

Rules and Regulations

Federal Register

Vol. 73, No. 103

Wednesday, May 28, 2008

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OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

5 CFR Part 550

RIN 3206-AL52

Compensatory Time Off for Travel; Prevailing Rate (Wage) Employees

AGENCY: U.S. Office of Personnel Management.

ACTION: Final Rule.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Office of Personnel Management is issuing final regulations to implement a provision of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008 permitting prevailing rate (wage) employees to earn compensatory time off for time spent in a travel status away from the official duty station when such time is not otherwise compensable.

DATES: The regulations are effective May 28, 2008.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Gene Holson by telephone at (202) 606-2858; by fax at (202) 606-0824; or by email at pay-performance-policy@opm.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) is issuing final regulations to implement section 1111 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008 (Pub. L. 110-181, January 28, 2008), hereafter referred to as “the Act.” Section 1111 of the Act amends subchapter V of chapter 55 of title 5, United States Code, to cover prevailing rate (wage) employees under the compensatory time off for travel provision in 5 U.S.C. 5550b. Subject to the conditions specified in 5 U.S.C. 5550b and 5 CFR part 550, subpart N, a covered employee is entitled to earn, on an hour-for-hour basis, compensatory time off for time spent in a travel status away from the employee’s official duty

station when the travel time is not otherwise compensable.

Because the section of law authorizing compensatory time off for travel is in 5 U.S.C. chapter 55, subchapter V, the provision applies to an “employee” as defined in 5 U.S.C. 5541(2), who is employed in an “Executive agency,” as defined in 5 U.S.C. 105. Prevailing rate (wage) employees previously were excluded from the compensatory time off for travel provision by 5 U.S.C. 5541(2)(xi). However, the Act amends 5 U.S.C. 5541(2) and 5 U.S.C. 5550b to permit prevailing rate (wage) employees to earn compensatory time off for travel under 5 U.S.C. 5550b and 5 CFR part 550, subpart N.

Effective Date

Section 1111(c) of the Act provides that the amendment takes effect on the earlier of (1) the effective date of implementing regulations or (2) the 90th day after the date of the law’s enactment, which is April 27, 2008. These regulations are effective on April 27, 2008 and apply prospectively from that date. Accordingly, we have revised § 550.1402 to provide that prevailing rate (wage) employees are covered by 5 CFR part 550, subpart N, effective April 27, 2008. Agencies must credit prevailing rate (wage) employees who perform officially authorized travel on or after the effective date with any compensatory time off for travel to which they are entitled under the law and regulations. If an employee is on an extended period of officially authorized travel on the effective date, only the qualifying travel hours occurring on or after the effective date are creditable for the purpose of earning compensatory time off for travel.

Authority Citation

Subpart N of part 550 of title 5, Code of Federal Regulations, previously did not include an authority citation. Therefore, we have added 5 U.S.C. 5548(a) as the authority citation for 5 CFR part 550, subpart N.

Waiver of Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

Pursuant to section 553(b)(B) of title 5 of the United States Code, I find that good cause exists for waiving the general notice of proposed rulemaking. Also, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3), I find that good cause exists for making this rule effective in less than 30 days.

These regulations implement a provision of Public Law 110-181 that takes effect on the earlier of (1) the effective date of implementing regulations or (2) the 90th day after the date of the law’s enactment. The statutory change is unambiguous and does not require interpretation, since it simply extends coverage under a particular provision of law to an additional category of employees. These regulations merely incorporate the statutory change. Thus, a notice of proposed rulemaking and a delayed effective date is unnecessary. This waiver will facilitate timely implementation of the law as intended by Congress.

E.O. 12866, Regulatory Review

The Office of Management and Budget has reviewed this rule in accordance with E.O. 12866.

Regulatory Flexibility Act

I certify that these regulations will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities because they will apply only to Federal agencies and employees.

List of Subjects in 5 CFR Part 550

Administrative practice and procedure, Claims, Government employees, Wages.

U.S. Office of Personnel Management.

Linda M. Springer,
Director.

■ Accordingly, OPM is amending 5 CFR part 550 as follows:

PART 550—PAY ADMINISTRATION (GENERAL)

Subpart N—Compensatory Time Off for Travel

■ 1. An authority citation for subpart N of part 550 is added to read as follows:

Authority: 5 U.S.C. 5548(a).

■ 2. Section 550.1402 is revised to read as follows:

§ 550.1402 Coverage.

This subpart applies to an employee as defined in 5 U.S.C. 5541(2) who is employed by an agency. In accordance with section 1111 of Public Law 110-181, an employee whose pay is fixed and adjusted from time to time in accordance with prevailing rates under subchapter IV of chapter 53 of title 5,

United States Code, or by a wage board or similar administrative authority serving the same purpose, is covered by this subpart effective April 27, 2008.

