

2. How do we establish all the training program outlines that must meet STCW requirements?

3. How do we establish and document performance standards and measures to assess a mariner's practical proficiency in areas required under STCW?

4. How should we keep a record of the mariner's current training and assessment in the four elements of basic safety—basic firefighting, elementary first aid, personal survival, and personal safety and social responsibility?

5. How can we revise the merchant mariner license exams to make them a useful method of assessing competence?

6. How should we establish national medical fitness standards for U.S. merchant mariners?

7. Besides Coast Guard course approval, what other alternatives should be available meeting the STCW quality standards systems (QSS) that apply to maritime training and assessment of competence?

8. How can we monitor the entire U.S. training, assessment, and certification system under a quality standards system (QSS)? Also, how can we ensure that the U.S. training, assessment, and certification system is evaluated under the QSS every five years?

9. How do we establish simulator performance standards for maritime training and assessment of proficiency?

10. How do we ensure that all active U.S. merchant mariners who are required to hold a 1995 STCW endorsement for service do so on or after February 1, 2002?

11. How do we provide STCW-related information to all mariners?

12. How can we encourage designated personnel to actively participate in training junior personnel on the ship and sign off on training record book entries?

13. Which skills should not be verified by shipboard personnel? Also, which entries in the training record books should be made only at a shore side training facility?

14. How can we account for all the requirements for the various segments of the marine industry in the focus and coordination plan?

#### Public Meeting

Members of the public can make oral presentations with advance notice, and as time permits. If you wish to make an oral presentation, you should contact LCDR Burns at the numbers listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** no later than December 1, 1998. Please provide your name, your affiliation, and the issue(s) you would like to discuss. We may limit the length of your presentation to ensure that there is

enough time to hear everyone who wishes to present comments.

Dated: November 16, 1998.

**Joseph J. Angelo,**

*Acting Assistant Commandant for Marine Safety and Environmental Protection.*

[FR Doc. 98-31213 Filed 11-20-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-15-M

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact for Sarasota-Bradenton International Airport, Florida, and Invitation to Public Meeting and to Comment

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

**ACTION:** Notice of Availability of Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) and Invitation to Public Meeting and to Comment.

**SUMMARY:** In March 1996, a Noise Compatibility Program (NCP) was published for the Sarasota-Bradenton International Airport (SRQ). The NCP was prepared by and on behalf of the Sarasota-Manatee Airport Authority (SMAA), owner and operator of SRQ. Included in the NCP was a recommendation for the FAA to implement a revised air traffic procedure for departures utilizing Runway 32 (RWY 32).

In compliance with FAA Order 1050.1D, "Policies and Procedures for considering Environmental Impacts", the EA was prepared to address the potential impacts of implementing the revised procedures for RWY 32 departures from SRQ. Although no other alternative than the proposed departure procedure was examined as part of this EA, numerous other alternatives were evaluated as part of the NCP. Those alternatives, along with a no action alternative were dismissed, as they did not meet the purpose and need identified in the NCP.

Based on the evaluation in the EA, no significant impacts associated with the revised procedure were identified. Therefore, no environmental impact statement will be prepared and a FONSI is being issued.

**DATES:** Public meeting will be held on December 18, 1998. Comments will be received until January 17, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments on the EA/FONSI may be delivered or mailed to: Federal Aviation Administration, Attention: Nancy Shelton, Manager, Airspace Branch, ASO-520, Air Traffic

Division, Southern Region Headquarters, 1701 Columbia Ave., College Park, GA. 30337.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Nancy Shelton at the address listed above or telephone (404) 305-5490.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Environmental regulations allow for implementation of the revised procedures without further public involvement. However, due to concerns expressed by residents of Long Boat Key, Florida, the FAA will host a public meeting to explain the findings of the EA. The purpose of this meeting is to assist the public in understanding the revised procedures and eliminate any potential controversy.

Additionally, the EA contains explanations and graphics depicting the no action alternative and the proposed alternative for years 1995 and 2000, and the no action alternative for 2013. To assist in the public's understanding of the potential impacts from implementation of the proposed alternative, at the public meeting the FAA will also have handouts and graphics displaying the potential impacts for out-years 2000 and 2005.

The public meeting will be held on Friday, December 18, from 4:00 PM until 7:00 PM. The meeting location and time are as follows: The Sudakoff Center, University of South Florida at Sarasota/Manatee and New College of USF, 5700 North Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, FL 34243.

Any person may obtain a copy of the EA/FONSI and the information relating to the out-year forecasts by submitting a request to Ms. Shelton.

The EA/FONSI and out-year forecasts will also be available for review at the following public libraries:

Sarasota County Selby Public Library, 1001 Boulevard of The Arts, Sarasota, FL 34236.

Manatee County Public Library, 1301 Barcarrota Blvd. West, Bradenton, FL 34205.

Longboat Key Library, 555 Bay Isles Rd., Longboat Key, FL 34228.

#### History

The current procedure for northbound aircraft departing RWY 32 is to turn left at 0.9 distance measuring equipment (DME) to intercept the SRQ very-high frequency omni-directional range (VOR) 295 degree radial. Aircraft continue on this radial until reaching an altitude of 3,000 feet. At that point they are released to turn north by air traffic control (ATC).

