

The District Commander has, therefore, issued a deviation from the regulations in 33 CFR 117.5 authorizing the draw of the Norfolk Southern Railroad bascule span drawbridge across the Inner Harbor Navigation Canal, mile 4.5, at New Orleans, Orleans Parish, Louisiana to remain closed to navigation from 8 a.m. until noon and from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m., Monday through Friday from May 17, 1999 through May 28, 1999.

Dated: April 14, 1999.

**Paul J. Pluta,**

*Rear Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard Commander  
Eighth Coast Guard District.*

[FR Doc. 99-10430 Filed 4-23-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-15-M

## POSTAL SERVICE

### 39 CFR Part 20

#### Changes in International Postal Rates

**AGENCY:** Postal Service.

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** The Postal Service, after considering the comments submitted in response to its request published in the **Federal Register** on December 4, 1998 (63 FR 67017-67026), for comments on proposed changes in international postage rates, hereby gives notice that it is implementing the proposed rates, except as explained below.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** 12:01 a.m., Sunday, May 30, 1999.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** John Alepa, (202) 268-4071 and John Reynolds, (202) 314-7334.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On December 4, 1998, the Postal Service published in the **Federal Register** a notice of proposed changes in international postage rates (63 FR 67017-67026). The Postal Service requested comments by January 4, 1999, and by that date received two comments: one from a private individual and one from a mailer using printed matter services.

Comments from the private individual expressed concern about rate relationships. The commenter identified five specific areas of interest.

First, it was suggested that there should be some equivalence in the postage rates for outbound international mail sent to Canada and Mexico. While this observation may appear intuitively correct, it is premised on the assumption that the cost basis for setting rates to Canada and Mexico are similar. On previous occasions, the Postal Service has addressed this concern

indicating that the cost of providing international mail service to Canada and Mexico are each influenced by the cost of delivery assessed separately by each of the two administrations, and that their respective delivery costs are not the same. In addition, transportation cost, length of haul, and associated handling costs incurred to provide service to each of these destinations also differ. These cost differences underlie the rate differences in the proposed rate levels.

Second, the commenter questioned the rate relationships between letters and printed matter, asserting that they too, should be the same. The rates differences as proposed are the result of different mark-ups applied to the costs of providing letter and printed matter services and the market factors that influence them.

Third, the commenter noted the existence of cross-overs between air and surface parcel post rates. This condition is acknowledged and is attributed solely to the cost of providing the respective services. Because of the lower volume of surface parcels, non-transportation processing costs tend to be higher for surface parcels than the comparable processing costs for air parcels. These costs differences are reflected in the rate levels proposed, and in part are also influenced by the average parcel weight for the two services.

Fourth, the commenter asserted the belief that rate differences between weight steps for a given service should be uniform. Particular emphasis on this issue was directed to International Express Mail Service (EMS). Rate design does not require that differences between weight steps be uniform. Flexibility to design rates that have a taper effect better aligns rate levels with market characteristics, and takes into account, in this instance, the presence of document and merchandise within the same product stream. Where certain cross-overs between Global Priority Mail (GPM) and EMS appeared in the notice published on December 4, 1998 in section I A at 63 FR 67018, they have been revised such that the EMS rate is greater.

Fifth, the commenter did question the consistency in the proposed differences for the Bulk Letter Service to Canada and the corresponding single piece letter rates to Canada; namely, it is three or five cents. The published notice on December 4, 1998 contained an error in section IIB at 63 FR 67020. The difference between the Bulk Letter Service to Canada and the corresponding single piece letter rates is five cents.

The Postal Service is also modifying the notice published on December 4, 1998, in section IV A and IV B at 63 FR 67020 with respect to GPM. The rates for Canada also apply to Mexico. The rates applicable to all other countries, therefore, do not apply to Mexico.

The mailer using surface printed matter and publishers' periodical rates provide three main concerns. First, comment on the general size of the rate increase being proposed was offered. While the overall rate increase proposed for international mail is 3.3 percent, this mailer noted that he was facing a much larger increase. The rate levels for printed matter and publishers' periodicals are primarily the result of cost increases resulting from revisions in terminal dues. Second, this mailer gave his endorsement to the proposed drop ship rates for publishers' periodicals. The mailer observed that being able to take advantage of the drop ship option would lower his effective rate increase to levels equivalent to the domestic rate increases. Lastly, the mailer expressed concern that international mail rate changes may be timed with the January 10, 1999, implementation date for domestic postage and fee changes and therefore could be burdensome. The mailer suggested a later implementation date suggesting July 1, 1999 as a possibility. The Postal Service believes that the implementation date announced in this final rule is sensitive to this concern.

