

Issued in Minneapolis, Minnesota on April 17, 1995.

Franklin D. Benson,

Manager, Minneapolis Airports District Office, FAA Great Lakes Region.

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BILLING CODE 4910-13-M

Aviation Rulemaking Advisory Committee Meeting

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a meeting to solicit information from the aviation maintenance community concerning maintenance, preventive maintenance, rebuilding and alteration, and inspection of certain aircraft. The information is requested to assist the Aviation Rulemaking Advisory Committee (ARAC) in its deliberations.

DATES: The meeting will be held on May 11, 1995, from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at Dr. Albert Sabin, Cincinnati Convention Center, Cincinnati, Ohio.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Christine Leonard, Professional Aviation Maintenance Association, 1008 Russell Lane, West Chester, PA 19382; telephone (610) 399-1744.

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 hereby given of a meeting to solicit information from the aviation maintenance community concerning maintenance, preventive maintenance, rebuilding and alteration, and inspection of certain aircraft. The information is requested to assist the Aviation Rulemaking Advisory Committee in its deliberations with regard to a task assigned to ARAC by the Federal Aviation Administration.

Specifically, the task is as follows:

Review Title 14 Code of Federal Regulations, parts 43 and 91, and supporting policy and guidance material for the purpose of determining the course of action to be taken for rulemaking and/or policy relative to the issue of general aviation aircraft inspection and maintenance, specifically § 91.409, part 43, and Appendices A and D of part 43. In your review, consider any inspection and maintenance initiatives underway throughout the aviation industry affecting general aviation with a maximum certificated takeoff weight of 12,500 pounds or less. Also consider ongoing initiatives in the areas of: Maintenance recordkeeping; research

and development; the age of the current aircraft fleet; harmonization; the true cost of inspection versus maintenance; and changes in technology.

Attendance is open to the interested public but may be limited to the space available. In addition, sign and oral interpretation can be made available at the meeting, as well as an assistive listening device, if requested 10 calendar days before the meeting. Arrangements may be made by contacting the meeting coordinator listed under the heading **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

Issued in Washington, DC, on April 25, 1995.

Dennis H. Piotrowski,

Acting Assistant Executive Director, Air Carrier/General Aviation Maintenance Issues, Aviation Rulemaking Advisory Committee.

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Research and Special Programs Administration

[Notice No. 95-7]

Use of Post-Consumer Recycled Plastic Material in the Manufacture of New Plastic Drums: Request for Comments

AGENCY: Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA), DOT.

ACTION: Request for comments.

SUMMARY: RSPA is soliciting comments on a request for approval for the limited use of post-consumer recycled plastic material in the manufacture of new plastic drums. The Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR) prohibit used plastic material, other than production residues or regrind from the same manufacturing process, in the manufacture of new plastic drums. Because of the general applicability and future effect of such an approval, RSPA is seeking comment on the merits of the request from other interested parties.

DATES: Comments are requested on or before June 30, 1995.

ADDRESSES: Request copies of this request for approval from, and address comments to, the Dockets Unit (DHM-30), Research and Special Programs Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, Washington, D.C. 20590-0001. Comments should identify the notice number and be submitted, when possible, in five copies. Persons wishing to receive confirmation of receipt of their comments should include a self-addressed stamped postcard. The Dockets Unit is located in Room 8421 of the Nassif Building, 400

Seventh Street, SW., Washington, D.C. Public dockets may be reviewed between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, except for Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Christine Whitney, Office of Hazardous Materials Exemptions and Approvals, telephone (202) 366-4512, or Susan Murphy, Office of Hazardous Materials Technology, telephone (202) 366-4545, Research and Special Programs Administration, Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Hazardous Materials Regulations have historically prohibited used plastic material, other than production residues or regrind from the same manufacturing process, in the manufacture of new plastic drums for hazardous materials transportation. The use of post-consumer recycled plastic in packaging for hazardous materials raises three concerns. First, the contents of a plastic packaging permeate into the plastic. Materials that have permeated into post-consumer recycled plastic could be incompatible with materials subsequently placed in a packaging made from the post-consumer recycled material. Second, in comparison with virgin polyethylene resin, post-consumer recycled plastic may have inferior strength characteristics. Third, use of post-consumer recycled plastic for the construction of hazardous materials packaging requires rigorous quality assurance control of the post-consumer recycled material. General application of such control measures to plastic packaging has not been practicable.

Due to environmental concerns, packaging manufacturers are coming under increased pressures to use recycled materials in manufacturing new packaging. The HMR, in 49 CFR 178.601(h), state that a packaging having specifications different from those in §§ 178.504-178.523 may be used if approved by the Associate Administrator for Hazardous Materials Safety. RSPA has received a request for an approval for the manufacture of plastic drums which do not meet the specifications of § 178.509, because the drums would be constructed, in part, from post-consumer recycled plastic. Use of the drums would be limited to transportation of hazardous waste for disposal.

RSPA is requesting comments in response to the following questions:

1. Should RSPA authorize the limited use of recycled (post-consumer) plastic in the manufacture of new drums?