrator for Commercial Space Transportation (AST) developed the draft interim safety guidance for use by an applicant seeking a license to operate an RLV. The FAA held the public meeting for the purpose of gathering information from industry and the public generally concerning the safety objectives presented in the draft interim safety guidance. The transcript is filed under Docket Number 29140, at the FAA Rules Docket, in Room 915G of FAA Headquarters, 800 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20591. The docket is available for inspection between 9:30 am and 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday, excluding Federal holidays. The transcript can also be viewed on the AST Website at <http://ast.faa.gov/>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Brian Campbell (AST-200), Office of the Associate Administrator for Commercial Space Transportation (AST), 800 Independence Avenue SW, Room 331, Washington, DC 20591, telephone (202) 267-8464

Issued in Washington, DC on April 9, 1999.

Joseph A. Hawkins,

Deputy Associate Administrator for Commercial Space Transportation.

[FR Doc. 99-9429 Filed 4-14-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Federal Highway Administration****Environmental Impact Statement: Columbia County, New York**

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 (EIS) will be prepared for a proposed highway