

and improve its responsiveness to the questions and concerns of small entities. This regulation establishes a means for small entities to contact the NRC to receive the type of informal compliance assistance contemplated by SBREFA.

Administrative Procedure Act Waiver

Generally, the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) requires agencies to publish a notice of proposed rulemaking and provide opportunity for public comment before issuing a rule. 5 U.S.C. 553. However, these requirements do not apply when the agency finds that they are amendments dealing with agency practice and procedure. 5 U.S.C. 553 (b)(3)(A). The Commission finds for good cause that notice of proposed rulemaking and public participation are unnecessary because the rule is a matter of agency practice; e.g., the establishment of a telephone number to facilitate interaction with the small entities licensed by the Commission.

The rule shall be effective on May 13, 1997. The APA requires that a substantive rule be published at least 30 days before its effective date, unless the agency finds for good cause that such delay is not needed. 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3). The Commission finds good cause for the rule issued below to become effective immediately because the amendments are of an administrative nature concerning a matter of agency conduct, the establishment of a telephone number to facilitate interaction with the small entities licensed by the Commission.

Environmental Impact: Categorical Exclusion

The NRC has determined that this final rule is the type of action described in categorical exclusion 10 CFR 51.22(c)(1). Therefore neither an environmental impact statement nor an environmental assessment has been prepared for this final rule.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement

This final rule contains no information collection requirements and, therefore, is not subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*).

List of Subjects in 10 CFR Part 2

Administrative practice and procedure, Antitrust, Byproduct material, Classified information, Environmental protection, Nuclear Materials, Nuclear power plants and reactors, Penalties, Sex discrimination, Source material, Special nuclear material, Waste treatment and disposal.

For the reasons set out in the preamble and under the authority of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended; the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974, as amended; the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act; and 5 U.S.C. 552 and 553, the NRC is adopting the following amendment to 10 CFR Part 2.

PART 2—RULES OF PRACTICE FOR DOMESTIC LICENSING PROCEEDINGS AND ISSUANCE OF ORDERS

1. The authority citation for Part 2 continues to read as follows:

Authority: Secs. 161, 181, 68 Stat. 948, 953, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2201, 2231); sec. 191, as amended, Pub. L. 87-615, 76 Stat. 409 (42 U.S.C. 2241); sec. 201, 88 Stat. 1242, as amended (42 U.S.C. 5841); 5 U.S.C. 552.

Section 2.101 also issued under secs. 53, 62, 63, 81, 103, 104, 105, 68 Stat. 930, 932, 933, 935, 936, 937, 938, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2073, 2092, 2093, 2111, 2133, 2134, 2135); sec. 114(f), Pub. L. 97-425, 96 Stat. 2213, as amended (42 U.S.C. 10134(f)); sec. 102, Pub. L. 91-190, 83 Stat. 853, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4332); sec. 301, 88 Stat. 1248 (42 U.S.C. 5871). Sections 2.102, 2.103, 2.104, 2.105, 2.721 also issued under secs. 102, 103, 104, 105, 183, 189, 68 Stat. 936, 937, 938, 954, 955, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2233, 2239). Section 2.105 also issued under Pub. L. 97-415, 96 Stat. 2073 (42 U.S.C. 2239). Sections 2.200-2.206 also issued under secs. 161b, i, o, 182, 186, 234, 68 Stat. 948-951, 955, 83 Stat. 444, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2201 (b), (i), (o), 2236, 2282); sec. 206, 88 Stat. 1246 (42 U.S.C. 5846). Sections 2.600-2.606 also issued under sec. 102, Pub. L. 91-190, 83 Stat. 853, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4332). Sections 2.700a, 2.719 also issued under 5 U.S.C. 554. Sections 2.754, 2.760, 2.770, 2.780 also issued under 5 U.S.C. 557. Section 2.764 and Table 1A of Appendix C also issued under secs. 135, 141, Pub. L. 97-425, 96 Stat. 2232, 2241 (42 U.S.C. 10155, 10161). Section 2.790 also issued under sec. 103, 68 Stat. 936, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2133) and 5 U.S.C. 552. Sections 2.800 and 2.808 also issued under 5 U.S.C. 553. Section 2.809 also issued under 5 U.S.C. 553 and sec. 29, Pub. L. 85-256, 71 Stat. 579, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2039). Subpart K also issued under sec. 189, 68 Stat. 955 (42 U.S.C. 2239); sec. 134, Pub. L. 97-425, 96 Stat. 2230 (42 U.S.C. 10154). Subpart L also issued under sec. 189, 68 Stat. 955 (42 U.S.C. 2239). Appendix A also issued under sec. 6, Pub. L. 91-560, 84 Stat. 1473 (42 U.S.C. 2135). Appendix B also issued under sec. 10, Pub. L. 99-240, 99 Stat. 1842 (42 U.S.C. 2021b *et seq.*).

