

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 TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA-2006-26107; Directorate Identifier 2004-SW-30-AD]

RIN 2120-AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation Model S-61 A, D, E, and V; Croman Corporation Model SH-3H, Carson Helicopters, Inc. Model S-61L; and Siller Helicopters Model CH-3E and SH-3A Helicopters

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

SUMMARY: This document proposes adopting a new airworthiness directive (AD) for the specified Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation (Sikorsky), Croman Corporation (Croman), Carson Helicopters, Inc. (Carson), and Siller Helicopters (Siller) model helicopters. The AD would require, within a specified time, creating a component history card or equivalent record. The AD would also require recording the hours time-in-service (TIS) and the external lift cycles (lift cycles) for each main gearbox input left and right freewheel unit (IFWU) assembly. Also, the AD would require calculating a moving average of lift cycles per hour TIS at specified intervals on each IFWU assembly. The moving average would be used to determine if an IFWU assembly is used in repetitive external lift (REL) or non-REL helicopter operations. If an IFWU assembly is used in REL operations, this AD would require a repetitive inspection, which requires a visual and dimensional inspection of the IFWU assembly at specified intervals. This AD would also require recording certain information and replacing each part that is beyond the wear limits or that exhibits visual surface distress with an airworthy part. In addition, this AD would require

permanently marking the REL IFWU camshafts and gear housings with the letters "REL" on the surface of these parts. This proposal is prompted by an accident in which the left and right IFWU assembly on a helicopter slipped or disengaged resulting in both engines overspeeding, engine shutdowns, and loss of engine power to the transmissions. The actions specified by the proposed AD are intended to prevent slipping in the IFWU assembly, loss of engine power to the transmissions, and subsequent loss of control of the helicopter.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before December 29, 2006.

ADDRESSES: Use one of the following addresses to submit comments on this proposed AD:

- DOT Docket Web site: Go to <http://dms.dot.gov> and follow the instructions for sending your comments electronically;
 - Government-wide rulemaking Web site: Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and follow the instructions for sending your comments electronically;
 - Mail: Docket Management Facility; U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Nassif Building, Room PL-401, Washington, DC 20590;
 - Fax: 202-493-2251; or
 - Hand Delivery: Room PL-401 on the plaza level of the Nassif Building, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.
- You may get the service information identified in this proposed AD from Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation, Attn: Manager, Commercial Tech Support, 6900 Main Street, Stratford, Connecticut 06614, phone (203) 386-3001, fax (203) 386-5983.

You may examine the comments to this proposed AD in the AD docket on the Internet at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kirk Gustafson, Aviation Safety Engineer, Boston Aircraft Certification Office, Engine and Propeller Directorate, FAA, 12 New England Executive Park, Burlington, MA 01803, telephone (781) 238-7190, fax (781) 238-7170.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Comments Invited

We invite you to submit any written data, views, or arguments regarding this proposed AD. Send your comments to the address listed under the caption

ADDRESSES. Include the docket number "FAA-2006-26107, Directorate Identifier 2004-SW-30-AD" at the beginning of your comments. We specifically invite comments on the overall regulatory, economic, environmental, and energy aspects of the proposed AD. We will consider all comments received by the closing date and may amend the proposed AD in light of those comments.

We will post all comments we receive, without change, to <http://dms.dot.gov>, including any personal information you provide. We will also post a report summarizing each substantive verbal contact with FAA personnel concerning this proposed rulemaking. Using the search function of our docket Web site, you can find and read the comments to any of our dockets, including the name of the individual who sent or signed the comment. You may review the DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** published on April 11, 2000 (65 FR 19477-78), or you may visit <http://dms.dot.gov>.

Examining the Docket

You may examine the docket that contains the proposed AD, any comments, and other information in person at the Docket Management System (DMS) Docket Office between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The Docket Office (telephone 1-800-647-5227) is located at the plaza level of the Department of Transportation NASSIF Building in Room PL-401 at 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC. Comments will be available in the AD docket shortly after the DMS receives them.

