Pequonnock River, mile 0.3, at Bridgeport, Connecticut, has a vertical clearance in the closed position of 26 feet at mean high water and 32 feet at mean low water. The drawbridge operation regulations are listed at 33 CFR 117.219(b).

The operator of the bridge, Metro North Railroad, requested a temporary deviation from the regulations to facilitate scheduled bridge maintenance, miter rail repair, at the bridge.

The waterway users are recreational vessels and commercial lobster boats. The Metro North (Peck) Bridge rarely opens for vessel traffic. The bridge has received no requests to open during the past two years except for bridge testing and repairs.

Under this temporary deviation the Metro North (Peck) Bridge may remain in the closed position from August 22, 2011 through November 30, 2011. Vessels that can pass under the bridge in the closed position may do so at all times.

The waterway users were advised of the requested bridge closure and offered no objection. In accordance with 33 CFR 117.35(e), the bridge must return to its regular operating schedule immediately at the end of the designated time period. This deviation from the operating regulations is authorized under 33 CFR 117.35.

Dated: July 29, 2011
Gary Kassof,
Bridge Program Manager, First Coast Guard District.

REGULATORY ANALYSES

We developed this rule after considering numerous statutes and executive orders related to rulemaking. Below we summarize our analyses based on 13 of these statutes or executive orders.

Executive Order 12866

This rule is not a significant regulatory action under section 3(f) of Executive Order 12866, Regulatory Planning and Review, as supplemented by Executive Order 13563, 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.

The economic impact of this rule is not significant for the following reasons: (1) The RNA will be in effect for only two days each year; (2) although during the enforcement period vessels will be required to transit the RNA at no more than 15 knots, subject to control by the Coast Guard; and (3) required to follow the instructions of all law enforcement vessels in the area.

Discussion of Rule

This rule designates an RNA encompassing all waters within one nautical mile of the center of the Intracoastal Waterway from Featherbed Bank extending 14 nautical miles north to the Rickenbacker Causeway Bridge in Miami, Florida. The RNA will be enforced daily from 12:01 p.m. until 11:59 p.m. on the Saturday and Sunday of the second week in October (Columbus Day weekend) each year. All vessels within the RNA are: (1) Required to transit the area at no more than 15 knots; (2) subject to control by the Coast Guard; and (3) required to follow the instructions of all law enforcement vessels in the area.

The RNA is necessary to ensure the safety of the public. The close proximity of numerous vessels transiting that portion of the Intracoastal Waterway encompassed within the RNA during Columbus Day weekend poses a hazardous condition. The RNA will result in the transiting of vessels at a safer speed, thereby significantly reducing the threat of vessel collisions. Requiring vessels within the RNA to transit at no more than 15 knots will also enable law enforcement officials to identify, respond to, query, and stop operators who may pose a hazard to other vessels in the area. Nothing in this regulation alleviates vessels or operators from complying with all other Federal, state, and local laws in the area, including manatee slow speed zones.
the Coast Guard, and be required to follow the instructions of all law enforcement vessels in the area, the RNA does not prohibit vessels from transiting the area; (3) vessels may still operate in surrounding waters that are not encompassed within the RNA without the restrictions imposed by the RNA; and (4) advance notification of the RNA’s enforcement will be made to the local maritime community via Local Notice to Mariners and Broadcast Notice to Mariners.

Small Entities

Under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601–612), we have considered whether this rule will have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. The term “small entities” comprises small businesses, 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. This rule may affect the following entities, some of which may be small entities: the owners or operators of vessels intending to transit the RNA on the Saturday and Sunday of the second week in October (Columbus Day weekend). For the reasons discussed in the Executive Order 12866 and Executive Order 13563 section above, this rule will not have significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

Assistance for Small Entities

Under section 213(a) of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 (Pub. L. 104–121), in the NPRM we offered to assist small entities in understanding the rule so that they could better evaluate its effects on them and participate in the rulemaking process. Small businesses may send comments on the actions of Federal employees who enforce, or otherwise determine compliance with, Federal regulations to the Small Business and Agriculture Regulatory Enforcement Ombudsman and the Regional Small Business Regulatory Fairness Boards. The Ombudsman evaluates these actions annually and rates each agency’s responsiveness to small business. If you wish to comment on actions by employees of the Coast Guard, call 1–888–REG–FAIR (1–888–734–3247). The Coast Guard will not retaliate against small entities that question or complain about this rule or any policy or action of the Coast Guard.

