

# Proposed Rules

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains notices to the public of the proposed issuance of rules and regulations. The purpose of these notices is to give interested persons an opportunity to participate in the rule making prior to the adoption of the final rules.

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Agricultural Marketing Service

#### 7 CFR Part 981

[Doc. No. AMS–SC–21–0076; SC21–981–1]

#### Almonds Grown in California; Modification of Regulations; Withdrawal

**AGENCY:** Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Withdrawal of proposed rule.

**SUMMARY:** The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) withdraws a proposed rule recommended by the Almond Board of California (Board) that would have amended administrative requirements in the California Almond Marketing Order's (Order) roadside stand exemption, credit for market promotion activities, quality control, exempt dispositions, and interest and late charges provisions. In addition, the rule proposed to stay two sections of the administrative requirements that define almond butter and stipulate disposition in reserve outlets by handlers established under the Order. After reviewing and considering the comments received, the proposed rule is being withdrawn.

**DATES:** As of August 22, 2022, the proposed rule published on February 22, 2022, at 87 FR 6455, is withdrawn.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Peter Sommers, Marketing Specialist, or Gary Olson, Regional Director, Western Region Field Office, Market Development Division, Specialty Crops Program, AMS, USDA; Telephone: (559) 487–5901, Fax: (559) 487–5906, or Email: [PeterR.Sommers@usda.gov](mailto:PeterR.Sommers@usda.gov) or [GaryD.Olson@usda.gov](mailto:GaryD.Olson@usda.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This withdrawal is issued under Marketing Order No. 981, as amended (7 CFR part 981), regulating the handling of almonds grown in California. Part 981 (referred to as the "Order") is effective under the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937, as amended (7 U.S.C. 601–674),

hereinafter referred to as the "Act." The Board locally administers the Order and is comprised of growers and handlers of almonds operating within the production area.

This action withdraws a proposed rule published in the **Federal Register** on February 22, 2022 (87 FR 6455), to revise several sections of the Order's administrative requirements. The proposed rule comment period was reopened to provide for an additional 15 days of public comment in a notice published in the **Federal Register** on June 22, 2022 (87 FR 37240). The proposed rule would have amended requirements in the Order's roadside stand exemption, credit for market promotion activities, quality control, exempt dispositions, and interest and late charges provisions. In addition, it proposed to stay two sections of the administrative requirements that define almond butter and stipulate disposition in reserve outlets by handlers. The proposed changes were intended to modify the Order's requirements to reflect updates in industry practices and to facilitate the orderly administration of the Order.

During the proposed rule's initial 60-day comment period, four comments were received. All the comments may be viewed on the internet at <https://www.regulations.gov>. Of the comments received, two comments favored the proposed rule, one comment was neutral, and one was opposed. The comment opposed to the action was submitted by a large cooperative marketing association which also contained embedded comments from four individual growers. The opposing comments specifically objected to the proposed revision of § 981.441, credit for market promotion activities, including paid advertising. Further, the opposing comments questioned the Board's administrative process in recommending the proposed changes to AMS.

As a result of the comments received during the initial 60-day comment period, AMS decided to reopen the comment period for 15 days to allow for additional comments on the proposed amendments to the regulations. In the reopening announcement, AMS indicated that it is specifically looking for comments on provisions related to credit-back administrative requirements and further comment on perceived

issues related to the formulation of the recommendations for that provision.

During the proposed rule's reopened 15-day comment period, AMS received 1,155 comments, after subtracting 19 duplicate comment submissions. All comments may be viewed on the internet at <https://www.regulations.gov>. Of the 1,155 comments received, roughly 98 percent (1,133) were opposed, 0.17 percent (2) were in support, and 1.9 percent (22) were either non-specific or non-substantive with regards to the merits of the proposal.

During the reopened comment period, commenters identified adverse effects anticipated to both consumers and producers if the proposal were effectuated. Approximately 93 percent of all comments cited the proposed rule's negative impact on the ability of consumers to buy raw almonds through e-commerce. They claimed the proposed rule, if effectuated, would prevent them from purchasing raw almonds online, directly from the almond producer. These commenters represent consumers of raw almonds located in California and across the United States in approximately 46 states, and Bermuda. Over half of all commenters reference the proposed changes to the Roadside stand exemption (§ 981.413) and Handler Definition (§ 981.13). These comments stated that the proposed changes in each section will likely prevent consumers from being able to access raw almonds from producers through direct e-commerce sales transactions. Almost 64 percent described the disproportionate economic impact that the proposed rule would have on small growers. Some commenters expressed that they lacked notice of the rulemaking action altogether or described general dissatisfaction with the rulemaking process.

The two comments expressing support for the proposed rule were general. One commenter expressed support for excluding e-commerce under the roadside stand exemption. The second comment supported the proposed change and expressed concern that potentially unsafe products are being sold online in the open market.

