

with an absence of either freezing rain or freezing drizzle.

It is probably not advisable to include a caveat in the definition specifying that freezing rain contain "an appreciable amount of water in drops" which have diameters greater than 0.5 mm, as one commenter suggested. The phrase "appreciable amount" adds ambiguity to the definition.

There were also good suggestions for clarifying the language.

The definition has been revised in the notice.

*30. Reword Definition of "Freezing Precipitation" To Clarify Distinction Between "Freezing Precipitation" and "Supercooled Large Drops"*

The FAA concurs that there was little distinction between the proposed definitions. The definition of "Freezing Precipitation" has been revised in the notice.

*31. Reword the Definition of "Freezing Drizzle (FZDZ)" for Improved Clarity, Accuracy, Utility, and Consistency With Other Terms*

The comments are very similar to those for freezing rain; see above for some specifics. The FAA concurs with many of these and the definition has been revised in the notice.

*32. Request To Revise Definition of "Icing in Precipitation"*

Several commenters requested that the FAA reword the definition of "icing in precipitation" for improved clarity, accuracy, utility, or consistency with other terms.

The FAA concurs with most of the comments and has revised the definition accordingly.

*33. Reword the definition of "Icing in Cloud" for Improved Clarity, Accuracy, Utility, and Consistency With Other Terms*

One commenter noted that even outside of visible cloud, the atmosphere will contain a distribution of droplet sizes and diameters of less than 50 microns will be present. Actually these smaller "cloud droplets" may be present, that is, they are not always there. The FAA prefers to include the "visible cloud" requirement, which implies substantial numbers of cloud droplets and is what differentiates this condition from "Icing in Precipitation."

The FAA concurs with most of the remaining comments and the definition has been revised in the notice.

*34. Reword the Definition of "Supercooled Large Droplets" for Improved Clarity, Accuracy, Utility, and Consistency With Other Terms*

The FAA concurs and proposes the definition has been revised in the notice.

**Note:** The new definition provides a definition of an atmospheric phenomenon and is considered sufficient without reference to icing standards or possible effects on aircraft safety. The terms "FZRA" and "FZDZ" are used by weather providers to indicate SLD icing conditions.

*35. Request To Delete "Supercooled Drizzle Drops" From List of Defined Terms*

One commenters requested that the FAA delete the term "Supercooled Drizzle Drops" from the list because the term has had only limited use.

The FAA does not concur. Although it is true that the term has not appeared extensively, it has appeared with sufficient frequency to justify inclusion in the notice.

*36. Request To Expand Definition of "Appendix C Icing Conditions"*

One commenter requested that the FAA include in the final notice a definition of "Appendix C Icing Conditions" expanded to include and explain variables used in defining the icing envelopes.

The FAA concurs that identification of these variables is appropriate in the notice, and the definition has been expanded accordingly. However, technical explanation and use of these variables are addressed in FAA advisory circulars on certification.

*37. Request To Include Additional Meteorological Terms in List of Defined Terms*

One commenter requested that the FAA include ice crystals, hail, snow, sleet, graupel, and related meteorological terms in the list of definitions.

The FAA does not concur. During the 1996 FAA icing conference the FAA was given the task of redefining those icing terms that, in the judgement of the FAA, were either confusing or were otherwise in need of clarification. The terms proposed for redefinition and clarification are those icing terms which fit the criteria expressed in the FAA Icing Plan developed using the recommendations from the conference.

The FAA does not agree that the terms proposed by the commenter are confusing or are unclear so as to require redefinition.

*38. Request for Removal of Contradictions in CFR Material Pertaining to Severe Icing*

One commenter requested that the FAA remove contradictions that exist in the CFR material (in particular, with respect to usage of term "severe icing"), so that the material presented in the docket does not continue to sanction these contradictions.

Atmospheric icing conditions are highly variable and can exceed in-flight icing standards defined by the airplane airworthiness requirements. Therefore, the FAA concurs, and plans to revise the FARs which are in conflict with the proposed definition of severe icing. The National Weather Service, however, is required to forecast and report severe atmospheric conditions, including thunderstorms and severe icing. Pilot reports, experience, and other parameters are used by meteorologists to define severe icing conditions, regardless of airplane ice protection provisions, size, or performance. Severe icing conditions for small airplanes may not be severe for large air transports. The FAA will provide the requirement that the National Weather Service replace the term "severe icing" with "heavy icing." Resolution of the terminology conflict requires that the FAA regulations be revised and successful collaboration with the National Weather Service be achieved.

*39. Request To Include "Sandpaper Ice" in List of Defined Terms*

Several commenters requested that the term "sandpaper ice," as defined in Advisory Circular AC 25-7A, Para. 20(a)(3), be added to the list of definitions.

The FAA does not concur. The notice is intended as a compendium of operational definitions. Inclusion of a technical term pertaining to the certification of aircraft is deemed inappropriate in this compendium.

*40. Request To Include "Runback Ice" and "Residual Ice" in List of Defined Terms*

The FAA concurs. Definitions of runback ice, residual ice, and inter-cycle ice have been added to the notice.

*41. Include "Supercooled Liquid Water" in List. Use Term Exclusively*

One commenter requested that the term "supercooled liquid water" be included in the list of definitions and that this term be used exclusively where there are currently references to "supercooled liquid water," "supercooled water drop," or "supercooled water droplets."