

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking; public meetings.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy (DOE) announces public meetings and webinars for the DPPP Working Group. The Federal Advisory Committee Act requires that agencies publish notice of an advisory committee meeting in the **Federal Register**.

On July 30, 2015, ASRAC met and unanimously passed the recommendation to form a dedicated purpose pool pumps (DPPP) working group to meet and discuss and, if possible, reach consensus on proposed Federal rules that would apply to this equipment. The ASRAC Charter allowed for 3 months of working group meetings to establish the scope, metric, definitions, and test procedure for dedicated purpose pool pumps and decide on a path forward at that time. The working group met this requirement and now more time is required to discuss potential energy conservation standards for this equipment. On January 20, 2016, ASRAC met and recommended that the DPPP Working Group continue its work to develop and recommend potential energy conservation standards for this equipment. This notice announces the next series of meetings for this working group.

DATES: See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for meeting dates.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held at U.S. Department of Energy, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20585 unless otherwise stated in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section. Individuals will also have the opportunity to participate by webinar. To register for the webinars and receive call-in information, please register at DOE's Web site https://www1.eere.energy.gov/buildings/appliance_standards/rulemaking.aspx/ruleid/14.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. John Cymbalsky, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Building Technologies, EE-5B, 1000 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20585-0121. Telephone: (202) 287-1692. Email: asrac@ee.doe.gov.

Ms. Johanna Jochum, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of the General Counsel, GC-33, 1000 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20585-0121. Telephone: (202) 586-9496. Email: Johanna.Jochum@Hq.Doe.Gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: DOE will host public meetings and webinars on the below dates. Meetings will be hosted

at DOE's Forrestal Building, unless otherwise stated.

- March 21, 2016; 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. at 955 L'Enfant Plaza, 8th Floor
- March 22, 2016; 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. at Navigant, 1200 19th St. NW., #700, Washington, DC 20036
- April 18, 2016; 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. at DOE's Forrestal Building, Room 6E-069
- April 19, 2016; 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. at DOE's Forrestal Building, Room 6A-110

Members of the public are welcome to observe the business of the meeting and, if time allows, may make oral statements during the specified period for public comment. To attend the meeting and/or to make oral statements regarding any of the items on the agenda, email asrac@ee.doe.gov. In the email, please indicate your name, organization (if appropriate), citizenship, and contact information. Please note that foreign nationals participating in the public meeting are subject to advance security screening procedures which require advance notice prior to attendance at the public meeting. If you are a foreign national, and wish to participate in the public meeting, please inform DOE as soon as possible by contacting Ms. Regina Washington at (202) 586-1214 or by email: Regina.Washington@ee.doe.gov so that the necessary procedures can be completed. Anyone attending the meeting will be required to present a government photo identification, such as a passport, driver's license, or government identification. Due to the required security screening upon entry, individuals attending should arrive early to allow for the extra time needed.

Due to the REAL ID Act implemented by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) recent changes have been made regarding ID requirements for individuals wishing to enter Federal buildings from specific states and U.S. territories. Driver's licenses from the following states or territory will not be accepted for building entry and one of the alternate forms of ID listed below will be required.

DHS has determined that regular driver's licenses (and ID cards) from the following jurisdictions are not acceptable for entry into DOE facilities: Alaska, Louisiana, New York, American Samoa, Maine, Oklahoma, Arizona, Massachusetts, Washington, and Minnesota.

Acceptable alternate forms of Photo-ID include: U.S. Passport or Passport Card; an Enhanced Driver's License or Enhanced ID-Card issued by the states of Minnesota, New York or Washington

(Enhanced licenses issued by these states are clearly marked Enhanced or Enhanced Driver's License); A military ID or other Federal government issued Photo-ID card.

Docket: The docket is available for review at www.regulations.gov, including **Federal Register** notices, public meeting attendee lists and transcripts, comments, and other supporting documents/materials. All documents in the docket are listed in the www.regulations.gov index. However, not all documents listed in the index may be publicly available, such as information that is exempt from public disclosure.