The notice published on December 4, 1998 contained errors. In section V C, Publishers' Periodicals, located at 63 FR 67021 the 3-pound weight was given as 2 pounds. In section VE 1, Air-Other Articles, located at 63 FR 67021 the rate for Mexico for 2 ounces is \$1.07, not \$0.89. In section VI B, Air Parcel Post, located at 63 FR 67022 the 1-pound rate for Canada is \$12.61 since there is a 1-pound minimum weight for parcels to that country. It should be noted that, with the exception of air letter rates to Canada, the Postal Service is not changing air letter rates to the rest of the world.

After reviewing and considering the comments received, the Postal Service adopts the following postage rates and amends the International Mail Manual (IMM), which is incorporated by reference in the Code of Federal Regulations. See 39 CFR 20.1.

#### List of Subjects in 39 CFR Part 20

Foreign relations, Incorporation by reference, International postal services.

**PART 20—[AMENDED]**

**Authority:** 5 U.S.C. 552(a); 39 U.S.C. 401, 404, 407, 408.

The International Mail Manual is amended to incorporate the following postal rates:

The authority citation for 39 CFR part 20 continues to read as follows:

**New International Postage Rates**

(See section VII for rate groups for individual countries.)

**I. Express Mail International Service**

*A. On Demand Service*

**1. Country-Specific Rates**

Weight not over (lbs.)	Country				
	Canada	Mexico	Great Britain	China	Japan
0.5 .....	\$15.50	\$15.50	\$18.50	\$15.00	\$15.00
1 .....	18.00	18.00	22.50	18.00	17.50
2 .....	21.50	21.50	26.50	21.00	21.50
3 .....	25.00	25.00	30.50	28.00	28.00
4 .....	28.50	28.50	34.50	34.00	34.00
5 .....	32.00	32.00	38.50	37.00	37.00
6 .....	34.50	34.50	42.50	39.50	39.00
7 .....	37.00	37.00	46.50	44.00	43.50
8 .....	39.50	39.50	50.50	48.50	48.00
9 .....	42.00	42.00	54.50	53.00	52.50
10 .....	44.50	44.50	58.50	57.50	57.00
Each additional pound or fraction of a pound .....	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$4.00	\$4.50	\$4.50

**2. Rate Group Countries**

Weight not over (lbs.)	Rate group					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
0.5 .....	\$19.00	\$21.00	\$15.00	\$19.00	\$18.00	\$20.00
1 .....	21.50	24.50	19.00	23.00	21.00	22.50
2 .....	25.50	28.50	23.00	27.50	24.50	26.50
3 .....	29.50	32.50	28.00	32.00	28.00	30.50
4 .....	34.00	37.00	34.00	36.50	34.00	35.00
5 .....	39.00	41.50	38.00	41.00	35.00	39.50
6 .....	43.50	45.50	42.50	45.00	38.00	44.00
7 .....	48.00	49.50	47.00	49.00	41.00	48.50
8 .....	52.50	53.50	51.50	53.00	44.00	53.00
9 .....	57.00	57.50	56.00	57.00	47.00	57.50
10 .....	61.50	61.50	60.50	61.00	50.00	62.00
Each additional pound or fraction of a pound .....	\$4.50	\$4.00	\$4.50	\$4.00	\$3.00	\$4.50

*B. Custom Designed Service*

**1. Country-Specific Rates**

Weight not over (lbs.)	Country				
	Canada <sup>1</sup>	Mexico	Great Britain	China	Japan
0.5 .....	.....	\$23.50	\$26.50	\$23.00	\$23.00
1 .....	.....	26.00	30.50	26.00	25.50
2 .....	.....	29.50	34.50	29.00	28.50
3 .....	.....	33.00	38.50	33.00	32.50
4 .....	.....	36.50	42.50	38.00	37.50
5 .....	.....	40.00	46.50	43.00	42.50
6 .....	.....	42.50	50.50	47.50	47.00
7 .....	.....	45.00	54.50	52.00	51.50
8 .....	.....	47.50	58.50	56.50	56.00
9 .....	.....	50.00	62.50	61.00	60.50
10 .....	.....	52.50	66.50	65.50	65.00
Each additional pound or fraction of a pound .....	.....	\$2.50	\$4.00	\$4.50	\$4.50

<sup>1</sup> Custom designed service not available.

