

Dated: June 9, 2011.

Nancy K. Stade,

Deputy Director for Policy, Center for Devices and Radiological Health.

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PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION

29 CFR Parts 4022 and 4044

Allocation of Assets in Single-Employer Plans; Benefits Payable in Terminated Single-Employer Plans; Interest Assumptions for Valuing and Paying Benefits

AGENCY: Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This final rule amends the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation's regulations on Benefits Payable in Terminated Single-Employer Plans and Allocation of Assets in Single-Employer Plans to prescribe interest assumptions under the benefit payments regulation for valuation dates in July 2011 and interest assumptions under the asset allocation regulation for valuation dates in the third quarter of 2011. The interest assumptions are used for valuing and paying benefits under terminating single-employer plans covered by the pension insurance system administered by PBGC.

DATES: Effective July 1, 2011.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Catherine B. Klion
(*Klion.Catherine@PBGC.gov*), Manager, Regulatory and Policy Division, Legislative and Regulatory Department, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, 1200 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20005, 202-326-4024. (TTY/TDD users may call the Federal relay service toll free at 1-800-877-8339 and ask to be connected to 202-326-4024.)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: PBGC's regulations on Allocation of Assets in Single-Employer Plans (29 CFR part 4044) and Benefits Payable in Terminated Single-Employer Plans (29 CFR part 4022) prescribe actuarial assumptions—including interest assumptions—for valuing and paying

plan benefits under terminating single-employer plans covered by title IV of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974. The interest assumptions in the regulations are also published on PBGC's Web site (<http://www.pbgc.gov>).

The interest assumptions in Appendix B to Part 4044 are used to value benefits for allocation purposes under ERISA section 4044. PBGC uses the interest assumptions in Appendix B to part 4022 to determine whether a benefit is payable as a lump sum and to determine the amount to pay. Appendix C to part 4022 contains interest assumptions for private-sector pension practitioners to refer to if they wish to use lump-sum interest rates determined using PBGC's historical methodology. Currently, the rates in Appendices B and C of the benefit payment regulation are the same.

The interest assumptions are intended to reflect current conditions in the financial and annuity markets. Assumptions under the asset allocation regulation are updated quarterly; assumptions under the benefit payments regulation are updated monthly. This final rule updates the benefit payments interest assumptions for July 2011 and updates the asset allocation interest assumptions for the third quarter (July through September) of 2011.

The third quarter 2011 interest assumptions under the allocation regulation will be 4.21 percent for the first 25 years following the valuation date and 4.34 percent thereafter. In comparison with the interest assumptions in effect for the second quarter of 2011, these interest assumptions represent an increase of five years in the select period (the period during which the select rate (the initial rate) applies), an increase of 0.25 percent in the select rate, and an increase of 0.02 percent in the ultimate rate (the final rate).

The July 2011 interest assumptions under the benefit payments regulation will be 2.25 percent for the period during which a benefit is in pay status and 4.00 percent during any years preceding the benefit's placement in pay status. In comparison with the interest assumptions in effect for June 2011, these interest assumptions represent a decrease of 0.25 percent in the

immediate annuity rate and are otherwise unchanged.

PBGC has determined that notice and public comment on this amendment are impracticable and contrary to the public interest. This finding is based on the need to determine and issue new interest assumptions promptly so that the assumptions can reflect current market conditions as accurately as possible.

Because of the need to provide immediate guidance for the valuation and payment of benefits under plans with valuation dates during July 2011, PBGC finds that good cause exists for making the assumptions set forth in this amendment effective less than 30 days after publication.

PBGC has determined that this action is not a "significant regulatory action" under the criteria set forth in Executive Order 12866.

Because no general notice of proposed rulemaking is required for this amendment, the Regulatory Flexibility Act of 1980 does not apply. See 5 U.S.C. 601(2).

List of Subjects

29 CFR Part 4022

Employee benefit plans, Pension insurance, Pensions, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

29 CFR Part 4044

Employee benefit plans, Pension insurance, Pensions.

In consideration of the foregoing, 29 CFR parts 4022 and 4044 are amended as follows:

PART 4022—BENEFITS PAYABLE IN TERMINATED SINGLE-EMPLOYER PLANS

■ 1. The authority citation for part 4022 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 29 U.S.C. 1302, 1322, 1322b, 1341(c)(3)(D), and 1344.