Issued in Washington, DC, on February 19, 2016.

Kathleen B. Hogan,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy.

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Bureau of Prisons

28 CFR Part 552

[BOP-1167-P]

RIN 1120-AB67

Use of Chemical Agents or Other Less-Than-Lethal Force in Immediate Use of Force Situations

AGENCY: Bureau of Prisons, Justice.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: In this document, the Bureau of Prisons (Bureau) proposes to amend its regulation on the use of chemical agents or other less-than-lethal force to provide that such use is authorized for staff in immediate use of force (emergency) situations.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before April 29, 2016.

ADDRESSES: Rules Unit, Office of General Counsel, Bureau of Prisons, 320 First Street NW., Washington, DC 20534.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sarah N. Qureshi, Rules Unit, Office of General Counsel, Bureau of Prisons, phone (202) 353-8248.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Posting of Public Comments. Please note that all comments received are considered part of the public record and made available for public inspection online at <http://www.regulations.gov>. Such information includes personal identifying information (such as your

name, address, etc.) voluntarily submitted by the commenter.

If you want to submit personal identifying information (such as your name, address, etc.) as part of your comment, but do not want it to be posted online, you must include the phrase "PERSONAL IDENTIFYING INFORMATION" in the first paragraph of your comment. You must also locate all the personal identifying information you do not want posted online in the first paragraph of your comment and identify what information you want redacted.

If you want to submit confidential business information as part of your comment but do not want it to be posted online, you must include the phrase "CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS INFORMATION" in the first paragraph of your comment. You must also prominently identify confidential business information to be redacted within the comment. If a comment has so much confidential business information that it cannot be effectively redacted, all or part of that comment may not be posted on <http://www.regulations.gov>.

Personal identifying information identified and located as set forth above will be placed in the agency's public docket file, but not posted online. Confidential business information identified and located as set forth above will not be placed in the public docket file. If you wish to inspect the agency's public docket file in person by appointment, please see the "For Additional Information" paragraph.

Discussion

In this document, the Bureau of Prisons (Bureau) proposes to amend its regulations to explicitly authorize staff to utilize chemical agents or other less-than-lethal force in immediate use of force (emergency) situations. We also make a few minor edits for clarification and organization. We describe the proposed changes in further detail below.

At the outset, we note that we are replacing the term "weapons" with the term "devices" both in the title and the body of the regulation. This is consistent with terminology used in Department of Justice policy describing the use of less-than-lethal force.

§ 552.25 Use of Less-Than-Lethal Devices, Including Chemical Agents—New Paragraph (a)

Currently § 552.25 allows the Warden to authorize the use of less-than-lethal devices, including chemical agents, when the situation is such that a delay in action would constitute a serious

hazard to the inmate or others, or would result in a major disturbance or serious property damage, and the inmate is either armed and/or barricaded; or cannot be approached without a danger to self or others. The Warden may delegate his authority to one or more supervisors on duty and physically present, but not below the position of Lieutenant.

In addition, under current § 552.21(d), the use of less-than-lethal devices could also be appropriate "where the facts and circumstances known to the staff member would warrant a person using sound correctional judgment to reasonably believe other action is necessary (as a last resort) to prevent serious physical injury, or serious property damage which would immediately endanger the safety of staff, inmates, or others." Although this language indicates that a staff member in a situation where he or she reasonably believed action was necessary *could* use less-than-lethal force to "prevent serious physical injury, or serious property damage which would immediately endanger the safety of staff, inmates or others," use of less-than-lethal devices, including chemical agents, by staff in immediate use of force (emergency) situations is not explicitly authorized.

The Bureau therefore proposes to amend § 552.25 by adding a new paragraph (a), clearly indicating that "Staff are authorized to use chemical agents or other less-than-lethal devices in immediate use of force situations pursuant to this subpart."

