



**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Business Center  
**Aviation Management**  
300 E. Mallard Dr., Ste 200  
Boise, Idaho 83706-3991



**DOI AM OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES MEMORANDUM NO. 04-26**

Subject: Rapid Refueling of Turbine Powered Helicopters

Effective Date: January 1, 2004

Supersedes: OPM 03-26 dated January 1, 2003

Distribution: A, B & C

Expiration Date: December 31, 2004

**.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. Notwithstanding NFPA 407 3-21.2(b)\*, no personnel, other than the pilot, may be on board during refueling operations.

*/s/ Michael A. Martin*  
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Associate Director