five years from the date the T–T strap package was opened, or if that date was not recorded, five years from the manufacturer’s cure date.

(ii) A 2,500 hour time-in-service (TIS) life limit for any T–T straps, P/N 500N5311–5, installed on a Model 500N or Model 600N helicopter that was previously installed on a Model MD900 helicopter.


(e) Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOC)

(1) The Manager, Los Angeles Aircraft Certification Office, FAA, may approve AMOCs for this AD. Send your proposal to: John Cecil, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, Los Angeles Aircraft Certification Office, Airframe Branch, 3960 Paramount Blvd., Lakewood, California 90712–4137; telephone 562–627–5228, fax 562–627–5210; email: john.cecil@faa.gov.

(2) For operations conducted under a 14 CFR part 119 operating certificate or under 14 CFR part 91, subpart K, we suggest that you notify your principal inspector, or lacking a principal inspector, the manager of the local flight standards district office or certificate holding district office before operating any aircraft complying with this AD through an AMOC.

(f) Additional Information

MDHI has issued one service bulletin with two numbers, SB500N–029R3 for the Model 500N helicopters, and SB600N–046R3 for the Model 600N helicopters, dated July 9, 2008. MD Helicopters, Inc. has also issued SB900–107R1, dated March 14, 2008, for the Model MD900 helicopters. These service bulletins, which are not incorporated by reference, contain information related to the subject of this AD. For this service information, contact MD Helicopters, Inc., Attn: Customer Support Division, 4555 E. McDowell Rd., Mail Stop M615, Mesa, Arizona 85215–9734, telephone 1–800–388–3378, fax 480–346–6813, or on the web at www.mdhelicopters.com. You may review a copy of this information at the FAA, Office of the Regional Counsel, Southwest Region, 2601 Meacham Blvd., Room 663, Fort Worth, Texas 76137.

(g) Subject

Joint Aircraft Service Component (JASC) Code: 6410: Tail rotor blades.

Issued in Fort Worth, Texas, on July 10, 2012.

Kim Smith,
Manager, Rotorcraft Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 2012–17616 Filed 7–18–12; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4910–13–P
Fax: If your submission, including attachments, does not exceed 10 pages, you may fax them to the OSHA Docket Office at (202) 693–1648; or U.S. mail, hand delivery, express mail, messenger, or courier service: You must submit your comments and attachments to the OSHA Office, Docket Number OSHA–2012–0029, U.S. Department of Labor, Room N–2625, 200 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20210; telephone (202) 693–2350 (OSHA's TTY number is (877) 889–5627). Deliveries (hand, express mail, messenger and courier service) are accepted during the Department of Labor’s and OSHA Office’s normal business hours, 8:15 a.m.–4:45 p.m., EDT.

Instructions for submitting comments: All submissions must include the docket number (Docket No. OSHA–2012–0029) or the RIN number (RIN 1218–AC78) for this rulemaking. Because of security-related procedures, submission by regular mail may result in significantly delayed receipt. Please contact the OSHA Docket Office for information about security procedures for making submissions by hand delivery, express delivery and messenger or courier service.

All comments, including any personal information you provide, are placed in the public docket without change and may be made available online at http://www.regulations.gov. Therefore, OSHA cautions you about submitting personal information such as social security numbers and birthdates.

