

Reduce Regulatory Burden

Goal Leaders:

OST: James Owens, Deputy General Counsel

Overview

Goal Statement

DOT will implement regulatory reform initiatives by evaluating existing regulations in order to lower regulatory burdens on industry and the public. In conjunction with the release of the agency's Fall Unified Agenda of Federal Regulatory and Deregulatory Actions, the Department will implement a regulatory reform agenda through the end of FY 2019, focusing specifically on providing for two deregulatory actions for every new regulatory action proposed and achieving a total incremental cost of all deregulatory and significant regulatory actions of less than -\$35 million per year for FY 2018.

Overview (cont.)

Challenge

Improvement of regulations is a continuous focus for the Department. There should be no more regulations than necessary, and those regulations should be straightforward, clear, and designed to minimize burdens. Our regulations should be designed to achieve the regulatory goal (e.g. safety) and that goal should be achieved with the least amount of burden. Once issued, regulations and other agency actions should be reviewed periodically and revised to ensure that they continue to meet the needs for which they originally were designed, remain cost-effective and cost-justified. Among other actions seeking to achieve these means, the President issued Executive Order 13771, “Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs.”

OMB has issued guidance on implementing this Executive Order, and DOT has established a Regulatory Reform Task Force to evaluate existing regulations and make recommendations to the Secretary regarding their repeal, replacement, or modification. Other activities to reduce regulatory burdens also fit into this area, such as the review required by Executive Order 13783, “Promoting Energy Independence and Economic Growth”, and the subsequent burden reducing efforts that will result from the review.

Goal Structure & Strategies

Strategies to Achieve Goal:

The Department has sought input from the public on existing regulations and other agency actions that are good candidates for repeal, replacement, or modification. In recognition of the fact that safety is the Department's highest priority, the Department has sought comments on those existing regulations and other agency actions that may be repealed, replaced, or modified without compromising safety. The public was encouraged to identify regulations that (a) eliminate jobs or inhibit job creation; (b) are outdated, unnecessary, or ineffective; (c) impose costs that exceed benefits; (d) create a serious inconsistency or otherwise interfere with regulatory reform initiatives and policies; (e) could be revised to use performance standards in lieu of design standards, or (f) potentially burden the development or use of domestically produced energy resources.

DOT is currently reviewing all public input received to help the Department determine what regulations may be modified or repealed. In addition, DOT will utilize the Regulatory Reform Task Force (RRTF) to evaluate existing regulations and to make recommendations for their repeal, replacement, or modification.

Summary of Progress – FY 18 Q2

Current Status:

- The Department has issued several deregulatory rulemakings to date in FY 2018. Final numbers on the Department's deregulatory rulemakings and cost-saving actions for FY 2018 are published in the Fall Unified Agenda found on www.reginfo.gov.
- Official compliance information regarding EO 13771 implementation for FY 2018 will be available after the end of the fiscal year.

Key Milestones

- The Department will implement a regulatory reform agenda through the end of FY 2019, focusing specifically on providing for two deregulatory actions for every new regulatory action proposed and achieving a total incremental cost of all deregulatory and significant regulatory actions of less than -\$35 million per year for FY 2018.

Milestone Summary					
Key Milestone	Milestone Due Date	Milestone Status	Change from last quarter	Owner	Comments
Achieve a total incremental cost of all significant regulatory and deregulatory actions of less than -\$35 million per year for FY 2018.	End of FY18	In Progress			Department issued several deregulatory rulemakings in FY18.
Provide for two deregulatory actions for every new regulatory action.	End of FY18	In progress			To date in FY18, DOT has issued several deregulatory actions.