■ 2. In appendix B to part 4022, Rate Set 213, as set forth below, is added to the table.

Appendix B to Part 4022—Lump Sum Interest Rates for PBGC Payments

* * * * *

Rate set	For plans with a valuation date		Immediate annuity rate (percent)	Deferred annuities (percent)					
	On or after	Before		i_1	i_2	i_3	n_1	n_2	
*	*		*	*	*	*	*	*	
213	7-1-11	8-1-11	2.25	4.00	4.00	4.00	7	8	

■ 3. In appendix C to part 4022, Rate Set 213, as set forth below, is added to the table.

Appendix C to Part 4022—Lump Sum Interest Rates for Private-Sector Payments

* * * * *

Rate set	For plans with a valuation date		Immediate annuity rate (percent)	Deferred annuities (percent)				
	On or after	Before		i_1	i_2	i_3	n_1	n_2
*	*		*	*	*	*		*
213	7–1–11	8–1–11	2.25	4.00	4.00	4.00	7	8

PART 4044—ALLOCATION OF ASSETS IN SINGLE-EMPLOYER PLANS

■ 4. The authority citation for part 4044 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 29 U.S.C. 1301(a), 1302(b)(3), 1341, 1344, 1362.

■ 5. In appendix B to part 4044, a new entry for July–September 2011, as set forth below, is added to the table.

Appendix B to Part 4044—Interest Rates Used to Value Benefits

* * * * *

For valuation dates occurring in the months—	The values of i_t are:					
	i_t	for $t =$	i_t	for $t =$	i_t	for $t =$
*	*	*	*	*	*	*
July–September 2011	0.0421	1–25	0.0434	>25	N/A	N/A

Issued in Washington, DC, on this 10th day of June 2011.

Laricke Blanchard,

Deputy Director for Policy, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 117

[USCG–2010–0879]

RIN 1625–AA09

Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway (AIWW), Elizabeth River, Southern Branch, Chesapeake, VA

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is temporarily changing the drawbridge operation regulations of the Gilmerton (US13/460) Bridge across the Elizabeth River (Southern Branch), AIWW mile 5.8, at Chesapeake, VA. Due to the construction of the new Gilmerton Highway Bridge, the existing drawbridge has experienced increased delays to vehicular traffic during unscheduled vessel openings. This change will allow adjustments and set

opening periods for the bridge during the day until December 20, 2013, relieving vehicular traffic congestion during the weekday and weekend daytime hours while still providing for the reasonable needs of navigation.

DATES: This rule is effective from 9 a.m. on June 19, 2010 until 6:30 p.m. on December 20, 2013.

ADDRESSES: Comments and related materials received from the public, as well as documents mentioned in this preamble as being available in the docket, are part of docket USCG–2010–0879 and are available online by going to <http://www.regulations.gov>, inserting USCG–2010–0879 in the “Keyword” box, and clicking “Search.” This material is also available for inspection or copying at the Docket Management Facility (M–30), U.S. Department of Transportation, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions on this rule, call Waverly W. Gregory, Jr., Bridge Program Manager, Fifth Coast Guard District, at 757–398–6222. If you have questions on viewing the docket, call Renee V. Wright, Program Manager, Docket Operations, telephone 202–366–9826.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Regulatory Information

On November 16, 2010, we published a notice of temporary deviation request for comments entitled “Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway (AIWW), Elizabeth River, Southern Branch, VA” in the **Federal Register** (75 FR 69879) and a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) entitled “Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway (AIWW), Elizabeth River, Southern Branch, VA” in the **Federal Register** (75 FR 69906). We received seven comments on the published deviation and NPRM. No public meeting was requested, and none was held.

Under 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3), the Coast Guard finds that good cause exists for making this rule effective in less than 30 days after publication in the **Federal Register**. Making this rule effective in less than 30 days is necessary in order to continue the construction of the new Gilmerton Bridge Replacement Project without disruption. Additionally, delaying this final temporary could result in additional vehicular traffic congestion without providing any additional benefit to vessel traffic.

Background and Purpose

The City of Chesapeake, Virginia (the City), who owns and operates the lift-type Gilmerton (US13/460) Bridge, has requested a temporary change to the existing bridge regulations. The current regulation, set out in Title 33 CFR Part