

# 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.

## GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE

### 4 CFR Part 81

#### Public Availability of Government Accountability Office Records

**AGENCY:** Government Accountability Office.

**ACTION:** Proposed rule.

**SUMMARY:** These proposed revisions would clarify procedures to obtain Government Accountability Office (GAO) records. Specifically, the proposed revisions would add procedures for requesting records of GAO's Office of Inspector General. The proposed revisions would also clarify that documents prepared by GAO or GAO's Office of Inspector General for referral to another agency for law enforcement purposes are not subject to the regulations in this Part. The existing regulatory language on this point is imprecise.

**DATES:** Comments must be received on or before September 25, 2017.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

*Email:* [bielecj@gao.gov](mailto:bielecj@gao.gov).

*Mail:* Government Accountability Office, Office of the General Counsel, Attn: Legal Services, Room 7838, 441 G Street NW., Washington, DC 20548.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** John A. Bielec, Assistant General Counsel, 202-512-2846.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** GAO is not subject to the Administrative Procedure Act and accordingly is not required by law to seek comments before issuing a final rule. However, GAO has decided to invite interested persons to participate in this rulemaking by submitting written comments regarding the proposed revisions. Application of the Administrative Procedure Act to GAO is not to be inferred from this invitation for comments.

GAO will consider all comments received on or before the closing date for comments. GAO may change the proposed revisions based on the comments received.

GAO proposes to amend section 81.2 by specifically providing that GAO's Office of Inspector General (OIG) will process any requests under this Part for OIG records. The OIG, which was established by statute in 2008, audits and investigates matters related to GAO's operations. The OIG executes its responsibilities independently of and free from interference or control by any other office or body within GAO. In keeping with and to best preserve this independence, the OIG itself should process requests for its records. In doing so, consistent with its independent role and section 81.5(a), when the OIG receives a request for records that originated in GAO, the OIG will refer the requester to GAO. These revisions would provide that with respect to any request for OIG records, throughout this Part the term "Counsel to the Inspector General" would be substituted for "Chief Quality Officer" and the term "Inspector General" would be substituted for "Comptroller General".

In addition, paragraph 81.6(g) would be amended to clarify that documents prepared by GAO for referral to another agency for law enforcement purposes are exempt from the procedures in this Part. Paragraph 81.6(g) currently provides that records that GAO has already provided to another agency for law enforcement purposes are exempt. However, paragraph 81.6(g) does not specifically address requests for records that GAO, including the OIG, created for referral to another agency for law enforcement purposes, but has not yet provided to another agency. For instance, during an investigation into possible criminal activity, the GAO OIG creates documents that may be forwarded to another agency for law enforcement purposes at the conclusion of the OIG's investigation. The current regulations are unclear as to whether such records, which have not yet been forwarded to another agency, would be subject to this Part if requested before the conclusion of the investigation. The proposed changes would clarify that records compiled for referral to another agency for law enforcement purposes are exempt from this Part.

### List of Subjects in 4 CFR Part 81

Administrative practice and procedure, Archives and records, Freedom of information, Requests for records.

For the reasons stated in the preamble, the Government Accountability Office proposes to amend 4 CFR part 81 as follows:

### PART 81—PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE RECORDS

■ 1. The authority citation for part 81 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 31 U.S.C. 711.

■ 2. Amend § 81.2 as follows:

■ a. redesignate the existing text as paragraph (a);

■ b. add paragraph (b) to read as follows:

#### § 81.2 Administration.

\* \* \* \* \*

(b) Requests for records of GAO's Office of Inspector General (OIG) shall be processed by the Counsel to the Inspector General in accordance with this Part. The Inspector General will decide any administrative appeals of decisions of the Counsel to the Inspector General concerning such requests. Accordingly, with regard to any public request to inspect or copy records of the OIG, in this Part the term "Counsel to the Inspector General" is to be substituted for "Chief Quality Officer" and the term "Inspector General" is to be substituted for "Comptroller General". All requests to inspect or obtain a copy of an identifiable record of the OIG must be submitted in writing to the Counsel to the Inspector General, U.S. Government Accountability Office, Suite 1808, 441 G Street NW., Washington, DC 20548 or emailed to [oighotline@gao.gov](mailto:oighotline@gao.gov).

■ 3. Amend § 81.6 by revising paragraph (g) to read as follows:

#### § 81.6 Records which may be exempt from disclosure.

\* \* \* \* \*

(g) Records compiled for law enforcement purposes that originate in another agency, or records prepared for referral to and/or provided by GAO or the OIG to another agency for law enforcement purposes.

\* \* \* \* \*

Dated July 27, 2017.

