DATES: Effective January 13, 2000.

ADDRESSES: You can download this final rule at the following World Wide Web address: <http://www.publicdebt.treas.gov>. You may also inspect and copy this final rule at: Treasury Department Library, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Collection, Room 5030, Main Treasury Building, 1500 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20220. Before visiting, you must call (202) 622–0990 for an appointment.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

- Wallace L. Earnest, Director, Division of Staff Services, Savings Bond Operations Office, Bureau of the Public Debt, at (304) 480–6319 or <wearnest@bpd.treas.gov>
- Susan J. Klimas, Attorney-Adviser, Office of the Chief Counsel, Bureau of the Public Debt, at (304) 480–3688 or <sklimas@bpd.treas.gov>
- Edward C. Gronseth, Deputy Chief Counsel, Bureau of the Public Debt, at (304) 480–3692 or <egronset@bpd.treas.gov>

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: 31 CFR 317.2, is being amended by removing the limitation on credit unions serving as issuing agents for United States savings bonds. Currently, only federal credit unions may serve as issuing agents. With this amendment, credit unions chartered or incorporated under the laws of states, territories, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico may also serve as issuing agents. This amendment will make the issuing agent regulations consistent with the paying agent regulations for savings bonds, found at 31 CFR part 321, which permits credit unions chartered or incorporated under federal, state, territorial, District of Columbia, and Commonwealth of Puerto Rico laws to serve as paying agents.

Procedural Requirements

This final rule does not meet the criteria for a ''significant regulatory action,'' as defined in Executive Order 12866. Therefore, the regulatory review procedures contained therein do not apply.

This final rule relates to matters of public contract and procedures for United States securities. The notice and public procedures requirements of the Administrative Procedure Act are inapplicable, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(a)(2).

As no notice of proposed rulemaking is required, the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601, *et seq.*) does not apply.

We ask for no new collections of information in this final rule. Therefore, the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3507) does not apply.

List of Subjects in 31 CFR Part 317

Bonds, Electronic funds transfers, Federal Reserve System, Government securities, Securities.

1. The authority citation for part 317 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 2 U.S.C. 901; 5 U.S.C. 301; 12 U.S.C. 391; 12 U.S.C. 1767; and 31 U.S.C. 3105.

2. Amend § 317.2 by revising the introductory text and paragraph (a) to read as follows:

§ 317.2 Organizations authorized to act.

The following organizations are eligible to apply for qualification and to serve as savings bond issuing agents:

(a) Banks, credit unions, trust companies and savings institutions, if they are chartered by or incorporated under the laws of the United States, any State or Territory of the United States, the District of Columbia, or the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

* * * * *

Dated: January 6, 2000.

Donald V. Hammond,

Fiscal Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00–857 Filed 1–12–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810–39–M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 117

[CGD 08–99–069]

RIN 2115–AE47

Temporary Drawbridge Regulations; Mississippi River, Iowa and Illinois

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DOT.

ACTION: Temporary rule.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is temporarily changing the drawbridge operation regulation governing the Burlington Railroad Drawbridge, Mile 403.1, Upper Mississippi River. The drawbridge shall open on signal if at least six (6) hours advance notice is given from 8 a.m. on December 31, 1999, until 8 a.m. on March 1, 2000. This arrangement is necessary to perform annual maintenance and repair work on the bridge.

DATES: This temporary rule is effective from 8 a.m. on December 31, 1999, until 8 a.m. on March 1, 2000.

ADDRESSES: The public docket and all documents referred to in this notice will be available for inspection and copying at room 2.107f in the Robert A. Young Federal Building at Commander (obr), Eighth Coast Guard District, 1222 Spruce Street, St. Louis, MO 63101–2832, between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Roger K. Wiebusch, Bridge Administrator; Commander (obr), Eighth Coast Guard District, Bridge Branch, 1222 Spruce Street, St. Louis, MO 63101–2832, telephone (314) 539–3900, extension 378.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Regulatory History

On November 24, 1999, Burlington Northern Santa Fe requested a temporary change to the operation of the Burlington Railroad Drawbridge across the Upper Mississippi River, Mile 403.1 at Burlington, Iowa. The Railroad requested that the bridge be allowed to open for navigation between December 31, 1999 and March 1, 2000 upon a six (6) hour advance notice so that necessary maintenance and bridge repair activities can be performed. Advance notice may be given by calling Al Poole, (309) 345–6103 during work hours and Larry Moll, (309) 752–5244, after hours.

In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 533, a notice of proposed rulemaking has not been published and good cause exists for making this rule effective in less than 30 days from publication. Following normal rulemaking procedures would be impractical. Delaying implementation of the regulation will not benefit navigation and would result in unnecessary delays in repairing the bridge.

Background and Purpose

The Burlington Railroad Drawbridge has a vertical clearance of 21.5 feet above normal pool in the closed to navigation position. Navigation on the waterway consists of commercial tows and recreational watercraft. Presently the draw opens on signal for passage of river traffic. This temporary drawbridge operation amendment has been coordinated with the commercial waterway operators. No one objected to the proposed amendment. Winter conditions on the Upper Mississippi River coupled with the closure of Army Corps of Engineer's Lock No. 21 until March 1, 2000, will preclude any significant navigation demands for the drawspan openings. The Burlington Railroad Drawbridge is located downstream of Lock 18 and upstream of Lock 19. Performing maintenance on the bridge during the winter when no

vessels are impacted is preferred to bridge closures or advance notification requirements during the commercial navigation season.

