I. Background

DoD is proposing to revise the DFARS to implement a policy that streamlines the submission and review of Summary Subcontract Reports (SSRs) for DoD contractors and brings the DFARS into compliance with changes to the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR). Instead of submitting multiple SSRs to departments and agencies within DoD, contractors with individual subcontracting plans will submit a single, consolidated SSR in eSRS at the DoD level. The consolidated SSR will be acknowledged or rejected in eSRS at the DoD level.

II. Discussion and Analysis

The clause at DFARS 252.219–7003, Small Business Subcontracting Plan (DoD Contracts), and its Alternate I currently require contractors to submit SSRs to departments or agencies within DoD. DFARS 252.219–7003 and its Alternate I also inform contractors that the authority to acknowledge receipt of, or reject, SSRs resides with the SSR Coordinator at the department or agency level. This rule proposes to amend the DFARS clause to require contractors with individual subcontracting plans to submit a consolidated SSR at the DoD level, and to inform contractors that the authority to acknowledge receipt of or reject SSRs resides with the individual subcontracting plans or DoD level.

III. Applicability of the DFARS Rule

This rule amends the DFARS to implement a policy that streamlines the submission and review of SSRs for DoD contractors. Instead of the current practice of submitting multiple SSRs to various departments or agencies within DoD, contractors with individual subcontracting plans will submit one consolidated SSR at the DoD level. The consolidated SSR will be acknowledged or rejected in eSRS at the DoD level.

IV. Expected Cost Savings

This rule removes the requirement for individual subcontracting plans to submit SSRs to multiple departments or agencies. Instead, a single consolidated SSR is submitted to the DoD level. This streamlines the process and reduces the administrative burden on contractors, ultimately saving costs for both contractors and government agencies.
creates problems with duplicate subcontracting data. By requiring submission and review of SSRs at the DoD level, this rule solves these issues. The following is a summary of the estimated public cost savings calculated in 2016 dollars at a 7-percent discount rate and in perpetuity:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Annualized Cost Savings</th>
<th>$25,514</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Present Value Cost Savings</td>
<td>$364,492</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To access the full Regulatory Cost Analysis for this rule, go to the Federal Register eRulemaking Portal at www.regulations.gov, search for “DFARS Case 2017–D005,” click “Open Docket,” and view “Supporting Documents.”

V. Executive Orders 12866 and 13563

Executive Orders (E.O.s) 12866 and 13563 direct agencies to assess all costs and benefits of available regulatory alternatives and, if regulation is necessary, to select regulatory approaches that maximize net benefits (including potential economic, environmental, public health and safety effects, distributive impacts, and equity). E.O. 13563 emphasizes the importance of quantifying both costs and benefits, of reducing costs, of harmonizing rules, and of promoting flexibility. This is not a significant regulatory action and, therefore, was not subject to review under section 6(b) of E.O. 12866, Regulatory Planning and Review, dated September 30, 1993. This rule is not a major rule under 5 U.S.C. 804.

VI. Executive Order 13771

This rule is expected to be an E.O. 13771 deregulatory action. Details on the estimated cost savings can be found in section IV. of this preamble.

VII. Regulatory Flexibility Act

DoD does not expect this proposed rule to have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities within the meaning of the Regulatory Flexibility Act. 5 U.S.C. 601, et seq., because small entities are not required to comply with the clause at DFARS 252.219–7003, Small Business Subcontracting Plan (DoD Contracts), or its Alternate I. However, an initial regulatory flexibility analysis has been performed and is summarized as follows:

DoD is proposing to revise the Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) to streamline the submission and review of Summary Subcontract Reports (SSRs) in the Electronic Subcontracting Reporting System (eSRS). Instead of submitting multiple SSRs to departments and agencies within DoD, contractors with individual subcontracting plans will submit a single, consolidated SSR in eSRS at the DoD level. The consolidated SSR will be acknowledged or rejected in eSRS at the DoD level.

The objective of the rule is to provide clarification on the submission and review of SSRs in eSRS. The rule will bring the clause at DFARS 252.219–7003 and its Alternate I into compliance with the requirement for a consolidated SSR in the Federal Acquisition Regulation clause FAR 52.219–9, Small Business Subcontracting Plan.

