

consultation meeting with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma on February 14, 2023, and provided additional information concerning this action.

- Executive Order 12898 (Federal Actions To Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations, 59 FR 7629, Feb. 16, 1994) directs Federal agencies to identify and address “disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects” of their actions on minority populations and low-income populations to the greatest extent practicable and permitted by law. EPA defines environmental justice (EJ) as “the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.” EPA further defines the term fair treatment to mean that “no group of people should bear a disproportionate burden of environmental harms and risks, including those resulting from the negative environmental consequences of industrial, governmental, and commercial operations or programs and policies.” The air agency did not evaluate environmental justice considerations as part of its SIP submittal; the CAA and applicable implementing regulations neither prohibit nor require such an evaluation. The EPA performed an environmental justice analysis, as is described above in the section titled, “Environmental Justice Considerations.” The analysis was done for the purpose of providing additional context and information about this rulemaking to the public, not as a basis of the action. Due to the nature of the action being taken here, this action is expected to have a neutral to positive impact on the air quality of the affected area by removal of director discretion provisions of the Oklahoma SIP. In addition, there is no information in the record upon which this decision is based inconsistent with the stated goal of E.O. 12898 of achieving environmental justice for people of color, low-income populations, and Indigenous peoples.

This action is subject to the Congressional Review Act, and the EPA will submit a rule report to each House of the Congress and to the Comptroller General of the United States. This action is not a “major rule” as defined by 5 U.S.C. 804(2).

Under section 307(b)(1) of the CAA, petitions for judicial review of this action must be filed in the United States Court of Appeals for the appropriate circuit by June 26, 2023. Filing a

petition for reconsideration by the Administrator of this final rule does not affect the finality of this action for the purposes of judicial review nor does it extend the time within which a petition for judicial review may be filed, and shall not postpone the effectiveness of such rule or action. This action may not be challenged later in proceedings to enforce its requirements. (See section 307(b)(2).)

List of Subjects in 40 CFR Part 52

Environmental protection, Air pollution control, Carbon monoxide, Incorporation by reference, Intergovernmental relations, Lead, Nitrogen dioxide, Ozone, Particulate matter, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Sulfur oxides, Volatile organic compounds.

Dated: April 17, 2023.

Earthea Nance,

Regional Administrator, Region 6.

■ For the reasons stated in the preamble, the Environmental Protection Agency amends 40 CFR part 52 as follows:

PART 52—APPROVAL AND PROMULGATION OF IMPLEMENTATION PLANS

■ 1. The authority citation for part 52 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 7401 *et seq.*

Subpart LL—Oklahoma

§ 52.1920 [Amended]

■ 2. In § 52.1920, the table in paragraph (c) entitled “EPA Approved Oklahoma Regulations” is amended by removing the heading “Subchapter 9 Excess Emission and Malfunction Reporting Requirements” and the entries for 252:100–9–1 through 252:100–9–6.

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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

46 CFR Part 113

[Docket No. USCG–2020–0075]

RIN 1625–AC66

Update to Electrical Engineering Regulations; Correction

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Final rule; correcting amendment.

SUMMARY: In a final rule the Coast Guard published in the **Federal Register** on

March 16, 2023, an inadvertent error in an amendatory instruction prevented the processing of a change in our regulations. This document corrects that error.

DATES: Effective April 26, 2023.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information about this document call or email Raymond Martin, Systems Engineering Division, Coast Guard; telephone 202–372–1384, email Raymond.W.Martin@uscg.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On March 16, 2023, the Coast Guard published a final rule titled “Update to Electrical Engineering Regulations” at 88 FR 16369. The final rule contained an error in amendatory instruction 121 that prevented the correct updating of 46 CFR 113.50–5. Amendatory instruction 121 in the final rule said the changes were for § 113.50–25, which does not exist. This document corrects that error and adopts the intended changes for § 113.50–5.

We find good cause under provisions in 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3) to make this correction effective upon publication because delaying the effective date is unnecessary and contrary to the public interest. Waiting 30 days after publication to correct the error within the final rule is unnecessary and contrary to the public’s interest in having access to accurate and current regulations. The March 16, 2023 final rule preamble discussion indicated the changes were for the right section, § 113.50–5, but the amendatory instruction was inaccurate.

List of Subjects in 46 CFR Part 113

Communications equipment, Fire prevention, Incorporation by reference, Vessels.

For the reasons stated in the preamble, the Coast Guard is correcting 46 CFR part 113 with the following correcting amendment:

PART 113—COMMUNICATION AND ALARM SYSTEMS AND EQUIPMENT

■ 1. The authority citation for part 113 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 46 U.S.C. 3306, 3703; DHS Delegation No. 00170.1, Revision No. 01.2.

§ 113.50–5 [Amended]

■ 2. Amend § 113.50–5 as follows:

■ a. In paragraphs (b) and (d), after the word “maker”, add the words “or initiating device”; and

■ b. In paragraph (g), remove the text “IEC 60529 (both incorporated by reference; see 46 CFR 110.10–1)” and add, in its place, the text “IEC 60529:2013 (both incorporated by

reference; see § 110.10–1 of this subchapter)”).

Dated: April 20, 2023.

M.T. Cunningham,

Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law, U.S. Coast Guard.