Regulatory Evaluation

This temporary rule is not a significant regulatory action under section 3(f) of Executive Order 12866 and does not require an assessment of potential cost 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). The Coast Guard expects the economic impact of this temporary rule to be so minimal that a full Regulatory Evaluation under paragraph 10e of the regulatory policies and procedures of DOT is unnecessary. This is because river traffic will be extremely limited by lock closures and ice during this period.

Unfunded Mandates Reform Act

The Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1531–1538) governs the issuance of Federal regulations that require unfunded mandates. An unfunded mandate is a regulation that requires a State, local, or tribal government or the private sector to incur direct costs without the Federal Government's having first provided the funds to pay those costs. This rule would not impose an unfunded mandate.

Taking of Private Property

This rule would not effect a taking of private property or otherwise have taking implications under E.O. 12630, Governmental Actions and Interference with Constitutionally Protected Property Rights.

Civil Justice Reform

This rule meets applicable standards in sections 3(a) and 3(b)(2) of E.O. 12988, Civil Justice Reform, to minimize litigation, eliminate ambiguity, and reduce burden.

Protection of Children

We have analyzed this rule under E.O. 13045, Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks. This rule is not an economically significant rule and does not concern an environmental risk to health or risk to safety that may disproportionately affect children.

Small Entities

Under the Regulatory Flexibility Act, 5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*, the Coast Guard must consider whether this temporary rule will have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. ''Small entities'' may include (1) small businesses and not-for-profit organizations that are independently owned and operated and are not dominant in their fields and (2) governmental jurisdictions with populations of less than 50,000. Because it expects the impact of this action to be minimal, the Coast Guard certifies under 5 U.S.C. 605(b), that this action will not have economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

Collection of Information

This temporary rule contains no collection-of-information requirements under the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*).

Federalism Assessment

The Coast Guard has analyzed this rule under the principles and criteria contained in Executive Order 12612, and it has been determined that this rule does not have sufficient federalism implications to warrant the preparation of a Federalism Agreement.

Environment Assessment

The Coast Guard considered the environmental impact of this temporary rule and concluded that this action is categorically excluded from further environmental documentation in accordance with Section 2.B.2, Figure 2–1 (32)(e) of the National Environmental Policy Act Implementing Procedures, COMDTINST M16475.1C. A Categorical Exclusion Determination is available for inspection or copying where indicated under **ADDRESSES**.

List of Subjects in 33 CFR Part 117

Bridges.

Temporary Regulations

In consideration of the foregoing, Part 117 of Title 33, Code of Federal Regulations, is amended as follows:

PART 117—DRAWBRIDGE OPERATION REGULATIONS

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

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

2. Effective 8 a.m. on December 31, 1999, through 8 a.m. on March 1, 2000, a temporary § 117.T410 is added to read as follows:

§ 117.T410 Upper Mississippi River.

Burlington Railroad Drawbridge, Mile 403.1, Upper Mississippi River. From 8 a.m. on December 31, 1999 through 8 a.m. on March 1, 2000, the drawspan shall open on signal if at least six (6) hours advance notification is given. Advance notice may be given by calling (309) 345–6103 during work hours and (309) 752–5244 after hours.

Dated: December 27, 1999.

K.J. Eldridge,

Captain, United States Coast Guard, Acting Commander, Eighth Coast Guard District.

[FR Doc. 00–760 Filed 1–12–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–15–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 117

[CGD08–99–071]

RIN 2115–AE47

Drawbridge Operating Regulation; Mississippi River, Iowa and Illinois

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DOT.

ACTION: Temporary rule.

SUMMARY: The Commander, Eighth Coast Guard District is temporarily changing the regulation governing the Clinton Railroad Drawbridge, Mile 518.0, Upper Mississippi River. The drawbridge shall open on signal if at least 24 hours advance notice is given from 8 a.m. on December 29, 1999, until March 2, 2000. This arrangement is necessary to perform annual maintenance and repair on the bridge.

DATES: This temporary rule is effective from 8 a.m. on December 29, 1999, until 8 a.m. on March 2, 2000.

ADDRESSES: The public docket and all documents referred to in this notice will be available for inspection and copying at room 2.107f in the Robert A. Young Federal Building at Commander (obr), Eighth Coast Guard District, 1222 Spruce Street, St. Louis, MO 63101–2832, between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Roger K. Wiebusch, Bridge Administrator; Commander (obr), Eighth Coast Guard District, Bridge Branch, 1222 Spruce Street, St. Louis, MO 63101–2832, telephone (314) 539–3900, extension 378.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Regulatory History

On November 23, 1999, the Union Pacific Railroad Company requested a temporary change to the operation of the Clinton Railroad swing bridge across the Upper Mississippi River, Mile 518.0 at