Collection of Information

This rule calls for no new collection of information under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501–3520).

Federalism

A rule has implications for federalism under Executive Order 13132, Federalism, if it has a substantial direct effect on State or local governments and would either preempt State law or impose a substantial direct cost of compliance on them. We have analyzed this rule under that Order and have determined that it does not have implications for federalism.

Unfunded Mandates Reform Act

The Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1531–1538) requires Federal agencies to assess the effects of their discretionary regulatory actions. In particular, the Act addresses actions that may result in the expenditure by a State, local, or tribal government, in the aggregate, or by the private sector of $100,000,000 or more in any one year. Though this rule will not result in such an expenditure, we do discuss the effects of this rule elsewhere in this preamble.

Taking of Private Property

This rule will not cause a taking of private property or otherwise have taking implications under Executive Order 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 Executive Order 12988, Civil Justice Reform, to minimize litigation, eliminate ambiguity, and reduce burden.

Protection of Children

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

Indian Tribal Governments

This rule does not have tribal implications under Executive Order 13175, Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments, because it does not have a substantial direct effect on one or more Indian tribes, on the relationship between the Federal Government and Indian tribes, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities between the Federal Government and Indian tribes.

Energy Effects

We have analyzed this rule under Executive Order 13211, Actions Concerning Regulations That Significantly Affect Energy Supply. Distribution, or Use. We have determined that it is not a “significant energy action” under that order because it is not a “significant regulatory action” under Executive Order 12866 and is not likely to have a significant adverse effect on the supply, distribution, or use of energy. The Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs has not designated it as a significant energy action. Therefore, it does not require a Statement of Energy Effects under Executive Order 13211.

Technical Standards

The National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act (NTTAA) (15 U.S.C. 272 note) directs agencies to use voluntary consensus standards in their regulatory activities unless the agency provides Congress, through the Office of Management and Budget, with an explanation of why using these standards would be inconsistent with applicable law or otherwise impractical. Voluntary consensus standards are technical standards (e.g., specifications of materials, performance, design, or operation; test methods; sampling procedures; and related management systems practices) that are developed or adopted by voluntary consensus standards bodies.

This rule does not use technical standards. Therefore, we did not consider the use of voluntary consensus standards.

Environment

We have analyzed this rule under Department of Homeland Security Management Directive 023–01 and Commandant Instruction M1647.1D, which guide the Coast Guard in complying with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321–4370f), and have concluded this action is one of a category of actions that do not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment. This rule is categorically excluded, under figure 2–1, paragraph 34(g), of the Instruction. This rule involves establishing an RNA, as described in paragraph 34(g) of the Instruction, from Featherbed Bank in Biscayne Bay north to the Rickenbacker Causeway in Miami, Florida. An
environmental analysis checklist and a categorical exclusion determination are available in the docket where indicated under ADDRESSES.

List of Subjects in 33 CFR Part 165

Harbors, Marine safety, Navigation (water), Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Security measures, Waterways.

For the reasons discussed in the preamble, the Coast Guard amends 33 CFR part 165 as follows:

PART 165—REGULATED NAVIGATION AREAS AND LIMITED ACCESS AREAS

§ 165.779 Regulated Navigation Area; Columbus Day Weekend, Biscayne Bay, Miami, FL.

(a) Regulated area. The regulated navigation area encompasses all waters in Biscayne Bay between Featherbed Bank and the Rickenbacker Causeway Bridge contained within an imaginary line connecting the following points: beginning at Point 1 in position 25°44′49″ N, 80°12′02″ W; thence southwest to Point 2 in position 25°31′21″ N, 80°15′29″ W; thence southeast to Point 3 in position 25°30′53″ N, 80°13′20″ W; thence northeast to Point 4 in position 25°43′57″ N, 80°10′01″ W; thence back to origin. All coordinates are North American Datum 1983.

