

December. The bridge normally opens to pass navigation on an average of five times per day. In accordance with 33 CFR 117.5, the draw of the bridge opens on signal. The bridge will not be able to open for emergencies during the closure period. No alternate routes are available.

In accordance with 33 CFR 117.35(c), this work will be performed with all due speed in order to return the bridge to normal operation as soon as possible. This deviation from the operating regulations is authorized under 33 CFR 117.35.

Dated: November 15, 2002.

Marcus Redford,

Bridge Administrator.

[FR Doc. 02-29907 Filed 11-22-02; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 117

[CGD08-02-039]

Drawbridge Operating Regulations; Inner Harbor Navigation Canal, New Orleans, LA

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of temporary deviation from regulations.

SUMMARY: The Commander, Eighth Coast Guard District has issued a temporary deviation from the regulation governing the operation of the SR 46 (St. Claude Avenue) bridge across the Inner Harbor Navigation Canal, mile 0.5 (GIWW mile 6.2 East of Harvey Lock) in New Orleans, Orleans Parish, Louisiana. This deviation allows the bridge to remain closed to navigation from 6:45 a.m. until 6:45 p.m. on Wednesday, December 4, 2002. This temporary deviation is necessary to allow for the replacement of the lakeside lower forward roller assembly for the operating strut guide of the bridge.

DATES: This deviation is effective from 6:45 a.m. until 6:45 p.m. on Wednesday, December 4, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Materials referred to in this document are available for inspection or copying at the office of the Eighth Coast Guard District, Bridge Administration Branch, Hale Boggs Federal Building, room 1313, 501 Magazine Street, New Orleans, Louisiana 70130-3396 between 7 a.m. and 3 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The Bridge Administration Branch of the Eighth Coast Guard District maintains the public docket for this temporary deviation.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David Frank, Bridge Administration Branch, telephone (504) 589-2965.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Board of Commissioners of the Port of New Orleans has requested a temporary deviation in order to replace the lakeside lower forward roller assembly for the operating strut guide of the bridge. These repairs are necessary for the continued operation of the bridge. This deviation allows the draw of the St. Claude Avenue bascule bridge across the Inner Harbor Navigation Canal, mile 0.5 (GIWW mile 6.2 East of Harvey Lock), to remain closed to navigation from 6:45 a.m. until 6:45 p.m. on Wednesday, December 4, 2002.

The bascule bridge has a vertical clearance of 1 foot above high water in the closed-to-navigation position. Navigation on the waterway consists mainly of tugs with tows and some ships. The bridge normally opens to pass navigation an average of eight times during the deviation period. In accordance with 33 CFR 117.458(a), the draw of the bridge opens on signal; except that, from 6:45 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and from 4:45 p.m. to 6:45 p.m., Monday through Friday, except federal holidays, the draw need not open for the passage of vessels. Normally, the draw is required to open at any time for a vessel in distress. However, the bridge will not be able to open for emergencies during the closure period. An alternate route is available to mariners by proceeding down the Mississippi River to Venice, Louisiana, crossing the Breton Sound and proceeding up the Mississippi River Gulf Outlet.

In accordance with 33 CFR 117.35(c), this work will be performed with all due speed in order to return the bridge to normal operation as soon as possible. This deviation from the operating regulations is authorized under 33 CFR 117.35.

Dated: November 15, 2002.

Marcus Redford,

Bridge Administrator.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 117

[CGD05-02-014]

RIN 2115-AE47

Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Northeast Cape Fear River, Wilmington, NC

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DOT.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is changing the regulations that govern the operation of the Isabel S. Holmes Bridge across the Northeast Cape Fear River, mile 1.0, in Wilmington, North Carolina. The final rule will reduce the number of bridge openings for transit of pleasure craft during a four-year bridge repair project. This change will reduce traffic delays while still providing for the reasonable needs of navigation. In addition, an administrative correction is being made to the name of the waterway. The "Northeast River" is being changed to the "Northeast Cape Fear River".

DATES: This rule is effective December 26, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Comments and material received from the public, as well as documents indicated in this preamble as available in the docket, are part of docket CGD05-02-014 and are available for inspection or copying at Commander (Aowb), Fifth Coast Guard District, Federal Building, 4th Floor, 431 Crawford Street, Portsmouth, Virginia 23704-5004 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ann B. Deaton, Bridge Administrator, Fifth Coast Guard District, at (757) 398-6222.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Regulatory Information

On May 30, 2002, we published a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) entitled "Drawbridge Operation Regulations; Northeast Cape Fear River, Wilmington, North Carolina" in the **Federal Register** (67 FR 37746). We received one letter commenting on the proposed rule. No public hearing was requested, and none was held.

Background and Purpose

The Isabel S. Holmes Drawbridge is owned and operated by the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT). The regulation in 33 CFR 117.5 requires the bridge to open promptly and fully once a request to open is received. When the bridge is