[FR Doc. E8-11839 Filed 5-27-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6325-39-P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

10 CFR Parts 1, 19, 20, 30, 40, 50, 52, 55, 60, 61, 63, 70, 71, 72, 73 and 76

[NRC-2008-0270]

RIN 3150-AI39

Administrative Changes: NRC Region IV Address Change and Phone Number and E-mail Address Changes

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is amending its regulations to update the street address for its Region IV office, and to update a telephone number and e-mail address for the Office of Information Services (OIS). This document is necessary to inform the public of these changes to the NRC's regulations.

DATES: *Effective date:* This rule is effective May 28, 2008.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Angella Love Blair, Rulemaking, Directives and Editing Branch, Division of Administrative Services, Office of Administration, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, telephone 301-415-5661, e-mail angella.love-blair@nrc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The NRC is amending its regulations at 10 CFR parts 1, 19, 20, 30, 40, 50, 52, 55, 60, 61, 63, 70, 71, 72, 73 and 76 to update the street address for the NRC Region IV office, and to update a telephone number and e-mail address for OIS. The physical location for the NRC Region IV office has not changed; the street address change is necessary because of local road construction. This rule also updates the internal addressee for the NRC Region IV office due to reorganization.

Because these amendments constitute minor administrative corrections to the regulations, the notice and comment provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act do not apply pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B). The amendments are effective upon publication in the **Federal Register**. Good cause exists

under 5 U.S.C. 553(d) to dispense with the usual 30-day delay in the effective date of the final rule, because the amendments are of a minor and administrative nature dealing with corrections to certain CFR sections. These amendments do not require action by any person or entity regulated by the NRC, and the final rule does not change the substantive responsibilities of any person or entity regulated by the NRC.

Summary of Changes

Change in Street Address for Region IV, USNRC

The street address of the NRC Region IV office has been changed. The new address is incorporated into the following sections of the NRC's regulations: § 1.5(b)(4), Appendix D to 10 CFR part 20, § 30.6(b)(2)(iv), § 40.5(b)(2)(iv), § 55.5(b)(2)(iv), § 70.5(b)(2)(iv), and Appendix A to 10 CFR part 73.

Change in Internal Addressee for Region IV, USNRC

Due to reorganization in the NRC Region IV, the appropriate internal addressee is the Division of Nuclear Materials Safety. The new name is incorporated into the following sections of the NRC's regulations: § 30.6(b)(2)(iv), § 40.5(b)(2)(iv), and § 70.5(b)(2)(iv).

Change in OIS Telephone Number

The OIS telephone number for requesting NRC forms has been changed. The new telephone number is incorporated into the following sections of the NRC's regulations: Appendix G to 10 CFR part 20, § 30.7(e)(3), § 40.7(e)(3), § 50.7(e)(2), § 55.23, § 55.31(a)(1), § 60.9(e)(2), § 61.9(e)(2), § 63.9(e)(2), § 70.7(e)(3), § 71.9(e)(2), § 72.10(e)(2), § 73.57(d)(1), and § 76.7(e)(3).

Change in OIS E-mail Address

The OIS e-mail address for requesting NRC forms has been changed. The new e-mail address is incorporated into the following sections of the NRC's regulations: § 19.11(e)(2), § 30.7(e)(3), § 40.7(e)(3), § 50.7(e)(2), § 52.5(e)(2), § 60.9(e)(2), § 61.9(e)(2), § 63.9(e)(2), § 70.7(e)(3), § 71.9(e)(2), § 72.10(e)(2), § 73.57(d)(1), and § 76.7(e)(3).

Environmental Impact: Categorical Exclusion

The NRC has determined that this final rule is the type of action described in categorical exclusion 10 CFR 51.22(c)(2). Therefore, neither an environmental impact statement nor an environmental assessment has been prepared for this rule.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement

This final rule does not contain information collection requirements and, therefore, is not subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*).

Public Protection Notification

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

Backfit Analysis

The NRC has determined that the backfit rule does not apply to this final rule; therefore, a backfit analysis is not required for this final rule because these amendments are administrative in nature and do not involve any provisions that would impose backfits as defined in 10 CFR Chapter I.

Congressional Review Act (CRA)

In accordance with the CRA of 1996, the NRC has determined that this action is not a major rule and has verified this determination with the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs of OMB.

List of Subjects

10 CFR Part 1

Organization and functions (government agencies).

10 CFR Part 19

Criminal penalties, Environmental protection, Nuclear materials, Nuclear power plants and reactors, Occupational safety and health, Radiation protection, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Sex discrimination.

10 CFR Part 20

Byproduct material, Criminal penalties, Licensed material, Nuclear materials, Nuclear power plants and reactors, Occupational safety and health, Packaging and containers, Radiation protection, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Source material, Special nuclear material, Waste treatment and disposal.

10 CFR Part 30

Byproduct material, Criminal penalties, Government contracts, Intergovernmental relations, Isotopes, Nuclear materials, Radiation protection, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

10 CFR Part 40

Criminal penalties, Government contracts, Hazardous materials