Docket: To read or download submissions in response to this Federal Register notice, go to docket number OSHA–2012–0029, at http://www.regulations.gov. All submissions are listed in the http://www.regulations.gov index, however some information (e.g., copyrighted material) is not publicly available to read or download through that Web page. All submissions, including copyrighted material, are available for inspection and copying at the OSHA Docket Office.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Section 18 of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (the Act, 29 U.S.C. 667) provides that states that desire to assume responsibility for the development and enforcement of occupational safety and health standards may do so by submitting and obtaining federal approval of a state plan for the enforcement of occupational safety and health standards. Procedures for state plan approval are set forth in the regulations at 29 CFR part 1902. If the Assistant Secretary, applying the criteria set forth in section 18(c) of the Act and OSHA regulations, finds that the plan provides or will provide for state standards and enforcement that are “at least as effective” as federal standards and enforcement, initial approval is granted pursuant to section 18(b) of the Act (29 U.S.C. 667(b)). A state may commence operations under its plan after this determination is made, but the Assistant Secretary retains enforcement authority during the initial-approval period, as provided by section 18(e) of the Act, which states, “[a]fter the Secretary approves a State plan submitted under subsection (b), he may, but shall not be required to, exercise his authority under sections 8, 9, 10, 13, and 17 with respect to comparable standards promulgated under section 6,” for the specified period. The Hawaii State Plan received initial federal OSHA plan approval on December 28, 1973 (39 FR 1010). The Hawaii Occupational Safety and Health Division (HIOSH) of the Hawaii Department of Labor and Industrial Relations is designated as the state agency with responsibility for administering the state plan.

Hawaii proceeded to the next phase of federal plan approval in 1984, when the state plan received “final approval” under section 18(e) of the Act. Final approval under section 18(e) requires, among other things, a finding by the Assistant Secretary that the plan, in actual operation, provides worker protection “at least as effective as” that provided by federal OSHA. A final approval determination results in the relinquishment of federal concurrent enforcement authority in the state with respect to occupational safety and health issues covered by the plan, 29 U.S.C. 667(e). Hawaii was granted final approval effective April 30, 1984 (49 FR 19182).

Current Situation in Hawaii

During the past three years, the Hawaii State Plan has faced major budgetary and hiring restraints that have significantly affected its program. Impacts on the state plan are clearly reflected in the deficiencies identified throughout recent OSHA monitoring reports. Joint efforts were made by federal OSHA and Hawaii to address these issues, yet Hawaii continues to face severe programmatic, staffing and training issues. As of March 1, 2012, the HIOSH program employed five safety inspectors and five health inspectors, which falls short of the required nine (9) safety inspectors and nine (9) health inspectors as determined by benchmarks established pursuant to a federal court order entered in AFL–CIO v. Marshall, C.A. No. 74–406 (D.D.C. 1978)(order implementing AFL–CIO v. Marshall, 570 F.2d 1030 (D.C. Cir. 1978)). This reduced staffing level has resulted in a significant decrease in enforcement activities. Added to the state’s economic situation is the loss of institutional knowledge with the recent retirement of the program administrator.

With the ongoing task of training a new program administrator, as well as hiring and training new enforcement and administrative staff, Hawaii has requested assistance from federal OSHA. Hawaii’s proactive efforts demonstrate a commitment to ensuring that workers are afforded adequate protection during this period of program strengthening and improvement.

Joint efforts by federal OSHA and HIOSH to address Hawaii’s worker protection needs during this period, necessitate a greater presence by OSHA in the state. In order for federal OSHA to be able to provide
this assistance, Hawaii’s plan approval status must be modified from final approval to initial approval. During the phase of initial state plan approval status, federal OSHA retains authority to enforce federal OSHA requirements as a supplement to state plan enforcement.

Dwight Takamine, Hawaii’s Director of Labor and Industrial Relations, has committed the state to making Hawaii’s workplaces safe and healthful and to working “diligently toward restoring [the state’s] 18(e) status as soon as possible.” OSHA notes that the 3-year evaluation requirement for final approval following initial approval (see section 18(e), second sentence) does not apply in this instance. Hawaii received initial approval in 1974, and the structural features of the state plan remain completely intact.

