

Federal Aviation Administration – [Regulations and Policies](#)  
Aviation Rulemaking Advisory Committee

Air Carrier Operations Issue Area  
All-Weather Operations Working Group  
**Task 3 – Low Visibility Operations**

[Federal Register: November 26, 2003 (Volume 68, Number 228)]  
[Notices]  
[Page 66524-66525]  
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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

Aviation Rulemaking Advisory Committee; Air Carrier Operations  
Issues--New Task

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

ACTION: Notice of a new task for the Aviation Rulemaking Advisory  
Committee (ARAC).

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SUMMARY: Notice is given of new tasks assigned to and accepted by the  
Aviation Rulemaking Advisory Committee (ARAC). This notice tells the  
public of the activities of ARAC.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kathy Abbott, Federal Aviation  
Administration, Regulation and Certification, 800 Independence Ave.,  
SW., Washington, DC 20591; telephone: 202-267-7192.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The **FAA** established the Aviation Rulemaking Advisory Committee to  
provide advice and recommendations to the **FAA** Administrator, through  
the Associate Administrator for Regulation and Certification, on the  
full range of the **FAA's** rulemaking activities about aviation-related  
issues. This includes getting advice and recommendations on the **FAA's**  
commitment to harmonize its Federal Aviation Regulations (FAR) and  
practices with its trading partners in Europe and Canada.

One area ARAC deals with is air carrier operations issues. These  
issues involve the operational requirements for air carriers, including  
crewmember requirements, airplane operating performance and  
limitations, and equipment requirements.

The Task

This notice is to tell the public the **FAA** has asked ARAC to provide  
advice and recommendation on the following harmonization task:

Harmonize positions on issues related to low-visibility operations.  
The ARAC Working Group will work on operational and airworthiness  
issues that apply to air carrier operations in low visibility  
conditions. The ARAC Working Group will identify harmonization issues  
in the following areas and will work to reach and document consensus on

those issues: Maintenance of harmonization of all weather operations criteria based on experience gained from recent certification programs and operations; evolution of criteria to support Global Navigation Satellite System Landing Systems (GLS); new technologies that are being applied to low visibility operations, and complete harmonization of operating minima criteria and implementation processes. The Group will coordinate information with the **FAA**/Industry Terminal Area Operations Aviation Rulemaking Committee (TAOARC), JAA All Weather Operations Steering Group (AWOSG), and European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) for consideration during its activities. This coordination will occur before the All Weather Operations Harmonization Working Group (AWO HWG) presents recommendations to ARAC. By March 2004, the Group will complete and document in a technical report the activity underway to harmonize low visibility operating minima between Europe and the United States.

#### ARAC Acceptance of Task

ARAC has accepted the task and has chosen to assign the task to the All Weather Operations Harmonization Working Group. Because a new task is being assigned to the working group, membership will be reopened. The working group will serve as staff to ARAC to aid ARAC in the analysis of the assigned task. Working group recommendations must be reviewed and approved by ARAC. If ARAC accepts the working group's recommendations, it forwards them to the **FAA** as ARAC recommendations.

#### Working Group Activity

The All Weather Operations Harmonization Working Group is expected to comply with the procedures adopted by ARAC. As part of the

[[Page 66525]]

procedures, the working group is expected to:

1. Recommend a work plan for completion of the tasks, including the reason supporting such a plan. The work plan should be presented for consideration at the first meeting of the ARAC on air carrier operations issues held following publication of this notice.
2. Give a detailed presentation of the proposed recommendations, before continuing with the work stated in item 3 below.
3. For each task, draft suitable documents with supporting analyses. Draft any other related material or collateral documents the working group determines to be suitable.
4. Provide a status report at each meeting of ARAC held to consider air carrier operations issues.

#### Participation in the Working Group

The All Weather Operations Harmonization Working Group will be composed of technical experts having an interest in the assigned task. A working group member need not be a representative of a member of the full committee.

An individual who has expertise in the subject matter and wishes to become a member of the working group should write to the person listed under the caption FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT expressing that desire, describing his or her interest in the tasks, and stating the expertise he or she would bring to the working group. All requests to

participate must be received by December 10, 2003. The assistant chair, the assistant executive director, and the working group chair will review the requests, and the individuals will be advised whether the request can be granted.

Individuals chosen for membership on the working group will be expected to represent their aviation community segment and participate actively in the working group (for example, attend all meetings, provide written comments when asked to do so, etc.). They also will be expected to devote the resources necessary to ensure the ability of the working group to meet any assigned deadline(s). Members are expected to keep their management chain advised of working group activities and decisions to ensure the agreed technical solutions do not conflict with their sponsoring organization's position when the subject being negotiated is presented to ARAC for a vote.

Once the working group has begun deliberations, members will not be added or substituted without the approval of the assistant chair, the assistant executive director, and the working group chair.

The Secretary of Transportation has determined the formation and use of ARAC is necessary and in the public interest in connection with the performance of duties imposed on the **FAA** by law.

Meetings of ARAC will be open to the public. Meetings of the All Weather Operations Harmonization Working Group will not be open to the public, except to the extent those individuals with an interest and expertise are selected to participate. No public announcement of working group meetings will be made.

Issued in Washington, DC, on November 17, 2003.  
Anthony F. Fazio,  
Executive Director, Aviation Rulemaking Advisory Committee.  
[FR Doc. 03-29450 Filed 11-25-03; 8:45 am]  
BILLING CODE 4910-13-P

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION****Federal Aviation Administration****Aviation Rulemaking Advisory Committee**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of withdrawal of task assignment to the Aviation Rulemaking Advisory Committee (ARAC).

