

**Federal Reserve**

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Friday  
November 29, 1996

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**Part XXXV**

**Panama Canal  
Commission**

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**Semiannual Regulatory Agenda**

**PANAMA CANAL COMMISSION (PANAMA)**

**PANAMA CANAL COMMISSION**

**35 CFR Ch. I**

**Semiannual Regulatory Agenda, October 1996**

**AGENCY:** Panama Canal Commission.

**ACTION:** Semiannual regulatory agenda.

**SUMMARY:** The purpose of this agenda is to report the proposed rulemaking activities of the Panama Canal Commission. This information will allow the public to participate in the rulemaking process.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For information about a particular

regulatory project, contact the person listed in the subheading "Agency Contact" for that project. For general information, contact John A. Mills, Secretary, Panama Canal Commission, International Square, 1825 I Street NW., Suite 1050, Washington, DC 20006-5402, (202) 634-6441 TDD or e-mail PanCanalWO@AOL.COM; or John L. Haines, Jr., Esquire, General Counsel, Panama Canal Commission, Unit 2300, APO AA 34011-2300, 011/507-272-7511.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Executive Order 12866 "Regulatory Planning and Review" and the Regulatory Flexibility Act, 5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*, require that executive agencies publish in the

Federal Register a semiannual notice of regulations which are under development or review or for which action has been completed. The Panama Canal Commission agenda contains certain regulations which are limited in public impact, but they are included to increase public awareness of Commission activities and to allow for increased public participation in the Agency's regulatory review and development process. This agenda was prepared pursuant to guidelines established by the Office of Management and Budget.

Dated: September 20, 1996.

John A. Mills,

Secretary, Panama Canal Commission.

**PANAMA CANAL COMMISSION (PANAMA)**

**Final Rule Stage**

**4132. DANGEROUS CARGOES; RADIO COMMUNICATION**

**Priority:** Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

**Unfunded Mandates:** Undetermined

**Legal Authority:** 22 USC 3811; EO 12215

**CFR Citation:** 35 CFR 101; 35 CFR 103; 35 CFR 105; 35 CFR 107; 35 CFR 109; 35 CFR 111; 35 CFR 113; 35 CFR 115; 35 CFR 117; 35 CFR 119; 35 CFR 121; 35 CFR 123; 35 CFR 113.49(b) (Revision)

**Legal Deadline:** None

**Abstract:** The Panama Canal Commission is proposing to make the following change and clarification:

35 CFR 113.49(b): Explosive cargo to be used for other than official U.S. Government purposes may not be loaded or offloaded at facilities of the Panama Canal Commission. Explosive anchorages prescribed in sections 101.8(a)(2)(3) and 101.8(c)(2), respectively, may be used upon approval of the Marine Safety Advisor, or his designee and concurrence of Canal Ops Captain.

The Commission also proposes to make minor technical changes and clarifications to: 35 CFR sections 101, 103, 105, 107, 109, 111, 113, 115, 117, 119, 121, and 123 for internal operating procedures.

**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	12/00/96	
Final Action	02/00/97	
Final Action Effective	02/00/97	

**Small Entities Affected:** None

**Government Levels Affected:** None

**Agency Contact:** Capt. George T. Hull, Marine Director, Panama Canal Commission, Marine Bureau, Unit 2300, APO AA 34011-2300  
Phone: 202 634-6441  
Fax: 202 634-6439  
Email: PanCanalWO@AOL.COM

**RIN:** 3207-AA26

**4133. PANAMA CANAL COMMISSION ACQUISITION REGULATION**

**Priority:** Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

**Unfunded Mandates:** Undetermined

**Legal Authority:** 40 USC 486(c)

**CFR Citation:** 48 CFR 35

**Legal Deadline:** None

**Abstract:** The interim final rule will update the Panama Canal Commission Acquisition Regulation to conform to changes in the Federal Acquisition Regulation and to incorporate minor changes to internal operating procedures.

