

Tracking Federal Regulatory Initiatives

Regulatory Affairs

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Old Age Security Regulations, amendment (SOR/97-530, OIC 1997-1743)

In recognition of the difficult financial situation sponsored immigrant seniors would be in if their sponsorship breaks down, the Regulations are amended to provide that they are entitled to receive a pro-rated GIS or SPA in the same way as others qualifying for benefits under International Social Security Agreements.

The exceptional circumstances are as follows:

- if the sponsor dies; if the sponsor is convicted of a Criminal Code offense relating to the sponsored individual;
- if the sponsor is determined a bankrupt as that term is defined in the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act; or
- if the sponsor is sentenced to a term of imprisonment exceeding six months.

Contact: Terry de March, Director Legislation Development Division, Programs Directorate, Income Security Programs, Human Resources Development, 8th Floor, Tower B, Place Vanier, Vanier, Ontario, K1A 0L1. Tel: 613-957-1626; Fax: 613-991-9119.

Old Age Security Act

HRDC/97-5-L

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Exempt from Pre-Publication and Approved

Statutory Authority & Regulatory Plan Listing

Income Tax Regulations, amendment (Part I - July 1997) (SOR/97-531, OIC 1997-1744)

Part I of the Regulations is being amended to change the federal-provincial sharing fraction on source deductions to reflect the provincial tax rate changes, contained in the 1997 budgets of the provinces of Ontario, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, effective July 1, 1997.

Part I of the Income Tax Regulations provides the rules concerning deductions at source by an employer from amounts paid to an employee. Withholding rules for non-periodic payments, such as bonuses paid by employers to employees, are covered under this Part. When such a payment is made, the Regulations state what percentage must be withheld on account of tax by taking into account the provincial rate of tax.

These amendments legislate the rules under which employers have been withholding tax since July 1, 1997. Since provincial budgets are usually not announced until late spring and the tax rates are effective within tight time frames, Revenue Canada prepares source deduction tables twice a year (in June and in December) for the benefit of employers so that they may be aware of tax rate changes and therefore can withhold the proper amounts on a timely basis.

Contact: Richard Montroy, Legislative Policy Division, Revenue Canada, 875 Heron Road, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0L5. Tel: 613-952-6479.

Special Appointment Regulations, No. 1997-7 (SOR/97-525, OIC 1997-1724); Special Appointment Regulations, No. 1997-8 (SOR/97-526, OIC 1997-1726); Special Appointment Regulations, No. 1997-9 (SOR/97-527, OIC 1997-1728); Special Appointment Regulations, No. 1997-10 (SOR/97-528, OIC 1997-1730)

The regulation makes the following appointments and exempts the appointments from the application of the Public Service Employment Act, except sections 32, 33 and 34, while the appointees are in the position:

- Larry Murray, of Orleans, Ontario, as Associate Deputy Minister of Fisheries and Oceans;
- Verna Bruce, of Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, as Associate Deputy Minister of Veterans Affairs;
- Michelle Comeau, of Ottawa, Ontario, as Associate Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food;
- Samy Watson, of Carp, Ontario, as Deputy Secretary to the Cabinet (Plans and Consultation).

Contact: Senior Personnel Management, Privy Council Office, Postal Station B Building, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A3. Tel: 613-957-5288

Income Tax Act, section 221

RC/R-10-L

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Public Service Employment Act, subsection 37(1)

Not included in Federal Regulatory Plan

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Statutory Authority & Regulatory Plan Listing

Regulations Amending Certain Department of Transport Regulations (Miscellaneous Program), No. 2 (SOR/97-532, OIC 1997-1745)

The amendments involve a number of non-substantive amendments to the *Motor Vehicle Safety Regulations* and the *Transportation of Dangerous Goods Regulations*.

More specifically, the changes to the *Motor Vehicle Safety Regulations*:

- repeals of items 1101 to 1105 of Schedule III - section 2 of SOR/97-421 dated August 28, 1997, replaced Schedule III of the Regulations in its entirety. The amendment incorrectly included references to items 1101 to 1105 of Schedule III which had previously been deleted by section 4 of SOR/97-376 dated July 28, 1997.
- replaces Item 1106 of Schedule III, to reflect "Noise Emissions" - section 3 of SOR/97-141 dated March 11, 1997, replaced the expression "Noise 1106" with "Noise Emission 1106" in Schedule III. SOR/97-421 dated August 28, 1997, replaced Schedule III of the Regulations in its entirety. The Schedule incorrectly referred to "Noise" instead of "Noise Emissions".
- replaces Subsection 115(11) of Schedule IV replaced - Motor Vehicle Manufacturers' Association have changed their name to Canadian Vehicle Manufacturers' Association.
- replaces Subsection 1201(1) of Schedule VI - changes the address of the Snowmobile Safety and Certification Committee, Inc.

