

List of Subjects in 30 CFR Part 250

Continental shelf, Environmental impact statements, Environmental protection, Government contracts, Incorporation by reference, Investigations, Mineral royalties, Oil and gas development and production, Oil and gas exploration, Oil and gas reserves, Penalties, Pipelines, Public lands—mineral resources, Public lands—rights-of-way, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Sulphur development and production, Sulphur exploration, Surety bonds.

Dated: June 7, 2000.  
**Sylvia V. Baca,**  
*Assistant Secretary, Land and Minerals Management.*

For the reasons stated in the preamble, MMS amends 30 CFR Part 250 as follows:

**PART 250—OIL AND GAS AND SULPHUR OPERATIONS IN THE OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF**

1. The authority citation for part 250 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 43 U.S.C. 1331, *et seq.*

2. In § 250.198, in the table in paragraph (e), add the following in alpha-numerical order:

**§ 250.198 Documents incorporated by reference.**

\* \* \* \* \*  
(e) \* \* \*

Title of documents					Incorporated by reference at
* * * * *					
API MPMS, Chapter 10, Section 9, Standard Test Method for Water in Crude Oils by Coulometric Karl Fischer Titration, First Edition, November 1993, API Stock No. 852–30210.					§ 250.1202(a)(3), (l)(4)
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[FR Doc. 00–15659 Filed 6–30–00; 8:45 am]  
**BILLING CODE 4310–MR–P**

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**

**Office of the Secretary**

**32 CFR Part 199**

**TRICARE; Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services (CHAMPUS); Bonus Payments in Medically Underserved Areas**

**AGENCY:** Office of the Secretary, DoD.  
**ACTION:** Interim final rule.

**SUMMARY:** This interim final rule implements a bonus payment, in addition to the amount normally paid under the allowable charge methodology, to providers in medically underserved areas. For purposes of this rule, medically underserved areas are the same as those determined by the Secretary of Health and Human Services for the Medicare program. Such bonus payments shall be equal to the bonus payments authorized by Medicare, except as necessary to recognize any unique or distinct characteristics or requirements of the CHAMPUS program, and as described in instructions issued by the Director, OCHAMPUS. Due to the urgency for such bonus payments in medically underserved areas to alleviate problems of access to healthcare coverage caused by lower payments, the interim final rule making process has been utilized. This rule promotes a reimbursement enhancement to a limited number of providers designed to increase

CHAMPUS beneficiary access to care, which also supports the use of the interim final rule.

**DATES:** This rule is effective August 2, 2000. Written comments will be accepted until September 1, 2000.

**ADDRESSES:** Forward comments to Medical Benefits and Reimbursement Systems, TRICARE Management Activity, 16401 East Centretch Parkway, Aurora, CO 80011–9043.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Stan Regensberg, Medical Benefits and Reimbursement Systems, TRICARE Management Activity, telephone (303) 676–3742.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** 32 CFR Part 199, “Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services (CHAMPUS),” was published in the **Federal Register** on July 1, 1986. This interim final rule implements a bonus payment, in addition to the amount normally paid under the allowable charge methodology, to providers in medically underserved areas. For purposes of this rule, medically underserved areas are the same as those determined by the Secretary of Health and Human Services for the Medicare program. Such bonus payments shall be equal to the bonus payments authorized by Medicare, except as necessary to recognize any unique or distinct characteristics or requirements of the CHAMPUS program, and as described in instructions issued by the Director, OCHAMPUS. If the Department of Health and Human Services acts to amend or remove the provision for bonus payments under Medicare, CHAMPUS likewise may follow

Medicare in amending or removing provision for such payments. To expedite access to healthcare coverage that has been impacted by lower payments in such medically underserved areas, the interim final rule process is being utilized. Additionally, it provides a reimbursement enhancement that favors providers in underserved areas, thus alleviating healthcare access problems experienced by beneficiaries residing in such areas. Finally, because Medicare previously established a bonus payment reimbursement mechanism in these areas, our emulation of this well established mechanism complies with existing statutory mandates that CHAMPUS follow Medicare reimbursement policy wherever practicable. This rule will not unilaterally increase payments to all providers, but just those residing in these underserved areas. Due to the urgency for additional payments to ensure beneficiary access to care in these areas, it would be impracticable and contrary to the public’s interest not to use the interim final rule process. To do otherwise would prevent OCHAMPUS from fulfilling its duty to beneficiaries in these underserved areas.