**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	02/02/96	61 FR 3846

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	04/02/96	
Comment Period End		
Final Action	11/00/96	
Final Action Effective	11/00/96	

**Small Entities Affected:** None

**Government Levels Affected:** None

**Sectors Affected:** Multiple

**Procurement:** This is a procurement-related action for which there is no statutory requirement. There is a paperwork burden associated with this action.

**Additional Information:** Phone number for James N. Doyle in Panama, Republic of Panama, is 011/507 272-7511.

**Agency Contact:** James N. Doyle, Assistant Procurement Executive, Panama Canal Commission, Unit 2300, APO AA 34011-2300  
Phone: 202 634-6441  
Fax: 202 634-6439  
Email: PanCanalWO@AOL.COM

**RIN:** 3207-AA30

**4134. • TOLLS FOR USE OF CANAL**

**Priority:** Other Significant. Major under 5 USC 801.

**Unfunded Mandates:** Undetermined

**Legal Authority:** 22 USC 3791; EO 12215

**CFR Citation:** 35 CFR 133; 35 CFR 135

**Legal Deadline:** None

**PANAMA**

**Final Rule Stage**

**Abstract:** Tolls revenue in fiscal years 1996, 1997, and 1998, at current rates, is not expected to produce revenues sufficient to cover the costs of operating and maintaining the Panama Canal and its capital expenditure programs for plant replacement, expansion, and improvements. The tolls deficiencies for fiscal years 1996, 1997, and 1998 are estimated to be \$2.2, \$34.5, and \$69.7 million respectively. In addition, ship design changes have enabled ships to utilize on-deck space as cargo carrying area which significantly increases the earning capacity of these ships. On-deck earning capacity, however, is not included in the current PC/UMS Net Tonnage calculations, resulting in an uneven distribution of the costs, favoring ships capable of carrying cargo on-deck. Consequently, the final rule is expected to impose a toll rate increase of 8.2 percent effective

January 1, 1997, and a 7.5 percent increase effective January 1, 1998. It will also include a change in the rules of measurement which will enable the Commission to determine on-deck, container-carrying capacity by calculating a new Volume Cubic Meters (VCM) of the on-deck, container-carrying capacity and multiplying that VCM by a Container Factor (CF). The resulting total will be included in the PC/UMS Net Tonnage. The tolls increase and measurement rule changes will have a small impact, if any, on the competitive position of the Canal in relation to other means of transportation, the interests of the United States and the Republic of Panama in maintaining their domestic fleets in various geographical areas of each country, or the interests of both countries in maximizing their international commerce.

**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	09/03/96	61 FR 46407
NPRM Comment Period End	11/15/96	61 FR 53886
Final Action	01/00/97	

**Small Entities Affected:** Undetermined

**Government Levels Affected:** Undetermined

**Sectors Affected:** None

**Agency Contact:** John A. Mills, Assistant to the Chairman and Secretary, Panama Canal Commission, 1825 I Street NW., Suite 1050, Washington, DC 20006-5402  
 Phone: 202 634-6441  
 Fax: 202 634-6439  
 Email: PanCana1WO@AOL.COM

**RIN:** 3207-AA38

**PANAMA CANAL COMMISSION (PANAMA)**

**Completed Actions**

**4135. RADIO COMMUNICATION**

**Priority:** Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

**Unfunded Mandates:** Undetermined

**CFR Citation:** 35 CFR 123.4(a) (Revision)

**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	07/11/96	61 FR 36497
Final Action Effective	07/11/96	

**Small Entities Affected:** None

**Government Levels Affected:** Federal

**Agency Contact:** Capt. George T. Hull  
 Phone: 202 634-6441

**RIN:** 3207-AA34

**4136. HEALTH, SANITATION, AND COMMUNICABLE DISEASE SURVEILLANCE**

**Priority:** Other Significant

**CFR Citation:** 35 CFR 61.155

**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	07/11/96	61 FR 36497
Final Action Effective	07/11/96	

**Small Entities Affected:** None

**Government Levels Affected:** None

**Agency Contact:** J. M. Eberenz  
 Phone: 202 634-6441

**RIN:** 3207-AA35

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