[FR Doc. 2023–08745 Filed 4–25–23; 8:45 am]

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

47 CFR Part 20

[WT Docket No. 20–3; DA 23–327; FR ID 133942]

Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Extends Transition Period for Hearing Aid Compatibility Technical Standard

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Order.

SUMMARY: In this document, the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (Bureau) of the Federal Communications Commission (Commission) extends the enforcement of the technical standard transition period for hearing aid compatibility by six months from June 5, 2023 to December 5, 2023. We take this step to ensure that handset manufacturers can continue to release the newest handset models capable of achieving hearing aid compatibility while we consider a pending waiver request filed by ATIS addressing the volume control requirements of the newest hearing aid compatibility technical standard.

DATES: The enforcement date for 47 CFR 20.19(b) is December 5, 2023.

ADDRESSES: Federal Communications Commission, 45 L Street NE, Washington, DC 20554.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Eli Johnson, *Eli.Johnson@fcc.gov*, of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Competition & Infrastructure Policy Division, (202) 418–1395.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a summary of the Commission document, WT Docket No. 20–3, DA 23–327, released on April 14, 2023. The full text of this document is available for public inspection on the FCC’s website at: DA–23–327A1.docx, DA–23–327A1.pdf, DA–23–327A1.txt. The document is available electronically in ASCII, Microsoft Word, and/or Adobe Acrobat. Alternative formats are available for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format, etc.), and reasonable accommodations (accessible format documents, sign

language interpreters, CART, etc.) may be requested by sending an email to *FCC504@fcc.gov* or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202–418–0530 (voice), 202–418–0432 (TTY).

Synopsis

1. Today, we take action to ensure that handset manufacturers can continue to release the newest handset models capable of achieving hearing aid compatibility by extending the enforcement of the technical standard transition period referenced in § 20.19(b) of our hearing aid compatibility rules by six months. This provision requires that starting June 5, 2023, handset manufacturers must exclusively use the 2019 ANSI Standard for certifying new handset models as hearing aid-compatible and may no longer use the 2011 ANSI Standard for certification purposes. We take this step to ensure that handset manufacturers can continue to certify new handset models with improved hearing aid compatibility features under the 2011 ANSI Standard while we consider a petition for waiver filed by ATIS to modify the 2019 ANSI Standard to allow handset models satisfying a reduced volume control testing methodology to be certified as hearing aid-compatible. With this brief extension of time, we allow handset manufacturers to continue to use either the 2011 or the 2019 ANSI Standard to certify new handset models as hearing aid-compatible until December 5, 2023. We expect that during this six month period handset manufacturers will abide by their commitment to include innovative new technologies in the handset models that they release which will benefit consumers, especially those with hearing loss. Continuing to allow new handset models to be certified as hearing aid-compatible is essential to moving towards the Commission’s commitment to attaining 100% hearing aid-compatibility of covered wireless handsets, as soon as achievable.

I. Background

2. The Commission’s rules require handset manufacturers to ensure that at least 85% of the total number of handset models that they offer to consumers are hearing aid-compatible. Handset models are considered hearing aid-compatible if they meet ANSI technical standards that the Commission has incorporated by reference into the hearing aid compatibility rules. In September 2019, the ANSI Committee petitioned the Commission to replace the existing 2011 ANSI Standard that had been incorporated by reference into the Commission’s rules with the 2019 ANSI

Standard. Both standards address acoustic and inductive coupling between wireless handsets and hearing aids, but the 2019 ANSI Standard for the first time includes a volume control requirement. This new standard specifically incorporates by reference the ANSI/TIA–5050:2018 volume control standard and requires handset models to meet this standard in order to be certified as hearing aid-compatible.

3. On February 22, 2021, the Commission adopted the 2019 ANSI Standard and the related ANSI/TIA volume control standard. The Commission noted that “[t]he 2019 ANSI Standard is broadly supported by both industry and consumer groups.” The Commission determined to make the 2019 ANSI Standard and the associated volume control requirement the exclusive testing standard for determining hearing aid compatibility after a two year transition period. During the transition period, handset manufacturers may use either the 2011 or the 2019 ANSI Standard when certifying new handset models. The Commission found that a two-year transition period was an appropriate length of time because it was consistent with past practice and took into consideration the typical handset industry product development cycle. The Commission noted that CTIA and Samsung, among others, supported a two-year transition period before requiring the exclusive use of the new testing standard. The two-year transition period that the Commission adopted ends on June 5, 2023. Without today’s action, beginning on this date, handset models would only be certified as hearing aid-compatible using the new standard and the related volume control standard.

4. On December 16, 2022, ATIS filed a petition for waiver asking the Commission to allow wireless handsets to satisfy a reduced volume control testing methodology—instead of the full ANSI/TIA Volume Control Standard incorporated into the 2019 ANSI Standard—in order to be certified as hearing aid-compatible. According to ATIS, handset manufacturers have discovered “significant and material problems with the methodology used for testing volume control” that renders compliance with the 2019 ANSI Standard functionally impossible for handsets. On March 23, 2023, the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (Bureau) released a Public Notice seeking comment on ATIS’s petition that establishes a 45-day comment period that closes on May 18, 2023. The Public Notice seeks comment on the petition within the context of the