**Susan A. Poling,**  
General Counsel.

[FR Doc. 2017-16986 Filed 8-10-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 1610-02-P

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

#### 9 CFR Part 94

[Docket No. APHIS-2013-0061]

RIN 0579-AD96

#### Restrictions on the Importation of Fresh Pork and Pork Products From a Region in Mexico

**AGENCY:** Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Proposed rule; withdrawal.

**SUMMARY:** We are withdrawing a proposed rule that would have defined a low-risk classical swine fever region in Mexico from which we would have allowed the importation of fresh pork and pork products into the United States under certain conditions. We are taking this action after reopening our risk evaluation of the classical swine fever status of Mexico using updated information.

**DATES:** As of August 11, 2017, the proposed rule published on July 29, 2014, at 79 FR 43974, is withdrawn.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Chip Wells, Senior Staff Veterinarian, Regionalization Evaluation Services, National Import Export Services, VS, APHIS, USDA, 4700 River Road Unit 38, Riverdale, MD 20737-1231; *Chip.J.Wells@aphis.usda.gov*; (301) 851-3317.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On July 29, 2014, we published in the **Federal Register** (79 FR 43974-43980, Docket No. APHIS-2013-0061) a proposal<sup>1</sup> to amend the regulations by recognizing a new Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)-defined low-risk classical swine fever (CSF) region that would consist of all Mexican States except the nine States we currently recognize as CSF-free and the State of Chiapas, which we did not propose to recognize as CSF-free or low risk. We proposed to allow imports of pork and pork products from the APHIS-defined Mexican CSF region into the United States under certain

conditions. The proposed requirements were intended to ensure that the pork and pork products were derived from swine housed on farms that met strict biosanitary standards and were not subject to contamination by means of commingling with animals or animal products that did not meet our requirements.

We solicited comments concerning our proposal for 60 days ending September 29, 2014. We received 10 comments by that date. They were from producers' associations, the Government of Mexico, and individuals. The commenters addressed a number of issues, including the possible CSF risk posed by allowing such imports, our plans for implementing and enforcing the provisions of the proposed rule, and whether our requirements for imports from the proposed CSF low-risk region in Mexico were equivalent to those in place for the existing CSF low-risk region in the European Union.

In 2015, the World Organization for Animal Health recognized Mexico as CSF-free. The Government of Mexico then requested that APHIS suspend its rulemaking and instead continue evaluating Mexico for CSF status.

In response to that request, APHIS reopened its evaluation of the CSF status of Mexico, conducting a site visit in 2015. Findings from the resulting 2015 site visit report, along with updated surveillance data and information submitted by the Government of Mexico, led APHIS to determine that concerns identified in the earlier risk assessment that supported the July 2014 proposed rule had been addressed and that current conditions would support CSF-free recognition for all of Mexico.

Therefore, we are withdrawing the July 29, 2014, proposed rule referenced above.

**Authority:** 7 U.S.C. 450, 7701-7772, 7781-7786, and 8301-8317; 21 U.S.C. 136 and 136a; 31 U.S.C. 9701; 7 CFR 2.22, 2.80, and 371.4.

Done in Washington, DC, August 7, 2017.

**Michael C. Gregoire,**

*Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.*

[FR Doc. 2017-16980 Filed 8-10-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### 14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA-2017-0766; Product Identifier 2017-NM-046-AD]

RIN 2120-AA64

#### Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

**SUMMARY:** We propose to adopt a new airworthiness directive (AD) for all The Boeing Company Model 737-100, -200, -200C, -300, -400, and -500 series airplanes. This proposed AD was prompted by an evaluation by the design approval holder (DAH) indicating that the gore web lap splices of the aft pressure bulkhead are subject to widespread fatigue damage (WFD). This proposed AD would require repetitive inspections of the gore webs, gore web lap splices, and repair webs, as applicable, of the aft pressure bulkhead, and applicable on-condition actions. We are proposing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

**DATES:** We must receive comments on this proposed AD by September 25, 2017.

**ADDRESSES:** You may send comments, using the procedures found in 14 CFR 11.43 and 11.45, by any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

- *Fax:* 202-493-2251.

- *Mail:* U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590.

- *Hand Delivery:* Deliver to Mail address above between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

For service information identified in this NPRM, contact Boeing Commercial Airplanes, Attention: Contractual & Data Services (C&DS), 2600 Westminister Blvd., MC 110-SK57, Seal Beach, CA 90740-5600; telephone 562-797-1717; Internet <https://www.myboeingfleet.com>. You may view this referenced service information at the FAA, Transport Standards Branch, 1601 Lind Avenue SW., Renton, WA. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 425-227-

<sup>1</sup> To view the proposed rule, supporting documents, and the comments we received, go to <http://www.regulations.gov/#!docketDetail;D=APHIS-2013-0061>.