## 2. Rate Group Countries

Weight not over (lbs.)	Rate group					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
0.5 .....	\$27.00	\$29.00	\$23.00	\$27.00	\$26.00	\$28.00
1 .....	29.50	32.50	27.00	31.00	29.00	30.50
2 .....	33.50	36.50	31.00	35.50	32.50	34.50
3 .....	37.50	40.50	36.00	40.00	36.00	38.50
4 .....	42.00	45.00	41.00	44.50	39.50	43.00
5 .....	47.00	49.50	46.00	49.00	43.00	47.50
6 .....	51.50	53.50	50.50	53.00	46.00	52.00
7 .....	56.00	57.50	55.00	57.00	49.00	56.50
8 .....	60.50	61.50	59.50	61.00	52.00	61.00
9 .....	65.00	65.50	64.00	65.00	55.00	65.50
10 .....	69.50	69.50	68.50	69.00	58.00	70.00
Each additional pound or fraction of a pound .....	\$4.50	\$4.00	\$4.50	\$4.00	\$3.00	\$4.50

## II. Letters and Letter Packages

## A. Canada

Weight Not Over		Rate
(lbs.)	(ozs.)	
0	0.5	\$0.48
0	1	0.55
0	1.5	0.67
0	2	0.76
0	3	1.00
0	4	1.20
0	5	1.40
0	6	1.60
0	7	1.80
0	8	2.00
0	9	2.19
0	10	2.39
0	11	2.59
0	12	2.79
1	0	3.59
1	8	4.52
2	0	5.44
2	8	6.36
3	0	7.29
3	8	8.21
4	0	9.14

A 4-pound maximum applies except for registered items sent to Canada. Canada-bound registered items may weigh up to 66 pounds. For registered items weighing over 4 pounds, the rate is \$1.85 for each additional pound up to the 66-pound limit.

## B. Bulk Letter Service to Canada

Weight not over ozs.	Rate
0.5 .....	\$0.43
1 .....	0.50
1.5 .....	0.62
2 .....	0.71
3 .....	0.95

## III. Postal Cards/Postcards and Aerogrammes

## A. Postal Cards/Postcards

Country	Rate
Canada .....	\$0.45
Mexico .....	0.40
All others .....	0.55

## B. Aerogrammes

All countries: \$0.60 each.

## IV. Global Priority Mail (GPM)

## A. GPM—Flat-Rate Envelope Postage Rates

Destination <sup>1</sup>	Small	Large
Canada & Mexico .....	\$4.00	\$7.00
All other countries .....	5.00	9.00

<sup>1</sup> Maximum Weight: 4 lbs.

## B. GPM—Variable Weight Option Postage Rates

Weight (lbs.) <sup>1</sup>	Canada & Mexico	All other countries
	Rate	Rate
0.5 .....	\$6.00	\$8.00
1.0 .....	10.00	13.00
1.5 .....	15.00	18.00
2.0 .....	17.00	21.00
2.5 .....	19.00	25.00
3.0 .....	21.00	28.00
3.5 .....	23.00	32.00
4.0 .....	25.00	34.00

<sup>1</sup> Maximum Weight: 4 lbs.

## V. Other Articles (AO)

## A. Regular Printed Matter and Small Packets—Surface

Weight not over		Mexico	All other Countries except Canada
(lbs.)	(ozs.)		
		Rate	Rate
0	1	\$0.60	\$0.70
0	2	0.80	1.04
0	3	1.06	1.30
0	4	1.25	1.45
0	5	1.50	1.96
0	6	1.50	1.96
0	7	1.85	2.46
0	8	1.85	2.46
0	9	2.19	2.96
0	10	2.19	2.96
0	11	2.47	3.47
0	12	2.47	3.47
0	13	2.81	3.97
0	14	2.81	3.97
0	15	3.14	4.48
1	0	3.14	4.48
1	2	3.43	4.84
1	4	3.72	5.20
1	6	4.01	5.56
1	8	4.30	5.92
1	10	4.58	6.28
1	12	4.87	6.64
1	14	5.16	7.00
2	0	5.45	7.36
3	0	7.37	9.66
4	0	9.29	11.96
Each additional pound or fraction of a pound .....		\$1.92	\$2.30

## B. Valuepost™/Canada

Weight	Rate
Letter-size:	
1 ounce or less.	\$0.42
Over 1 ounce.	0.39 plus \$0.51 per pound or fraction of a pound.

Weight	Rate
Flat-size: 5 ounces or less.	0.71.
Over 5 ounces.	0.43 plus \$1.16 per pound or fraction of a pound.

