



U.S. Department
of Transportation
Federal Aviation
Administration

800 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20591

OCT 25 2002

Exemption No. 4988F

Regulatory Docket No. FAA-2002-13187

Mr. James B. Short
Chair, Government Liaison Committee
The Soaring Society of America, Inc.
P.O. Box 2100
Hobbs, NM 88241-2100

Dear Mr. Short:

This is in response to your August 12, 2002, letter petitioning the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for The Soaring Society of America, Inc. (SSA), for an extension of Exemption No. 4988, as amended. That exemption gives all owners, operators, and manufacturers of gliders relief from § 45.11(a) and (d) of Title 14, Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR). It allows them to forgo the requirement to secure an identification plate or display the model and serial number on the exterior of the aircraft at specified locations.

In your petition, you state the conditions and reasons about public interest and safety, presented in the original petition on which the FAA granted the exemption, remain unchanged.

The FAA has determined that good cause exists for not publishing a summary of the petition in the Federal Register. Extending Exemption No. 4988, as amended, would not set a precedent and any delay in acting on this petition would be detrimental to SSA.

The FAA has determined the justification for issuing Exemption No. 4988, as amended, remains valid for this exemption.

In consideration of the foregoing, I find that a grant of exemption is in the public interest. Therefore, by the authority contained in 49 U.S.C. §§ 40113 and 44701 delegated to me by the Administrator, I further amend Exemption No. 4988, as amended, by extending its October 30, 2002, termination date to October 30, 2004, unless sooner superseded or rescinded.

AIR-02-582-E

All other conditions and limitations of Exemption No. 4988, as amended, remain the same. This letter is a part of Exemption No. 4988 and you must attach it to that exemption.

Finally, please note the FAA has assigned a new docket number to this project (Docket No. FAA-2002-13187; previously Docket No. 25588). To allow the public to participate in tracking the FAA's rulemaking activities, we have transitioned to the Department of Transportation's online Docket Management System (DMS) found at <http://dms.dot.gov>. This new docket system enables interested persons to submit requests to, view requests on, and download requests from the DMS under 14 CFR § 11.63. Please send future requests through the DMS.

Sincerely,



Ronald T. Wojnar
Acting Director, Aircraft Certification
Service