The change to the *Transportation of Dangerous Goods Regulations*:

- replaces Subsection 7.33.1(6) replaced - the references to subsection (4) and paragraph (4)(b) in subsection 7.33.1(6) have been corrected to read subsection (5) and paragraph (5)(b) respectively. This error occurred at the time SOR/95-547 was made.

Contacts: Charles Morton, Vehicle Regulations Engineer, Standards and Regulations, Transport Canada, 8th Floor, Tower C, Place de Ville, 330 Sparks Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0N5 Tel: 613-998-1958; Frank Ritchie, Chief, International and Rail Special Regulatory Projects, Regulatory Affairs, Transport Canada, 9th Floor, Tower C, Place de Ville, 330 Sparks Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0N5 Tel: 613-998-5268.

Motor Vehicle Safety Act, Sections 5 and 11; *Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act, 1992*, paragraph 27(h)

Not included in Regulatory Plan

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Statutory Authority & Regulatory Plan Listing

Seeds Regulations, amendment (ID No. 96019) (SOR/97-534, OIC 1997-1672); Order Repealing the Seeds Fees Order (SOR/97-535)

This regulation changes the Regulations by removing all fees from the *Seeds Regulations* and instead fixing the fees by Ministerial Order under the Canadian Food Inspection Agency Act in the Seeds Fees Notice. Consequently, the Seeds Fees Order is being repealed.

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency plans to enter into an agreement with the newly formed Canadian Seed Institute (CSI) for the collection of fees for annual renewal of seed establishment registrations, operator licences and grader accreditations.

Seeds Act, Canada Agricultural Products Act, Financial Administration Act

Agr/95-1-M

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The amendments to the Seeds Regulations and the Seeds Fees Order were pre-published in the Canada Gazette, Part I on September 6, 1997. The Agency received one comment. It came from a small seed laboratory, concerned with the cost of accreditation. No changes were made to the proposed regulations.

Contact: Glenn Hansen, Director, Plant Products Division, Canadian Food Inspection Agency, 59 Camelot Drive, Nepean, Ontario K1A 0Y9. Tel: 613-225-2342, ext. 4296; Fax: 613-228-6629.

Energy Efficiency Regulations, amendment (SOR/97-529, OIC 1997-1736)

The amendments provide a more precise definition of electric motor than that contained in the *Energy Efficiency Regulations* which came into effect on February 3, 1995.

The Amendment contains more stringent energy efficiency standards for electric motors. Reporting requirements have been revised to reduce the burden on dealers, and requirements pertaining to the import of noncompliant products that will subsequently be exported have also been revised.

Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) received correspondence and held discussions with motor dealers since the Regulations originally came into effect. During these consultations, it became apparent that the definition of motor in the Regulations did not clearly establish which motors were covered by the Regulations. The revised definition clarifies which motors are regulated by using specific language drawn from appropriate clauses of North American and international motor standards. Many motors previously covered by the Regulations are not covered in the amendment while some, previously exempt, are covered.

The higher energy efficiency standards for motors contained in the amendment are already in effect in Ontario, British Columbia, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. Those standards also came into effect in the U.S. in October 1997.

The revised reporting requirements reduce the burden on motor dealers by reducing the number of energy efficiency reports that have to be submitted to NRCan. Reports are now required for 252 specific electric motor categories based on a unique motor identifier consisting of the manufacturer, horsepower or kilowatts, of poles or revolutions per minute (rpm), and enclosure type (open or enclosed), rather than for each particular motor model number. The reporting requirements pertaining to the importation of non-compliant products that will subsequently be exported have been removed and replaced with a requirement that electric motor dealers keep records with respect to these products that could be submitted to NRCan upon request.

The proposed regulations were pre-published in the Canada Gazette Part I on June 14, 1997. The implementation date for integral gear motors would be November 27, 1999. The regulations come into force November 27, 1997, to harmonize with U.S. regulations which come into effect in October.

One change made following consultations is that the minimum nominal efficiency values for the following five IEC motor ratings: 1.5 kW, 6-pole, enclosed; 2.2 kW, 4-pole, open or enclosed; and 3.0 kW, 4-pole, open or enclosed have been lowered.

Contact: Valerie Whelan, Standards Officer, Energy Efficiency Branch, Natural Resources Canada, 580 Booth Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0E4. Tel: 613-947-1207; Fax: 613-943-1590; e-mail: valerie.whelan@es.nrcan.gc.ca.

Energy Efficiency Act

INRCan/96-1-I

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