

modeled after the AC 00–56A, Voluntary Industry Distributor Accreditation Program. The FAA accepted the recommendations on February 1, 2011.

This tasking is the FAA's response to one of the CATM recommendations. The FAA is tasking ARAC to make recommendations on a program for voluntary accreditation in the form of an AC. The objective of the accreditation program is to raise the level of safety of commercial air tour operators not required by regulation to maintain their aircraft under a continuous airworthiness maintenance program.

In December 2011, the ARAC Executive Committee met and discussed the solicited ideas and proposed actions for the tasking. This notice advises the public that the FAA has assigned, and the Executive Committee has accepted, a task to develop a recommendation report on a voluntary accreditation program in the form of an AC.

The Task

The FAA has tasked the ARAC working group to provide advice and recommendations on a program for voluntary accreditation in the form of an AC. The objective of the accreditation program is to raise the level of safety of commercial air tour operators not required by regulation to maintain their aircraft under a CAMP.

The working group is expected to develop a report containing recommendations on the tasking elements listed below. This report should document both majority and minority positions on the findings and the rationale for each position. Any disagreements should be documented, including the rationale for each position and the reasons for the disagreement. In developing its recommendations, the working group shall:

1. Familiarize itself with AC 00–56A to use as a model for developing the subject AC.
2. Establish quality system elements for a maintenance accreditation program.
3. Determine acceptable quality system standards.
4. Establish accreditation organization responsibilities.
5. Establish audit procedures.
6. Establish accreditation procedures.
7. Draft an advisory circular that addresses the elements of 1–6 above.

Schedule: The recommendations must be forwarded to the ARAC Executive Committee for review and approval no later than December 2012.

ARAC Acceptance of Task

The ARAC Executive Committee has accepted the task and assigned it to the

Commercial Air Tour Voluntary Accreditation Program Working Group. The working group serves as staff to ARAC and assists in the analysis of the assigned task. ARAC must review and approve the working group's recommendations. If ARAC accepts the working group's recommendations, it will send them to the FAA.

Working Group Activity

The Commercial Air Tour Voluntary Accreditation Program Working Group must comply with the procedures adopted by ARAC. As part of the procedures, the working group must:

1. Recommend a work plan for completion of the task, including the rationale supporting such a plan, for consideration at the next ARAC Executive Committee meeting held following publication of this notice.
2. Provide a status report at each meeting of the ARAC Executive Committee.
3. Draft the recommendation report and required analyses and/or any other related materials or documents.
4. Present the final recommendations to the ARAC Executive Committee for review and approval.

Participation in the Working Group

The Commercial Air Tour Voluntary Accreditation Program Working Group will be comprised of air tour industry organizations and technical experts having an interest in the assigned task. A working group member need not be a representative or a member of the committee. The FAA would like a wide range of members to ensure all aspects of rulemaking are considered in development of the recommendations.

If you wish to become a member of the Commercial Air Tour Voluntary Accreditation Program Working Group, write the person listed under the caption **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** expressing that desire. Describe your interest in the task and state the expertise you would bring to the working group. We must receive all requests by January 26, 2012. The ARAC Executive Committee and the FAA will review the requests and advise you whether or not your request is approved.

If you are chosen for membership on the working group, you must actively participate in the working group by attending all meetings, and providing written comments when requested to do so. You must devote the resources necessary to support the working group in meeting any assigned deadlines. You must keep your management chain and those you may represent advised of working group activities and decisions

to ensure the proposed technical solutions do not conflict with your sponsoring organization's position when the subject is presented to ARAC for approval. Once the working group has begun deliberations, members will not be added or substituted without the approval of the FAA and the working group chair.

The Secretary of Transportation 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.

ARAC meetings are open to the public. However, ARAC Commercial Air Tour Voluntary Accreditation Program Working Group meetings are not open to the public, except to the extent individuals with an interest and expertise are selected to participate. The FAA will make no public announcement of working group meetings.

Issued in Washington, DC, on December 19, 2011.

Pamela Hamilton-Powell,
Executive Director, Aviation Rulemaking Advisory Committee.

[FR Doc. 2011–33097 Filed 12–23–11; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

[Summary Notice No. PE–2011–54]

Petition for Exemption; Summary of Petition Received

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of petition for exemption received.

SUMMARY: This notice contains a summary of a petition seeking relief from specified requirements of title 14 CFR. The purpose of this notice is to improve the public's awareness of, and participation in, this aspect of FAA's regulatory activities. Neither publication of this notice nor the inclusion or omission of information in the summary is intended to affect the legal status of the petition or its final disposition.

DATES: Comments on this petition must identify the petition docket number and must be received on or before January 17, 2012.

ADDRESSES: You may send comments identified by Docket Number FAA–2011–1044 using any of the following methods:

- *Government-wide rulemaking web site:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>

and follow the instructions for sending your comments electronically.

- **Mail:** Send comments to the Docket Management Facility; U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590.

- **Fax:** Fax comments to the Docket Management Facility at (202) 493-2251.