(b) Definition. The term “designated representative” means Coast Guard Patrol Commanders, including Coast Guard coxswains, petty officers, and other officers operating Coast Guard vessels, and Federal, state, and local officers designated by or assisting the Captain of the Port Miami in the enforcement of the regulated area.

(c) Regulations. (1) During each enforcement period, all vessels within the regulated area are required to transit at no more than 15 knots, are subject to control by the Coast Guard, and must follow the instructions of designated representatives.

(2) At least 48 hours prior to each enforcement period, the Coast Guard will provide notice of the regulated area through advanced notice via Local Notice to Mariners and Broadcast Notice to Mariners.

(d) Enforcement period. This rule will be enforced daily from 12:01 p.m. until 11:59 p.m. on the Saturday and Sunday of the second week in October (Columbus Day weekend) each year.

Dated: June 26, 2011.

William D. Baumgartner,
Rear Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard, Commander, Seventh Coast Guard District.

[FR Doc. 2011–22036 Filed 8–9–11; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 52


Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Minnesota; Rules Update

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Direct final rule.

SUMMARY: EPA is taking several actions on a revision to the Minnesota State Implementation Plan (SIP) which updates Minnesota’s rules in the SIP. The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) submitted the SIP revision to EPA on May 5, 2008. The revisions to Minnesota’s air quality rules reflect changes that have occurred to the state rules since 1998. EPA is approving the majority of MPCA’s submittal, which will result in consistent enforceability of rules at the state and Federal levels. EPA is deferring action on two sections of Minnesota’s rules related to the state’s operating permit program. Finally, EPA is disapproving the state’s request to remove the Minneapolis/St. Paul vehicle inspection and maintenance program from the Minnesota SIP. These actions are consistent with the Clean Air Act (CAA) and EPA regulations.

DATES: This direct final rule will be effective October 11, 2011, unless EPA receives adverse comments by September 9, 2011. If adverse comments are received, EPA will publish a timely withdrawal of the direct final rule in the Federal Register informing the public that the rule will not take effect.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA–R05–OAR–2008–0448, by one of the following methods:


2. E-mail: aburano.douglas@epa.gov.

3. Fax: (312)408–2279.


5. Hand Delivery: Doug Aburano, Chief, Control Strategies Section, Air Programs Branch (AR–18J), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois 60604. Such deliveries are only accepted during the Regional Office normal hours of operation, and special arrangements should be made for deliveries of boxed information. The Regional Office official hours of business are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., excluding Federal holidays.

Instructions: Direct your comments to Docket ID No. EPA–R05–OAR–2008–0448. EPA’s policy is that all comments received will be included in the public docket without change and may be made available online at http://www.regulations.gov, including any personal information provided, unless the comment includes information claimed to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Do not submit information that you consider to be CBI or otherwise protected through http://www.regulations.gov or e-mail. The http://www.regulations.gov Web site is an “anonymous access” system, which means EPA will not know your identity or contact information unless you provide it in the body of your comment. If you send an e-mail comment directly to EPA without going through http://www.regulations.gov your e-mail address will be automatically captured and included as part of the comment that is placed in the public docket and made available on the Internet. If you submit an electronic comment, EPA recommends that you include your name and other contact information in the body of your comment and with any disk or CD–ROM you submit. If EPA cannot read your comment due to technical difficulties and cannot contact you for clarification, EPA may not be able to consider your comment. Electronic files should avoid the use of special characters, any form of encryption, and be free of any defects or viruses.

Docket: All documents in the docket are listed in the http://www.regulations.gov index. Although listed in the index, some information is not publicly available, e.g., CBI or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Certain other material, such as copyrighted material, will be publicly available only in hard copy. Publicly available docket materials are available either electronically in http://www.regulations.gov or in hard copy at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).