

the docket for inspection or copying where indicated under ADDRESSES.

List of Subjects in 33 CFR Part 117

Bridges.

Regulations

For the reasons set out in the preamble, the Coast Guard proposes to amend 33 CFR part 117 as follows:

PART 117—DRAWBRIDGE OPERATION REGULATIONS

1. The authority citation for part 117 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 33 U.S.C. 499; 49 CFR 1.46; 33 CFR 1.05–1(g); section 117.255 also issued under the authority of Pub. L. 102–587, 106 Stat. 5039.

2. Section 117.215(b) is revised to read as follows:

§ 117.215 Niantic River.

* * * * *

(b) The draw of the S156 Bridge, mile 0.1, at Niantic, shall open on signal; except that, from 7 a.m. to 8 a.m., and 4 p.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays, the draw shall open only for the passage of commercial vessels. From December 1 through March 31, from 8 p.m. to 4 a.m., the draw shall open on signal if at least six hours notice is given by calling the number posted at the bridge.

* * * * *

Dated: July 29, 1999.

R.M. Larrabee,

Rear Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard, Commander, First Coast Guard District.

[FR Doc. 99–20957 Filed 8–12–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–15–M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 117

[CGD01–99–086]

RIN 2115–AE47

Drawbridge Operation Regulations; Pequonnock River, CT

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard proposes to change the operating rules governing the Stratford Avenue Bridge, mile 0.1, across the Pequonnock River at Bridgeport, Connecticut. The bridge owner asked the Coast Guard to change the regulations to require a six hour advance notice for openings during the winter months at night because there have been few requests to open the

bridge during that time period. This rulemaking is expected to relieve the bridge owner of the burden of crewing the bridge at all times while meeting the reasonable needs of navigation.

DATES: Comments must reach the Coast Guard on or before October 12, 1999.

ADDRESSES: You may mail comments to Commander (obr), First Coast Guard District, 408 Atlantic Avenue, Boston, MA 02110–3350, or deliver them at the same address between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The telephone number is (617) 223–8364. The First Coast Guard District Bridge Branch maintains the public docket for this rulemaking. Comments and documents as indicated in this preamble will become part of this docket and will be available for inspection or copying at the above address 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. John W. McDonald, Project Officer, First Coast Guard District, (617) 223–8364.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Request for Comments

The Coast Guard encourages interested persons to participate in this rulemaking by submitting written data, views, or arguments. Persons submitting comments should include their names and addresses, identify this rulemaking (CGD01–99–086) and the specific section of this document to which each comment applies, and give the reason for each comment. Please submit two copies of all comments and attachments in an unbound format, no larger than 8½ by 11 inches, suitable for copying and electronic filing. Persons wanting acknowledgement of receipt of comments should enclose a stamped, self-addressed postcard or envelope.

The Coast Guard will consider all comments received during the comment period. It may change this proposed rule in view of the comments.

The Coast Guard plans no public hearing. Persons may request a public hearing by writing to the address under ADDRESSES. The request should include the reasons why a hearing would be beneficial. If it determines that the opportunity for oral presentations will aid this rulemaking, the Coast Guard will hold a public hearing at a time and place announced by a later notice in the **Federal Register**.

Background

The Stratford Avenue Bridge, mile 0.1, across the Pequonnock River at Bridgeport, Connecticut, has a vertical clearance of 8 feet at mean high water and 14 feet at mean low water.

The existing operating regulations for the bridge listed at § 117.219(b) require it to open on signal; except that, from 6:45 a.m. to 7:15 a.m., 7:45 a.m. to 8:15 a.m., 11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m., and 4:30 p.m. to 6:10 p.m., the draw need not open for the passage of vessels.

The owner of the bridge, the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CONNDOT), has asked the Coast Guard to change the regulations to require a six hour notice for openings from December 1 through March 31, 8 p.m. to 4 a.m. The bridge opening log data for 1998 and 1999, December through March, indicate the following number of openings during the time period, 8 p.m. to 4 a.m.: December 0, N/A, January 0, 0, February 2, 1, March 1, 2, respectively.

Discussion of Proposal

The Coast Guard proposes to revise the operating rules, listed at 33 CFR 117.219(b), which govern the Stratford Avenue Bridge, mile 0.1, across the Pequonnock River. This change will require the bridge to open on signal; except that, from 6:45 a.m. to 7:15 a.m., 7:45 a.m. to 8:15 a.m., 11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m., and 4:30 p.m. to 6:10 p.m., the draw need not open for the passage of vessels. From December 1 through March 31, from 8 p.m. to 4 a.m., the draw shall open on signal if at least six hour notice is given. This proposal will relieve the bridge owner of the requirement to crew the bridge during the winter months and meet the needs of navigation. The reference in the existing regulations to sound signals for bridge openings is being removed because it is now listed at § 117.15 of this chapter.

The Coast Guard believes this proposal is reasonable based upon the low number of opening requests at night during the winter months.