- **Hand Delivery:** Bring comments to the Docket Management Facility in Room W12-140 of the West Building Ground Floor at 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Privacy: We will post all comments we receive, without change, to <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information you provide. Using the search function of our docket web site, anyone can find and read the comments received into any of our dockets, including the name of the individual sending the comment (or signing the comment for an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** published on April 11, 2000 (65 FR 19477-78).

Docket: To read background documents or comments received, go to <http://www.regulations.gov> at any time or to the Docket Management Facility in Room W12-140 of the West Building Ground Floor at 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David Staples, (202) 267-4058, Keira Jones, (202) 267-4025, or Tyneka L. Thomas, (202) 267-7626, Office of Rulemaking, Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20591.

This notice is published pursuant to 14 CFR 11.85.

Issued in Washington, DC on December 20, 2011.

Pamela Hamilton-Powell,
Director, Office of Rulemaking.

Petition For Exemption

Docket No.: FAA-2011-1044.

Petitioner: Sundance Helicopters, Inc.
Section of 14 CFR Affected: 14 CFR 93.323.

Description of Relief Sought:

Sundance Helicopters, Inc. seeks relief from the requirement to file VFR flight plans prior to conducting operations in the vicinity of Grand Canyon National Park, AZ.

[FR Doc. 2011-33100 Filed 12-23-11; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

Notice of Final Federal Agency Actions on Proposed Light Rail Project in Washington

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Notice of limitation on claims for judicial review of actions by FHWA and other Federal agencies.

SUMMARY: This notice announces actions taken by FHWA and other Federal agencies that are final within the meaning of 23 U.S.C. 139(l)(1). The actions relate to the East Link Light Rail Transit Project in King County Washington. These actions grant licenses, permits, and approvals for the project.

DATES: By this notice, FHWA is advising the public of final agency actions subject to 23 U.S.C. 139(l). A claim seeking judicial review of the Federal agency actions on the listed highway project will be barred unless the claim is filed on or before June 24, 2012. If the Federal law that authorizes judicial review of a claim provides a time period of less than 180 days for filing such claim, then that shorter time period still applies.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Pete Jilek, Urban Area Engineer, Federal Highway Administration, 711 S. Capitol Way #501, Olympia, Washington, 98501; telephone: (360) 753-9550; and email: pete.jilek@dot.gov. The FHWA Washington Division Urban Area Engineer's regular office hours are between 6 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. (Pacific Time). You may also contact the following FTA officials: Nancy-Ellen Zusman, Assistant Chief Counsel, Office of Chief Counsel, (312) 353-2577, or Terence Plaskon, Environmental Protection Specialist, Office of Human and Natural Environment, (202) 366-0442. FTA Headquarters is located at 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590. Office hours are from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., EST, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given that FHWA and other Federal agencies have taken final agency actions by issuing licenses, permits, and approvals for the following project in the State of Washington: East Link Light Rail Transit Project, King County, WA. **Federal Lead Agency:** Federal Transit Administration (FTA). **Project sponsor:** Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority (Sound Transit). **Project description:** The project extends the

current light rail system an additional 18 miles from Downtown Seattle to Mercer Island and Bellevue along Interstate 90 (I-90), and then through Bellevue to Overlake and Redmond in the Puget Sound region of Washington State. The light rail extension will cross Lake Washington in the center lanes of Interstate 90 (I-90). Project elements will affect portions of I-90 in Seattle, Mercer Island and Bellevue, Washington and portions of I-405 in Bellevue, Washington. The project includes 12 stations, four park-and-ride lots, and supporting facilities. The project also includes storage tracks and facilities located just north of the Hospital Station to allow for overnight storage of vehicles and daily startup operations. The actions by the Federal agencies, and the laws under which such actions were taken, are described in the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the project, issued in July 2011, and in the FHWA Record of Decision (ROD) issued on November 17, 2011. The FEIS and ROD are available by contacting FHWA at the address above or can be downloaded from the project Web site at <http://projects.soundtransit.org>.

This notice applies to all Federal agency decisions on the project as of the issuance date of this notice and all laws under which such actions were taken. This notice does not, however, alter or extend the limitation period of 180 days for challenges to final agency actions subject to previous notices published in the **Federal Register**, including notice given by the Federal Transit Administration on December 16, 2011 (76 FR 78332).

This notice applies to all Federal agency decisions, actions, approvals, licenses and permits on the project as of the issuance date of this notice, including but not limited to those arising under the following laws, as amended:

1. **General:** National Environmental Policy Act [42 U.S.C. 4321-4347]; Federal-Aid Highway Act [23 U.S.C. 109].

2. **Air:** Clean Air Act, as amended [42 U.S.C. 7401-7671(q)].

3. **Land:** Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966 [49 U.S.C. 303]; Landscaping and Scenic Enhancement (Wildflowers) [23 U.S.C. 319].

4. **Wildlife:** Endangered Species Act [16 U.S.C. 1531-1544]; Anadromous Fish Conservation Act [16 U.S.C. 757(a)-757(f)]; Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act [16 U.S.C. 661-667(e)]; Magnuson-Stevenson Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976, as amended [16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.].