Discussion

This document proposes adopting a new AD for the specified model helicopters. The AD would require, within a specified time, creating a component history card or equivalent record and counting and recording the hours TIS and the lift cycles for each IFWU assembly. A lift cycle is defined as an external load lift and subsequent release of that load. Also, the AD would require calculating a moving average of lift cycles per hour TIS at specified intervals on the IFWU assembly. The moving average would determine if an IFWU assembly is designated as an REL or Non-REL IFWU assembly. REL

operations are those operations in which more than 6 lift cycles per hour TIS are performed based on the moving average. Non-REL operations are those operations in which 6 or less lift cycles per hour TIS are performed based on the moving average. Once an IFWU assembly is designated as an REL IFWU assembly, the moving average would no longer need to be calculated for that IFWU assembly. If an IFWU assembly is designated as an REL IFWU assembly, this AD would require a repetitive visual and dimensional inspection of the IFWU assembly at 500 hours TIS or 7500 lift cycles whichever occurs first. This AD would also require recording inspection information, providing a copy of the information to the FAA, and replacing each part that is beyond the wear or surface distress limits with an airworthy part. In addition, this AD would require permanently marking the IFWU camshaft and gear housing with the letters "REL" on the surface of these parts.

The proposal is prompted by an accident in which the left and right IFWU assembly on a helicopter slipped or disengaged resulting in both engines overspeeding, engine shutdowns, and loss of engine power to the transmissions. The main cause of the slippage has been traced to excessive and accelerated wear conditions in the IFWU assembly associated with repeated external lifting operations. The actions specified by the proposed AD are intended to prevent slipping in the IFWU assembly, loss of engine power to the transmissions, and subsequent loss of control of the helicopter.

We have reviewed Sikorsky Alert Service Bulletin No. 61835-67B, Revision B, dated August 11, 2003 (ASB). The ASB specifies implementing a moving average procedure for determining REL status. Tracking lift cycles and the moving average procedure is contained in Sikorsky All Operators Letter CCS-61AOL-04-0005. Further, the ASB describes procedures for establishing an inspection interval for REL and Non-REL operations, which are defined in section 1.B. of the ASB. The ASB defines operations as REL when the average number of lift cycles exceeds 6 per flight hour during any 250 flight-hour period based on a moving average calculated at intervals not to exceed 50 hours of operations. The ASB defines operations as Non-REL when the number of moving average lift cycles per hour is 6 or less.

Although the ASB deals with transport category helicopter Models, S-61 L, N, NM, and R, manufactured under Type Certificate (TC) No. 1H15, as well as the restricted category Models

S-61 A, D, E, and V, manufactured under TC No. H2EA, we have issued a separate proposal for the transport category helicopter models under Docket No. FAA-2006-25824, Directorate Identifier 2004-SW-23-AD.

Also, even though there is not an ASB for the Carson Model S-61L, Croman Model SH-3H, and Siller Model CH-3E helicopters, this AD applies to those models as well.

This unsafe condition is likely to exist or develop on other helicopters of the same type designs. Therefore, the proposed AD would require the following:

- Within 10 hours TIS,
- Create an external lift component history card or equivalent record for each IFWU assembly, part number (P/N) 61074-35000-041 through 61074-35000-063, unless done previously, and
- Count and, at the end of each days operations, record the number of lift cycles performed and hours TIS.
- Determine whether the IFWU assembly is an REL or Non-REL IFWU assembly by using a 250-hour TIS moving average as follows:
 - Upon reaching 250 hours TIS, calculate the first moving average of lift cycles.
 - If the calculation results in more than 6 lift cycles per hour TIS, the IFWU assembly is an REL IFWU assembly.
 - If the calculation results in 6 or less lift cycles per hour TIS, the IFWU assembly is a Non-REL IFWU assembly.
 - If you determine the IFWU assembly is a Non-REL IFWU assembly based on the first calculation of the 250-hour TIS moving average for lift cycles, thereafter at intervals of 50 hours TIS, recalculate the average lift cycles per hour TIS.
 - If the calculation results in more than 6 lift cycles per hour TIS, the IFWU assembly is an REL IFWU assembly.
 - If the calculation results in 6 or less lift cycles per hour TIS, the IFWU assembly is a Non-REL IFWU assembly.
 - Once an IFWU assembly is determined to be an REL IFWU assembly, it remains an REL IFWU assembly for the rest of its service life and is subject to the AD inspection requirements for REL IFWU assemblies.
 - Once an IFWU assembly is determined to be an REL IFWU assembly, you no longer need to perform the 250-hour TIS moving average calculation, but you must continue to count and record the lift cycles.
 - For each REL IFWU assembly, at intervals not to exceed 500 hours TIS or 7500 lift cycles, whichever occurs first,

since the last IFWU assembly inspection, inspect for wear, surface distress, and endplay, record the information; and

- Replace any IFWU assembly part whose average wear, wear marks, surface distress, or endplay exceeds the limits with an airworthy IFWU assembly part.