2. In § 2.810, paragraph (f) is added to read as follows:

§ 2.810 NRC size standards.

* * * * *

(f) Whenever appropriate in the interest of administering statutes and regulations within its jurisdiction, it is the practice of the NRC to answer inquiries from small entities concerning

information on and advice about compliance with the statutes and regulations that affect them. To help small entities obtain information quickly, the NRC has established a toll-free telephone number at 1-800-368-5642.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 2nd day of May, 1997.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

L. Joseph Callan,

Executive Director for Operations.

[FR Doc. 97-12468 Filed 5-12-97; 8:45 am]

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FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

12 CFR Part 229

[Reg. CC; Docket No. R-0970]

Availability of Funds and Collection of Checks

AGENCY: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

ACTION: Final rule; technical amendment.

SUMMARY: The Board is publishing technical amendments to Appendix A of Regulation CC. The amendments will conform Appendix A to a realignment in Federal Reserve check-processing regions by adding the First District routing numbers formerly assigned to the Lewiston check-processing region to the Boston Head Office.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 27, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stephanie Martin, Senior Attorney (202/452-3198), or Heatherun Allison, Attorney (202/452-3565), Legal Division. For the hearing impaired *only:* Telecommunications Device for the Deaf, Diane Jenkins (202/452-3544).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Board's Regulation CC (12 CFR part 229) implements the Expedited Funds Availability Act (12 U.S.C. 4001 *et seq.*) (the Act) and requires banks,¹ *inter alia*, to make funds deposited into transaction accounts available for withdrawal within specified time frames. The Act and regulation allow banks to place longer holds on nonlocal checks than on local checks. A nonlocal check is one for which the paying bank² is located in a different check-processing region than the depository bank. Regulation CC defines "check-

¹ The term *bank* refers to any depository institution, including commercial banks, savings institutions, and credit unions.

² The *paying bank* is the bank by, at, or through which a check is payable. The *depository bank* is the first bank to which a check is transferred.

processing region" as "the geographical area served by an office of a Federal Reserve Bank for purposes of its check-processing activities."³ Appendix A of Regulation CC lists the Federal Reserve check-processing offices and the 4-digit routing number prefixes that are local to each office.

Effective October 27, 1997, the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston will discontinue processing checks at its Lewiston, Maine, regional check-processing center and incorporate the Lewiston check-processing region into its Head Office check-processing region. This consolidation results from the determination by the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston that it can process the majority of checks handled by the Lewiston check-processing region more efficiently and cost-effectively through its Head Office. Accordingly, the Board has revised the routing number list in Appendix A to reflect the Lewiston-Head Office consolidation, effective October 27, 1997.

Although the substance of Regulation CC will be unaffected by the amendments to Appendix A, the consolidation of check-processing regions may require some banks to adjust their internal procedures for assigning funds availability. For example, checks deposited in the former Lewiston region will now be considered local checks in the Head Office region (and vice versa). Banks that now distinguish between the Lewiston and Head Office regions in assigning availability will need to realign their internal operating systems to reflect the consolidation. These banks also will need to reflect any availability policy changes in their disclosures, as the availability for certain checks may be improved. Section 229.18(e) of Regulation CC provides that, in the case of an availability policy change that expedites the availability of funds, a bank shall send a notice of the change to holders of consumer accounts not later than 30 days after implementation.