The current procedure for southbound aircraft is to turn left at 0.9 DME to a heading of 270 degrees for radar vectors

by ATC to on course. Aircraft typically make the turn to the south either within Sarasota Bay (commuter aircraft) or west of the beaches of Longboat Key to over the Gulf of Mexico (air carrier aircraft).

The NCP recommended the existing procedures be modified so that all aircraft weighing over 25,000 pounds and all jet aircraft departing RWY 32 be instructed to turn left at 0.9 DME to join the SRQ VOR 270 degree radial outbound. Aircraft would then continue on the SRQ VOR 270 degree radial until they are at least 7 DME, then proceed on course or as instructed by ATC. This would ensure that all jet aircraft are beyond the barrier island and over the Gulf of Mexico prior to turning either north or south.

The EA evaluates the proposed implementation of the revised departure procedures for RWY 32 at SRQ. These proposed procedures are designed to reduce aircraft noise impacts in two ways: first, by directing aircraft over the least populated area, and, secondly, by maximizing the aircraft flyovers above the residential buyout area identified in the NCP.

The FAA had previously approved the NCP. With issuance of the EA/FONSI, the FAA is approving the revised departure procedure for RWY 32 for implementation. However, implementation of the revised procedure will be delayed until training of ATC personnel and until publication of the appropriate documentation can be accomplished.

Issued in Washington, DC on November 17, 1998.

**William J. Marx,**

*Manager, Office of Air Traffic Airspace Management, Environmental Programs Division.*

[FR Doc. 98-31209 Filed 11-18-98; 4:08 pm]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-M

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### Aviation Rulemaking Advisory Committee Meeting on Transport Airplane and Engine Issues

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

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces a public meeting of the FAA's Aviation Rulemaking Advisory Committee (ARAC) to discuss transport airplane and engine (TAE) issues.

**DATES:** The meeting is scheduled for December 10 and 11, 1998, beginning at

8:30 a.m. on December 10. Arrange for oral presentations by December 3, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Aerospace Industries Association, 1250 Eye Street, NW., Washington, DC.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Effie M. Upshaw, Office of Rulemaking, ARM-209, FAA, 800 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20591, Telephone (202) 267-7626, FAX (202) 267-5075.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Pursuant to section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463; 5 U.S.C. App II), notice is given of an ARAC meeting to be held December 10-11, 1998 at Aerospace Industries Association, 1250 Eye Street, NW., Washington, DC.

The agenda will include:

#### Thursday, December 10, 1998

- Opening Remarks.
- FAA Report.
- Joint Aviation Authorities (JAA) Report.
- Transport Canada Report.
- Executive Committee (EXCOM) Meeting Report.
- Harmonization Management Team Report.
- Harmonization Program Plan Update.
- Seat Test HWG Report.
- Proposed Human Factors Terms of Reference (TOR) Update.
- Flight Test Harmonization Working Group (HWG) Report.
- Ice Protection HWG Report and Approval of Concept Plan.
- Engine HWG Report and Vote.
- Airworthiness Assurance HWG Report and Vote.
- System Design and Analysis HWG.
- Flight Guidance System HWG Report.

#### Friday, December 11, 1998

- Avionics Systems HWG Report.
- General Structures HWG Report.
- Electromagnetic Effects HWG Report and Vote.
- Loads and Dynamics HWG Report.
- Flight Control HWG Report.
- Electrical Systems HWG Report.
- Mechanical Systems HWG Report.
- Review Action Items.

The Ice Protection HWG will present a concept plan that addresses installation of ice detectors, aerodynamic performance monitors, or other acceptable means to warn flightcrews of ice accumulation on critical surfaces. The Engine HWG is requesting a vote for formal FAA legal review for a draft advisory circular that addresses compliance with the overspeed requirements of turbine,

compressor, fan, and turbosupercharger rotors. The Airworthiness Assurance HWG is requesting a vote to forward a recommendation to the FAA to develop regulations and advisory material to ensure that no large transport category airplane operate beyond a specified flight cycle limit unless an aging aircraft program has been incorporated in the operator's maintenance program. The Electromagnetic Effects HWG is requesting a vote for formal economic and legal review of a proposed notice and advisory circular on lightning protection.

Attendance is open to the public, but will be limited to the space available. The public must make arrangements by December 3, 1998, to present oral statements at the meeting. Written statements may be presented to the Committee at any time by providing 25 copies to the Assistant Executive Director for Transport Airplane and Engine issues or by providing copies at the meeting. Copies of the documents to be voted upon may be made available by contacting the person listed under the heading **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

In addition, sign and oral interpretation as well as a listening device, can be made available if requested 10 calendar days before the meeting.

Issued in Washington, DC, on November 17, 1998.

**Joseph A. Hawkins,**

*Executive Director, Aviation Rulemaking Advisory Committee.*

[FR Doc. 98-31268 Filed 11-20-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-M

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Maritime Administration

[Docket No. MARAD-98-4771]

#### Information Collection Available for Public Comments and Recommendations

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Maritime Administration's (MARAD's) intentions to request approval for three years of a new information collection entitled Subsidy Voucher—Operating Differential Subsidy (Bulk & Liner Cargo Vessels).

**DATES:** Comments should be submitted on or before January 22, 1999.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Michael P. Ferris, Director, Office of