After reviewing and considering all comments received during both public comment periods, AMS has determined that the proposed rule to modify

administrative requirements for almonds grown in California should be withdrawn. AMS intends to conduct outreach with California almond industry stakeholders on the concerns expressed during the public comment periods. Accordingly, the proposed rule to modify the administrative rules and regulations in the Order that published in the **Federal Register** on February 22, 2022, (87 FR 6455) is hereby withdrawn.

#### List of Subjects in 7 CFR Part 981

Marketing agreements, Nuts, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

**Authority:** 7 U.S.C. 601–674.

**Erin Morris,**

*Associate Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.*

[FR Doc. 2022–17992 Filed 8–19–22; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### 14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA–2022–1053; Project Identifier MCAI–2022–00200–T]

RIN 2120–AA64

#### Airworthiness Directives; BAE Systems (Operations) Limited Airplanes

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

**SUMMARY:** The FAA proposes to adopt a new airworthiness directive (AD) for all BAE Systems (Operations) Limited Model BAe 146 series airplanes. This proposed AD was prompted by a finding that when the autopilot is engaged, the architecture of the autopilot system does not automatically disconnect the autopilot in response to pilot application of a pitch input or when the electric pitch trim switch on either pilot control wheel is operated. This proposed AD would require modifying the autopilot engagement circuit. The FAA is proposing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

**DATES:** The FAA must receive comments on this proposed AD by October 6, 2022.

**ADDRESSES:** You may send comments, using the procedures found in 14 CFR 11.43 and 11.45, by any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to <https://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

- *Fax:* 202–493–2251.

- *Mail:* U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M–30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590.

- *Hand Delivery:* Deliver to Mail address above between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

For service information identified in this NPRM, contact BAE Systems (Operations) Limited, Customer Information Department, Prestwick International Airport, Ayrshire, KA9 2RW, Scotland, United Kingdom; telephone +44 1292 675207; fax +44 1292 675704; email [RAPublications@baesystems.com](mailto:RAPublications@baesystems.com); internet <https://www.baesystems.com/Businesses/RegionalAircraft/index.htm>. You may view this service information at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety Branch, 2200 South 216th St., Des Moines, WA. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 206–231–3195.

#### Examining the AD Docket

You may examine the AD docket at <https://www.regulations.gov> by searching for and locating Docket No. FAA–2022–1053; or in person at Docket Operations between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The AD docket contains this NPRM, the mandatory continuing airworthiness information (MCAI), any comments received, and other information. The street address for Docket Operations is listed above.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Todd Thompson, Aerospace Engineer, Large Aircraft Section, FAA, International Validation Branch, 2200 South 216th St., Des Moines, WA 98198; telephone 206–231–3228; email [todd.thompson@faa.gov](mailto:todd.thompson@faa.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Comments Invited

The FAA invites you to send any written relevant data, views, or arguments about this proposal. Send your comments to an address listed under **ADDRESSES**. Include “Docket No. FAA–2022–1053; Project Identifier MCAI–2022–00200–T” at the beginning of your comments. The most helpful comments reference a specific portion of the proposal, explain the reason for any recommended change, and include supporting data. The FAA will consider all comments received by the closing date and may amend the proposal because of those comments.

Except for Confidential Business Information (CBI) as described in the

following paragraph, and other information as described in 14 CFR 11.35, the FAA will post all comments received, without change, to <https://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information you provide. The agency will also post a report summarizing each substantive verbal contact received about this NPRM.

#### Confidential Business Information

CBI is commercial or financial information that is both customarily and actually treated as private by its owner. Under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 U.S.C. 552), CBI is exempt from public disclosure. If your comments responsive to this NPRM contain commercial or financial information that is customarily treated as private, that you actually treat as private, and that is relevant or responsive to this NPRM, it is important that you clearly designate the submitted comments as CBI. Please mark each page of your submission containing CBI as “PROPIN.” The FAA will treat such marked submissions as confidential under the FOIA, and they will not be placed in the public docket of this NPRM. Submissions containing CBI should be sent to Todd Thompson, Aerospace Engineer, Large Aircraft Section, FAA, International Validation Branch, 2200 South 216th St., Des Moines, WA 98198; telephone 206–231–3228; email [todd.thompson@faa.gov](mailto:todd.thompson@faa.gov). Any commentary that the FAA receives which is not specifically designated as CBI will be placed in the public docket for this rulemaking.

#### Background

United Kingdom Civil Aviation Authority (U.K. CAA), which is the aviation authority for the United Kingdom, has issued U.K. CAA AD G–2022–0002, dated February 11, 2022 (U.K. CAA AD G–2022–0002) (also referred to after this as the MCAI), to correct an unsafe condition for all BAE Systems (Operations) Limited Model BAe 146 series airplanes. You may examine the MCAI in the AD docket at <https://www.regulations.gov> by searching for and locating Docket No. FAA–2022–1053.

This proposed AD was prompted by a finding that when the autopilot is engaged, the architecture of the autopilot system does not automatically disconnect the autopilot in response to pilot application of a pitch input or when the electric pitch trim switch on either pilot control wheel is operated. This finding was a result of a safety recommendation made by the United Kingdom’s Air Accidents Investigation Branch (AAIB), after an incident on a