

The Amendment

In consideration of the foregoing, the Federal Aviation Administration amends chapter III of Title 14, Code of Federal Regulations as follows:

PART 400—BASIS AND SCOPE

■ 1. The authority citation for part 400 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 51 U.S.C. 50901–50923.

■ 2. Revise § 400.2 to read as follows:

§ 400.2 Scope.

These regulations set forth the procedures and requirements applicable to the authorization and supervision under 51 U.S.C. Subtitle V, chapter 509, of commercial space transportation activities conducted in the United States or by a U.S. citizen. The regulations in this chapter do not apply to—

(a) Space activities carried out by the United States Government on behalf of the United States Government; or

(b) The launch of an amateur rocket as defined in § 1.1 of chapter I unless—

(1) The rocket is a Class 3 advanced high-power rocket as defined in § 101.22 of chapter I; and

(2) The operator of the Class 3 advanced high-power rocket voluntarily submits an application for a license or a permit.

Issued in Washington, DC, on July 31, 2012.

Michael P. Huerta,
Acting Administrator.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

21 CFR Part 20

[Docket No. FDA–2012–N–0205]

Agreements and Memoranda of Understanding Between the Food and Drug Administration and Other Departments, Agencies, and Organizations

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This final rule makes technical changes that will update a requirement that many of the written agreements and memoranda of understanding (MOUs) between the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and other departments, Agencies, and organizations be published in the

Federal Register. Because we already post and will continue to post our ongoing agreements and MOUs with other departments, Agencies, and organizations on our Web site upon their completion, this requirement is no longer necessary. This final rule, accordingly, eliminates it. We are making these technical changes to conserve Agency time and resources, reduce government paperwork, and eliminate unnecessary **Federal Register** printing costs while continuing to afford public access to these documents.

DATES: This rule is effective October 22, 2012.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Rulemaking Procedure

In the **Federal Register** of March 23, 2012 (77 FR 16923), FDA published a direct final rule to eliminate the requirement that many of our written agreements and MOUs with other departments, Agencies, and organizations be published in the **Federal Register**. We explained that we issued this rule as a direct final rule because we believed it was noncontroversial and did not anticipate receiving significant adverse comments. We concurrently published in the **Federal Register** of March 23, 2012 (77 FR 16971) a companion proposed rule, substantively identical to the direct final rule, that provided a procedural framework from which to proceed with standard notice-and-comment rulemaking in the event we were required to withdraw the direct final rule because of significant adverse comments. A significant adverse comment is defined as a comment that explains why the rule would be inappropriate, including challenges to the rule's underlying premise or approach, or would be ineffective or unacceptable without change. Any comments received under the companion proposed rule were treated as comments regarding the direct final rule and vice versa. A full description of FDA's policy on direct final rule procedures may be found in a guidance document published in the **Federal Register** of November 21, 1997 (62 FR 62466). This guidance document may be accessed at <http://www.fda.gov/RegulatoryInformation/Guidances/ucm125166.htm>.

We received one comment on the proposed rule, which we considered significantly adverse. Therefore, in the **Federal Register** of June 27, 2012 (77 FR 38173), we withdrew the direct final rule. This final rule summarizes and responds to this comment on the direct final rule and proposed rule. See section IV of this document for a discussion of the comment and FDA's response.

II. Background

In the **Federal Register** of October 3, 1974 (39 FR 35697), we announced that copies of all our MOUs transacted with government Agencies and nongovernment organizations were available for public review at our offices during working hours and would be published in the **Federal Register**. We subsequently codified this policy in the **Federal Register** of December 24, 1974 (39 FR 44602 at 44651) and recodified it where it currently appears at § 20.108 (21 CFR 20.108) in the **Federal Register** of March 22, 1977 (42 FR 15616 at 15625).

Consumers, industry, professional groups, associations, educators, and other government Agencies had manifested widespread interest in the texts of these MOUs. The intent of § 20.108 was to promote transparency by providing access to these stakeholders.

III. Summary of the Final Rule

This final rule will eliminate the requirement in current § 20.108(c) that our agreements and MOUs with other departments, Agencies, and organizations be published in the **Federal Register** on an individual basis and instead will require that they be posted on our Web site as completed. We increasingly rely on Internet-based communications to ensure and promote transparency in our operations and activities. So it is with this final rule, which merely recognizes and codifies our already established practice of making our ongoing agreements and MOUs with other departments, Agencies, and organizations publicly available on our Web site. At the time of this writing, each such publicly disclosable agreement and MOU can be accessed at one of the following three FDA Web site locations: <http://www.fda.gov/AboutFDA/PartnershipsCollaborations/MemorandaofUnderstandingMOUs/DomesticMOUs/default.htm>; <http://www.fda.gov/AboutFDA/PartnershipsCollaborations/MemorandaofUnderstandingMOUs/AcademiaMOUs/default.htm>; or <http://www.fda.gov/AboutFDA/PartnershipsCollaborations/>

Memoranda of Understanding MOUs/ Other MOUs/default.htm.

