

obtain an FAA airworthiness certificate the same as any other type aircraft. The FAA is currently only issuing special airworthiness certificates in the experimental category. Experimental certificates are issued with accompanying operational limitations (14 CFR 91.319) that are appropriate to the applicant's operation. The FAA has issued five experimental certificates for unmanned aircraft systems for the purposes of research and development, marketing surveys, or crew training. UAS issued experimental certificates may not be used for compensation or hire.

The applicable regulations for an experimental certificate are found in 14 CFR 21.191, 21.193, and 21.195. In general, the applicant must state the intended use for the UAS and provide sufficient information to satisfy the FAA that the aircraft can be operated safely. The time or number of flights must be specified along with a description of the areas over which the aircraft would operate. The application must also include drawings or detailed photographs of the aircraft. An on-site review of the system and demonstration of the area of operation may be required. Additional information on how to apply for an experimental airworthiness certificate is available from Richard Posey, AIR-200, (202) 267-9538; e-mail: richard.posey@faa.gov.

Recreational/Sport Use of Model Airplanes

In 1981, in recognition of the safety issues raised by the operation of model aircraft, the FAA published Advisory Circular (AC) 91-57, Model Aircraft Operating Standards for the purpose of providing guidance to persons interested in flying model aircraft as a hobby or for recreational use. This guidance encourages good judgment on the part of operators so that persons on the ground or other aircraft in flight will not be endangered. The AC contains among other things, guidance for site selection. Users are advised to avoid noise sensitive areas such as parks, schools, hospitals, and churches. Hobbyists are advised not to fly in the vicinity of spectators until they are confident that the model aircraft has been flight tested and proven airworthy. Model aircraft should be flown below 400 feet above the surface to avoid other aircraft in flight. The FAA expects that hobbyists will operate these recreational model aircraft within visual line-of-sight. While the AC 91-57 was developed for model aircraft, some operators have used the AC as the basis for commercial flight operations.

Policy Statement

The current FAA policy for UAS operations is that no person may operate a UAS in the National Airspace System without specific authority. For UAS operating as public aircraft the authority is the COA, for UAS operating as civil aircraft the authority is special airworthiness certificates, and for model aircraft the authority is AC 91-57.

The FAA recognizes that people and companies other than modelers might be flying UAS with the mistaken understanding that they are legally operating under the authority of AC 91-57. AC 91-57 only applies to modelers, and thus specifically excludes its use by persons or companies for business purposes.

The FAA has undertaken a safety review that will examine the feasibility of creating a different category of unmanned "vehicles" that may be defined by the operator's visual line of sight and are also small and slow enough to adequately mitigate hazards to other aircraft and persons on the ground. The end product of this analysis may be a new flight authorization instrument similar to AC 91-57, but focused on operations which do not qualify as sport and recreation, but also may not require a certificate of airworthiness. They will, however, require compliance with applicable FAA regulations and guidance developed for this category.

Feedback regarding current FAA policy for Unmanned Aircraft Systems can be submitted at <http://www.faa.gov/uas>. (Scroll down to the bottom of the page and find *Contact UAPO*. Click into this link.)

Issued in Washington, DC, on February 6, 2007.

Nicholas Sabatini,

Associate Administrator for Aviation Safety.

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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 110

[CGD01-06-027]

RIN 1625-AA01

Anchorage Regulations; Port of New York

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is revising the duration vessels are authorized to

anchor in specific anchorage grounds within the Port of New York and New Jersey (PONYNJ). This action is necessary to facilitate safe navigation and provide for the overall safe and efficient flow of waterborne commerce. This action is intended to better facilitate the efficient use of the limited deep water anchorage grounds available in PONYNJ.

DATES: This rule is effective March 15, 2007.

