

the requirement established under such regulations.” 15 U.S.C. 1261n(b)(1)(B). (The FHSA also provides for the state or political subdivision of a state to apply for an exemption from preemption if certain requirements are met.) Thus, the rule exempting model rocket propellant devices for use with certain surface vehicles will preempt non-identical requirements for such propellant devices.

The Commission has also evaluated the rule in light of the principles stated in Executive Order 13132 concerning federalism, even though that Order does not apply to independent regulatory agencies such as CPSC. The Commission does not expect that the rule will have any substantial direct effects on the States, the relationship between the national government and the States, or the distribution of power and responsibilities among various levels of government.

List of Subjects in 16 CFR Part 1500

Consumer protection, Hazardous materials, Hazardous substances, Imports, Infants and children, Labeling, Law enforcement, Toys.

Conclusion

For the reasons stated above, the Commission concludes that, with the requirements stated in the exemption, model rocket propellant devices to propel small rocket-powered cars like the “Blurzz” require inclusion of a hazardous substance in order to function, have sufficient directions and warnings for safe use, and are intended for children who are mature enough that they may reasonably be expected to read and heed the directions and warnings. Therefore, the Commission amends title 16 of the Code of Federal Regulations as follows:

PART 1500—HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES AND ARTICLES: ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT REGULATIONS

1. The authority for part 1500 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 15 U.S.C. 1261–1278.

2. Section 1500.85 is amended by adding a new paragraph (a)(14) to read as follows:

§ 1500.85 Exemptions from classification as banned hazardous substances.

(a) * * *

(14) Model rocket propellant devices (model rocket motors) designed to propel rocket-powered model cars, provided—

(i) Such devices:

(A) Are designed to be ignited electrically and are intended to be operated from a minimum distance of 15 feet (4.6 m) away;

(B) Contain no more than 4 g. of propellant material and produce no more than 2.5 Newton-seconds of total impulse with a thrust duration not less than 0.050 seconds;

(C) Are constructed such that all the chemical ingredients are pre-loaded into a cylindrical paper or similarly constructed non-metallic tube that will not fragment into sharp, hard pieces;

(D) Are designed so that they will not burst under normal conditions of use, are incapable of spontaneous ignition, and do not contain any type of explosive or pyrotechnic warhead other than a small recovery system activation charge;

(E) Bear labeling, including labeling that the devices are intended for use by persons age 12 and older, and include instructions providing adequate warnings and instructions for safe use; and

(F) Comply with the requirements of 16 CFR 1500.83(a)(36)(ii and iii); and

(ii) The surface vehicles intended for use with such devices:

(A) Are lightweight, weighing no more than 3.0 oz. (85 grams), and constructed mainly of materials such as balsa wood or plastics that will not fragment into sharp, hard pieces;

(B) Are designed to utilize a braking system such as a parachute or shock absorbing stopping mechanism;

(C) Are designed so that they cannot accept propellant devices measuring larger than 0.5” (13 mm) in diameter and 1.75” (44 mm) in length;

(D) Are designed so that the engine mount is permanently attached by the manufacturer to a track or track line that controls the vehicle’s direction for the duration of its movement;

(E) Are not designed to carry any type of explosive or pyrotechnic material other than the model rocket motor used for primary propulsion;

(F) Bear labeling and include instructions providing adequate warnings and instructions for safe use; and

(G) Are designed to operate on a track or line that controls the vehicles’ direction for the duration of their movement and either cannot operate off the track or line or, if operated off the track or line, are unstable and fail to operate in a guided fashion so that they will not strike the operator or bystanders.

* * * * *

3. Section 1500.83(a)(36)(i) is revised to read as follows:

§ 1500.83 Exemptions for small packages, minor hazards, and special circumstances.

(a) * * *
(36) * * *

(i) The devices are designed and constructed in accordance with the specifications in § 1500.85(a)(8), (9) or (14);

* * * * *

Dated: January 27, 2003.

Todd Stevenson,

Secretary, Consumer Product Safety Commission.

Appendix to Preamble—List of Relevant Documents

1. Briefing memorandum from Terrance R. Karels, Directorate for Economic Analysis, to the Commission, “Exemption from Classification as Banned Hazardous Substances Rocket-powered Model Cars, January 13, 2003.
2. Memorandum from Joyce McDonald, Hazard Analysis Division, to Terrance R. Karels, “Model Rocket Car Petition,” October 18, 2002.
3. Memorandum from Sharon R. White, Directorate for Engineering Sciences, Division of Human Factors, to Terrance R. Karels, “Responses to Comments on Briefing Package concerning Centuri Corporation’s Petition for Exemption of Model Rocket Propellant Devices for Surface Vehicles, HP 01–02,” September 6, 2002.
4. Memorandum from Troy W. Whitfield, Directorate for Engineering Sciences, to Terrance R. Karels, “Rocket Powered Model Cars—Public Comment,” September 12, 2002.
5. Memorandum from Terrance R. Karels, Directorate for Economic Analysis, to Files, “Rocket powered cars,” May 8, 2002.
6. Memorandum from Terrance R. Karels, Directorate for Economic Analysis, to Patricia M. Pollitzer, Office of General Counsel, “Rocket-powered Model Cars—Economic Considerations,” December 20, 2002.
7. Memorandum from Jason R. Goldsmith, Ph.D., Division of Health Sciences, to Terrance R. Karels, “Rocket-Powered Model Cars—Response to Comments,” October 17, 2002.

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TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

18 CFR Part 1301

Revision of Tennessee Valley Authority Freedom of Information Act Regulations

AGENCY: Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA).

