

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

Agricultural Marketing Service

7 CFR Part 1280

[No. LS-99-13]

Sheep and Lamb Promotion, Research, and Information Order

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service; USDA.

ACTION: Invitation to submit proposals.

SUMMARY: Interested parties are invited to submit proposals for a sheep and lamb promotion, research, and information order (order), or parts of an order as provided for by the Commodity Promotion, Research, and Information Act of 1996 (Act). The Act authorizes national industry-funded programs for promotion, research, and information regarding agricultural commodities. Interested parties are also invited to submit views on whether it would be beneficial to hold a public meeting during an ensuing comment period to discuss the proposals.

DATES: Proposals must be received by December 23, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Proposals (two copies) should be mailed to: Ralph L. Tapp, Chief; Marketing Programs Branch, Room 2627-S; Livestock and Seed Program; Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA; STOP 0251; 1400 Independence Avenue, SW.; Washington, DC 20250-0251.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ralph L. Tapp, Chief, Marketing Programs Branch on 202/720-1115.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Act (7 U.S.C. 7401-7425) authorizes the development, financing, and carrying out of an effective, continuous, and coordinated program of generic promotion, research, and information regarding agricultural commodities. Any nationwide sheep and lamb program would be funded by mandatory assessments paid by industry and would be administered by a board, composed

of industry representatives appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture (Secretary).

A order issued by the Secretary, based on public input, would form the basis for a national program designed to benefit the sheep and lamb industry. Since the Act provides that an order may be prepared by the Secretary or submitted by an association of producers or any other person that may be affected by the issuance of the order, notice is hereby given that the Department of Agriculture (Department) will accept written proposals for a sheep and lamb promotion, research, and information order, or for various provisions thereof.

Proposals should include: (1) The proposed order language; (2) a description of the proposed order provisions; (3) an explanation of the nature and purpose of the proposed order provisions; (4) references to the section of the Act that would be implemented by an order provision; and (5) any other pertinent information concerning a proposal that would assist in the process of implementing the Act.

The Act itself provides for authority to tailor a program according to the individual needs of an industry. Provision is made for permissive terms in an order in section 516 of the Act, and other sections provide for alternatives. For example, section 514 of the Act provides for orders applicable to: (1) Producers; (2) first handlers and other persons in the marketing chain, as appropriate; and (3) importers (if imports are subject to assessment). Section 516 authorizes an order to provide for exemption of de minimis quantities of an agricultural commodity; different payment and reporting schedules; coverage of research, promotion, and information activities to expand, improve, or make more efficient the marketing or use of an agricultural commodity in both domestic and foreign markets; provision for reserve funds; provision for credits for generic and branded activities; and assessment of imports. In addition, section 518 of the Act provides for referenda to ascertain approval of an order to be conducted either prior to its going into effect or within 3 years after assessments first begin under the order. An order also may provide for its approval in a referendum to be based upon: (1) A majority of those persons voting; (2) persons voting for approval

who represent a majority of the volume of the agricultural commodity; or (3) a majority of those persons voting for approval who also represent a majority of the volume of the agricultural commodity. Section 515 of the Act provides for establishment of a board from among producers, first handlers, and others in the marketing chain as appropriate and importers, if importers are subject to assessment.

The Department will only publish for public comment in the **Federal Register** proposals that are consistent with and would effectuate the purposes of the Act.

List of Subjects in 7 CFR Part 1280

Administrative practice and procedure, Advertising, Agricultural research, Marketing agreements, Sheep and lamb products, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 7401-7425.

Dated: November 18, 1999.

Barry L. Carpenter,

Deputy Administrator, Livestock and Seed Program.

[FR Doc. 99-30596 Filed 11-19-99; 1:33 pm]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

10 CFR Part 20

[Docket No. PRM-20-21]

Keith J. Schiager, Ph.D.; Withdrawal of Petition for Rulemaking

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Petition for rulemaking; withdrawal.