The rule applies to DoD contractors who have individual subcontracting plans and must comply with the clause at DFARS 252.219–7003. Small entities are not required to comply with this clause and, therefore, will not be affected by the rule.

The rule does not impose any reporting or recordkeeping requirements on any small entities.

There are no known, significant, alternative approaches to the proposed rule that would meet the requirements of the applicable statute.

DoD invites comments from small business concerns and other interested parties on the expected impact of this rule on small entities.

DoD will also consider comments from small entities concerning the existing regulations in subparts affected by this rule in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 610. Interested parties must submit such comments separately and should cite 5 U.S.C. 610 (DFARS Case 2017–D005), in correspondence.

VIII. Paperwork Reduction Act

The rule does not contain any information collection requirements that require the approval of the Office of Management and Budget under the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. chapter 35).

List of Subjects in 48 CFR Part 252

Government procurement.

Amy G. Williams, Deputy, Defense Acquisition Regulations System.

Therefore, 48 CFR 252 is proposed to be amended as follows:

PART 252—SOLICITATION PROVISIONS AND CONTRACT CLAUSES

1. The authority citation for part 252 continues to read as follows:


2. Amend section 252.219–7003 by—

(a) Removing the clause date of “(APR 2018)” and adding “(DATE)” in its place;

(b) Revising paragraph (a);

(c) Revising paragraph (b);

(d) Revising paragraph (f); and

(e) In Alternate I—

(i) Removing the clause date of “(APR 2018)” and adding “(DATE)” in its place;

(ii) Removing paragraph (a);

(iii) Revising paragraph (f).

The revisions read as follows:

252.219–7003 Small Business Subcontracting Plan (DoD Contracts).

* * * * *

(a) Definitions. Summary Subcontract Report (SSR) Coordinator, as used in this clause, means the individual who is registered in the Electronic Subcontracting Reporting System (eSRS) at the Department of Defense level and is responsible for acknowledging receipt or rejecting SSRs submitted under an individual subcontracting plan in eSRS for the Department of Defense.

(b) Subcontracts awarded qualified nonprofit agencies designated by the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled (41 U.S.C. 8502–8504), may be counted toward the Contractor’s small business subcontracting goal.

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(f)(1) For DoD, the Contractor shall submit reports in eSRS as follows:

(i) The Individual Subcontract Report (ISR) shall be submitted to the contracting officer at the procuring contracting office, even when contract administration has been delegated to the Defense Contract Management Agency.

(ii) Submit the consolidated SSR for an individual subcontracting plan to the “Department of Defense.”

(2) For DoD, the authority to acknowledge receipt or reject reports in eSRS is as follows:

(i) The authority to acknowledge receipt or reject the ISR resides with the contracting officer who receives it, as described in paragraph (f)(1)(i) of this clause.

(ii) The authority to acknowledge receipt of or reject SSRs submitted under an individual subcontracting plan resides with the SSR Coordinator.

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Alternate I. * * *

* * * * *

(a) Definitions. Summary Subcontract Report (SSR) Coordinator, as used in this clause, means the individual who is registered in the Electronic Subcontracting Reporting System (eSRS)
at the Department of Defense level and is responsible for acknowledging receipt or rejecting SSRs submitted under an individual subcontracting plan in eSRS for the Department of Defense. (b) Subcontracts awarded to qualified nonprofit agencies designated by the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled (41 U.S.C. 8502–8504), may be counted toward the Contractor’s small business subcontracting goal.

* * * * *

(f)(1) For DoD, the Contractor shall submit reports in eSRS as follows:
(i) The Standard Form 294, Subcontracting Report for Individual Contracts, shall be submitted in accordance with the instructions on that form.
(ii) Submit the consolidated SSR to the “Department of Defense.”
(2) For DoD, the authority to acknowledge receipt of or reject SSRs submitted under an individual subcontracting plan in eSRS resides with the SSR Coordinator.