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Tennessee Valley Authority is amending its Freedom of

Information Act (FOIA) regulations to reflect a change in the cut-off date for determining which records are responsive to a request.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 30, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Denise Smith, FOIA Officer, Tennessee Valley Authority, 400 W. Summit Hill Drive (ET 5D), Knoxville, Tennessee 37902-1499, telephone number (865) 632-6945.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This rule was not published in proposed form since it relates to agency procedure and practice. Since this rule is nonsubstantive, it is being made effective January 30, 2003.

List of Subjects in 18 CFR Part 1301

Freedom of Information, Government in the Sunshine, Privacy

For the reasons stated in the preamble, TVA amends 18 CFR part 1301 as follows:

PART 1301—PROCEDURES

1. The authority citation for part 1301, Subpart A, continues to read as follows:

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 831-831ee, 5 U.S.C. 552.

2. In § 1301.4, revise paragraph (a) to read as follows:

§ 1301.4 Responsibility for responding to requests.

(a) TVA's FOIA Officer, or the FOIA Officer's designee, is responsible for responding to all FOIA requests. In determining which records are responsive to a request, TVA will ordinarily include only records in its possession as of the date it begins its search for them. If any other date is used, the FOIA Officer shall inform the requester of that date.

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Tracy S. Williams,

Vice President, External Communications,
Tennessee Valley Authority.

[FR Doc. 03-2178 Filed 1-29-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8120-08-M

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

20 CFR Part 404

[Reg. No. 4]

RIN 0960-AE03

Changes in the Retirement Age

AGENCY: Social Security Administration.

ACTION: Final rules.

SUMMARY: These final rules amend our regulations to reflect the changes in full

retirement age and in monthly benefit reduction for early retirement as established by section 201 of the Social Security Amendments of 1983 (the 1983 Amendments), and the change in delayed retirement credits (DRCs) as established by section 4 of the Senior Citizens' Freedom to Work Act of 2000 (the Freedom to Work Act). Section 201 of the 1983 Amendments gradually increases the full retirement age for unreduced old-age, wife's or husband's, and widow's or widower's benefits from age 65 to age 67. Section 201 provides for an additional reduction in old-age and wife's or husband's benefits when early retirement is elected more than 36 months prior to full retirement age. It also requires a different method of computing the amount of reduction for early retirement for widow's or widower's benefits. Section 4 of the Freedom to Work Act allows a beneficiary who has attained full retirement age to voluntarily suspend retirement benefits to earn DRCs.

EFFECTIVE DATE: These rules are effective January 30, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bill Hilton, Social Insurance Specialist, Office of Program Benefits, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401, (410) 965-2468 or TTY (410) 966-5609. For information on eligibility, filing for benefits, or coverage of earnings, call our national toll-free number, 1-800-772-1213 or TTY at 1-800-325-0778.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 201 of the 1983 Amendments changed the age at which unreduced old-age benefits, wife's or husband's benefits, and widow's or widower's benefits are payable from age 65 to age 67. The change is phased in over a period of 22 years. This increase affects those born after January 1, 1938.

Section 201 also changed the way reduced monthly benefits are computed for early retirement. The reduction factor for early retirement of the worker and wife or husband will remain the same as under the pre-amendment law for the first 36 months of the reduction period. For each month in excess of 36 months there will be an additional reduction of $\frac{5}{12}$ of one percent. The maximum reduction increases to 30 percent for old-age benefits and 35 percent for wife's or husband's benefits.

The maximum reduction for widow's or widower's benefits will continue to be $28\frac{1}{2}$ percent, but that reduction is prorated over a period of months equal to the total possible months of early retirement. That total is now 60 months for those with a full retirement age of 65 but will increase incrementally to 84

months for those with a full retirement age of 67.

Section 4 of the Freedom to Work Act allows people who have attained full retirement age and are receiving retirement benefits to voluntarily suspend those benefits in order to earn DRCs.

Explanation of Changes

We are adding new § 404.409 to our regulations to explain the effect of section 201 of the 1983 Amendments. This new section shows the full range of dates of birth and the corresponding full retirement ages (the age at which a person can retire and receive unreduced old-age, wife's, husband's, widow's or widower's benefits).

We are revising §§ 404.315, 404.316 and 404.321 to reflect the change in full retirement age mandated by section 201 of the 1983 Amendments.

We are revising § 404.277 to reflect the change in full retirement age as mandated by section 201 of the 1983 Amendments. We are rewriting this section in plain language format to comply with the provisions of Executive Order 12866, as amended by Executive Order 13258. We are correcting this section to show that automatic cost-of-living adjustments now occur in December.

We are revising § 404.304 to reflect the change in full retirement age as mandated by section 201 of the 1983 Amendments. We are rewriting this section in plain language format to comply with the provisions of Executive Order 12866, as amended by Executive Order 13258. We are correcting language in this section to say that benefits may be reduced because of the receipt of a government pension instead of saying that benefits will be reduced. This allows for the exceptions that sometimes occur. We are removing the incorrect language that indicated the benefit will be reduced by the amount of the pension.

We are revising § 404.313 to reflect the change in full retirement age mandated by section 201 of the 1983 Amendments. We are including a section to explain that delayed retirement credits may now be earned by a voluntary suspension of benefits as provided for in section 4 of the Freedom To Work Act. We are rewriting the section in plain language format to comply with the provisions of Executive Order 12866, as amended by Executive Order 13258.

We are revising § 404.317 to reflect the change in full retirement age as mandated by section 201 of the 1983 Amendments. We are rewriting this section in plain language format to