Because all publicly disclosable agreements and MOUs are posted on our Web site, it is no longer necessary to require, as does current § 20.108(b), that a permanent file of them be available for public review during working hours in the Agency's Freedom of Information Public Reading Room. Accordingly, this rule will revise current § 20.108(b).

The public's access to an FDA Web site that is regularly updated to include agreements and MOUs as they are completed has already greatly enhanced the speed, ease, and convenience with which stakeholders can obtain and review these documents.

The rule's technical changes will lessen demands on the time of our staff and reduce the government paperwork and printing costs associated with **Federal Register** publication of newly completed agreements and MOUs with other departments, Agencies, and organizations. At the same time, it will continue to ensure, consistent with the underlying intent of § 20.108, the accessibility of records of widespread interest to consumers, industry, professional groups, associations, educators, and other government Agencies.

Currently, § 20.108(c) treats our cooperative work-sharing agreements with State or local government Agencies differently from our agreements and MOUs with other Agencies and organizations. Because these cooperative work-sharing agreements rarely vary significantly from one another, we decided against publishing their full texts in the **Federal Register** (51 FR 19851; June 3, 1986). Instead, since 1993, we have merely required them to be listed at least once every 2 years in the **Federal Register** (58 FR 48794; September 20, 1993). This final rule will end such disparate treatment. Revised § 20.108(b) will apply to all of our written agreements and MOUs with other departments, Agencies, and organizations, including cooperative work-sharing agreements with State or local government Agencies, except for signed agreements and MOUs relating to activities of our Office of Criminal Investigations, which are addressed in § 20.108(d), which will be revised and redesignated as § 20.108(c).

This final rule does not amend § 20.108(a) (stating that our written agreements and MOUs are available for public disclosure).

IV. Comment on the Proposed Rule and FDA's Response

We received one comment on the proposed rule. A summary of that comment and FDA's response follow.

(Comment 1) While acknowledging "FDA's efforts to reduce printing costs associated with publication of newly completed" agreements and MOUs, the comment urged that such documents be published in full in the **Federal Register**, as they constitute "vital aspects of FDA's mission," and the **Federal Register** has been designated as the one place where important governmental actions can be found. The comment maintained that the **Federal Register** embodies a permanently available historical record providing potentially necessary details for recreating Agency thinking or policy at a given time. By contrast, the comment continued, FDA removes obsolete documents from its Web site as it continuously updates it, thereby rendering that Web site unreliable as an Agency historical record. It additionally contended that on numerous occasions when FDA has updated its Web site, information has become difficult to find or links no longer connect to appropriate Web site pages.

(Response) We believe that the burden and costs imposed by **Federal Register** publication of agreements and MOUs, which include not only the printing costs acknowledged by the comment, but also the time of FDA staff and associated government paperwork, outweigh any arguable interest in reproducing these documents in their entirety in the **Federal Register**. To the extent that any of these documents are eventually no longer accessible on FDA's Web site, they, like numerous other significant documents that are not reprinted in the **Federal Register**, constitute permanent Agency records required to be archived and made available to the public on request.

V. Analysis of Impacts

FDA has examined the impacts of the final rule under Executive Order 12866, Executive Order 13563, the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601–612), and the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104–4). Executive Orders 12866 and 13563 direct Agencies to assess all costs and benefits of available regulatory alternatives and, when regulation is necessary, to select regulatory approaches that maximize net benefits (including potential economic, environmental, public health and safety, and other advantages; distributive impacts; and equity). The Agency believes that this final rule is

not a significant regulatory action under Executive Order 12866.

The Regulatory Flexibility Act requires Agencies to analyze regulatory options that would minimize any significant impact of a rule on small entities. Because this rule does not impose any significant costs, we certify that it will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

Section 202(a) of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 requires that Agencies prepare a written statement, which includes an assessment of anticipated costs and benefits, before proposing "any rule that includes any Federal mandate that may result in the expenditure by State, local, and tribal governments, in the aggregate, or by the private sector, of \$100,000,000 or more (adjusted annually for inflation) in any one year." The current threshold after adjustment for inflation is \$139 million, using the most current (2011) Implicit Price Deflator for the Gross Domestic Product. We do not expect this rule to result in any 1-year expenditure that would meet or exceed this amount.

VI. Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995

We have concluded that this final rule contains no collection of information. Therefore, clearance by the Office of Management and Budget under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501–3520) is not required.

VII. Environmental Impact

We have determined under 21 CFR 25.33 that this final rule is of a type that does not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment. Therefore, neither an environmental assessment nor an environmental impact statement is required.

VIII. Federalism

We have analyzed this final rule in accordance with the principles set forth in Executive Order 13132. We have determined that this final rule does not contain policies that have substantial direct effects 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. Accordingly, we have concluded that this final rule does not contain policies that have federalism implications as defined in the Executive order and, consequently, a federalism summary impact statement is not required.

List of Subjects in 21 CFR Part 20

Confidential business information, Courts, Freedom of information, Government employees.