ADDRESSES: Comments and material received from the public, as well as documents indicated in this preamble as being available in the docket, are part of docket (CGD01-06-027) and are available for inspection or copying at Waterways Management Division, Coast Guard Sector New York, 212 Coast Guard Drive, Room 321, Staten Island, New York 10305 between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lieutenant Commander M. McBrady, Waterways Management Division, Coast Guard Sector New York at (718) 354-2353.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Regulatory Information

On November 16, 2006, we published a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) entitled Anchorage Regulations; Port of New York in the **Federal Register** (71 FR 66708). We received no letters commenting on the proposed rule. No public meeting was requested, and none was held.

Background and Purpose

The Coast Guard is revising the duration that vessels are authorized to anchor in Federal Anchorage Grounds 19, 21-A, 21-B, 21-C, and 25 in the Port of New York and New Jersey (PONYNJ), 33 CFR 110.155 (c)(5), (d)(10)-(12), and (e)(1), respectively. These revisions are necessary due to the limited amount of deep water anchorage space available in the Hudson River, Upper and Lower Bay of New York Harbor.

In recent years, as the number of ships in port has increased and their sizes have grown, the anchorage grounds have frequently been filled to capacity. According to the Harbor Safety, Operations, and Navigation Committee of the Port of New York and New Jersey (HAROPS), which represents a broad spectrum of the local maritime industry, having adequate anchorage space is critical to the overall safety and economic vitality of the port. The limited availability of anchorage space has caused undue economic burden for ships that are forced to anchor outside

the port in the vicinity of Ambrose Tower, sometimes for days, while awaiting anchorage space. Vessels have been unable to complete their business, including re-supply, lightering, and bunkering, in a cost-efficient manner and sometimes have forgone obtaining services in New York because of the delays. The unavailability of anchorage space also increases safety risks by forcing ships to take on provisions while underway and potentially preventing ships from anchoring in an emergency.

The revisions increase the availability of anchorage space by reducing the amount of time that a vessel may remain at anchor. The revisions also limit the number vessels from loitering in the lower Hudson River, Bay Ridge, and Gravesend Bay anchorages.

Discussion of Comments and Changes

The Coast Guard received no comments on this rulemaking and no changes from the proposed rule have been made.

Regulatory Evaluation

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

We expect the economic impact of this rule to be so minimal that a full Regulatory Evaluation is unnecessary.

This finding is based on our evaluation presented in the following two paragraphs:

This rule allows the Coast Guard to better manage the increasing and changing needs of commercial vessels and to make the best use of the limited available Anchorage Grounds. Vessels normally complete bunkering or lightering operations within the Anchorage Grounds within 48 hours. Additionally, due to security concerns at facilities, more vessels need to replenish supplies while at anchor, which normally takes no longer than 8 hours. This rule allows shipping lines, owners, agents, and others in the shipping industry to operate more efficiently in the Port of New York and New Jersey.

The current 30-day limit for vessels to remain at anchor is an inefficient use of the limited, extremely busy Anchorage Grounds within the PONYNJ since vessels not conducting port related operations could easily anchor offshore while awaiting pier space, supply deliveries, sailing orders, etc.

Additionally, this rule allows the commercial vessel industry to more efficiently conduct final preparations for sea in a protected Anchorage Ground, as opposed to conducting preparations during outbound transit in the vicinity of the six vessel traffic lanes that converge on Ambrose Light (LLNR 720). This rule is in the interest of safe and efficient navigation.

Small Entities

Under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601–612), we have considered whether this rule would 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 will affect the following entities, some of which might be small entities: The owners or operators of commercial vessels intending to anchor in a portion of the Hudson River, Upper New York Bay, or Lower New York Bay. This rule, however, will not have a significant economic impact on these entities for the reasons stated above in the Regulatory Evaluation section.

Assistance for Small Entities

Under section 213(a) of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 (Pub. L. 104–121), 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. The Coast Guard received no requests for assistance.

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 expenditure, we do discuss the effects of this rule elsewhere in this preamble.

