provides an acceptable level of safety may be used if approved by the Manager, Seattle Aircraft Certification Office (ACO), FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate. Operators shall submit their requests through an appropriate FAA Principal Maintenance Inspector, who may add comments and then send it to the Manager, Seattle ACO.

Note 2: Information concerning the existence of approved alternative methods of compliance with this AD, if any, may be obtained from the Seattle ACO.

(g) Special flight permits may be issued in accordance with sections 21.197 and 21.199 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR 21.197 and 21.199) to operate the airplane to a location where the requirements of this AD can be accomplished.

Issued in Renton, Washington, on May 14, 1998.

John J. Hickey,

Acting Manager, Transport Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 98–13406 Filed 5–19–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–13–U

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

29 CFR Ch. XVII

Fire Protection for Shipyard Employment Negotiated Rulemaking Advisory Committee; Meeting

AGENCY: Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Labor.

ACTION: Fire Protection for Shipyard Employment Negotiated Rulemaking Advisory Committee; notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: The Occupational Safety and Health Administration announces a meeting of the Fire Protection for Shipyard Employment Negotiated Rulemaking Advisory Committee. OSHA invites all interested persons to attend. The members represent groups interested in, or significantly affected by, the outcome of the rulemaking. They include representatives of shipyards, labor unions, professional associations, and government agencies. The committee will continue its discussions on a proposed standard to protect workers from fire hazards in shipyard employment, including the following areas: scope and application; administrative, engineering, and work practice controls; fire brigades; written fire plans; technological advances; cost of fire protection; and the content of appendices. The committee's goal is reach consensus on a proposed standard and explanatory preamble.

DATES: The meeting dates are Monday, June 15, 1998 through Wednesday, June 17, 1998 from 8:00 a.m. to about 4:00 p.m. daily. Submit comments, requests for oral presentations, and requests for disability accommodations by June 1, 1998.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Maritime Institute of Technology and Graduate Studies (MITAGS), 5700 Hammonds Ferry Road, Linthicum Heights, MD 21090, telephone (410) 859–5700. Mail comments and requests for oral presentations to Mr. Joseph V. Daddura, U.S. Department of Labor, OSHA, Office of Maritime Standards, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Room N–3621, Washington, D.C. 20210.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Joseph V. Daddura, Project Officer, Office of Maritime Standards, OSHA (202–219–7234, ext. 123). For disability accommodations, contact Ms. Theda Kenney (202–219–8061, ext. 100).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Meeting Agenda

The committee will focus its discussions on definitions and on provisions that address ships fixed fire protection systems. Potential impacts of a proposed rule on small employers will also be addressed.

Public Participation

Interested persons may send written comments, data, views, or statements for consideration by the Committee to Mr. Joseph V. Daddura. Interested persons may also request the opportunity to make an oral presentation to the committee by providing Mr. Daddura with a summary of the proposed presentation, an estimate of the time desired, and a statement of the interest that the person represents. The facilitator may allow such presentations if there is adequate time in the meeting schedule.

Authority: This document is issued pursuant to the Negotiated Rulemaking Act of 1990 (5 U.S.C. 561 et seq.) and Section 7(b) of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (29 U.S.C. 656).

Signed at Washington, D.C., this 13th day of May 1998.

Charles N. Jeffress,

Assistant Secretary of Labor.

[FR Doc. 98–13413 Filed 5–19–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510–26–M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

30 CFR Part 917

[KY–218–FOR]

Kentucky Regulatory Program

AGENCY: Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM), Interior.

ACTION: Proposed rule; public comment period and opportunity for public hearing.

SUMMARY: OSM is announcing receipt of a proposed amendment to the Kentucky regulatory program (hereinafter the ''Kentucky program'') under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (SMCRA). The proposed amendment consists of revisions to the Kentucky statutes pertaining to bonding and permit renewal. The amendment is intended to revise the Kentucky program to be consistent with the corresponding Federal regulations.

DATES: Written comments must be received by 4:00 p.m., [E.D.T.], June 19, 1998. If requested, a public hearing on the proposed amendment will be held on June 15, 1998. Requests to speak at the hearing must be received by 4:00 p.m., [E.D.T.], on June 4, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and requests to speak at the hearing should be mailed or hand delivered to William J. Kovacic, Director, at the address listed below.

Copies of the Kentucky program, the proposed amendment, a listing of any scheduled public hearings, and all written comments received in response to this document will be available for public review at the addresses listed below during normal business hours, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Each requester may receive one free copy of the proposed amendment by contacting OSM's Lexington Field Office.

William J. Kovacic, Director, Lexington Field Office, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, 2675 Regency Road, Lexington, Kentucky 40503. Telephone: (606) 233–2494.

