PART 117—DRAWBRIDGE OPERATION REGULATIONS

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


2. In §117.219, paragraph (b) is revised to read as follows:

§117.219 Pequonnock River.

(a) The draw of the Metro-North Peck Bridge at mile 0.3, at Bridgeport shall operate as follows:

(1) The bridge shall open on signal between 5:45 a.m. to 9 p.m. if at least four hours advance notice is given; except that, from 5:45 a.m. to 9:45 a.m., and 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., Monday through Friday excluding holidays, the draw need not open for the passage of vessel traffic unless an emergency exists.

(2) From 9 p.m. to 5:45 a.m., the draw shall open on signal if at least an eight hour notice is given.

(3) A delay in opening the draw not to exceed 15 minutes may occur when a train scheduled to cross the bridge without stopping has entered the drawbridge block.

(4) Requests for bridge openings may be made by calling the telephone number posted at the bridge.

(b) Requests for bridge openings may only be made by calling the telephone number posted at the bridge.


S.D. Poulin,
Rear Admiral, U. S. Coast Guard,
Commander, First Coast Guard District.

[FR Doc. 2018–01605 Filed 1–26–18; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 9110–04–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 165
[Docket Number USCG–2018–0022]

RIN 1625–AA00

Safety Zone; Lower Mississippi River, New Orleans, LA

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Temporary final rule.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is establishing a temporary safety zone for the navigable waters on the Lower Mississippi River between mile marker (MM) 95.6 and MM 96.6 Above Head of Passes (AHP). This safety zone is necessary to protect persons and vessels from potential safety hazards associated with a fireworks display on February 3, 2018. This rulemaking will prohibit persons and vessels from entering the safety zone unless authorized by the Captain of the Port Sector New Orleans (COTP) or a designated representative.

DATES: This rule is effective from 10 p.m. through 11:20 p.m. on February 3, 2018.

ADDRESS: Documents mentioned in this preamble as being available in the docket, go to http://www.regulations.gov, type the docket number in the “SEARCH” box and click “SEARCH.” Click on Open Docket Folder on the line associated with this rulemaking.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions about this rulemaking, call or email Lieutenant Commander (LCDR) Howard K. Vacco, Sector New Orleans, Waterways Management Division Chief, U.S. Coast Guard; telephone 504–365–2281, email Howard.K.Vacco@uscg.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Table of Abbreviations

AHP Above Head of Passes

BNN Broadcast Notice of Mariners

CFR Code of Federal Regulations

COTP Captain of the Port Sector New Orleans

DHS Department of Homeland Security

FR Federal Register

LMR Lower Mississippi River

MM Mile Marker

MSIB Marine Safety Information Bulletin

NPRM Notice of proposed rulemaking

§ Section


II. Background Information and Regulatory History

The Coast Guard is issuing this temporary final rule without prior notice and opportunity to comment pursuant to authority under section 4(a) of the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) [5 U.S.C. 553(b)]. This provision authorizes an agency to issue a rule without prior notice and opportunity to comment when the agency for good cause finds that those procedures are “impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest.” Under 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B), the Coast Guard finds that good cause exists for not publishing a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) with respect to this rule because it is impracticable. We must establish this safety zone by February 3, 2018 and lack sufficient time to provide a reasonable comment period and then consider those comments before issuing the rule. It is also contrary to the public interest as it would delay the safety measures necessary to protect life and property from the possible hazards associated with the fireworks display launched from the waterway. The impacts on navigation are expected to be minimal as the safety zone will only be in effect for a short duration. The Coast Guard will notify the public and maritime community that the safety zone will be in effect and of its enforcement periods via Broadcast Notice to Mariners (BNN) and Marine Safety Information Bulletin (MSIB).

Under 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3), the Coast Guard finds that good cause exists for making this rule effective less than 30 days after publication in the Federal Register. Delaying the effective date of this rule would be contrary to the public interest because the safety zone is necessary to respond to potential hazards associated with a fireworks display.

III. Legal Authority and Need for Rule

The Coast Guard is issuing this rule under authority in 33 U.S.C. 1231. The Captain of the Port Sector New Orleans (COTP) has determined that a temporary safety zone is necessary to provide for the safety of life and vessels transiting the area where the fireworks will be launched. The fireworks display is scheduled to take place from 10 p.m. through 11:20 p.m. on February 3, 2018, on the navigable waters of the Lower Mississippi River at New Orleans, LA.