Current BOP regulations already define the parameters for immediate use of force situations. Section 552.21(a) currently defines "immediate use of force," stating that "[st]aff may immediately use force and/or apply restraints when the behavior described in § 552.20 constitutes an immediate, serious threat to the inmate, staff, others, property, or to institution security and good order." Section 552.20 authorizes Bureau staff to use force only as a last alternative, and only to the extent necessary to address the inmate behavior which threatens the safety, security and good order of the facility, or protection of the public.

Bureau of Prisons staff frequently respond to critical incidents and dangerous situations in Bureau facilities. Several incidents in recent years have resulted in injury to Bureau staff. Inmate attacks on staff continue to escalate, evolve and diversify, recent attacks have proceeded quickly, with more planning than in previous dangerous encounters. Sudden violent large-scale incidents involving large

numbers of inmates, require immediate action. Measures are therefore necessary to ensure that staff are clearly authorized to promptly and safely control inmates during violent situations and mitigate the risk of serious bodily harm. This rule change would directly authorize staff to carry less-than-lethal devices for deployment in immediate use of force (emergency) situations.

The goal of the proposed rule is to increase the safety of staff and inmates when staff respond to incidents involving violence, and to prevent injury to staff and inmates due to an assault or serious resistance to staff control. The rule will provide staff with immediate access to a less-than-lethal device, enabling quick containment of incidents, reducing opportunities for injuries to staff and inmates. Currently, responders to dangerous encounters do not have self-protection capability without direct physical contact with involved inmates. There have been occasions where disruptive inmates have resisted control techniques by responding staff. In some instances, inmates armed with weapons have turned their attacks on staff. Staff have also responded to critical incidents on recreation yards which were not successfully interrupted by verbal commands and the non-immediate discharge of one or more less-than-lethal devices and warning shots. These dangers increase the potential for assaults and injury, both to staff and to other inmates, and pose a general risk to the safety and security of the facility.

The use of less-than-lethal devices has become accepted throughout the law enforcement community. Correctional staff at the majority of state and local correctional facilities routinely carry and utilize less-than-lethal devices to protect themselves from inmate attacks and prevent dangerous encounters from escalating. Several of these state agencies have allowed line staff to utilize less-than-lethal devices for more than a decade.

National Institute of Justice (NIJ) studies of the use of chemical agents published in 1997 (*Evaluation of Pepper Spray*. NJC 162358, February 1997, by Steven M. Edwards, John Granfield, and Jamie Onnen (8 pages).) and 2003 (*The Effectiveness and Safety of Pepper Spray*. NJC 195739, April 2003, by National Institute of Justice (19 pages).) documented similar increases in compliance and reductions in injuries in community law enforcement situations. Although the study did not examine use of chemical agents in correctional settings, the long term studies by NIJ show that the use of force

complaints, injuries to officers, and injuries to aggressive persons have fallen significantly anywhere less-than-lethal force is an option.

Based on the above information and the authority already provided in § 552.21(d), the Bureau conducted a limited test of the usefulness and effectiveness of staff use of less-than-lethal devices (Oleoresin Capsicum [OC, or MK-4]) in select Bureau facilities. During the period from October 15, 2012 to March 14, 2013, the Bureau found that the average containment time in facilities using OC in immediate use of force situations was 2.93 minutes, as compared to the 5.48 minutes in facilities which did not use any less-than lethal weapon in immediate use of force situations. In other words, the use of OC resulted in an average containment time that was a full 2.55 minutes faster.

We therefore make this change to increase the safety of staff and inmates when staff respond to incidents involving violence, and to prevent injury to staff and inmates due to an assault or serious resistance to staff control, by providing staff with immediate access to a less-than lethal device, thereby enabling quick containment of incidents and reducing opportunities for injuries to staff and inmates.

§ 552.25 Use of Less-Than-Lethal Devices, Including Chemical Agents—Paragraph (b)

The Bureau also proposes to redesignate current § 552.25(a) and (b) into paragraph (b) and (c), respectively. The only changes made are non-substantive conforming changes to accommodate new paragraph (a), as described above. The wording and intent of this language remains the same.