Regulatory Evaluation

This proposed rule is not a significant regulatory action under section 3(f) of Executive Order 12866 and does not require an assessment of potential costs and benefits under section 6(a)(3) of that Order. It has not been reviewed by the Office of Management and Budget under that Order. It is not significant under the regulatory policies and procedures of the Department of Transportation (DOT) (44 FR 11040; Feb. 26, 1979). The Coast Guard expects the economic impact of this proposed rule to be so minimal that a full Regulatory Evaluation, under paragraph 10e of the regulatory policies and procedures of DOT, is unnecessary. This conclusion is based on the fact that the bridge has not had many requests to open overnight during the winter

months. Mariners will still be able to obtain bridge openings during the regulated time period provided they give six-hour notice.

Small Entities

Under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*), the Coast Guard considers whether this proposed rule, if adopted, will have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. *Small entities* include small businesses, not-for-profit organizations that are independently owned and operated and are not dominant in their fields, and governmental jurisdictions with populations of less than 50,000. Therefore, the Coast Guard certifies under section 5 U.S.C. 605(b), for the reasons discussed in the Regulatory Evaluation section above, that this proposed rule, if adopted, will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. If, however, you think that your business or organization qualifies as a small entity and that this proposed rule will have a significant economic impact on your business or organization, please submit a comment (see **ADDRESSES**) explaining why you think it qualifies and in what way and to what degree this proposed rule will economically affect it.

Collection of Information

This proposed rule does not provide for a collection of information under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*).

Federalism

The Coast Guard has analyzed this proposed rule in accordance with the principles and criteria contained in Executive Order 12612 and has determined that this proposed rule does not have sufficient implications for federalism to warrant the preparation of a Federalism Assessment.

Environment

The Coast Guard considered the environmental impact of this proposed rule and concluded that, under Section 2.B.2., Figure 2-1, paragraph (32)(e), of Commandant Instruction M16475.1C, this proposed rule is categorically excluded from further environmental documentation because promulgation of drawbridge regulations have been found not to have a significant effect on the environment. A written "Categorical Exclusion Determination" is available in the docket for inspection or copying where indicated under **ADDRESSES**.

List of Subjects in 33 CFR part 117

Bridges.

Regulations

For the reasons set out in the preamble, the Coast Guard proposes to amend 33 CFR part 117 as follows:

PART 117—DRAWBRIDGE OPERATION REGULATIONS

1. The authority citation for part 117 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 33 U.S.C. 499; 49 CFR 1.46; 33 CFR 1.05-1(g); section 117.255 also issued under the authority of Pub. L. 102-587, 106 Stat. 5039.

2. Section 117.219(b) is revised to read as follows:

§ 117.219 Pequonnock River

* * * * *

(b) The Stratford Avenue Bridge, mile 0.1, at Bridge port, shall open on signal; except that, from 6:45 a.m. to 7:15 a.m., 7:45 a.m. to 8:15 a.m., 11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m., and 4:30 p.m. to 6:10 p.m., the draw need not open for the passage of vessels. From December 1 through March 31, from 8 p.m. to 4 a.m., the draw shall open on signal if at least six hours notice is given by calling the number posted at the bridge.

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Dated: July 29, 1999.

R.M. Larrabee,

Rear Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard Commander, First Coast Guard District.

[FR Doc. 99-20959 Filed 8-12-99 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 52

[MN44-02-7269b; FRL-6415-1]

Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Minnesota

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: We are proposing to approve a supplemental revision to the Minnesota State Implementation Plan (SIP) for the Saint Paul particulate matter (PM) nonattainment area, located in Ramsey County Minnesota. The supplemental SIP was submitted by the State for the purpose of bringing about the attainment of the PM National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) and is in response to our July 22, 1997, conditional approval (62 FR 39120), of a February 9, 1996 SIP revision for Red Rock Road. In the final rules section of this **Federal Register**, we are conditionally approving the SIP revision as a direct final rule without prior proposal, because we view this as

a noncontroversial revision amendment and anticipate no adverse comments. A detailed rationale for the approval is set forth in the direct final rule. If no adverse comments are received in response to this rule, no further activity is contemplated in relation to this rule. If we receive adverse comments, the direct final rule will be withdrawn and all public comments received will be addressed in a subsequent final rule based on this proposed rule. We will not institute a second comment period on this action. Any parties interested in commenting on this action should do so at this time.

DATES: Comments must be received by September 13, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be sent to: Carlton T. Nash, Chief, Regulation Development Section, Air Programs Branch (AR-18J), EPA Region 5, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Christos Panos, Regulation Development Section, Air Programs Branch (AR-18J), EPA Region 5, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois 60604, (312) 353-8328.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: For additional information, see the Direct Final notice which is located in the Rules section of this **Federal Register**. Copies of the request and the EPA's analysis are available for inspection at the above address. (Please telephone Christos Panos at (312) 353-8328 before visiting the Region 5 Office.)

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 7401 *et seq.*

Dated: July 22, 1999.

Jerri-Anne Garl,

Acting Regional Administrator, Region 5.

[FR Doc. 99-20548 Filed 8-12-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Maritime Administration

46 CFR Part 298

[Docket No. MARAD-98-3468]

RIN 2133-AB14

Putting Customers First in the Title XI Program

AGENCY: Maritime Administration, Department of Transportation.

ACTION: Notice of Proposed Rulemaking.

SUMMARY: The Maritime Administration ("MARAD") is seeking public comment