IV. Discussion of the Rule

This rule establishes a safety zone from 10 p.m. to 11:20 p.m. on February 3, 2018. The safety zone would cover all navigable waters of the Lower Mississippi River (LMR) between Mile Marker (MM) 95.6 and MM 96.6 Above Head of Passes (AHP) in New Orleans, LA. The duration of the zone is intended to ensure the safety of vessels on these navigable waters before, during, and after the scheduled fireworks display. No vessel or person will be permitted to enter the safety zone without obtaining permission from the COTP or a designated representative. A designated representative is a commissioned, warrant, or petty officer of the U.S. Coast Guard assigned to units under the operational control of USCG Sector New Orleans. Vessels requiring entry into this safety zone must request permission from the COTP or a designated representative. They may be contacted on VHF–FM Channel 16 or 67. Persons and vessels permitted to enter this safety zone must transit at their slowest safe speed and comply with all lawful directions issued by the COTP or the designated representative.
V. Regulatory Analyses

We developed this rule after considering numerous statutes and Executive Orders related to rulemaking. Below we summarize our analyses based on a number of these statutes and Executive Orders, and we discuss First Amendment rights of protestors.

Executive Orders 12866 and 13563 direct agencies to assess the costs and benefits of available regulatory alternatives and, if regulation is necessary, to select regulatory approaches that maximize net benefits. Executive Order 13771 directs agencies to control regulatory costs through a budgeting process. This rule has not been designated a “significant regulatory action,” under Executive Order 12866. Accordingly, this rule has not been reviewed by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), and pursuant to OMB guidance it is exempt from the requirements of Executive Order 13771.

This regulatory action determination is based on the size, location, duration, and time-of-year of the safety zone. This safety zone will restrict vessel traffic from entering or transiting within a one mile area of navigable waterway of the LMR between MM 95.6.0 and 96.6 AHP in New Orleans, LA. Moreover, the Coast Guard will issue Broadcast Notice to Mariners via VHF–FM marine channel 16 about the zone, and the rule allows vessels to seek permission to enter the zone.

B. Impact on Small Entities

The Regulatory Flexibility Act of 1980 (RFA), 5 U.S.C. 601–612, as amended, requires Federal agencies to consider the potential impact of regulations on small entities during rulemaking. 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 proposed rule would not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

While some owners or operators of vessels intending to transit the safety zone may be small entities, for the reasons stated in section V.A above, this rule will not have a significant economic impact on any vessel owner or operator.

Under section 213(a) of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 (Pub. L. 104–121), we want to assist small entities in understanding this proposed rule. If the rule would affect your small business, organization, or governmental jurisdiction and you have questions concerning its provisions or options for compliance, please contact the person listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section.

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.

C. Collection of Information

This rule would not call for a new collection of information under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501–3520).

D. Federalism and Indian Tribal Governments

A rule has implications for federalism under Executive Order 13132, Federalism, if it has a substantial direct effect on the States, on the relationship between the national government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government. We have analyzed this rule under that Order and have determined that it is consistent with the fundamental federalism principles and preemption requirements described in Executive Order 13132. Also, 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. If you believe this rule has implications for federalism or Indian tribes, please contact the person listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section above.

E. Unfunded Mandates Reform Act

The Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1993 (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 (adjusted for inflation) or more in any one year. Though this rule will not result in such expenditure, we do discuss the effects of this rule elsewhere in this preamble.

F. Environment

We have analyzed this rule under Department of Homeland Security Management Directive 023–01, which guides the Coast Guard in complying with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321–4370), and have determined that 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 involves a safety zone lasting one hour and twenty minutes on one mile of navigable waters between MM 95.6 and 96.6 AHP of the LMR. It is categorically excluded from further review under paragraph L60(a) of Appendix A, Table 1 of DHS Instruction Manual 023–01–001–01, Rev. 01. A Record of Environmental Consideration (REC) supporting this determination is available in the docket where indicated under ADDRESSES.

G. Protest Activities

The Coast Guard respects the First Amendment rights of protesters. Protesters are asked to contact the person listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section to coordinate protest activities so that your message can be received without jeopardizing the safety or security of people, places, or vessels.

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 to amend 33 CFR part 165 as follows:

PART 165—REGULATED NAVIGATION AREAS AND LIMITED ACCESS AREAS

§ 165.0001(a) The authority citation for part 165 continues to read as follows:


§ 165.0022 Add § 165.0022 to read as follows:

§ 165.0022 Safety Zone; Lower Mississippi River, New Orleans, LA

(a) Location. The following area is a safety zone: All navigable waters of the Mississippi River, Lower Mississippi River, New Orleans, LA.
Lower Mississippi River, New Orleans, LA between mile marker (MM) 95.6 and MM 96.6 Above Head of Passes.

(b) Effective period. This section is effective from 10 p.m. through 11:20 p.m. on February 3, 2018.