Taking of Private Property

This rule will not affect 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 might 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 Commandant Instruction M16475.1D and Department of Homeland Security Management Directive 5100.1, 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 that there are no factors in this case that would limit the use of a categorical exclusion under section 2.B.2 of the Instruction. Therefore, this rule is categorically excluded, under figure 2–1, paragraph (34)(f), of the Instruction, from further environmental documentation. This rule fits the category selected from paragraph (34)(f) as it revises the duration a vessel can anchor in a Federal Anchorage Ground.

A final "Environmental Analysis Check List" and a final "Categorical Exclusion Determination" are available in the docket where indicated under **ADDRESSES**.

List of Subjects in 33 CFR Part 110

Anchorage grounds.

■ For the reasons discussed in the preamble, the Coast Guard amends 33 CFR part 110 as follows:

PART 110—ANCHORAGE REGULATIONS

■ 1. The authority citation for part 110 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 33 U.S.C. 471; 1221 through 1236, 2030, 2035 and 2071; 33 CFR 1.05–1(g); and Department of Homeland Security Delegation No. 0170.1.

■ 2. In § 110.155, add paragraphs (c)(5)(vi), (d)(10)(ii), (d)(11)(iii), (d)(12)(iii), and (e)(1)(iii), to read as follows:

§ 110.155 Port of New York.

* * * * *

(c) * * *

(5) * * *

(vi) No vessel may occupy this anchorage for a period of time in excess of 96 hours without prior approval of the Captain of the Port.

* * * * *

(d) * * *

(10) * * *

(ii) No vessel may occupy this anchorage for a period of time in excess of 96 hours without prior approval of the Captain of the Port.

(11) * * *

(iii) No vessel may occupy this anchorage for a period of time in excess of 96 hours without prior approval of the Captain of the Port.

(12) * * *

(iii) No vessel may occupy this anchorage for a period of time in excess of 96 hours without prior approval of the Captain of the Port.

* * * * *

(e) * * *

(1) * * *

(iii) No vessel may occupy this anchorage for a period of time in excess of 96 hours without prior approval of the Captain of the Port.

* * * * *

Dated: January 26, 2007.

Timothy S. Sullivan,

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

[FR Doc. E7–2454 Filed 2–12–07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–15–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 117

[CGD07–06–041]

RIN 1625–AA09

Drawbridge Operation Regulation; 63rd Street Bridge, Indian Creek, Miami, Miami-Dade County, FL

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Temporary final rule.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is temporarily changing the operating regulations governing the 63rd Street Drawbridge across Indian Creek, mile 4.0 in Miami-Dade County, Florida. This rule will allow the Drawbridge to open a single-leaf on the top of the hour from 8 a.m. to 5:59 p.m. and a double-leaf on the top of the hour between 6 p.m. and 12:10 a.m. At all other times this bridge will be closed to navigation.

DATES: This rule is effective from March 15, 2007 until June 19, 2007.

ADDRESSES: Comments and material received from the public, as well as documents indicated in this preamble as being available in the docket, are part of docket (CGD07–06–041) and are available for inspection or copying at Commander (dpg), Seventh Coast Guard District, 909 S.E. 1st Avenue, Room 432, Miami, Florida 33131–3050 between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Michael Lieberum, Seventh Coast Guard District, Bridge Branch, telephone number 305–415–6744.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Regulatory Information

On April 3, 2006, we published a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) entitled Drawbridge Operation Regulations; 63rd Street Bridge, Indian Creek, Miami, Miami-Dade County, FL in the **Federal Register** (71 FR 16529). We received two comments on the proposed rule. No public meeting was requested, and none was held.

The NPRM proposed an effective period of 8 a.m. on June 19, 2006 through 6 p.m. on February 5, 2007. Thus, this temporary final rule is effective from March 15, 2007 until June 19, 2007 because of contractor and the City of Miami Beach requests to balance the reasonable needs of vehicles and vessels while the bridge undergoes rehabilitation. Publishing another NPRM before this temporary rule would further delay meeting the immediate