**C. Publishers' Periodicals—Surface**

Weight not over		Mexico	All other Coun- tries except Can- ada
(lbs.)	(ozs.)	Rate	Rate
0	1	\$0.40	\$0.38
0	2	0.50	0.48
0	3	0.65	0.62
0	4	0.75	0.72
0	5	0.94	0.91
0	6	0.94	0.91
0	7	1.13	1.10
0	8	1.13	1.10
0	9	1.31	1.30
0	10	1.31	1.30
0	11	1.50	1.49
0	12	1.50	1.49
0	13	1.69	1.68
0	14	1.69	1.68
0	15	1.88	1.87
1	0	1.88	1.87
1	2	2.05	2.05
1	4	2.23	2.23
1	6	2.40	2.41
1	8	2.58	2.59
1	10	2.75	2.77
1	12	2.93	2.95
1	14	3.10	3.13
2	0	3.28	3.31
3	0	4.48	4.46

Weight not over		Mexico	All other Coun- tries except Can- ada
(lbs.)	(ozs.)	Rate	Rate
4	0	5.68	5.61
5	0	6.88	6.76
6	0	8.08	7.91
7	0	9.28	9.06
8	0	10.48	10.21
9	0	11.68	11.36
10	0	12.88	12.51
11	0	14.08	13.66

**Note:** There is a \$0.25 per pound Drop Shipment Discount for publishers' periodicals that are made up to country and tendered at the New Jersey International and Bulk Mail Center (NJI & BMC).

**D. Books and Sheet Music—Surface**

Weight not over (lbs.)	Mexico	All other countries except Canada
	Rate	Rate
1 .....	\$1.88	\$1.87
2 .....	3.28	3.31
3 .....	4.48	4.46
4 .....	5.68	5.61
5 .....	6.88	6.76
6 .....	8.08	7.91
7 .....	9.28	9.06
8 .....	10.48	10.21
9 .....	11.68	11.36
10 .....	12.88	12.51
11 .....	14.08	13.66

**E. Air—Other Articles (Printed Matter, Matter for the Blind, and Small Packets)****1. Canada and Mexico—Air**

Weight not over		Can- ada	Mexico
(lbs.)	(ozs.)	Rate	Rate
0	0.5	\$0.60	\$0.60
0	1	0.69	0.76
0	1.5	0.84	0.91
0	2	0.85	1.07
0	3	1.26	1.30
0	4	1.50	1.56
0	5	1.74	1.82
0	6	1.84	2.08
0	7	2.06	2.34
0	8	2.29	2.60
0	9	2.51	2.86
0	10	2.74	3.12
0	11	2.96	3.38
0	12	3.19	3.64
1	0	4.09	4.68
1	8	4.68	6.76
2	0	5.60	8.84
2	8	6.52	10.92
3	0	7.44	13.00
3	8	8.36	15.08
4	0	9.28	17.16
Each additional 1/2-pound or fraction of 1/2-pound		\$0.92	\$2.08

**VI. Parcel Post**

**(Note:** The weight limit for parcel post varies by country. Parcels mailed to Canada must weigh a minimum of 1 pound.)

**A. Surface Parcel Post**

Weight not over (lbs.)	Canada	Bahamas <sup>1</sup>	All other countries
	Rate	Rate	Rate
2 .....	\$11.33	\$14.65	\$15.70
3 .....	11.69	15.34	16.60
4 .....	13.13	16.01	17.47
5 .....	13.51	16.65	18.32
6 .....	13.90	18.85	20.88
7 .....	14.28	19.52	21.75
8 .....	15.88	20.17	22.59
9 .....	16.30	20.80	23.42
10 .....	16.71	21.42	24.22
11 .....	18.45	23.86	27.10
12 .....	18.89	24.51	27.93
13 .....	19.34	25.14	28.76
14 .....	19.79	25.77	29.57
15 .....	20.23	26.38	30.36
16 .....	20.68	26.99	31.15
17 .....	21.13	27.59	31.93
18 .....	21.57	28.18	32.69
19 .....	22.02	28.77	33.45
20 .....	22.47	29.35	34.20
21 .....	22.91	29.93	34.94
22 .....	23.36	30.50	35.68
23 .....	23.81	31.07	36.41
24 .....	24.25	31.63	37.14
25 .....	26.03	33.42	39.09
26 .....	26.48	33.98	39.80
27 .....	26.92	34.53	40.51

Weight not over (lbs.)	Canada	Bahamas <sup>1</sup>	All other countries
	Rate	Rate	Rate
28 .....	27.37	35.07	41.22
29 .....	27.82	35.62	41.92
30 .....	28.27	36.16	42.61
31 .....	28.71	36.70	43.31
32 .....	29.16	37.24	44.00
33 .....	29.61	37.77	44.68
34 .....	30.05	38.30	45.37
35 .....	30.50	38.83	46.05
36 .....	30.95	39.36	46.73
37 .....	31.39	39.89	47.40
38 .....	31.84	40.41	48.07
39 .....	32.29	40.93	48.75
40 .....	32.73	41.45	49.41
41 .....	33.18	41.97	50.08
42 .....	33.63	42.49	50.75
43 .....	34.07	43.01	51.41
44 .....	34.55	43.52	52.07
Each additional pound or fraction of a pound .....	\$0.50	\$0.60	\$0.70

<sup>1</sup> Also Bermuda, Caribbean Islands, Central America, Mexico, and St. Pierre and Miquelon.

### B. Air Parcel Post

(See section VII for country rate groups.)

Weight not over (lbs.)							
Rate groups	Canada	Mexico	A	B	C	D	E
1 .....	\$12.61	\$9.98	\$10.86	\$11.76	\$13.80	\$15.11	\$16.69
2 .....	12.61	12.12	13.71	15.42	17.28	19.83	20.68
3 .....	13.28	13.36	15.57	18.01	19.51	23.19	23.15
4 .....	15.11	15.82	18.87	22.31	23.55	28.76	27.75
5 .....	15.84	17.16	20.88	25.12	25.96	32.40	30.43
6 .....	16.56	18.50	22.89	27.92	28.37	36.03	33.11
7 .....	17.29	19.84	24.90	30.73	30.78	39.67	35.79
8 .....	19.40	22.81	28.99	36.11	35.75	46.63	41.42
9 .....	20.18	24.26	31.15	39.13	38.34	50.55	44.30
10 .....	20.97	25.70	33.31	42.15	40.94	54.47	47.19
11 .....	21.75	27.15	35.48	45.17	43.54	58.38	50.07
12 .....	22.53	28.59	37.64	48.19	46.14	62.30	52.95
13 .....	23.32	30.04	39.81	51.21	48.73	66.21	55.84
14 .....	24.10	31.48	41.97	54.23	51.33	70.13	58.72
15 .....	24.88	32.93	44.14	57.25	53.93	74.04	61.60
16 .....	25.66	34.37	46.30	60.27	56.52	77.96	64.49
17 .....	26.45	35.82	48.47	63.29	59.12	81.88	67.37
18 .....	27.23	37.26	50.63	66.31	61.72	85.79	70.25
19 .....	28.01	38.71	52.80	69.33	64.32	89.71	73.14
20 .....	28.79	40.15	54.96	72.35	66.91	93.62	76.02
21 .....	29.58	41.60	57.13	75.37	69.51	97.54	78.90
22 .....	30.36	43.04	59.29	78.39	72.11	101.45	81.79
23 .....	31.14	44.49	61.46	81.41	74.70	105.37	84.67
24 .....	31.92	45.93	63.62	84.43	77.30	109.29	87.55
25 .....	34.04	48.71	67.12	88.76	81.23	114.53	91.61
26 .....	34.82	50.15	69.28	91.78	83.83	118.44	94.49
27 .....	35.60	51.60	71.45	94.80	86.42	122.36	97.38
28 .....	36.38	53.04	73.61	97.82	89.02	126.27	100.26
29 .....	37.17	54.49	75.78	100.84	91.62	130.19	103.14
30 .....	37.95	55.93	77.94	103.86	94.21	134.11	106.03
31 .....	38.73	57.38	80.11	106.88	96.81	138.02	108.91
32 .....	39.51	58.83	82.27	109.90	99.41	141.94	111.79
33 .....	40.30	60.27	84.44	112.92	102.00	145.85	114.68
34 .....	41.08	61.72	86.60	115.94	104.60	149.77	117.56
35 .....	41.86	63.16	88.77	118.96	107.20	153.68	120.44
36 .....	42.65	64.61	90.93	121.98	109.80	157.60	123.33
37 .....	43.43	66.05	93.10	125.00	112.39	161.52	126.21
38 .....	44.21	67.50	95.26	128.02	114.99	165.43	129.09
39 .....	44.99	68.94	97.43	131.04	117.59	169.35	131.98
40 .....	45.78	70.39	99.59	134.06	120.18	173.26	134.86
41 .....	46.56	71.83	101.76	137.08	122.78	177.18	137.74
42 .....	47.34	73.28	103.92	140.10	125.38	181.09	140.63
43 .....	48.12	74.72	106.09	143.12	127.98	185.01	143.51

Weight not over (lbs.)							
Rate groups	Canada	Mexico	A	B	C	D	E
44 .....	48.91	76.17	108.25	146.14	130.57	188.95	146.39
Each additional pound or fraction of a pound .....	\$0.80	.....	\$1.50	\$3.00	\$2.60	\$4.00	\$3.00

<sup>1</sup> Minimum parcel post weight to Canada is 1 pound.

