

method for operations to comply with the Organic Foods Production Act (OFPA) and the USDA organic regulations that can reduce the burden of developing their own methods and simplify audits and inspections. Alternative approaches that can demonstrate compliance with the OFPA, as amended (7 U.S.C. 6501–6522), and its implementing regulations are also acceptable. As with any alternative compliance approach, the NOP strongly encourages industry to discuss alternative approaches with the NOP before implementing them to avoid unnecessary or wasteful expenditures of resources, and to ensure the proposed alternative approach complies with the OFPA and its implementing regulations.

Electronic Access

Persons with access to Internet may obtain the final guidance at the NOP's Web site at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/nop>. Request for hard copies of the final guidance document can be obtained by submitting a written request to the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this Notice.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 6501–6522.

Dated: January 15, 2014.

Rex A. Barnes,

Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 2014–01071 Filed 1–17–14; 8:45 am]

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FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

11 CFR Part 111

[Notice 2014–01]

Extension of Administrative Fines Program

AGENCY: Federal Election Commission.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: Under the Federal Election Commission's Administrative Fines Program ("AFP"), the Commission may assess civil monetary penalties for certain violations of the reporting requirements of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("FECA"). Congress recently amended FECA to extend the end date of the statutory authorization for the AFP to December 31, 2018. Accordingly, the Commission is extending its AFP regulations through the new statutory expiration date. The Commission is also deleting one administrative provision from its AFP regulations. Further information is provided in the

Supplementary Information that follows.

DATES: *Effective Date:* January 21, 2014.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Robert M. Knop, Assistant General Counsel, 999 E Street NW., Washington, DC 20463, (202) 694–1650 or (800) 424–9530.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under 2 U.S.C. 437g(a)(4)(C), the Commission is authorized to assess civil monetary penalties for certain violations of FECA's reporting requirements. Congress initially enacted this authorization in 2000 with a sunset date of December 31, 2001.¹ Congress has since extended the AFP's statutory authorization several times.² Most recently, Congress extended the statute to encompass violations relating to reporting periods that end on or before December 31, 2018. Act of Dec. 26, 2013, Public Law 113–72, sec. 1.³

The Commission's regulations implementing the AFP can be found at 11 CFR 111.30–111.46. Section 111.30 specifies the end date of the program; each time Congress has extended the statute that authorizes the AFP, the Commission has revised the end date in section 111.30 accordingly.⁴ To implement Congress's most recent extension of the AFP's authorization — and to obviate the need to revise section 111.30 each time Congress extends the statute—this final rule revises section 111.30 to provide that the AFP applies to reporting periods that “end on or before the date specified in 2 U.S.C. 437g(a)(4)(C)(v).”

The Commission's current AFP regulations apply “to reporting periods

¹ Treasury and General Government Appropriations Act, 2000, Public Law 106–58, sec. 640, 113 Stat. 430, 476–77 (1999).

² Act of Oct. 16, 2008, Public Law 110–433, sec. 1(a), 122 Stat. 4971 (extending authorization through Dec. 31, 2013); Transportation, Treasury, Housing and Urban Development, The Judiciary, The District of Columbia, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006, Public Law 109–115, sec. 721, 119 Stat. 2396, 2493–94 (2005) (extending through Dec. 31, 2008); Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2004, Public Law 108–199, sec. 639, 118 Stat. 3, 359 (extending through Dec. 31, 2005); Treasury and General Government Appropriations Act, 2002, Public Law 107–67, sec. 642, 115 Stat. 514, 555 (2001) (extending through Dec. 31, 2003).

³ In addition to extending the end date of the AFP statute, the 2013 act also authorized the Commission to expand the scope of the AFP to encompass additional categories of reporting violations. The Commission intends to address that expansion of the AFP through a separate rulemaking.

⁴ Extension of Administrative Fines Program, 73 FR 72687 (Dec. 1, 2008); Extension of Administrative Fines Program, 70 FR 75717 (Dec. 21, 2005); Extension of Administrative Fines Program, 69 FR 6525 (Feb. 11, 2004); Extension to Administrative Fines, 66 FR 59680 (Nov. 30, 2001).

that . . . end on or before December 31, 2013.” 11 CFR 111.30. Because the statutory extension was not enacted until late December 2013, there is a short gap between the end date of the Commission's current regulations and the effective date of this final rule on January 21, 2014. Reports covering reporting periods that end during this gap are not subject to the AFP; they are instead subject to the Commission's enforcement procedures set forth at 11 CFR part 111, subpart A.⁵ See 11 CFR 111.31(a).

This final rule also deletes 11 CFR 111.41, which requires administrative fines to be paid by check or money order. Deleting this requirement will enable the Commission to provide filers with additional and convenient ways to pay administrative fines, such as by credit card.

The Commission is promulgating this final rule without advance notice or an opportunity for comment because it falls under the “good cause” exemption of the Administrative Procedure Act. See 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B). That exemption allows agencies to dispense with notice and comment when “impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest.” *Id.* The Commission finds that notice and comment are unnecessary here because this final rule merely extends the applicability of the existing AFP and deletes one administrative provision; the final rule makes no substantive changes to the AFP. See Extension of Administrative Fines Program, 73 FR 72687 (Dec. 1, 2008) (extending AFP's effective date and making one non-substantive change without notice and comment, and observing that all substantive AFP regulations were subject to notice and comment in 2000, 2002, and 2006). In addition, this final rule falls within the “good cause” exception to the delayed effective date provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act and the Congressional Review Act. 5 U.S.C. 553(d), 808(2). Accordingly, this final rule is effective upon publication in the **Federal Register**. The Commission is not required to submit this rule for congressional review. See 2 U.S.C. 438(d)(1), (4).

