

long-term benefits. We address mitigation of fire hazards as part of the State's comprehensive Mitigation Plan, described in 44 CFR part 201.

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■ 5. Revise § 204.51(d)(2) to read as follows:

§ 204.51 Application and approval procedures for a fire management assistance grant.

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(d) * * *

(2) *Hazard Mitigation Plan*. As a requirement of receiving funding under a fire management assistance grant, a State, or tribal organization, acting as Grantee, must:

(i) Develop a Mitigation Plan in accordance with 44 CFR part 201 that addresses wildfire risks and mitigation measures; or

(ii) Incorporate wildfire mitigation into the existing Mitigation Plan developed and approved under 44 CFR part 201 that also addresses wildfire risk and contains a wildfire mitigation strategy and related mitigation initiatives.

PART 206—FEDERAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE FOR DISASTERS DECLARED ON OR AFTER NOVEMBER 23, 1988.

■ 6. The authority citation for part 206 continues to read as follows:

Authority: Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 5121–5206; Reorganization Plan No. 3 of 1978, 43 FR 41943, 3 CFR, 1978 Comp., p. 329; E.O. 12127, 44 FR 19367, 3 CFR, 1979 Comp., p. 376; E.O. 12148, 44 FR 43239, 3 CFR, 1979 Comp., p. 412; and E.O. 12673, 54 FR 12571, 3 CFR, 1989 Comp., p. 214.

■ 7. Revise § 206.226(b) to read as follows:

§ 206.226 Restoration of damaged facilities.

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(b) *Mitigation planning*. In order to receive assistance under this section, as of November 1, 2004, the State must have in place a FEMA approved State Mitigation Plan in accordance with 44 CFR part 201.

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Dated: October 22, 2003.

Michael D. Brown,

Under Secretary, Emergency Preparedness and Response, Department of Homeland Security.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Office of the Secretary

49 CFR Part 71

[Docket No. OST–2003–15858]

RIN 2105–AD30

Standard Time Zone Boundary in the State of South Dakota: Relocation of Jones, Mellette, and Todd Counties

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary (OST), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: In response to a concurrent resolution of the South Dakota legislature, DOT is relocating the boundary between mountain time and central time in the State of South Dakota. DOT is placing all of Jones, Mellette, and Todd Counties in the central time zone.

EFFECTIVE DATE: 2 a.m. MDT Sunday, October 26, 2003, which is the changeover from daylight saving to standard time.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the Standard Time Act of 1918, as amended by the Uniform Time Act of 1966 (15 U.S.C. 260–64), the Secretary of Transportation has authority to issue regulations modifying the boundaries between time zones in the United States in order to move an area from one time zone to another. The standard in the statute for such decisions is “regard for the convenience of commerce and the existing junction points and division points of common carriers engaged in interstate or foreign commerce.”

Time zone boundaries are set by regulation (49 CFR part 71). Currently, under regulation, Mellette and Todd Counties, and the western portion of Jones County, are located in the mountain standard time zone. The eastern portion of Jones County is currently located in the central time zone.

Request for a Change

The South Dakota legislature adopted a concurrent resolution (Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 3) petitioning the Secretary of Transportation to place all of Jones, Mellette, and Todd counties into the central time zone. The resolution was

adopted by the South Dakota Senate on February 3, 2003, and concurred in by the South Dakota House of Representatives on February 7, 2003. The resolution noted, among other things, that the vast majority of residents of those counties observe central standard time, instead of mountain standard time, because their commercial and social ties are to communities located in the central time zone. It further stated that there would be much less confusion and that it would be much more convenient for the commerce of these counties if these counties were located in the central time zone. A copy of the resolution has been placed in the docket.

Procedure for Changing a Time Zone Boundary

Under DOT procedures to change a time zone boundary, the Department will generally begin a rulemaking proceeding if the highest elected officials in the area make a *prima facie* case for the proposed change. DOT determined that the concurrent resolution of the South Dakota legislature made a *prima facie* case that warranted opening a proceeding to determine whether the change should be made. On August 11, 2003, DOT published a notice of proposed rulemaking (68 FR 47533) proposing to make the requested change and invited public comment. The NPRM proposed that this change go into effect during the next changeover from daylight saving time to standard time, which is on October 26, 2003.

Comments

Two comments were filed. One, which was filed by the South Dakota Secretary of State, supported the change. He stated that “The proposal to place all of Jones, Mellette and Todd Counties in the central time zone would eliminate confusion these counties have when elections are conducted. Eliminating this confusion will improve voter turnout in these counties. South Dakota’s polling hours are from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. legal time. These counties that are legally set in mountain time follow central time for their business hours, therefore causing confusion in the past on what time zone to use for polling hours for local, state and federal elections.” The other comment objected to daylight saving time observance and suggested that all states should be in the same time zone.

We did not hold a public hearing in the area because of the unusual circumstances in this case. According to the State legislature, the vast majority of people in the affected area are already