(c) Regulations. 

(1) In accordance with the general regulations in §165.23 of this part, entry into this zone is prohibited unless specifically authorized by the Captain of the Port Sector New Orleans (COTP) or designated representative. A designated representative is a commissioned, warrant, or petty officer of the U.S. Coast Guard assigned to units under the operational control of USCG Sector New Orleans.

(2) Vessels requiring entry into this safety zone must request permission from the COTP or a designated representative. They may be contacted on VHF–FM Channel 16 or 67.

(3) Persons and vessels permitted to enter this safety zone must transit at their slowest safe speed and comply with all lawful directions issued by the COTP or the designated representative.

(d) Information broadcasts. The COTP or a designated representative will inform the public through Broadcast Notices to Mariners of any changes in the planned schedule.

Dated: January 22, 2018.

Wayne R. Arguin,
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard, Captain of the Port Sector New Orleans.

[FR Doc. 2016–01616 Filed 1–26–18; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 9110–04–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 52


Air Plan Approval; Massachusetts; Revised Format for Materials Being Incorporated by Reference

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Final rule; administrative change.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is revising the format for materials submitted by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts that are incorporated by reference (IBR) into the Massachusetts State Implementation Plan (SIP). The regulations and other materials affected by this format change have all been previously submitted by Massachusetts and approved by EPA as part of the SIP.

DATES: Effective Date: This final rule is effective on January 29, 2018.

ADDRESSES: EPA has established a docket for this action under Docket ID No. EPA–R01–OAR–2017–0107. SIP materials which are incorporated by reference into 40 CFR part 52 are available for inspection at the following locations: Environmental Protection Agency, Region 1, 5 Post Office Square, Boston, Massachusetts 02109–3912; and the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at NARA, call (202) 741–6030, or go to: https://www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibr-locations.html.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ariel Garcia, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, EPA New England Regional Office, Office of Ecosystem Protection, Air Quality Planning Unit, 5 Post Office Square—Suite 100, (Mail code OEPO5–2), Boston, MA 02109–3912, telephone number (617) 918–1660, fax number (617) 918–0660, email garcia.ariel@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Throughout this document whenever “we,” “us,” or “our” is used, we mean EPA. This supplementary information section is arranged as follows:

Table of Contents
I. Background
A. Description of a SIP
B. How EPA Enforces SIPs
C. How the State and EPA Update the SIP
D. How EPA Compiles the SIP

II. What is EPA doing in this action?
A. Description of a SIP
Each State has a SIP containing the control measures and strategies to attain and maintain the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). The SIP is extensive, containing such elements as air pollution control regulations, emission inventories, monitoring networks, attainment demonstrations, and enforcement mechanisms.

B. How EPA Enforces SIPs
Before formally adopting required control measures and strategies, each State must provide the public with an opportunity to comment on them. The States then submit these measures and strategies to EPA as requested SIP revisions on which EPA must formally act.

When these control measures and strategies are approved by EPA, after notice and comment rulemaking, they are incorporated into the Federally-approved SIP and identified in title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations, part 52 (Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans) (40 CFR part 52). The actual State regulations approved by EPA are not reproduced in their entirety in 40 CFR part 52, but are “incorporated by reference,” which means that EPA has approved a given State regulation with a specific effective date. This format allows both EPA and the public to know which measures are contained in a given SIP and to help determine whether the State is enforcing the regulations.

C. How the State and EPA Update the SIP
The SIP is periodically revised as necessary to address the unique air pollution problems in the State. Therefore, EPA from time to time takes action on State SIP submissions containing new and/or revised regulations and other materials; if approved, they become part of the SIP. On May 22, 1997 (62 FR 27968), EPA revised the procedures for incorporating by reference federally approved SIPs, as a result of consultations between EPA and the Office of the Federal Register (OFR).

As a result, EPA began the process of developing the following: (1) A revised SIP document for each State that would be incorporated by reference under the provisions of title 1 CFR part 51; (2) a revised mechanism for announcing EPA approval of revisions to an applicable SIP and updating both the IBR document and the CFR; and (3) a revised format of the “Identification of plan” sections for each applicable subpart to reflect these revised IBR procedures. The description of the revised SIP document, IBR procedures, and “Identification of plan” format are discussed in further detail in the May 22, 1997, Federal Register document.

D. How EPA Compiles the SIP
The Federally-approved regulations, source-specific requirements, and nonregulatory provisions (entirely or portions of) submitted by each State agency and approved by EPA have been organized into a “SIP compilation.” The SIP compilation contains the updated regulations, source-specific requirements, and nonregulatory provisions approved by EPA through