Procedures for OSHA’s Proposed Modification to Hawaii Plan Approval

Today’s notice proposes a modification to the Hawaii State Plan’s status from final approval to initial approval in order to allow for federal OSHA to provide inspection and enforcement assistance to Hawaii. OSHA intends to make this modification in keeping with procedures at 29 CFR 1902.47 et seq. Relevant materials, including all public comments, relevant federal monitoring reports, a copy of the federal court’s order under which state staffing benchmarks are established, and other pertinent documentation will be publically available in OSHA’s docket office, as well as through various federal OSHA and state offices as described above. At the close of the public comment period initiated today, OSHA will review all comments submitted; will review any hearing requests; and will schedule an informal hearing if required to resolve substantial issues raised in any such requests. The Assistant Secretary’s final decision will thereupon be published in the Federal Register and will include the appropriate revisions to 29 CFR 1952 if the Hawaii State Plan’s status is changed.

Effect of Modifying Hawaii’s Status

As discussed above, modifying the Hawaii State Plan’s status from final to initial approval would authorize OSHA to carry on an enforcement program to supplement that of HIOSH, including independent federal or joint state and federal inspections resulting in issuance of appropriate federal citations. However, modifying Hawaii’s final approval status would not affect Hawaii’s basic plan approval and would not affect Hawaii’s legal authority to enforce state occupational safety and health standards in the state’s workplaces. This modification would leave Hawaii’s federally-approved state plan completely in place, and would simply reinstate federal OSHA’s authority to supplement state enforcement during this difficult period.

Pending a final decision in the proceeding instituted today, OSHA will continue to exercise federal authority over safety and health issues excluded from coverage under the state plan; monitoring inspections including accompanied visits; and other federal authority not affected by the 1984 final approval decision.

Operational Status Agreement

OSHA regulations provide that in states with initially-approved plans, OSHA and the state may enter into an agreement describing the division of responsibilities between them (29 CFR 1954.3). OSHA and HIOSH are developing such an agreement, which in this case would also include a timetable for remedial action to make state operations “as least as effective” and to ensure state compliance with applicable personnel staffing benchmarks. Notice will be provided in the Federal Register of this agreement, which OSHA intends will be effective on the date of a final decision in the modification proceeding initiated today.

Authority and Signature

David Michaels, Ph.D., MPH, Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Ave. NW., Washington, DC, authorized the preparation of this notice. OSHA is issuing this notice under the authority specified by Section 6(d) of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (29 U.S.C. 653), Secretary of Labor’s Order No. 1–2012 (76 FR 3912), and 29 CFR part 1905.

Signed at Washington, DC, on July 11, 2012.

David Michaels,
Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health.

BILLING CODE 4510–26–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard
33 CFR Part 100
[Docket No. USCG–2012–0156]
RIN 1625—AA08

Special Local Regulations for Marine Events; Potomac River, National Harbor Access Channel, MD

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Proposed rule; withdrawal.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is withdrawing its proposed rule concerning amendments to the regattas and marine parades regulations. The rulemaking was initiated to establish special local regulations during the swim segment of the “Ironman 70.3 National Harbor” triathlon, a marine event to be held on the waters of the Potomac River in Prince George’s County, Maryland on August 5, 2012. The Coast Guard was notified on May 22, 2012 that the event had been cancelled.

DATES: The proposed rule published April 6, 2012, at 77 FR 20750, is withdrawn as of July 19, 2012.

ADDRESSES: The docket for this withdrawn rulemaking is available for inspection or copying at the Docket Management Facility (M–30), U.S. Department of Transportation, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. You may also find this docket on the Internet by going to http://www.regulations.gov, inserting USCG–2012–0156 in the “Keyword” box, and then clicking “Search.”

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions about this notice, call or email Mr. Ronald Houck, Waterways Management Division, Sector Baltimore, MD, U.S. Coast Guard; telephone 410–576–2674, email Ronald.L.Houck@uscg.mil. If you have questions on viewing material in the docket, call Renee V. Wright, Program Manager, Docket Operations, telephone 202–366–9826.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On April 6, 2012, we published a notice of proposed rulemaking entitled “Special Local Regulations for Marine Events; Potomac River, National Harbor Access Channel, MD” in the Federal Register (77 FR 20750). The rulemaking