• For each REL IFWU assembly, permanently mark IFWU camshafts, P/N S6135-20611, S6135-20614 and S6137-23075, and IFWU gear housings, P/N S6135-20695 and S6137-23057, with the letters "REL". Mark the camshafts by applying etching ink on the surface of the part that is 0.5 inch square with the depth of the letters not to exceed 0.001 inch. After etching, neutralize the etched surface with oil to prevent corrosion.

- For the next 24 months and within 10 days provide the recorded information required by this AD to the Manager of the Boston Aircraft Certification Office, Engine and Propeller Directorate, FAA, 12 New England Executive Park, Burlington, MA 01803.

The actions would be required by following specified portions of the ASB described previously.

We estimate that this proposed AD would affect 21 helicopters of U.S. registry, and would take about:

- 4 work hours to measure and record the inspected dimensions,
- 1 work hour to identify the REL parts, and
- 3 work hours per year per helicopter to do the cycle counting, recording the lift cycle count, and inspecting each IFWU assembly, and
- Cost about \$80 per work hour.
- Replacing the IFWU rollers and Oilite bushings would require no additional man-hour cost.

- Required parts would cost about \$600 to replace the IFWU rollers and \$980 per helicopter to replace the IFWU Oilite bushings at each overhaul.

Based on these figures, the total estimated cost impact of the proposed AD on U.S. operators would be \$46,620, assuming you replace the IFWU rollers and Oilite bushings on every helicopter and every IFWU assembly is determined to be an REL IFWU assembly based on the first lift cycle calculation.

Regulatory Findings

We have determined that this proposed AD would not have federalism implications under Executive Order 13132. Additionally, this proposed AD would not have a substantial direct effect on the States, on the relationship between the National Government and the States, or on the distribution of

power and responsibilities among the various levels of government.

For the reasons discussed above, I certify that the proposed regulation:

1. Is not a "significant regulatory action" under Executive Order 12866;
2. Is not a "significant rule" under the DOT Regulatory Policies and Procedures (44 FR 11034, February 26, 1979); and
3. Will not have a significant economic impact, positive or negative, on a substantial number of small entities under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

We prepared a draft economic analysis of the estimated costs to comply with this proposed AD. See the DMS to examine the draft economic analysis.

Authority for This Rulemaking

The FAA's authority to issue rules regarding aviation safety is found in Title 49 of the United States Code. Subtitle I, section 106 describes the authority of the FAA Administrator. Subtitle VII, Aviation Programs, describes in more detail the scope of the agency's authority.

This rulemaking is promulgated under the authority described in subtitle VII, part A, subpart III, section 44701, "General requirements." Under that section, the FAA is charged with promoting safe flight of civil aircraft in air commerce by prescribing regulations for practices, methods, and procedures the Administrator finds necessary for safety in air commerce. This regulation is within the scope of that authority because it addresses an unsafe condition that is likely to exist or develop on products identified in this AD.

List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 39

Air transportation, Aircraft, Aviation safety, Safety.

The Proposed Amendment

Accordingly, pursuant to the authority delegated to me by the Administrator, the Federal Aviation Administration proposes to amend part 39 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR part 39) as follows:

PART 39—AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVES

1. The authority citation for part 39 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 106(g), 40113, 44701.

§ 39.13 [Amended]

2. Section 39.13 is amended by adding a new airworthiness directive to read as follows:

Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation; Croman Corporation; Carson Helicopters, Inc.;

and Siller Helicopters: Docket No. FAA–2006–26107; Directorate Identifier 2004–SW–30–AD.

Applicability

Model S–61 A, D, E, V, SH–3H, S–61L; CH–3E, and SH–3A helicopters, certificated in any category.

Compliance

Required as indicated.

To prevent slipping of the main gearbox input freewheel unit (IFWU) assembly, loss of engine power, and subsequent loss of control of the helicopter, do the following:

- (a) Within 10 hours time-in-service (TIS),
 - (1) Create an external lift component history card or equivalent record for each IFWU assembly, part number (P/N) 61074–35000–041 through 61074–35000–063, unless accomplished previously, and
 - (2) Count and, at the end of each days operations, record the number of external lift cycles (lift cycles) performed and the hours TIS. A "lift cycle" is defined as the lifting of an external load and subsequent release of the load.

(b) Determine whether the IFWU assembly is an REL or non-REL IFWU assembly by using a 250-hour TIS moving average as follows:

(1) Upon reaching 250 hours TIS after the effective date of this AD, calculate the first moving average of lift cycles by following the instructions in Section I of Appendix I of this AD.

(i) If the calculation under paragraph (b)(1) of this AD results in more than 6 lift cycles per hour TIS, the IFWU assembly is an REL IFWU assembly.