**SUMMARY:** The FAA has withdrawn a task assigned to the Aviation Rulemaking Advisory Committee (ARAC) concerning all weather operations. This notice is to inform the public of the FAA's decision to withdraw this task.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Brenda D. Courtney, Manager, Aircraft and Airport Rules Division, Office of Rulemaking, Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20591, [brenda.courtney@faa.gov](mailto:brenda.courtney@faa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****Background**

The FAA established ARAC to provide advice and recommendations to the FAA Administrator on the FAA's rulemaking activities. This includes obtaining advice and recommendations on the FAA's commitments to harmonize Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) with its partners in Europe and Canada.

On November 26, 2003, the FAA published a notice in the **Federal Register** (68 FR 66524) informing the public of ARAC's acceptance of a new task, and its decision to assign the task to the All Weather Operations Harmonization Working Group. Over the years since assigning this task to ARAC, the working group has provided support to the FAA, other civil aviation authorities and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). This collaborative effort has brought about standardized and harmonized systems and processes such as the Enhanced Flight Vision System and use of radar altimeters in Europe. The working group has also provided support to the ICAO Operations Panel and provided updates to the All Weather Operations Manual for ICAO. These efforts are important to the FAA and other civil aviation authorities; however, they are not tasks typically assigned to ARAC. As such, the FAA has decided to continue these efforts under a different venue. We anticipate establishing a separate committee charged to work collaboratively among the international aviation community, the FAA and other

civil aviation authorities to ensure regulatory standards and policies related to all weather operations activities are standardized and harmonized in the interest of safety, and global economic efficiencies.

Withdrawal of the all weather operations task completes the activities that were assigned to ARAC's Air Carrier Operations Technical Subject Area. Because the FAA does not intend to assign any additional tasks to this technical area, the Air Carrier Operations Technical Subject Area is closed. The FAA has vetted the withdrawal of this task and our decision to close the Air Carrier Operations Technical Subject Area with the ARAC.

Issued in Washington, DC, on February 13, 2012.

**Pamela Hamilton-Powell,**

*Executive Director, Aviation Rulemaking Advisory Committee.*

[FR Doc. 2012-3891 Filed 2-22-12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-13-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION****Federal Railroad Administration**

**[Docket Number FRA-2001-10237]**

**Petition for Waiver of Compliance**

In accordance with Part 211 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), this document provides the public notice that by a document dated February 1, 2012, the Port of Los Angeles, with the cooperation and input of Pacific Harbor Line (PHL), has petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) for an extension of its waivers of compliance from certain provisions of the Federal railroad safety regulations contained at 49 CFR part 217, Railroad Operating Rules; part 220, Railroad Communications; part 221, Rear End Marking Device—Passenger, Commuter and Freight Trains; part 223, Safety Glazing Standards—Locomotives, Passenger Cars and Caboose; part 225, Railroad Accidents/Incidents: Reports Classification, and Investigations; part 228, Hours of Service of Railroad Employees; Recordkeeping and Reporting; Sleeping Quarters; part 228, Subpart A—General, and Subpart B—Records and Reporting; part 229, Railroad Locomotive Safety Standards; part 231, Railroad Safety Appliance Standards; part 238, Passenger Equipment Safety Standards; and part 239, Passenger Train Emergency Preparedness. FRA assigned the petition Docket Number FRA-2001-10237.

The Port of Los Angeles explained that their request is consistent with the

waiver process for shared use. See Statement of Agency Policy Concerning Jurisdiction Over the Safety of Railroad Passenger Operations and Waivers Related to Shared Use of the Tracks of the General Railroad System by Light Rail and Conventional Equipment, 65 FR 42529 (July 10, 2000); see also Joint Statement of Agency Policy Concerning Shared Use of the Tracks of the General Railroad System by Conventional Railroads and Light Rail Transit Systems, 65 FR 42626 (July 10, 2000). The Port of Los Angeles received its initial waiver and permission from FRA on May 8, 2002. The Port of Los Angeles was granted a 5-year extension of the terms and conditions of the original waiver on April 24, 2007.

The Port of Los Angeles stated in its most recent petition that it desires to continue the operation of the Red Car Line under the same rules, procedures, and directives as originally prescribed and granted by FRA. The Port of Los Angeles operates the "Waterfront Red Car Line" over 1.5 miles of PHL track, located in the Port of Los Angeles. Freight and vintage trolley operations are temporally separated on this portion of track. PHL no longer services Westway Terminal's tank farm on this portion of track.

A copy of the petition, as well as any written communications concerning the petition, is available for review online at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) and in person at the U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) Docket Operations Facility, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., W12-140, Washington, DC 20590. The Docket Operations Facility is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Interested parties are invited to participate in these proceedings by submitting written views, data, or comments. FRA does not anticipate scheduling a public hearing in connection with these proceedings since the facts do not appear to warrant a hearing. If any interested party desires an opportunity for oral comment, they should notify FRA, in writing, before the end of the comment period and specify the basis for their request.

All communications concerning these proceedings should identify the appropriate docket number and may be submitted by any of the following methods:

- *Web site:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
- *Fax:* 202-493-2251.
- *Mail:* Docket Operations Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., W12-140, Washington, DC 20590.