Therefore, under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act and under authority delegated to the Commissioner of Food and Drugs, 21 CFR part 20 is amended as follows:

PART 20—PUBLIC INFORMATION

■ 1. The authority citation for 21 CFR part 20 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 5 U.S.C. 552; 18 U.S.C. 1905; 19 U.S.C. 2531–2582; 21 U.S.C. 321–393, 1401–1403; 42 U.S.C. 241, 242, 242a, 242l, 242n, 243, 262, 263, 263b–263n, 264, 265, 300u–300u–5, 300aa–1.

■ 2. Section 20.108 is amended as follows:

- a. Revise paragraph (b);
- b. Remove paragraph (c);
- c. Redesignate paragraph (d) as paragraph (c);
- d. Revise newly redesignated paragraph (c).

The revisions read as follows:

§ 20.108 Agreements between the Food and Drug Administration and other departments, agencies, and organizations.

* * * * *

(b) All written agreements and memoranda of understanding between FDA and any entity, including, but not limited to other departments, Agencies, and organizations will be made available through the Food and Drug Administration Web site at <http://www.fda.gov> once finalized.

(c) Agreements and understandings signed by officials of FDA with respect to activities of the Office of Criminal Investigations are exempt from the requirements set forth in paragraph (b) of this section. Although such agreements and understandings will not be made available through the FDA Web site, these agreements will be available for disclosure in response to a request from the public after deletion of information that would disclose confidential investigative techniques or procedures, or information that would disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law.

Dated: August 17, 2012.

Leslie Kux,

Assistant Commissioner for Policy.

[FR Doc. 2012–20610 Filed 8–21–12; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**Food and Drug Administration****21 CFR Part 500**

[Docket No. FDA–2010–N–0612]

Animal Drugs, Feeds, and Related Products; Regulation of Carcinogenic Compounds in Food-Producing Animals

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is amending its regulations regarding compounds of carcinogenic concern used in food-producing animals. Specifically, the Agency is clarifying the definition of “S_o” and revising the definition of “S_m” so that it conforms to the clarified definition of S_o. Other clarifying and conforming changes are also being made.

DATES: This rule is effective September 21, 2012.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**I. Background**

On December 20, 2010, FDA issued a proposed rule (75 FR 79320) to amend its regulations regarding compounds of carcinogenic concern used in food-producing animals. Specifically, the Agency clarified the definition of “S_o” and revised the definition of “S_m” so that it would conform to the clarified definition of S_o. The Agency also proposed a number of clarifying and conforming changes.

The Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (the FD&C Act) contains three anticancer, or Delaney, clauses: Sections 409(c)(3)(A), 512(d)(1)(I), and 721(b)(5)(B)(i) (21 U.S.C. 348(c)(3)(A), 360b(d)(1)(I), and 379e(b)(5)(B)(i)), pertaining to food additives, new animal drugs, and color additives, respectively. These clauses prohibit approval of substances that have been shown to induce cancer in man or animals. However, each clause contains an exception, termed the “Diethylstilbestrol (DES) Proviso,” that permits administration of such substances to food-producing animals where: (1) The food additive, color additive, or new animal drug will not

adversely affect the animal and (2) no residue of the food additive, color additive, or new animal drug will be found in any edible portion of that animal by a method of examination prescribed or approved by the Secretary of Health and Human Services by regulation. The regulations under part 500 (21 CFR part 500), subpart E entitled “Regulation of Carcinogenic Compounds Used in Food-Producing Animals” (§§ 500.80 through 500.92), implement the DES Proviso. To elaborate on how to determine that there is no residue, and thus demonstrate that the second prong of the DES Proviso has been satisfied, the regulations define several terms, including S_o and S_m.

S_o is currently defined as the concentration of the compound of carcinogenic concern in the total diet of test animals that corresponds to a maximum lifetime risk of cancer to the test animals of 1 in 1 million, and is calculated from tumor data of the cancer bioassays using a statistical extrapolation procedure. The definition of S_o also provides that FDA will assume that the S_o corresponds to the concentration of residue of carcinogenic concern in the total human diet that represents no significant increase in the risk of cancer to people. The concentration, derived from the S_o, of residues of carcinogenic concern in a specific edible tissue is termed the S_m.

This rule changes the definition of S_o so that it is primarily defined as “the concentration of a residue of carcinogenic concern in the total human diet that represents no significant increase in the risk of cancer to the human consumer * * *” and secondarily as “the concentration of test compound in the total diet of test animals that corresponds to a maximum lifetime risk of cancer in the test animals of 1 in 1 million.” The change in this rule to the definition of S_o is intended to enable the Center for Veterinary Medicine to consider allowing the use of alternative procedures to satisfy the DES Proviso (See 75 FR 79320 at 79321) without requiring the development of a second, alternative, set of terminology. FDA believes that the original intent of 21 CFR part 500, Subpart E, as reflected in the preamble to the final rule establishing that regulation, was to place an emphasis on no significant increase in the risk of cancer to the human consumer, rather than on the specific 1 in 1 million risk of cancer to the test animals approach (See e.g., 52 FR 49572 at 49575 and 49582). Therefore, FDA has concluded that the redefinition of S_o is consistent with this original intent of the regulation.