United States Department of the Interior

National Business Center

Aviation Management

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DOI AM OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES MEMORANDUM NO. 06-26

Subject: Rapid Refueling of Turbine Powered Helicopters

Effective Date: January 1, 2006

Supersedes: OPM 05-26 dated January 1, 2005

Distribution: A, B & C

Expiration Date: December 31, 2006

.1 Purpose. This OPM establishes policies and procedures for the rapid refueling of turbine powered helicopters.

.2 Authority. This policy is established by the Department of the Interior, Aviation Management (DOI AM) Associate Director, in accordance with provisions of Departmental Manual 350 DM 1 and Secretarial Order 3250 dated September 30, 2003.

.3 Definitions. Rapid Refueling is the introduction of fuel into the helicopter while the engine is running. This procedure is sometimes referred to as "Hot Refueling".

.4 Policy.

A. Rapid refueling is permitted when a closed circuit system is present on both the pumping and receiving equipment, or

B. Rapid refueling is permitted in accordance with the provisions of NFPA 407 5-21 when requested by the bureau and approved by DOI AM. Not withstanding NFPA 407 3-21.2(b)*, no personnel, other than the pilot, may be on board during refueling operations.

/s/ Mark L. Bathrick

Associate Director