



[4910-13]

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Federal Aviation Administration**

**14 CFR Part 71**

**[Docket No. FAA-2016-9151; Airspace Docket No. 16-ASW-15]**

**Revocation of Class E Airspace and Establishment of Class E Airspace; Ruston, LA**

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** This action removes Class E airspace extending upward from 700 feet above the surface at Ruston Municipal Airport, Ruston, LA, as the airport has closed and controlled airspace is no longer required, and establishes Class E airspace extending upward from 700 feet above the surface at the new Ruston Regional Airport, Ruston, LA. This final rule is necessary to ensure the safety and management of instrument flight rules (IFR) operations at the new airport.

**DATES:** Effective 0901 UTC, August 17, 2017. The Director of the Federal Register approves this incorporation by reference action under Title 1, Code of Federal Regulations, part 51, subject to the annual revision of FAA Order 7400.11 and publication of conforming amendments.

**ADDRESSES:** FAA Order 7400.11A, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, and subsequent amendments can be viewed online at [http://www.faa.gov/air\\_traffic/publications/](http://www.faa.gov/air_traffic/publications/).

For further information, you can contact the Airspace Policy Group, Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C., 20591; telephone: 202-267-8783. The Order is also available for inspection at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of FAA Order 7400.11A at NARA,

call 202-741-6030, or go to [http://www.archives.gov/federal\\_register/code\\_of\\_federal-regulations/ibr\\_locations.html](http://www.archives.gov/federal_register/code_of_federal-regulations/ibr_locations.html).

FAA Order 7400.11, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, is published yearly and effective on September 15.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jeffrey Claypool, Federal Aviation Administration, Operations Support Group, Central Service Center, 10101 Hillwood Parkway, Fort Worth, TX, 76177; telephone (817) 222-5711.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Authority for this Rulemaking**

The FAA's authority to issue rules regarding aviation safety is found in Title 49 of the United States Code. Subtitle I, Section 106 describes the authority of the FAA Administrator. Subtitle VII, Aviation Programs, describes in more detail the scope of the agency's authority. This rulemaking is promulgated under the authority described in Subtitle VII, Part A, Subpart I, Section 40103. Under that section, the FAA is charged with prescribing regulations to assign the use of airspace necessary to ensure the safety of aircraft and the efficient use of airspace. This regulation is within the scope of that authority as it modifies Class E airspace extending upward from 700 feet above the surface in the airspace near Ruston, LA, to accommodate IFR procedures at the new Ruston Regional Airport.

**History**

On October 12, 2016, the FAA published in the FEDERAL REGISTER (81 FR 70372) Docket No. FAA-2016-9151, a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) to remove Class E airspace extending upward from 700 feet above the surface at Ruston Municipal Airport, Ruston, LA. The FAA also proposed to establish Class E airspace extending upward from 700 feet above

the surface within a 6.5 mile radius of the new Ruston Regional Airport, Ruston, LA. Interested parties were invited to participate in this rulemaking effort by submitting written comments on the proposal to the FAA. One comment was received stating, “This would open up airspace because there would not be controlled airspace as the airport has shut down.” While this comment is factually correct, the new airport and associated airspace has been established approximately 2.5 NM from the location of the closed airport so the change in the airspace footprint is minimal.

Class E airspace designations are published in paragraph 6005 of FAA Order 7400.11A, dated August 3, 2016, and effective September 15, 2016, which is incorporated by reference in 14 CFR 71.1. The Class E airspace designations listed in this document will be published subsequently in the Order.

#### **Availability and Summary of Documents for Incorporation by Reference**

This document amends FAA Order 7400.11A, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, dated August 3, 2016, and effective September 15, 2016. FAA Order 7400.11A is publicly available as listed in the ADDRESSES section of this document. FAA Order 7400.11A lists Class A, B, C, D, and E airspace areas, air traffic service routes, and reporting points.

#### **The Rule**

This amendment to Title 14, Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) part 71 removes Class E airspace at Ruston Municipal Airport, Ruston, LA, as the airport has closed; therefore, controlled airspace is no longer needed. Class E airspace extending upward from 700 feet above the surface within a 6.5-mile radius of the new Ruston Regional Airport, Ruston, LA is established for the safety and management of standard instrument approach procedures for IFR operations at the new airport.

### **Regulatory Notices and Analyses**

The FAA has determined that this regulation only involves an established body of technical regulations for which frequent and routine amendments are necessary to keep them operationally current, is non-controversial and unlikely to result in adverse or negative comments. It, therefore: (1) is not a "significant regulatory action" under Executive Order 12866; (2) is not a "significant rule" under DOT Regulatory Policies and Procedures (44 FR 11034; February 26, 1979); and (3) does not warrant preparation of a regulatory evaluation as the anticipated impact is so minimal. Since this is a routine matter that only affects air traffic procedures and air navigation, it is certified that this rule, when promulgated, does not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

### **Environmental Review**

The FAA has determined that this action qualifies for categorical exclusion under the National Environmental Policy Act in accordance with FAA Order 1050.1F, "Environmental Impacts: Policies and Procedures," paragraph 5-6.5.a. This airspace action is not expected to cause any potentially significant environmental impacts, and no extraordinary circumstances exist that warrant preparation of an environmental assessment.

### **Lists of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 71**

Airspace, Incorporation by reference, Navigation (Air).

### **Adoption of the Amendment**

In consideration of the foregoing, the Federal Aviation Administration amends 14 CFR Part 71 as follows:

### **PART 71 --DESIGNATION OF CLASS A, B, C, D, AND E AIRSPACE AREAS; AIR**

## **TRAFFIC SERVICE ROUTES; AND REPORTING POINTS**

1. The authority citation for Part 71 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 49 U.S.C. 106(f), 106(g); 40103, 40113, 40120; E.O. 10854, 24 FR 9565, 3 CFR, 1959-1963 Comp., p. 389.

### **§71.1 [Amended]**

2. The incorporation by reference in 14 CFR 71.1 of FAA Order 7400.11A, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, dated August 3, 2016, and effective September 15, 2016, is amended as follows:

Paragraph 6005: Class E Airspace Areas Extending Upward from 700 feet or More Above the Surface of the Earth.

\* \* \* \* \*

### **ASW LA E5 Ruston, LA [Removed]**

\* \* \* \* \*

### **ASW LA E5 Ruston, LA [New]**

Ruston Regional Airport, LA

(lat. 32°30'53"N., long. 92°35'18"W.)

That airspace extending upward from 700 feet above the surface within a 6.5-mile radius of the airport.

Issued in Fort Worth, Texas, on April 24, 2017.

Walter Tweedy,  
Acting Manager, Operations Support Group,  
ATO Central Service Center.

[FR Doc. 2017-08749 Filed: 4/28/2017 8:45 am; Publication Date: 5/1/2017]