SUMMARY: The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is withdrawing, at the petitioner's request, a petition for rulemaking (PRM-20-21) (58 FR 47676, September 10, 1993) filed by Keith J. Schiager, Ph.D., on behalf of the University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah. In PRM-20-21, the petitioner requested that the Commission amend its regulations in 10 CFR Part 20 that became mandatory for all licensees on January 1, 1994, to permit additional methods for disposal of certain low-level radioactive wastes. The petitioner stated that the regulations that became

mandatory for all licensees on January 1, 1994, are too restrictive and prevent many research institutions from pursuing certain types of research that cannot be conducted effectively without the use of radioactive materials. In withdrawing his petition, the petitioner stated that he concurred with the staff view expressed in a letter dated October 1, 1999 that the essence of the petition was addressed in part by the proposed changes to 10 CFR Part 35.

ADDRESSES: A copy of the petitioner's letter, dated October 5, 1999, requesting the withdrawal of the petition is available for public inspection at the NRC Public Document Room located at 2120 L Street NW. (Lower Level), Washington, DC 20012-7082, telephone: (202) 634-3273.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: James A. Smith, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, telephone (301) 415-6459, e-mail jas4@nrc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On September 10, 1993 (58 FR 47676), the NRC published in the **Federal Register** a notice of receipt of a petition for rulemaking PRM-20-21 that requested NRC to permit the disposal of certain low-level radioactive wastes containing very low concentrations of short-lived radionuclides. Based upon the petitioner's letter dated October 5, 1999, the NRC is withdrawing this petition for rulemaking. The basis for this withdrawal is that the current NRC rulemaking for 10 CFR Part 35, "Medical Use of Byproduct Material," with respect to the decay in storage disposal requirements in 10 CFR 35.92, will address many of the concerns in the petition. In addition, on a case-by-case basis, based upon an analysis and the determination by NRC staff of the procedures and technologies proposed by the licensee, the incineration of other flammable and bio-hazardous waste contaminated with isotopes other than carbon-14 and tritium may be allowed through license conditions that require the effluent and disposal of the ash to meet the requirements in 10 CFR Part 20.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 17th day of November, 1999.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Annette L. Vietti-Cook,

Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 99-30468 Filed 11-22-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. 99-CE-64-AD]

RIN 2120-AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Pilatus Aircraft Ltd. Models PC-12 and PC-12/45 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 Pilatus Aircraft Ltd. (Pilatus) Models PC-12 and PC-12/45 airplanes. The proposed AD would require replacing the stick pusher capstan and the stick pusher servo with parts of improved design. The proposed AD is the result of mandatory continuing airworthiness information (MCAI) issued by the airworthiness authority for Switzerland. The actions specified by the proposed AD are intended to prevent improper operation of the stick pusher system caused by the existing design configuration, which could result in loss of control of the airplane during a stall.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before December 23, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments in triplicate to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Central Region, Office of the Regional Counsel, Attention: Rules Docket No. 99-CE-64-AD, 901 Locust, Room 506, 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 Pilatus Aircraft Ltd., Customer Liaison Manager, CH-6371 Stans, Switzerland; telephone: +41 41 619 63 19; facsimile: +41 41 610 33 51. This information also may be examined at the Rules Docket at the address above.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Roman T. Gabrys, Aerospace Engineer, FAA, Small Airplane Directorate, 901 Locust, Room 301, Kansas City, Missouri 64106; telephone: (816) 329-4141; facsimile: (816) 329-4090.

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 submitted in response to this notice must submit a self-addressed, stamped postcard on which the following statement is made: "Comments to Docket No. 99-CE-64-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, Central Region, Office of the Regional Counsel, Attention: Rules Docket No. 99-CE-64-AD, 901 Locust, Room 506, Kansas City, Missouri 64106.

Discussion

The Federal Office for Civil Aviation (FOCA), which is the airworthiness authority for Switzerland, recently notified the FAA that an unsafe condition may exist on certain Pilatus Models PC-12 and PC-12/45 airplanes. The FOCA of Switzerland reports high tolerances found in the current stick pusher system design. These tolerances were found during Pilatus's follow-on testing of the Models PC-12 and PC-12/45 airplanes.

The stick pusher system is incorporated to meet certification stall requirements. Higher tolerances can lead to a higher control column force than was provided for during the original design of the aircraft. Higher control forces will not allow the stick pusher system to operate properly in preventing a stall. This condition, if not corrected in a timely manner, could result in loss of control of the airplane during a stall.