#### VII. Country Table

Country	Express mail rate group	Air parcel post rate group
Afghanistan <sup>1</sup> .....	.....	E
Albania .....	4 <sup>2</sup> .....	D
Algeria .....	6 <sup>2</sup> .....	D
Andorra .....	4 .....	B
Angola .....	6 .....	D
Anguilla .....	5 .....	A
Antigua and Barbuda .....	.....	A
Argentina .....	5 .....	E
Armenia .....	4 .....	E
Aruba .....	5 .....	B
Ascension .....	.....	.....
Australia .....	3 .....	D
Austria .....	2 .....	D
Azerbaijan .....	4 .....	A
Azores .....	4 .....	D
Bahamas .....	5 .....	A
Bahrain .....	6 .....	C
Bangladesh .....	1 .....	B
Barbados .....	5 .....	A
Belarus .....	4 .....	C
Belgium .....	2 .....	D
Belize .....	5 .....	A
Benin .....	6 .....	A
Bermuda .....	5 .....	C
Bhutan .....	1 <sup>2</sup> .....	D
Bolivia .....	5 .....	C
Bosnia-Herzegovina .....	2 .....	A
Botswana .....	6 .....	D
Brazil .....	5 .....	E
British Virgin Islands .....	.....	A
Brunei Darussalam .....	1 .....	A
Bulgaria .....	4 .....	D
Burkina Faso .....	6 .....	D
Burma .....	.....	B
Burundi <sup>1</sup> .....	6 .....	B
Cambodia .....	1 .....	B
Cameroon .....	6 .....	D
Canada .....	Country-Specific Rate <sup>2</sup>	Country-Specific Rate
Cape Verde .....	6 .....	D
Cayman Islands .....	5 .....	A
Central African Republic .....	6 .....	E
Chad .....	6 .....	D
Chile .....	5 .....	C
China .....	Country-Specific Rate	D
Colombia .....	5 .....	B
Comoros .....	.....	B
Congo, Dem. Rep. of the <sup>1</sup> .....	6 .....	B
Congo, Rep. of the (Brazzaville) .....	6 .....	E
Corsica .....	4 .....	D
Costa Rica .....	5 .....	A
Côte d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast) .....	6 .....	C
Croatia .....	4 .....	C
Cuba .....	.....	.....
Cyprus .....	4 .....	C
Czech Republic .....	4 .....	C
Denmark .....	2 .....	C
Djibouti .....	6 .....	D
Dominica .....	.....	A
Dominican Republic .....	5 .....	A
Ecuador .....	5 .....	B
Egypt .....	6 .....	D
El Salvador .....	5 .....	A