Certification of No Effect Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 605(b) (Regulatory Flexibility Act)

The provisions of the Regulatory Flexibility Act are not applicable to this

⁵ These reports are: (1) Post-general reports in relation to the December 17, 2013, special general election in Alabama's 1st congressional district; and (2) 48-hour contribution notices in relation to the January 14, 2014, special primary election in Florida's 13th congressional district.

final rule because the Commission was not required to publish a notice of proposed rulemaking or to seek public comment under 5 U.S.C. 553 or any other laws. 5 U.S.C. 603(a), 604(a). Therefore, no regulatory flexibility analysis is required.

List of Subjects in 11 CFR Part 111

Administrative practice and procedure, Elections, Law enforcement, Penalties.

For the reasons set out in the preamble, the Federal Election Commission amends Subchapter A of Chapter I of Title 11 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* as follows:

PART 111—COMPLIANCE PROCEDURE (2 U.S.C. 437g, 437d(a))

- 1. The authority citation for part 111 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 2 U.S.C. 432(i), 437g, 437d(a), 438(a)(8); 28 U.S.C. 2461 nt; 31 U.S.C. 3701, 3711, 3716–3719, and 3720A, as amended; 31 CFR parts 285 and 900–904.

- 2. Revise § 111.30 to read as follows:

§ 111.30 When will subpart B apply?

Subpart B applies to violations of the reporting requirements of 2 U.S.C. 434(a) committed by political committees and their treasurers that relate to the reporting periods that begin on or after July 14, 2000, and that end on or before the date specified by 2 U.S.C. 437g(a)(4)(C)(v). This subpart, however, does not apply to reports that relate to reporting periods that end between January 1, 2014, and January 21, 2014.

§ 111.41 [Removed and Reserved]

- 3. Remove and reserve § 111.41.

Dated: January 13, 2014.

On behalf of the Commission.

Lee E. Goodman,

Chairman, Federal Election Commission.

[FR Doc. 2014–00960 Filed 1–17–14; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA–2013–0636; Directorate Identifier 2012–SW–065–AD; Amendment 39–17709; AD 2013–25–13]

RIN 2120–AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation (Sikorsky) Helicopters

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: We are adopting a new airworthiness directive (AD) for Sikorsky Model S–70, S–70A, and S–70C helicopters. This AD establishes a new life limit based on a prorated formula for certain identified components (parts) installed on Model S–70, S–70A, and S–70C helicopters after being previously installed on certain military model helicopters. This AD was prompted by the discovery that certain parts have been interchanged between military helicopter models with different life limits and the possibility that these same parts can be interchanged with civilian models with different life limits. The actions are intended to establish a pro-rated in service life limit for each identified part to prevent fatigue failure of a part and subsequent loss of control of the helicopter.

DATES: This AD is effective February 25, 2014.

The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of a certain document listed in this AD as of February 25, 2014.

ADDRESSES: For service information identified in this AD, contact Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation, Customer Service Engineering, 124 Quarry Road, Trumbull, CT 06611; telephone 1–800–Winged–S or 203–416–4299; email sikorskywcs@sikorsky.com. You may review a copy of the referenced service information at the FAA, Office of the Regional Counsel, Southwest Region, 2601 Meacham Blvd., Room 663, Fort Worth, Texas 76137.

Examining the AD Docket

You may examine the AD docket on the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov> or in person at the Docket Operations Office between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The AD docket contains this AD, the economic evaluation, any comments received, and

other information. The street address for the Docket Operations Office (phone: 800–647–5527) is U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations Office, M–30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Michael Davison, Flight Test Engineer, Boston Aircraft Certification Office, Engine & Propeller Directorate, 12 New England Executive Park, Burlington, Massachusetts 01803; telephone (781) 238–7156; email michael.davison@faa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Discussion

On July 23, 2013, at 78 FR 44045, the **Federal Register** published our notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM), which proposed to amend 14 CFR part 39 by adding an AD that would apply to Sikorsky Model S–70, S–70A, and S–70C helicopters. The NPRM proposed inserting the component life prorating formula into the airworthiness limitation section of the maintenance manual or instructions for continued airworthiness, calculating the new life limit for each part by applying the formula, and establishing life limits for certain parts without applying the formula. Furthermore, the NPRM proposed updating the component log or equivalent record with the new in-service life limit and replacing each part that has reached or exceeded its new life limit with an airworthy part. Lastly, the NPRM proposed prohibiting installation of any applicable part on a Model S–70, S–70A, or S–70C helicopter if the number of hours is unknown or if certain parts have been previously installed on a Model UH–60M helicopter. The NPRM was prompted by the discovery that certain parts with identical part numbers but different life limits have been interchanged between military helicopter models and the possibility that these same parts can be interchanged with civilian models with different life limits.

The proposed requirements were intended to establish a pro-rated in service life limit for each identified part to prevent fatigue failure of a part and subsequent loss of control of the helicopter.

Comments

We gave the public the opportunity to participate in developing this AD, but we did not receive any comments on the NPRM (78 FR 44045, July 23, 2013).

FAA's Determination

We have reviewed the relevant information and determined that an