

payments by the Department of Energy to reimburse the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund for the estimated increase in the unfunded liability to the Fund are based on estimated additional costs of using courier service only since October 1, 1977, to provide the enhanced benefits and early retirement.

Accordingly, we are now adopting the interim regulations as final without change.

#### Regulatory Flexibility Act

I certify that this regulation will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities because the regulation will only affect retirement benefits of retired nuclear materials couriers and their survivors.

#### Executive Order 12866, Regulatory Review

This rule has been reviewed by the Office of Management and Budget in accordance with Executive Order 12866.

#### List of Subjects in 5 CFR Parts 831 and 842

Administrative practice and procedure, Air traffic controllers, Alimony, Claims, Disability benefits, Firefighters, Government employees, Income taxes, Intergovernmental relations, Law enforcement officers, Pensions, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Retirement.

U.S. Office of Personnel Management.

**Janice R. Lachance,**  
*Director.*

Accordingly, OPM is adopting its interim rules amending 5 CFR parts 831 and 842 published on January 18, 2000, at 65 FR 2521, as final rules without change.

[FR Doc. 00-22003 Filed 8-28-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6325-01-P

#### DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

##### Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

##### 7 CFR Part 301

[Docket No. 99-044-3]

##### Oriental Fruit Fly; Removal of Quarantined Area

**AGENCY:** Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Affirmation of interim rule as final rule.

**SUMMARY:** We are adopting as a final rule, without change, an interim rule that amended the Oriental fruit fly

regulations by removing the quarantine on a portion of Hillsborough County, FL, and by removing the restrictions on the interstate movement of regulated articles from that area. The quarantine was necessary to prevent the spread of the Oriental fruit fly to noninfested areas of the United States. We have determined that the Oriental fruit fly has been eradicated from this area and that restrictions on the interstate movement of regulated articles from this area are no longer necessary. This portion of Hillsborough County, FL, was the last remaining area in Florida quarantined for Oriental fruit fly. Therefore, as a result of this action, there are no longer any areas in Florida quarantined for Oriental fruit fly.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** The interim rule became effective on October 7, 1999.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Michael B. Stefan, Operations Officer, Invasive Species and Pest Management Staff, PPQ, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 134, Riverdale, MD 20737-1236; (301) 734-8247.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

##### Background

In an interim rule effective October 7, 1999, and published in the **Federal Register** on October 15, 1999 (64 FR 55811-55812, Docket No. 99-044-2), we amended the Oriental fruit fly regulations, contained in § 301.93 through 301.93-10, by removing a portion of Hillsborough County, FL, from the list of quarantined areas in § 301.93-3(c). That action relieved unnecessary restrictions on the interstate movement of regulated articles from this area.

Comments on the interim rule were required to be received on or before December 14, 1999. We did not receive any comments. Therefore, for the reasons given in the interim rule, we are adopting the interim rule as a final rule.

This action also affirms the information contained in the interim rule concerning Executive Order 12866 and the Regulatory Flexibility Act, Executive Orders 12372 and 12988, and the Paperwork Reduction Act.

Further, for this action, the Office of Management and Budget has waived the review process required by Executive Order 12866.

##### List of Subjects in 7 CFR Part 301

Agricultural commodities, Plant diseases and pests, Quarantine, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Transportation.

Accordingly, we are adopting as a final rule, without change, the interim rule that amended 7 CFR part 301 and

that was published at 64 FR 55811-55812 on October 15, 1999.

#### PART 301—DOMESTIC QUARANTINE NOTICES

**Authority:** Title IV, Pub. L. 106-224, 114 Stat. 438, U.S.C. 7701-7772; 7 U.S.C. 166; 7 CFR 2.22, 2.80, and 371.3.

Done in Washington, DC, this 24th day of August 2000.

**Bobby R. Acord,**

*Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.*

[FR Doc. 00-22005 Filed 8-28-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-U

#### DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

##### Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

##### 7 CFR Part 301

[Docket No. 98-084-2]

##### Mexican Fruit Fly Regulations; Removal of Regulated Area

**AGENCY:** Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Affirmation of interim rule as final rule.

**SUMMARY:** We are adopting as a final rule, without change, an interim rule that amended the Mexican fruit fly regulations by removing the quarantined portion of Los Angeles County, CA, from the list of areas regulated because of the Mexican fruit fly. The quarantine was necessary to prevent the spread of the Mexican fruit fly to noninfested areas of the United States. We have determined that the Mexican fruit fly has been eradicated from Los Angeles County, CA, and that restrictions on the interstate movement of regulated articles from the previously regulated area are no longer necessary.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** The interim rule became effective on August 15, 1998.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Michael B. Stefan, Operations Officer, Domestic and Emergency Operations Office, PPQ, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 134, Riverdale, MD 20737-1236 (301) 734-8247.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

In an interim rule effective August 15, 1998, and published in the **Federal Register** on August 20, 1998 (63 FR 44537-44538, Docket No. 98-084-1), we amended the Mexican fruit fly regulations (contained in 7 CFR 301.64 through 301.64-10) by removing a portion of Los Angeles County, CA,

from the list of quarantined areas in § 301.64–3(c). That action relieved unnecessary restrictions on the interstate movement of regulated articles from this area.