Country	Express mail rate group	Air parcel post rate group
Equatorial Guinea .....	6 .....	B
Eritrea .....	6 .....	D
Estonia .....	4 <sup>2</sup> .....	D
Ethiopia .....	6 .....	B
Falkland Islands.		
Faroe Islands .....	2 .....	C
Fiji .....	1 <sup>2</sup> .....	A
Finland .....	2 .....	A
France (incl. Monaco) .....	4 <sup>2</sup> .....	D
French Guiana .....	5 <sup>2</sup> .....	E
French Polynesia .....	1 .....	E
Gabon .....	6 .....	D
Gambia .....		A
Georgia, Republic of .....	4 .....	E
Germany .....	2 <sup>2</sup> .....	A
Ghana .....	6 .....	D
Gibraltar .....		B
Great Britain and Northern Ireland .....	Country-Specific Rate	D
Greece .....	2 .....	A
Greenland .....		C
Grenada .....	5 .....	A
Guadeloupe .....	5 <sup>2</sup> .....	E
Guatemala .....	5 .....	A
Guinea .....	6 .....	A
Guinea-Bissau <sup>1</sup> .....	6 .....	A
Guyana .....	5 .....	A
Haiti .....	5 .....	A
Honduras .....	5 .....	A
Hong Kong .....	3 .....	D
Hungary .....	2 .....	C
Iceland .....	2 .....	A
India .....	1 .....	D
Indonesia .....	1 .....	D
Iran .....		E
Iraq .....	6.	
Ireland .....	4 .....	A
Israel .....	6 .....	D
Italy .....	2 .....	A
Jamaica .....	5 .....	A
Japan .....	Country-Specific Rate	D
Jordan .....	6 .....	B
Kazakhstan .....	4 .....	B
Kenya .....	6 .....	D
Kiribati .....		A
Korea, Dem. People's Rep. (North).		
Korea, Republic of (South) .....	3 .....	B
Kuwait .....	6 .....	D
Kyrgyzstan .....	4 .....	C
Laos .....	1 .....	E
Latvia .....	4 .....	B
Lebanon .....		A
Lesotho .....	6 .....	D
Liberia <sup>1</sup> .....	6.	
Libya .....		
Liechtenstein .....	2 .....	C
Lithuania .....	4 .....	D
Luxembourg .....	4 .....	C
Macao .....	1 .....	D
Macedonia .....	4 .....	C
Madagascar .....	6 .....	E
Madeira Islands .....	4 .....	D
Malawi .....	6 .....	D
Malaysia .....	1 .....	B
Maldives .....	1 .....	E
Mali .....	6 .....	D
Malta .....	2 .....	D
Martinique .....	5 <sup>2</sup> .....	E
Mauritania .....	6 .....	A
Mauritius .....	6 .....	B
Mexico .....	Country-Specific Rate	Country-Specific Rate
Moldova .....	4 .....	D
Mongolia .....	1 .....	D
Montserrat .....		A

Country	Express mail rate group	Air parcel post rate group
Morocco .....	6 .....	C
Mozambique .....	6 .....	E
Namibia .....	6 .....	D
Nauru .....	1 <sup>2</sup> .....	B
Nepal .....	1 .....	D
Netherlands .....	2 <sup>2</sup> .....	B
Netherlands Antilles .....	5 .....	B
New Caledonia .....	1 .....	E
New Zealand .....	1 .....	D
Nicaragua .....	5 .....	A
Niger .....	6 .....	C
Nigeria .....	6 .....	D
Norway .....	2 .....	D
Oman .....	1 .....	B
Pakistan .....	1 .....	D
Panama .....	5 .....	A
Papua New Guinea .....	1 .....	E
Paraguay .....	5 .....	C
Peru .....	5 .....	C
Philippines .....	1 .....	D
Pitcairn Island .....	.....	D
Poland .....	4 .....	C
Portugal .....	4 .....	D
Qatar .....	6 .....	B
Reunion .....	.....	E
Romania .....	4 .....	D
Russia .....	4 .....	E
Rwanda .....	6 .....	D
Saint Christopher (St. Kitts) and Nevis .....	5 .....	B
Saint Helena .....	.....	C
Saint Lucia .....	5 .....	A
Saint Pierre and Miquelon .....	.....	B
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines .....	5 .....	C
San Marino .....	.....	A
Sao Tome and Principe .....	.....	B
Saudi Arabia .....	6 .....	B
Senegal .....	6 .....	D
Serbia-Montenegro <sup>1</sup> .....	4 .....	B
Seychelles .....	6 .....	C
Sierra Leone <sup>1</sup> .....	6 .....	D
Singapore .....	3 .....	D
Slovak Republic .....	4 .....	B
Slovenia .....	2 .....	C
Solomon Islands .....	1 .....	B
Somalia <sup>1</sup> .....	6 .....	.....
South Africa .....	6 .....	D
Spain .....	4 .....	B
Sri Lanka .....	1 .....	B
Sudan .....	6 .....	B
Suriname .....	.....	A
Swaziland .....	6 .....	B
Sweden .....	2 <sup>2</sup> .....	E
Switzerland .....	2 .....	C
Syrian Arab Republic .....	6 .....	C
Taiwan .....	3 .....	D
Tajikistan .....	4 .....	C
Tanzania .....	6 .....	C
Thailand .....	3 .....	B
Togo .....	6 .....	D
Tonga .....	.....	A
Trinidad and Tobago .....	5 .....	A
Tristan da Cunha .....	.....	A
Tunisia .....	6 .....	B
Turkey .....	6 .....	B
Turkmenistan .....	4 .....	D
Turks and Caicos Islands .....	.....	A
Tuvalu .....	.....	A
Uganda .....	6 .....	D
Ukraine .....	4 .....	D
United Arab Emirates .....	6 .....	C
Uruguay .....	5 .....	C
Uzbekistan .....	.....	E
Vanuatu .....	1 <sup>2</sup> .....	A



Country	Express mail rate group	Air parcel post rate group
Vatican City .....	.....	A
Venezuela .....	5 .....	A
Vietnam .....	1 .....	B
Wallis and Futuna Islands .....	.....	E
Western Samoa .....	1 .....	B
Yemen .....	6 .....	C
Zambia .....	6 .....	D
Zimbabwe .....	6 .....	E

<sup>1</sup> All mail service is currently suspended.

