

Dated: March 28, 2022.

On behalf of the Commission.

Allen J. Dickerson,

Chairman, Federal Election Commission.

[FR Doc. 2022-06895 Filed 3-31-22; 8:45 am]

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FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

11 CFR Part 115

[NOTICE 2022-09]

Federal Contractors

AGENCY: Federal Election Commission.

ACTION: Notice of disposition of Petition for Rulemaking.

SUMMARY: The Commission announces its disposition of a Petition for Rulemaking filed on November 18, 2014, by Public Citizen. The petitioner asked that the Commission amend its regulations regarding federal contractors to include certain factors for determining whether entities of the same corporate family are distinct business entities for purposes of the prohibition on contributions by federal contractors. Because there were not four affirmative votes in support of the petition, the Commission is not initiating a rulemaking.

DATES: April 1, 2022.

ADDRESSES: All comments must be in writing, addressed to Mr. Robert Mark Knop, Assistant General Counsel, and submitted in hard copy form to the Federal Election Commission, 1050 First St. NE, Washington, DC 20463.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Robert M. Knop, Assistant General Counsel, or Mr. Joseph P. Wenzinger, Attorney, Office of General Counsel, (202) 694-1650 or (800) 424-9530.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Part 115 of the Commission's regulations prohibits federal contractors from making contributions or expenditures to any political party, political committee, or federal candidate, or to any person for any political purpose or use. 11 CFR 115.2(a); *see also* 52 U.S.C. 30119(a)(1). Part 115 further prohibits any person from knowingly soliciting a contribution from any federal contractor. 11 CFR 115.2(c); *see also* 52 U.S.C. 30119(a)(2). On November 18, 2014, the Commission received a Petition for Rulemaking from Public Citizen asking the Commission to amend 11 CFR part 115 to include certain factors for determining whether entities of the same corporate family are distinct business entities for purposes of these prohibitions.

The Commission published a Notice of Availability ("NOA") on March 30,

2015 to ask for public comment on the petition. 80 FR 16595 (Mar. 30, 2015). The Commission received approximately 19,750 comments on the NOA.

After considering the comments received, the Commission voted on a motion to initiate a rulemaking to adopt the regulations proposed by the petition. Three Commissioners voted to initiate a rulemaking based on the petition, and three Commissioners voted against initiating a rulemaking. Certification, Motion to Open a Rulemaking on REG 2014-09 in Response to Public Comment, Agenda Document 15-60-A (Nov. 13, 2015) at 2, <https://sers.fec.gov/fosers/showpdf.htm?docid=346292>.

Commissioners voting to initiate a rulemaking explained that new rules may be necessary to prevent federal contractors from creating "nominal subsidiaries" to make political contributions. *See* Audio Recording of Discussion on REG 2014-09 Amendment of 11 CFR 115 (Nov. 10, 2015) ("Audio Recording") at 1:51-4:10, <https://www.fec.gov/resources/audio/2015/2015111004.mp3> (statement of Commissioner Ellen L. Weintraub) (stating that Act's restrictions "are at risk of being rendered unenforceable if corporations can skirt the law by creating nominal subsidiaries to make political contributions"); Statement of Commissioner Ann M. Ravel on REG 2014-09 (Amendment of 11 CFR part 115) at 2, <https://sers.fec.gov/fosers/showpdf.htm?docid=> (stating that Act's restrictions could be "easily evaded by technical legal maneuvering that leaves the intent of the law completely thwarted"). On the other hand, a Commissioner voting against initiating a rulemaking explained that he was "persuaded by comments" arguing that Congress passed the federal-contractor ban "against a background of common-law corporate principles" that the Commission should not disrupt in the absence of direction by Congress. Audio Recording at 4:13-8:43 (statement of Vice Chairman Matthew S. Petersen) (stating that Commission has not "been instructed by Congress to disrupt that background understanding, though they've amended the law on a number of different occasions" in the "nearly four decades" the Commission has been applying the federal-contractor ban).

The Act requires an affirmative vote of at least four Commissioners to take any action to amend a regulation. *See* 52 U.S.C. 30106(c) and 30107(a)(8). Accordingly, the Commission is not initiating a rulemaking. *See also* Definition of "Express Advocacy," Notice of Disposition of Petition for Rulemaking, 64 FR 27478 (May 20,

1999) (denying a petition to initiate a rulemaking because it did not garner the affirmative vote of four Commissioners).

Copies of the comments, the NOA, the Petition for Rulemaking, and related documents are available on the Commission's website, <https://www.fec.gov/fosers/> (reference REG 2014-09 Amendment of 11 CFR 115).

Dated: March 28, 2022.

On behalf of the Commission.

Allen J. Dickerson,

Chairman, Federal Election Commission.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA-2022-0155; Project Identifier MCAI-2021-00585-T]

RIN 2120-AA64

Airworthiness Directives; MHI RJ Aviation ULC (Type Certificate Previously Held by Bombardier, Inc.) 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 certain MHI RJ Aviation ULC Model CL-600-2B19 (Regional Jet Series 100 & 440) airplanes; Model CL-600-2C10 (Regional Jet Series 700, 701 & 702) airplanes; Model CL-600-2C11 (Regional Jet Series 550) airplanes; Model CL-600-2D15 (Regional Jet Series 705) airplanes; Model CL-600-2D24 (Regional Jet Series 900) airplanes; and Model CL-600-2E25 (Regional Jet Series 1000) airplanes. This proposed AD was prompted by reports of displayed headings changing from MAG to TRU with no pilot action, which may result in misleading heading information on both primary function displays (PFDs) and multi-function displays (MFDs), and misleading course information on flight management systems (FMS). This proposed AD would require amending the existing airplane flight manual (AFM) to provide the flightcrew with updated procedures for accurate heading and course information. 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 May 16, 2022.