Comments on the interim rule were required to be received on or before October 19, 1998. We did not receive any comments. Therefore, for the reasons given in the interim rule, we are adopting the interim rule as a final rule.

This action also confirms the information contained in the interim rule concerning Executive Order 12866 and the Regulatory Flexibility Act, Executive Orders 12372 and 12988, and the Paperwork Reduction Act.

Further, for this action, the Office of Management and Budget has waived the review process required by Executive Order 12866.

#### List of Subjects in 7 CFR Part 301

Agricultural commodities, Plant diseases and pests, Quarantine, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Transportation.

#### PART 301—DOMESTIC QUARANTINE NOTICES

Accordingly, we are adopting as a final rule, without change, the interim rule that amended 7 CFR part 301 and that was published at 63 FR 44537–44538 on August 20, 1998.

**Authority:** Title IV, Pub. L. 106–224, 114 Stat. 438, 7 U.S.C. 7701–7772; 7 U.S.C. 166; 7 CFR 2.22, 2.80, and 371.3.

Done in Washington, DC, this 24th day of August 2000.

**Bobby R. Acord,**

*Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.*

[FR Doc. 00–22006 Filed 8–28–00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410–34–U**

#### DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

##### Federal Aviation Administration

#### 14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. 99–NM–355–AD; Amendment 39–11875; AD 2000–17–02]

RIN 2120–AA64

#### Airworthiness Directives; British Aerospace Model BAe 146 and Model Avro 146–RJ Series Airplanes

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** This amendment adopts a new airworthiness directive (AD), applicable to all British Aerospace

Model BAe 146 and certain Model Avro 146–RJ series airplanes, that requires inspections and torque checks of the stringer crown fittings and bolts at Ribs 0 and 2 of the wings for discrepancies, corrective action, if necessary; and eventual modification of the stringer crown fittings, which terminates the inspections and checks. This amendment is necessary to prevent increased loads on the upper wing skin due to looseness of the stringer fittings and bolts at Ribs 0 and 2 of the wings, which could result in reduced structural integrity of the wings. This action is intended to address the identified unsafe condition.

**DATES:** Effective October 3, 2000.

The incorporation by reference of certain publications listed in the regulations is approved by the Director of the Federal Register as of October 3, 2000.

**ADDRESSES:** The service information referenced in this AD may be obtained from British Aerospace Regional Aircraft American Support, 13850 Mclearen Road, Herndon, Virginia 20171. This information may be examined at the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Transport Airplane Directorate, Rules Docket, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington; or at the Office of the Federal Register, 800 North Capitol Street, NW., suite 700, Washington, DC.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Norman B. Martenson, Manager, International Branch, ANM–116, FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98055–4056; telephone (425) 227–2110; fax (425) 227–1149.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** A proposal to amend part 39 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR part 39) to include an airworthiness directive (AD) that is applicable to all British Aerospace Model BAe 146 and certain Model Avro 146–RJ series airplanes was published in the **Federal Register** on June 28, 2000 (65 FR 39831). That action proposed to require inspections and torque checks of the stringer crown fittings and bolts at Ribs 0 and 2 of the wings for discrepancies, corrective action, if necessary; and eventual modification of the stringer crown fittings, which would terminate the inspections and checks.

#### Comments

Interested persons have been afforded an opportunity to participate in the making of this amendment. No comments were submitted in response to the proposal or the FAA's determination of the cost to the public.

#### Conclusion

The FAA has determined that air safety and the public interest require the adoption of the rule as proposed.

#### Cost Impact

The FAA estimates that 20 airplanes of U.S. registry will be affected by this AD.

It will take approximately 8 work hours per airplane to accomplish the required inspection, at an average labor rate of \$60 per work hour. Based on these figures, the cost impact of the required inspection on U.S. operators is estimated to be \$9,600, or \$480 per airplane, per inspection cycle.

It will take approximately 450 work hours per airplane (including access and close) to accomplish the required modification, at an average labor rate of \$60 per work hour. Based on these figures, the cost impact of the required modification on U.S. operators is estimated to be \$540,000, or \$27,000 per airplane.

The cost impact figures discussed above are based on assumptions that no operator has yet accomplished any of the requirements of this AD action, and that no operator would accomplish those actions in the future if this AD were not adopted.

#### Regulatory Impact

The regulations adopted herein will not have a substantial direct effect on the States, on the relationship between the national Government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government. Therefore, it is determined that this final rule does not have federalism implications under Executive Order 13132.

For the reasons discussed above, I certify that this action (1) is not a “significant regulatory action” under Executive Order 12866; (2) is not a “significant rule” under DOT Regulatory Policies and Procedures (44 FR 11034, February 26, 1979); and (3) will not have a significant economic impact, positive or negative, on a substantial number of small entities under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act. A final evaluation has been prepared for this action and it is contained in the Rules Docket. A copy of it may be obtained from the Rules Docket at the location provided under the caption **ADDRESSES**.

#### List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 39

Air transportation, Aircraft, Aviation safety, Incorporation by reference, Safety.