

results of internal testing of the product/device, successful completion of Provider infrastructure testing, Alpha testing, and demonstration of limited distribution activities (Beta testing); the submitted product, Provider infrastructure and Provider/manufacturer qualification requirements will be administratively reviewed for final approval. Note: Copies of Draft 39 Code of Federal Regulation Part 502 containing IBIP Provider/Manufacturer qualification requirements are available by contacting USPS Metering Technology Management, 475 L'Enfant Plaza SW, Room 8430, Washington, DC 20260-2444. Copies of CFR Part 501 pertaining to postage meters are also available at the above address.

B. The Postal Service may require at any time, that models/versions of approved products, and the design and user manuals and specifications applicable to such product, and any revisions thereof be deposited with the Postal Service.

It is emphasized that this proposed procedure is being published for comments and is subject to final definition.

Although exempt from the notice and comment requirements of the Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. 553 (b),(c)) regarding proposed rule making by 39 U.S.C. 410(a), the Postal Service invites public comments on the proposed procedures.

Neva R. Watson,

Chief Counsel, Legislative.

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POSTAL RATE COMMISSION

39 CFR 3001

[Docket No. RM98-3; Order No. 1218]

Revisions to Rules of Practice

AGENCY: Postal Rate Commission.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The Commission seeks suggestions, especially from those who have taken part in recent rate, classification, and complaint dockets, on ways to improve the efficiency of proceedings conducted pursuant to 39 U.S.C. sec. 3624. Commenters are encouraged to address topics covered in 39 CFR 3001.1-92, with the exception of library references and confidential information. These two matters will be addressed in separate rulemakings. Commenters' suggestions will be considered in developing amendments that will improve the efficiency of Commission proceedings.

DATES: Comments should be filed on or before October 28, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stephen L. Sharfman, General Counsel, 202-789-6820.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION: Following each major proceeding, the Commission reviews the effectiveness of its rules of practice and invites participants to offer suggestions for changes or improvements. The Commission's initial assessment of the operation of its rules in the recently-completed omnibus rate and classification case (Docket No. R97-1) leads to several preliminary conclusions. First, it appears that two recently-adopted revisions—addressing the use of surveys and the Service's filing of "pro forma" financial data and information—worked reasonably well. Second, it appears that consideration should be given to incorporating all (or most) of the special rules of practice into the general, or standing, rules. Third, an assessment of ways to reduce the costs inherent in service of documents, including consideration of the extent to which electronic filing requirements (or options) can be added should be undertaken.

A serious evidentiary dispute over library references indicates that clarification of this longstanding practice is essential. However, the Commission intends to address this matter, and the potential need for changes in its rules on confidential information, in separate rulemakings. Thus, commenters are requested not to include suggestions on these topics in response to this rulemaking.

Dated: August 27, 1998.

Margaret P. Crenshaw,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-23636 Filed 9-1-98; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 52

[CA 212-0092b; FRL-6142-6]

Approval and Promulgation of State Implementation Plans; California State Implementation Plan Revision, South Coast Air Quality Management District

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: EPA is proposing to approve revisions to the California State Implementation Plan (SIP) which concern the control of particulate matter (PM) emissions from stationary sources,

including process industries and cement plants, within the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD).

The intended effect of proposing approval of these rules is to regulate emissions of PM in accordance with the requirements of the Clean Air Act, as amended in 1990 (CAA or the Act). In the Final Rules Section of this **Federal Register**, the EPA is approving the state's SIP revision as a direct final rule without prior proposal because the Agency views this as a noncontroversial revision and anticipates no adverse comments. A detailed rationale for this approval is set forth in the direct final rule. If no relevant adverse comments are received in response to this rule, no further activity is contemplated in relation to this rule. If EPA receives relevant adverse comments, the direct final rule will not take effect and all public comments received will be addressed in a subsequent final rule based on this proposed rule. EPA will not institute a second comment period on this rule. Any parties interested in commenting should do so at this time.

DATES: Comments must be received in writing by October 2, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on this action should be addressed to: Andrew Steckel, Rulemaking Office (AIR-4), Air Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX, 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA 94105-3901.

Copies of the rules and EPA's evaluation report for the rules are available for public inspection at EPA's Region IX office during normal business hours. Copies of the submitted rules are also available for inspection at the following locations:

South Coast Air Quality Management District, 21865 E. Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765
California Air Resources Board, Stationary Source Division, Rule Evaluation Section, 2020 "L" Street, Sacramento, CA 95812.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Patricia Bowlin, Rulemaking Office (AIR-4), Air Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX, 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA 94105-3901, Telephone: (415) 744-1188.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This document concerns SCAQMD Rule 404, Particulate Matter—Concentration; Rule 405, Solid Particulate Matter—Weight; and Rule 1112.1, Emissions of Particulate Matter from Cement Kilns, submitted to EPA on June 4, 1986 by the California Air Resources Board. For further information, please see the information provided in the Direct Final