Executive Orders 12866 and 13563—Regulatory Review

This regulation has been drafted and reviewed in accordance with Executive Order 12866, “Regulatory Planning and Review” section 1(b), Principles of Regulation and in accordance with Executive Order 13563 “Improving Regulation and Regulatory Review” section 1(b) General Principles of Regulation.

The Department of Justice has determined that this rule is not a “significant regulatory action” under Executive Order 12866, section 3(f), Regulatory Planning and Review, and accordingly this rule has been reviewed by the Office of Management and Budget. This rule is a delegation of authority from the Director of BOP to

explicitly authorize the use of less-than-lethal devices in immediate use of force (emergency) situations.

Further, both Executive Orders 12866 and 13563 direct agencies to assess all costs and benefits of available regulatory alternatives and, if regulation is necessary, to select regulatory approaches that maximize net benefits (including potential economic, environmental, public health and safety effects, distributive impacts, and equity). Executive Order 13563 emphasizes the importance of quantifying both costs and benefits, of reducing costs, of harmonizing rules, and of promoting flexibility. The Department has assessed the costs and benefits of this regulation and believes that the regulatory approach selected maximizes net benefits.

Executive Order 13132

This regulation will not have substantial direct effects on the States, on the relationship between the national government and the States, or on distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government. Therefore, under Executive Order 13132, we determine that this regulation does not have sufficient federalism implications to warrant the preparation of a Federalism Assessment.

Regulatory Flexibility Act

The Director of the Bureau of Prisons, under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 605(b)), reviewed this regulation and certifies that it will not have a significant economic impact upon a substantial number of small entities for the following reasons: This regulation pertains to the correctional management of offenders committed to the custody of the Attorney General or the Director of the Bureau of Prisons. Its economic impact is limited to the Bureau’s appropriated funds.

Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995

This regulation will not result in the expenditure by State, local and tribal governments, in the aggregate, or by the private sector, of \$100,000,000 or more in any one year, and it will not significantly or uniquely affect small governments. Therefore, no actions were deemed necessary under the provisions of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995.

Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996

This regulation is not a major rule as defined by § 804 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of

1996. This regulation will not result in an annual effect on the economy of \$100,000,000 or more; a major increase in costs or prices; or significant adverse effects on competition, employment, investment, productivity, innovation, or on the ability of United States-based companies to compete with foreign-based companies in domestic and export markets.

List of Subjects in 28 CFR Part 571.

Prisoners.

Kathleen M. Kenney,

Assistant Director/General Counsel, Federal Bureau of Prisons.

Under rulemaking authority vested in the Attorney General in 5 U.S.C. 301, 28 U.S.C. 509, 510, and delegated to the Director, Bureau of Prisons in 28 CFR 0.96, we propose to amend 28 CFR part 552, chapter V, subchapter C, as follows:

Subchapter C—Institutional Management

PART 552—CUSTODY

■ 1. The authority citation for part 552 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 5 U.S.C. 301; 18 U.S.C. 3621, 3622, 3624, 4001, 4042, 4081, 4082 (Repealed in part as to offenses committed on or after November 1, 1987), 5006–5024 (Repealed October 12, 1984 as to offenses committed after that date), 5039; 28 U.S.C. 509, 510; 28 CFR 0.95–0.99.

■ 2. Revise § 552.25 to read as follows:

§ 552.25 Use of less-than-lethal devices, including chemical agents.

(a) Staff are authorized to use chemical agents or other less-than-lethal devices in immediate use of force situations pursuant to this subpart.

(b) For situations other than immediate use of force situations, the Warden may authorize the use of less-than-lethal devices, including those containing chemical agents, only when a delay in bringing the situation under control would constitute a serious hazard to the inmate or others, or would result in a major disturbance or serious property damage, and the situation is such that the inmate:

(1) Is armed and/or barricaded; or

(2) Cannot be approached without danger to self or others.

(c) The Warden may delegate the authority under paragraph (b) to one or more supervisors on duty and physically present, but not below the position of Lieutenant.

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