(ii) If the calculation under paragraph (b)(1) of this AD results in 6 or less lift cycles per hour TIS, the IFWU assembly is a Non-REL IFWU assembly.

(2) If you determine the IFWU assembly is a Non-REL IFWU assembly based on the first calculation of the 250-hour TIS moving average for lift cycles, thereafter at intervals of 50 hour TIS, recalculate the average lift cycles per hour TIS by following the instructions in Section II of Appendix 1 of this AD.

(i) If the calculation under paragraph (b)(2) of this AD results in more than 6 lift cycles per hour TIS, the IFWU assembly is an REL IFWU assembly.

(ii) If the calculation under paragraph (b)(2) of this AD results in 6 or less lift cycles per hour TIS, the IFWU assembly is a Non-REL IFWU assembly.

(3) Once an IFWU assembly is determined to be an REL IFWU assembly, it remains an REL IFWU assembly for the rest of its service life and is subject to the AD inspection requirements for REL IFWU assemblies.

(4) Once an IFWU assembly is determined to be an REL IFWU assembly, you no longer need to perform the 250-hour TIS moving average calculation, but you must continue to count and record the lift cycles.

Note 1: Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation issued an All Operators Letter (AOL) CCS–61–AOL–04–0005, dated May 18, 2004, with an example and additional information about tracking cycles and the moving average procedure. You can obtain this AOL from the

manufacturer at the address stated in the **ADDRESSES** portion of this AD.

(c) For each REL IFWU assembly, at intervals not to exceed 500 hours TIS or 7500 lift cycles, whichever occurs first, since the last IFWU assembly inspection:

(1) Inspect for wear, surface distress, and endplay by following paragraphs B.(1) through B.(6) of the Accomplishment Instructions of Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation Alert Service Bulletin No. 61B35–67B, Revision B, dated August 11, 2003 (ASB). Record all the information specified in Figures 1 through 3 attached to the ASB. You may record this information on any suitable maintenance record, or you may use the Sikorsky evaluation forms provided in the ASB. This AD does not require you to contact Sikorsky.

(2) Replace any IFWU assembly part whose average wear, wear marks, surface distress, or endplay exceeds the limits stated in paragraph B.(1) through B.(6) of the Accomplishment Instructions of the ASB with an airworthy IFWU assembly part.

Note 2: Sikorsky S–61 Overhaul Manual, Number SA 4045–83, Revision 20, dated August 15, 2003, as revised by Temporary Revisions 65–193, –194, –195, and –196, contains the overhaul procedures for the IFWU assembly.

(d) For each REL IFWU assembly, permanently mark IFWU camshafts, P/N S6135–20611, S6135–20614 and S6137–23075, and IFWU gear housings, P/N S6135–20695 and S6137–23057, with the letters "REL". Mark the camshafts by applying etching ink on the surface of the part that is 0.5 inch square with the depth of the letters not to exceed 0.001 inch. After etching, neutralize the etched surface with oil to prevent corrosion.

(e) For the next 24 months and within 10 days after completing the requirements of paragraph (c)(1) of this AD, provide a copy of the recorded information to the Manager of the Boston Aircraft Certification Office, Engine and Propeller Directorate, FAA, 12 New England Executive Park, Burlington, MA 01803.

Note 3: In the ASB, Sikorsky requests copies of the completed inspection forms, Figures 1 through 3 to their ASB. This AD does not require you to provide these forms to Sikorsky.

(f) Information collection requirements contained in this AD have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*) and have been assigned OMB Control Number 2120–0056.

(g) To request a different method of compliance or a different compliance time for this AD, follow the procedures in 14 CFR 39.19. Contact the Manager, Boston Aircraft Certification Office, Engine and Propeller Directorate, FAA, ATTN: Kirk Gustafson, Aviation Safety Engineer, 12 New England Executive Park, Burlington, MA 01803, telephone (781) 238–7190, fax (781) 238–7170, for information about previously approved alternative methods of compliance.

Appendix I

SECTION I: The first moving average of lift cycles per hour TIS.

The first moving average calculation is performed on the IFWU assembly when the external lift component history card record reflects that the IFWU assembly has reached its first 250 hours TIS. To perform the calculation, divide the total number of lift cycles performed during the first 250 hours TIS by 250. The result will be the first moving average calculation of lift cycles per hour TIS.

SECTION II: Subsequent moving average of lift cycles per hour TIS.