Department of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, 2 Hudson Hollow Complex, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601. Telephone: (502) 564–6940.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: William J. Kovacic, Director, Lexington Field Office, Telephone: (606) 233–2494.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background on the Kentucky Program

On May 18, 1982, the Secretary of the Interior conditionally approved the Kentucky program. Background information on the Kentucky program, including the Secretary's findings, the disposition of comments, and the conditions of approval can be found in the May 18, 1982, **Federal Register** (47 FR 21404). Subsequent actions concerning the conditions of approval and program amendments can be found at 30 CFR 917.11, 917.13, 917.15, 917.16, and 917.17.

II. Description of the Proposed Amendment

By letter dated April 23, 1998 (Administrative Record No. KY–1425), Kentucky submitted a proposed amendment to its program. House Bills (HB) 354, 498, and 593 (effective July 15, 1998) revise section 350 of the Kentucky Revised Statues (KRS) at 350.990(11), 350.131(2), 350.139(1), 350.990(1), and 350.060(16).

Specifically, Kentucky proposes to make the following changes. HB 354 confirms Executive Order 97–714, June 11, 1997, which changed the name of the Division of Abandoned Lands to the Division of Abandoned Mine Lands and corrects the name in KRS 350.990(11). HB 498 completes the package of bonding reforms jointly recommended by the State, OSM, and others. It requires that when a bond is forfeited, and the entire forfeited amount is more than necessary to complete reclamation, the unused funds less any accrued interest shall be returned to the party from whom they were collected at KRS 350.131(2). It establishes the bond forfeiture supplemental fund at KRS 350.139(1) and requires that funds from forfeited reclamation bonds be placed in an interest-bearing account. The interest becomes a supplemental fund that can be used to reclaim any lands where a forfeited bond is insufficient to complete the necessary reclamation. No more that 25% of the supplemental fund can be expended on a single site, unless a larger expenditure is necessary to abate an imminent danger to public health or safety. At KRS 350.990(1), HB 498 provides for a potential second source of money for the supplemental fund. The first $800,000 of collected civil penalties for coal mining violations will be deposited into the General Fund. One-half of the excess will go to the new bond forfeiture supplemental fund, but only when the balance in the Bond Pool Fund (Fund) is above the maximum of the operating range necessary to ensure its solvency. No diversion of excess penalty income from the Fund to the supplemental fund will occur until the Fund balance reaches $16 million, or a larger amount established by the most recent actuarial study of the Fund. If the Fund falls below $16 million (or higher amount established by the study), all excess moneys shall be deposited into the Fund until it reaches $16 million. HB 593 revises KRS 350.060(16) to require that a notice of noncompliance be issued if a permit has expired or if a permit renewal application has not been timely filed and the operator or permittee wants to continue the mining operation. The notice of noncompliance shall be deemed to have been complied with, and the permit may be renewed, if a permit renewal application is received within 30 days of the receipt of the notice of noncompliance. Upon submittal of a permit renewal application, the operator or permittee shall be deemed to have timely filed the permit renewal application and shall be permitted to continue, under the terms of the expired permit, the mining operation, pending issuance of the permit renewal. Failure to comply with the remedial measures of the notice of noncompliance shall result in the cessation of the mining operation.

III. Public Comment Procedures

In accordance with the provisions of 30 CFR 732.17(h), OSM is seeking comments on whether the proposed amendment satisfies the applicable program approval criteria of 30 CFR 732.15. If the amendment is deemed adequate, it will become part of the Kentucky program.

Written Comments

Written comments should be specific, pertain only to the issues proposed in this rulemaking, and include explanations in support of the commenter's recommendations. Comments received after the time indicated under **DATES** or at locations other than the Lexington Field Office will not necessarily be considered in the final rulemaking or included in the Administrative Record.

Public Hearing

Persons wishing to speak at the public hearing should contact the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** by 4:00 p.m., [E.D.T.] on June 4, 1998. The location and time of the hearing will be arranged with those persons requesting the hearing. If no one requests an opportunity to speak at the public hearing, the hearing will not be held.

Filing of a written statement at the time of the hearing is requested as it will greatly assist the transcriber. Submission of written statements in advance of the hearing will allow OSM officials to prepare adequate responses and appropriate questions.

The public hearing will continue on the specified date until all persons scheduled to speak have been heard. Persons in the audience who have not been scheduled to speak, and who wish to do so, will be heard following those who have been scheduled. The hearing will end after all persons scheduled to speak and persons present in the audience who wish to speak have been heard.

Any disabled individual who has need for a special accommodation to attend a public hearing should contact the individual listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT.**

Public Meeting

If only one person requests an opportunity to speak at a hearing, a public meeting, rather than a public hearing, may be held. Persons wishing to meet with OSM representatives to discuss the proposed amendment may request a meeting by contacting the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT.** All such meetings will be open to the public and, if possible, notices of meetings will be posted at the locations listed under **ADDRESSES.** A written summary of each meeting will be made a part of the Administrative Record.

IV. Procedural Determinations

Executive Order 12866

This rule is exempted from review by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under Executive Order 12866 (Regulatory Planning and Review).