* * * * *

[FR Doc. 2016–14069 Filed 6–28–18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001–06–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

49 CFR Part 380

[Docket No. FMCSA–2017–0371]

RIN 2126–AC05

ELDT; Commercial Driver’s License Upgrade From Class B to Class A

AGENCY: Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: FMCSA proposes to amend the entry-level driver training (ELDT) regulations published on December 8, 2016, titled “Minimum Training Requirements for Entry-Level Commercial Motor Vehicle Operators” by adopting a new Class A theory instruction upgrade curriculum to reduce the training time and costs incurred by Class B commercial driver’s license (CDL) holders upgrading to a Class A CDL. This NPRM does not propose any changes to behind-the-wheel (BTW) training requirements set forth in the ELDT final rule. This proposal would be a deregulatory action as defined by Executive Order (E.O.) 13771, “Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs.” The Agency believes that this modest change in the Class A theory training requirements for Class B CDL holders upgrading to a Class A CDL would maintain the same level of safety established by the ELDT final rule.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received on or before August 28, 2018.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments identified by Docket Number FMCSA–2017–0371 using any of the following methods:
• Federal eRulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
• Mail: Docket Management Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590–0001.
• Hand Delivery or Courier: West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.
• Fax: 202–493–2251.

To avoid duplication, please use only one of these four methods. See the “Public Participation and Request for Comments” portion of the SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section for instructions on submitting comments, including collection of information comments for the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, OMB.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Richard Clemente, Driver and Carrier Operations (MC–PSD) Division, FMCSA, 1200 New Jersey Ave SE, Washington, DC, 20590–0001, or by telephone at 202–366–4325, or by email at MCPSD@dot.gov. If you have questions on viewing or submitting material to the docket, contact Docket Services, telephone (202) 366–9826.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) is organized as follows:

I. Public Participation and Request for Comments
A. Submitting Comments
B. Viewing Comments and Documents
C. Privacy Act
D. Waiver of Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking
II. Executive Summary
III. Abbreviations
IV. Legal Basis
V. Background
VI. Discussion of Proposed Rulemaking
VII. Section-by-Section
VIII. Regulatory Analyses
A. Executive Order (E.O.) 12866 (Regulatory Planning and Review), E.O. 13563 (Improving Regulation and Regulatory Review), and DOT Regulatory Policies and Procedures
B. E.O. 13771 (Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs)
C. Regulatory Flexibility Act
D. Assistance for Small Entities
E. Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995
F. Paperwork Reduction Act
G. E.O. 13132 (Federalism)
H. E.O. 12988 (Civil Justice Reform)
I. E.O. 13045 (Protection of Children)
J. E.O. 12630 (Taking of Private Property)
K. Privacy
L. E.O. 12137 (Intergovernmental Review)
M. E.O. 13211 (Energy Supply, Distribution, or Use)
N. E.O. 13783 (Promoting Energy Independence and Economic Growth)
O. E.O. 13173 (Indemnification and Cooperative Agreement)
P. National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act (Technical Standards)
Q. Environment (NEPA, CAA, E.O. 12898)
R. Environmental Justice

If you submit a comment, please include the docket number for this NPRM (Docket No. FMCSA–2017–0371), indicate the specific section of this document to which each section applies, and provide a reason for each suggestion or recommendation. You may submit your comments and material online or by fax, mail, or hand delivery, but please use only one of these means. FMCSA recommends that you include your name and a mailing address, an email address, or a phone number in the body of your document so that FMCSA can contact you if there are questions regarding your submission.

To submit your comment online, go to www.regulations.gov; put the docket number, FMCSA–2017–0371, in the keyword box, and click “Search.” When the new screen appears, click on the “Comment Now!” button and type your comment into the text box on the following screen. Choose whether you are submitting your comment as an individual or on behalf of a third party and then submit.

If you submit your comments by mail or hand delivery, submit them in an unbound format, no larger than 8½ by 11 inches, suitable for copying and electronic filing. If you submit comments by mail and would like to know that they reached the facility, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed postcard or envelope.

FMCSA will consider all comments and material received during the comment period and may change this proposed rule based on your comments. FMCSA may issue a final rule at any time after the close of the comment period.

Confidential Business Information

Confidential Business Information (CBI) is commercial or financial...