

Amendment proposal—

FAA regulations

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Environmental Protection Agency has submitted to the Federal Aviation Administration a proposal to amend Federal Aviation Regulations to bar operation of aircraft which create a noise level in excess of that of the new subsonic jet planes.

This preliminary proposal would prohibit operation in the United States of any civil transport category airplane that does not meet the noise standards currently in force for subsonic turbo-jet airplanes and did not have any flight time before December 31, 1974.

If promulgated as a final regulation, it would have the effect of barring operations in the U.S. of most but not all, of the Concorde supersonic aircraft.

The Federal Aviation

Administration announced it will consider EPA's most recent proposal in accordance with the requirements of Section 611 of the Federal Aviation Act by publishing it as a Notice of Proposed Rule Making, and holding a public hearing within the specified time periods.

The proposal is different from EPA's earlier recommendation on SST noise standards, which was published by the FAA in March of 1975.

A copy of the proposal was submitted to Secretary of Transportation Coleman on the January 13 deadline for written submissions for the public docket on his pending Concorde decision.

The Secretary announced he will give his proposal appropriate consideration, as he will all material in the docket, in reaching his decision on the Air France and British Airways applications to begin limited service to New York and Washington with Concorde aircraft.

His decision on those applications will be announced on February 4, as planned.