Subsequent moving average calculations are performed on the IFWU assembly at intervals of 50 hour TIS after the first moving average calculation. Subtract the total number of lift cycles performed during the first 50-hour TIS interval used in the previous moving average calculation from the total number of lift cycles performed on the IFWU assembly during the previous 300 hours TIS. Divide this result by 250. The result will be the next or subsequent moving average calculation of lift cycles per hour TIS.

SECTION III: Sample calculation for subsequent 50 hour TIS intervals.

Assume the total number of lift cycles for the first 50 hour TIS interval used in the previous moving average calculation = 450 lift cycles and the total number of lift cycles for the previous 300 hours TIS = 2700 lift cycles. The subsequent moving average of lift cycles per hour TIS = $(2700 - 450)$ divided by $250 = 9$ lift cycles per hour TIS.

Issued in Fort Worth, Texas, on October 13, 2006.

David A. Downey,

Manager, Rotorcraft Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. E6-18147 Filed 10-27-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**40 CFR Part 52**

[EPA-R06-OAR-2005-LA-0003; FRL-8234-7]

Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Louisiana; Transportation Conformity

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: EPA is proposing to approve State Implementation Plan (SIP) revisions submitted by the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) on May 13, 2005. This revision serves to incorporate recent changes to the federal conformity rule into the state conformity SIP.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before November 29, 2006.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be mailed to Mr. Thomas Diggs, Chief, Air Planning Section (6PD-L), Environmental Protection Agency, 1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200, Dallas, Texas 75202-2733. Comments may also be submitted electronically or through hand delivery/courier by following the detailed instructions in the **ADDRESSES** section of the direct final rule located in the rules section of this **Federal Register**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Peggy Wade, Air Planning Section (6PD-L), Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6, 1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 700, Dallas, Texas 75202-2733, telephone (214) 665-7247; fax number 214-665-7263; e-mail address wade.peggy@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In the final rules section of this **Federal Register**, EPA is approving the state's submittal as a direct final rule without prior proposal because the Agency views this as a noncontroversial submittal and anticipates no adverse comments. A detailed rationale for the approval is set forth in the direct final rule. If no relevant adverse comments are received in response to this action, no further activity is contemplated. If EPA receives adverse comments, the direct final rule will be withdrawn and all public comments received will be addressed in a subsequent final rule based on this proposed rule. EPA will not institute a second comment period. Any parties interested in commenting on this action should do so at this time. Please note that if EPA receives adverse comment on an amendment, paragraph, or section of this rule and if that provision may be severed from the remainder of the rule, EPA may adopt as final those provisions of the rule that are not the subject of adverse comment.

For additional information, see the direct final rule that is located in the rules section of this **Federal Register**.

Dated: October 5, 2006.

Lawrence E. Starfield,

Acting Regional Administrator, Region 6.

[FR Doc. E6-18051 Filed 10-27-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**40 CFR Part 52**

[EPA-R09-OAR-2006-0548b; FRL-8225-6]

Revisions to the Nevada State Implementation Plan, Clark County

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: EPA is proposing to approve revisions to the Clark County portion of the Nevada State Implementation Plan (SIP). These revisions concern particulate matter (PM) emissions from fugitive dust sources, such as open areas, unpaved roads, and construction activities. We are proposing to approve local rules to regulate these emission sources under the Clean Air Act as amended in 1990 (CAA or the Act).

DATES: Any comments on this proposal must arrive by November 29, 2006.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments, identified by docket number EPA-R09-OAR-2006-0548b, by one of the following methods:

1. Federal eRulemaking Portal: www.regulations.gov. Follow the on-line instructions.

2. E-mail: steckel.andrew@epa.gov.

3. Mail or deliver: Andrew Steckel (Air-4), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region IX, 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA 94105-3901.

Instructions: All comments will be included in the public docket without change and may be made available online at www.regulations.gov, including any personal information provided, unless the comment includes Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Information that you consider CBI or otherwise protected should be clearly identified as such and should not be submitted through www.regulations.gov or e-mail.

www.regulations.gov is an "anonymous access" system, and EPA will not know your identity or contact information unless you provide it in the body of your comment. If you send e-mail directly to EPA, your e-mail address will be automatically captured and included as part of the public comment. If EPA cannot read your comment due to technical difficulties and cannot contact you for clarification, EPA may not be able to consider your comment.

Docket: The index to the docket for this action is available electronically at www.regulations.gov and in hard copy at EPA Region IX, 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, California. While all documents in the docket are listed in the index, some information may be publicly available only at the hard copy location (e.g., copyrighted material), and some may not be publicly available in either location (e.g., CBI). To inspect the hard copy materials, please schedule an appointment during normal business hours with the contact listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jerald S. Wamsley, EPA Region IX, at