Executive Order 12988

The Department of the Interior has conducted the reviews required by section 3 of Executive Order 12988 (Civil Justice Reform) and has determined that, to the extent allowed by law, this rule meets the applicable standards of subsections (a) and (b) of that section. However, these standards are not applicable to the actual language of State regulatory programs and program amendments since each such program is drafted and promulgated by a specific State, not by OSM. Under sections 503 and 505 of SMCRA (30 U.S.C. 1253 and 1255) and 30 CFR 730.11, 732.15, and 732.17(h)(10), decisions or proposed State regulatory programs and program amendments submitted by the States must be based solely on a determination of whether the submittal is consistent with SMCRA and

its implementing Federal regulations and whether the other requirements of 30 CFR Parts 730, 731, and 732 have been met.

National Environmental Policy Act

No environmental impact statement is required for this rule since section 702(d) of SMCRA (30 U.S.C. 1292(d)) provides that agency decisions on proposed State regulatory program provisions do not constitute major Federal actions within the meaning of section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(C)).

Paperwork Reduction Act

This rule does not contain information collection requirements that require approval by OMB under the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3507 *et seq.*).

Regulatory Flexibility Act

The Department of the Interior has determined that this rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*). The State submittal which is the subject of this rule is based upon counterpart Federal regulations for which an economic analysis was prepared and certification made that such regulations would not have a significant economic effect upon a substantial number of small entities. Accordingly, this rule will ensure that existing requirements previously promulgated by OSM will be implemented by the State. In making the determination as to whether this rule would have a significant economic impact, the Department relied upon the data and assumptions for the counterpart Federal regulations.

Unfunded Mandates

This rule will not impose a cost of $100 million or more in any given year on any governmental entity or the private sector.

List of Subjects in 30 CFR Part 917

Intergovernmental relations, Surface mining, Underground mining.

Dated: May 13, 1998.

Allen D. Klein,

Regional Director, Appalachian Regional Coordinating Center.

[FR Doc. 98–13340 Filed 5–19–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–05–M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 20

46 CFR Part 5

[USCG–1998–3472]

RIN 2115–AF59

Rules of Practice, Procedure, and Evidence for Administrative Proceedings of the Coast Guard

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DOT.

ACTION: Reopening of comment period on notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is reopening the period for public comment on its Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM), Rules of Practice, Procedures, and Evidence for Administrative Proceedings of the Coast Guard. Because of several requests for extension, the Coast Guard is reopening the period for 30 days.

DATES: Comments must reach the Coast Guard on or before June 19, 1998.

ADDRESSES: You may mail comments to the Docket Management Facility [USCG–1998–3472], U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), Room PL–401, 400 Seventh Street SW., Washington, DC 20590–0001, or deliver them to room PL–401, located on the Plaza Level of the Nassif Building at the same address between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The telephone number is 202–366–9329.

The Docket Management Facility 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 room PL–401, located on the Plaza Level of the Nassif Building at the above address between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. You may also electronically access the public docket for this rulemaking on the Internet at http://dms.dot.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information on the public docket, contact Carol Kelley, Coast Guard Dockets Team Leader, or Paulette Twine, Chief, Documentary Services Division, U.S. Department of Transportation, telephone 202–366–9329; for information concerning the notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) provisions, contact George J. Jordan, Attorney-Advisor, Office of the Chief Administrative Law Judge, between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. His telephone number is 202–267–0006.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Request for Comments

The Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM), published on April 6, 1998 (63 FR 16731), encouraged interested persons to participate in this rulemaking by submitting written data, views, or arguments by May 6, 1998. This request does the same, except that it asks them by June 19, 1998.

Persons submitting comments should include their names and addresses, identifying this rulemaking (USCG–1998–3472) and the specific section of this document to which each comment applies, and give the reason for each comment. Please submit one copy of all comments and attachments in an unbound format, no larger than 8½ by 1 inches, suitable for copying and electronic filing to the DOT Docket Management Facility at the address under **ADDRESSES**. If you want acknowledgment of receipt of your comment, 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 meeting. Persons may request a public meeting by writing to the Docket Management Facility at the address under **ADDRESSES.** The request must identify this docket (USCG–1998–3472) and should include the reasons why a public meeting would be helpful to this rulemaking. If an opportunity for oral presentations will help the rulemaking procedures, the Coast Guard will hold a public meeting at a time and place announced by a later notice in the **Federal Register**.

Background and Purpose

The Coast Guard seeks to improve its adjudication process. This improvement would also affect certain actions involving merchant mariners. First, the proposed rule would consolidate all Coast Guard adjudicative procedures to include the following: the suspension and revocation (S&R) of merchant mariners' licenses, certificates of registry, and documents and the procedures involving class II civil penalties. Second, the proposed rule would eliminate unnecessary procedures from S&R proceedings. The Coast Guard expects the proposed rule to facilitate the efficient use of administrative resources relating to Coast Guard adjudication. It would save time, effort, and money for all parties