The amendments adopted by the Board are technical amendments that reflect the realignment of Federal Reserve check-processing regions and are required by the statutory and regulatory definitions of "check-processing region." Accordingly, 5 U.S.C. 553(b), requiring public comment, does not apply.

Final Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

The amendment will apply to all banks, regardless of size. There is no possible alternative rule for small banks,

as "check-processing region" is defined by the Expedited Funds Availability Act, which applies to all banks. The amendment will affect only those banks in the First District in the current Lewiston and Head Office check-processing regions that distinguish between checks drawn on paying banks located in those two regions for purposes of assigning availability. The Board expects that the majority of small institutions located in those two regions will be unaffected by the amendment.

List of Subjects in 12 CFR Part 229

Banks, banking, Federal Reserve System, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

For the reasons set out in the preamble, 12 CFR part 229 is amended as follows:

1. The authority citation for part 229 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 12 U.S.C. 4001 *et seq.*

Appendix A to Part 229 [Amended]

2. In Appendix A to part 229, under the heading "FIRST FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT," the numbers appearing directly under the subheading "Lewiston Office" are transferred in numerical order under the subheading "Head Office", and the subheading "Lewiston Office" is removed.

By order of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, May 7, 1997.

William W. Wiles,

Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 97-12442 Filed 5-12-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. 95-CE-100-AD; Amendment 39-10022; AD 97-10-10]

RIN 2120-AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Aerospace Technologies of Australia, Nomad N22 and N24 Series Airplanes

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This amendment supersedes Airworthiness Directive AD 85-21-06 which applies to all Aerospace Technologies of Australia (ASTA) Nomad N22 and N24 series airplanes and currently requires replacing the attachment fittings of the upper fin rear spar and the fin/horizontal stabilizer. This action

requires removing the upper fin to stub fin forward attachment bolts, inspecting the attachment fittings for cracks, and, if no cracks are found, replacing the attachment bolts with bolts of improved design until the life limit of the attachment fittings is reached, at which time the attachment fittings would be replaced with improved attachment fittings. If cracks are found, this AD requires replacing the attachment bolts and attachment fittings. Cracks found in the underhead radius and at the base of the thread of the bolt prompted this action. The actions specified by this AD are intended to prevent cracking in the upper fin and horizontal stabilizer attachment fittings, which if not corrected, could result in loss of control of the airplane.

DATES: Effective July 3, 1997.

The incorporation by reference of certain publications listed in the regulations is approved by the Director of the Federal Register as of July 3, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Service information that applies to this AD may be obtained from AeroSpace Technologies of Australia, Limited, ASTA DEFENCE, Private Bag No. 4, Beach Road Lara 3212, Victoria, Australia. This information may also be examined at the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Central Region, Office of the Assistant Chief Counsel, Attention: Rules Docket 95-CE-100-AD, Room 1558, 601 E. 12th Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64106; or at the Office of the Federal Register, 800 North Capitol Street, NW., suite 700, Washington, DC. **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Ron Atmur, Aerospace Engineer, Los Angeles Aircraft Certification Office, FAA, 3960 Paramount Blvd., Lakewood, California, 90712; telephone (562) 627-5224; facsimile (562) 627-5210.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Events Leading to the Issuance of This AD

A proposal to amend part 39 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR part 39) to include an AD that would apply to ASTA Nomad N22 and N24 series airplanes was published in the **Federal Register** on December 5, 1996 (61 FR 64489). The action proposed to require removing the attachment bolt, part number (P/N) 2/N-00-43, and inspecting the attachment fitting for cracks using a dye penetrant method. If no cracks are found, the AD would require replacing the bolt with a new bolt, P/N 3/N-00-43, and replacing the attachment fittings (P/N 1/N-12-48, left, and 1/N-12-49, right) with attachment fittings of improved design (P/N 1/N-12-375, left, and 1/N-12-376, right). If

³ 12 CFR 229.2(m). The Act's definition is substantially similar (12 U.S.C. 4001(9)).