**Regulatory Procedure**

Executive Order 12866 requires certain regulatory assessments for any significant regulatory action, defined as one which would result in an annual effect on the economy of \$100 million or more, or have other substantial impacts. The Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA) requires that each Federal agency prepare, and make available for public

comment, a regulatory flexibility analysis when the agency issues a regulation which would have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. This Interim Final Rule is not a significant regulatory action under Executive Order 12866, nor would it have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The changes set forth in the interim final rule are minor revisions to the existing regulation.

The interim final rule will not impose additional information collection requirements on the public under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501–3511). This rule is being issued as an interim final rule, with comment period, as an exception to our standard practice of soliciting public comments prior to issuance. The Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs) has determined that following the standard practice in this case would be impracticable, unnecessary, and contrary to the public interest. This determination is based on several factors. Most importantly, this change directly implements a payment process already used by Medicare. All public comments are invited.

#### List of Subjects in 32 CFR Part 199

Claims, Handicapped, Health insurance, Military personnel.

Accordingly, 32 CFR part 199 is amended as follows:

#### PART 199—[AMENDED]

1. The authority citation for part 199 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 5 U.S.C. 301, 10 U.S.C. Chapter 55.

2. Section 199.14 is amended by redesignating paragraphs (h)(2) and (h)(3) as (h)(3) and (h)(4) and adding a new paragraph (h)(2) to read as follows:

#### § 199.14 Provider reimbursement methods.

\* \* \* \* \*

(h) \* \* \*

(2) *Bonus payments in medically underserved areas.* A bonus payment, in addition to the amount normally paid under the allowable charge methodology, may be made to providers in medically underserved areas. For purposes of this paragraph, medically underserved areas are the same as those determined by the Secretary of Health and Human Services for the Medicare program. Such bonus payments shall be equal to the bonus payments authorized by Medicare, except as necessary to recognize any unique or distinct characteristics or requirements of the CHAMPUS program, and as described

in instructions issued by the Director, OCHAMPUS.

If the Department of Health and Human Services acts to amend or remove the provision for bonus payments under Medicare, CHAMPUS likewise may follow Medicare in amending or removing provision for such payments.

\* \* \* \* \*

Dated: June 22, 2000.

**L.M. Bynum,**

*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.*

[FR Doc. 00–16264 Filed 6–30–00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 5001–10–U**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Coast Guard

#### 33 CFR Part 100

[CGD07–00–062]

RIN 2115–AE46

#### Special Local Regulations; Harbour Town Fireworks Display, Calibogue Sound, Hilton Head, SC

**AGENCY:** Coast Guard, DOT.

**ACTION:** Temporary final rule.

**SUMMARY:** Temporary Special Local Regulations are being adopted for the Harbour Town Fireworks Display, Calibogue Sound, Hilton Head, SC. The event will be held from 9 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. local time on July 4, 2000 in Calibogue Sound, Hilton Head, SC. These regulations are needed to provide for the safety of life on navigable waters during the event.

**DATES:** This rule is effective from 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. local time on July 4, 2000 and from 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on July 5, 2000 in case of event postponement due to the onset of inclement weather.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments and material received from the public, as well as documents indicated in this preamble as being available in the docket, are part of docket CGD 07–00–062 and are available for inspection or copying at Commander, Coast Guard Group, 196 Tradd St., Charleston, SC 29401, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** LT Simone Brisco, U.S. Coast Guard Group, Charleston, SC, at (843) 724–7628.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Regulatory Information

We did not publish a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) for this

regulation. Under 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B), the Coast Guard finds that good cause exists for not publishing an NPRM because information concerning the exact date and times of the event were only recently received. Under 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3), the Coast Guard finds that good cause exists for making this rule effective less than 30 days after publication in the **Federal Register** because information concerning the exact date and times of the event were only recently received.

#### Background and Purpose

These regulations are required to provide for the safety of life on navigable waters because of the inherent danger of fireworks during the Harbour Town Display, Calibogue Sound, Hilton Head, SC.

#### Regulatory Evaluation

This 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. The Office of Management and Budget has not reviewed it under that order. It is not significant under the regulatory policies and procedures of the Department of Transportation (DOT) (44 FR 11040, February 26, 1979). We expect the economic impact of this rule to be so minimal that a full Regulatory Evaluation under paragraph 10e of the regulatory policies and procedures of DOT is unnecessary as this regulation will only be in effect for one hour in a limited area.

#### Small Entities

Under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601–612) we considered whether this rule would have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. The term “small entities” comprises small business, 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.

The Coast Guard certifies under 5 U.S.C. 605(b) that this rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. The rule will affect the following entities, some of which may be small entities: the owners or operators of vessels intending to transit or anchor in a portion of Calibogue Sound from 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on July 4, 2000 (or July 5, 2000 if the event is postponed). This special local regulation will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities