

development projects. Budgeted expenses for these items in the 2018–2019 marketing year were \$169,000, \$5,000, \$35,300, \$17,500, and \$12,000, respectively.

The higher assessment rate is necessary to cover most of the Committee's 2019–2020 marketing year budgeted expenditures. The Committee has had to draw from its monetary reserve to partially fund program activities during the previous five marketing years and expects to draw \$50,700 from the reserve in the 2019–2020 marketing year to fund a one-time \$45,000 upgrade to its electronic recordkeeping system. However, the Committee believes that drawing from its financial reserve to fund operations on an on-going basis is not a sustainable strategy. Increasing the continuing assessment rate will allow the Committee to fully fund budgeted expenses, and replenish its financial reserve, beginning in the 2020–2021 marketing year.

Prior to arriving at this budget and assessment rate, the Committee considered maintaining the current assessment rate of \$0.09 per pound. However, leaving the assessment rate unchanged would not have generated enough revenue to meet the Committee's 2019–2020 marketing year budgeted expenses and would have required the Committee to deplete its financial reserve to a fiscally dangerous level. Based on estimated shipments, the recommended assessment rate of \$0.10 per pound of spearmint oil should provide \$220,500 in assessment income. The Committee determined assessment revenue will be adequate to cover most of the budgeted expenditures for the 2019–2020 marketing year and all of the Committee's budgeted expenditures for the 2020–2021 and subsequent marketing years. Moving forward, any excess funds will be used to replenish the Committee's monetary reserve. Reserve funds will be kept within the amount authorized in the Order.

A review of historical data and preliminary information pertaining to the upcoming marketing year indicates that the average producer price for the 2019–2020 season should be approximately \$15.50–18.00 per pound of spearmint oil. Therefore, the estimated assessment revenue for the 2019–2020 marketing year as a percentage of total producer revenue will be between 0.55 and 0.65 percent.

This action increases the assessment obligation imposed on handlers. While assessments impose some additional costs on handlers, the costs are minimal and distributed uniformly across all spearmint oil handlers. Some of the

additional costs may be passed on to producers. However, these costs would be offset by the benefits derived by the operation of the Order.

The Committee's meetings were widely publicized throughout the Far West Spearmint Oil industry. All interested persons were invited to attend the meetings and participate in Committee deliberations on all issues. Like all Committee meetings, the March 1, 2019, meeting was a public meeting and all entities, both large and small, were able to express views on this issue. Interested persons were invited to submit comments on this rule, including the regulatory and information collection impacts of this action on small businesses.

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 35), the Order's information collection requirements have been previously approved by the OMB and assigned OMB No. 0581–0178, Specialty Crops. No changes in those requirements will be necessary because of this action. Should any changes become necessary, they will be submitted to OMB for approval.

This final rule will not impose any additional reporting or recordkeeping requirements on either small or large Far West spearmint oil handlers. As with all Federal marketing order programs, reports and forms are periodically reviewed to reduce information requirements and duplication by industry and public sector agencies. As noted in the initial regulatory flexibility analysis, USDA has not identified any relevant Federal rules that duplicate, overlap, or conflict with this final rule.

AMS is committed to complying with the E-Government Act, to promote the use of the internet and other information technologies to provide increased opportunities for citizen access to Government information and services, and for other purposes.

A proposed rule concerning this action was published in the **Federal Register** on May 30, 2019 (84 FR 25010). Copies of the proposed rule were provided to all Far West spearmint oil handlers. The proposal was also made available through the internet by USDA and the Office of the Federal Register. A 30-day comment period ending July 1, 2019, was provided for interested persons to respond to the proposal. One comment in support of the action was received. Accordingly, no changes will be made to the rule as proposed.

A small business guide on complying with fruit, vegetable, and specialty crop marketing agreements and orders may be viewed at: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/>

rules-regulations/moa/small-businesses. Any questions about the compliance guide should be sent to Richard Lower at the previously mentioned address in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section.

After consideration of all relevant material presented, including the information and recommendation submitted by the Committee and other available information, it is hereby found that this rule will tend to effectuate the declared policy of the Act.

List of Subjects in 7 CFR Part 985

Marketing agreements, Oils and fats, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Spearmint oil.

For the reasons set forth in the preamble, 7 CFR part 985 is amended as follows:

PART 985—MARKETING ORDER REGULATING THE HANDLING OF SPEARMINT OIL PRODUCED IN THE FAR WEST

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 601–674.

■ 2. Revise 985.141 to read as follows:

§ 985.141 Assessment rate.

On and after June 1, 2019, an assessment rate of \$0.10 per pound is established for Far West spearmint oil. Unexpended funds may be carried over as a reserve.

Dated: August 13, 2019.

Bruce Summers,

Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 2019–17618 Filed 8–15–19; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–02–P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

10 CFR Part 52

[NRC–2015–0224]

RIN 3150–AJ67

Advanced Power Reactor 1400 (APR1400) Design Certification

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Direct final rule; confirmation of effective date.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is confirming the effective date of September 19, 2019, for the direct final rule that was published in the **Federal Register** on May 22, 2019. This direct final rule amended NRC's regulations to certify the Advanced Power Reactor 1400 standard

design so that applicants or licensees intending to construct and operate an Advanced Power Reactor 1400 standard design may do so by referencing the design certification rule.

DATES: *Effective date:* The effective date of September 19, 2019, for the direct final rule published May 22, 2019 (84 FR 23439), is confirmed.

ADDRESSES: Please refer to Docket ID NRC–2015–0224 when contacting the NRC about the availability of information for this action. You may obtain publicly-available information related to this action by any of the following methods:

- *Federal Rulemaking Website:* Go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket ID NRC–2015–0224. Address questions about NRC dockets to Carol Gallagher; telephone: 301–415–3463; email: Carol.Gallagher@nrc.gov. For technical questions contact the individuals listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this document.

- *NRC’s Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS):* You may obtain publicly-available documents online in the ADAMS Public Documents collection at <https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. To begin the search, select “Begin Web-based ADAMS Search.” For problems with ADAMS, please contact the NRC’s Public Document Room (PDR) reference staff at 1–800–397–4209, at 301–415–4737, or by email to pdr.resource@nrc.gov.

- *NRC’s PDR:* You may examine and purchase copies of public documents at the NRC’s PDR, Room O1–F21, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Yanely Malave-Velez, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, telephone: 301–415–1519, email: Yanely.Malave@nrc.gov or William Ward, Office of New Reactors, telephone: 301–415–7038, email: William.Ward@nrc.gov. Both are staff of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555–0001.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On May 22, 2019 (84 FR 23439), the NRC published a direct final rule amending its regulations in part 52 of title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations*, “Domestic Licensing of Production and Utilization Facilities,” to certify the APR1400 standard design so that applicants or licensees intending to construct and operate an APR1400 design may do so by referencing the design certification rule. In the direct final rule, the NRC stated that if no

significant adverse comments were received, the direct final rule would become effective on September 19, 2019. The NRC received one comment on the direct final rule from Jeffrey A. Ciocco, available in ADAMS under Accession No. ML19176A175.

The comment was in favor of the design certification and determined to not be significant and adverse. Because no significant adverse comments were received, the direct final rule will become effective as scheduled.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement

The direct final rule contains a new or amended collection of information subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*). On July 2, 2019, NRC submitted the collection of information (3150–0236) to the Office of Management and Budget for review and approval. NRC will publish a separate notice in the **Federal Register** with the effective date of the information collection.

Public Protection Notification

The NRC may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless the document requesting or requiring the collection displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 12th day of August 2019.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Cindy Bladey,

Chief, Regulatory Analysis and Rulemaking Support Branch, Division of Rulemaking, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards.

[FR Doc. 2019–17588 Filed 8–15–19; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590–01–P

FEDERAL HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY

12 CFR Part 1254

RIN 2590–AA98

Validation and Approval of Credit Score Models

AGENCY: Federal Housing Finance Agency.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA) is issuing a final rule on the process for validation and approval of credit score models by the Federal National Mortgage Association (Fannie Mae) and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (Freddie Mac) (together, the Enterprises). The final rule defines a four-phase process for an Enterprise to validate and approve

credit score models. The process begins with the Credit Score Solicitation (a solicitation by the Enterprises of applications from credit score model developers), followed by the Submission and Initial Review of Applications (an initial review by the Enterprise of submitted applications). The third phase is a Credit Score Assessment by the Enterprise, and the fourth phase is an Enterprise Business Assessment. The final rule establishes criteria for each of the four phases and includes required timing and notices for Enterprise decisions under the process.

DATES: This rule is effective: October 15, 2019.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Beth Spring, Senior Policy Analyst, Housing & Regulatory Policy, Division of Housing Mission and Goals, at (202) 649–3327, Elizabeth.Spring@fhfa.gov, or Kevin Sheehan, Associate General Counsel, (202) 649–3086, Kevin.Sheehan@fhfa.gov. These are not toll-free numbers. The telephone number for the Telecommunications Device for the Deaf is (800) 877–8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Section 310 of the Economic Growth, Regulatory Relief, and Consumer Protection Act of 2018 (Pub. L. 115–174, section 310) amended the Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac charter acts and the Federal Housing Enterprises Financial Safety and Soundness Act of 1992 (Safety and Soundness Act) to establish requirements for the validation and approval of third-party credit score models by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac.

Section 310 provides that if an Enterprise elects to condition the purchase of a mortgage loan on the delivery of a borrower’s credit score, that credit score must be produced by a model that has been validated and approved by the Enterprise. Section 310 imposes separate requirements on FHFA and the Enterprises. FHFA must first issue a regulation establishing standards and criteria for the validation and approval of credit score models by the Enterprises. Then, each Enterprise must publish a description of its validation and approval process that an Enterprise will use to evaluate applications from credit score model developers, consistent with the FHFA issued regulation.

Section 310 sets forth several factors that must be considered in the validation and approval process, including the credit score model’s integrity, reliability, and accuracy, its historical record of measuring and