<sup>2</sup> On Demand service only.

**Stanley F. Mires,**

*Chief Counsel, Legislative.*

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## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

### 40 CFR PART 52

[GA-34-1-9805; FRL-6318-3]

#### Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Georgia: Approval of Revisions to the Georgia State Implementation Plan

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Final conditional interim approval.

**SUMMARY:** EPA is granting final conditional interim approval of the State Implementation Plan (SIP) revision submitted by the State of Georgia through the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) on November 15, 1993, and amended on June 17, 1996, which included the 15 percent Rate-of-Progress Plan (15 percent plan). EPA is granting final conditional interim approval because achievement of the 15 percent reduction in emission of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) is dependent upon implementation of the enhanced inspection and maintenance (I/M) plan and the condition pertaining to the implementation of a low Reid Vapor Pressure (RVP) program of 7.0 psi. Full approval of Georgia's 15 percent plan will be granted after EPA reviews the State's demonstration that the enhanced I/M program actually achieved the emission reductions claimed as required by the National Highway Act, approves the Georgia enhanced I/M plan, and approves the low RVP program or other program that meets the same emission reduction requirements. In a **Federal Register** notice published on January 29, 1999, (64 FR 4568) EPA granted final interim approval to Georgia's I/M

program. Full approval of the individual measures that comprise the 15 percent plan, except for the low RVP program, is being granted in this action. Additionally, EPA is approving Georgia's 1990 Baseline Emissions Inventory.

**DATES:** This final rule is effective May 26, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of the documents relative to this action are available for public inspection during normal business hours at the following locations. The interested persons wanting to examine these documents should make an appointment with the appropriate office at least 24 hours before the visiting day.

Air and Radiation Docket and Information Center (Air Docket 6102), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M Street, SW, Washington, DC 20460.

Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4 Air Planning Branch, 61 Forsyth Street, SW, Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3104.

Air Protection Branch, Georgia Environmental Protection Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, 4244 International Parkway, Suite 120, Atlanta, Georgia 30354.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Scott M. Martin, Regulatory Planning Section, Air Planning Branch, Air, Pesticides & Toxics Management Division, Region 4 Environmental Protection Agency, 61 Forsyth Street, SW, Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3104. The telephone number is 404-562-9036.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Clean Air Act Requirements for Serious Nonattainment Areas

The Atlanta area was classified as a serious ozone nonattainment area on November 6, 1991. The nonattainment area consists of the following thirteen counties: Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, Dekalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnet, Henry, Paulding, and Rockdale.

Section 182(b) of the Clean Air Act (CAA) requires that each state in which all or part of a serious nonattainment area is located submit, by November 15, 1992, an inventory of actual emissions from all sources, as described in section 172(c)(3) and 182(a)(1), in accordance with guidance provided by the Administrator. This inventory is for calendar year 1990 and is designated the baseline year inventory. The inventory must include both anthropogenic and biogenic sources of volatile organic compounds (VOCs), nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>), and carbon monoxide (CO), and must address actual emissions of these pollutants in the nonattainment area during the peak ozone season. The inventory must include all point and area sources, as well as all highway and non-highway mobile sources.

In addition, section 182(b)(1)(A) of the CAA requires ozone nonattainment areas classified as moderate and above to develop plans to reduce VOC emissions by 15 percent from the 1990 baseline. The plans were to be submitted by November 15, 1993, and the reductions were required to be achieved within six years of enactment or November 15, 1996. The CAA also set limitations on the creditability of certain types of reductions. Specifically, a state cannot take credit for reductions achieved by Federal Motor Vehicle Control Program (FMVCP) measures promulgated prior to 1990, or for reductions resulting from requirements to lower the Reid Vapor Pressure (RVP) of gasoline promulgated prior to 1990 or required under section 211(h) of the CAA, which restricts gasoline RVP. Furthermore, the CAA does not allow credit for corrections to vehicle I/M programs or corrections to Reasonably Available Control Technology (RACT) rules as these programs were required prior to 1990.

#### Proposed Action on Submittal

The State of Georgia submitted the 15 percent plan SIP revision for the Atlanta nonattainment area on November 15, 1993, and amended it on June 17, 1996.