

• Send an e-mail to *rule-comments@sec.gov*. Please include File Number SR-NYSEArca-2008-134 on the subject line.

Paper Comments

• Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE., Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-NYSEArca-2008-134. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's Internet Web site (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for inspection and copying in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street, NE., Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Copies of the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. All comments received will be posted without change; the Commission does not edit personal identifying information from submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-NYSEArca-2008-134 and should be submitted on or before January 20, 2009.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.¹¹

Florence E. Harmon,
Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. E8-30938 Filed 12-29-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

[Disaster Declaration # 11596 and # 11597]

Texas Disaster # TX-00326

AGENCY: U.S. Small Business Administration.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This is a notice of an Administrative declaration of a disaster for the State of Texas dated 12/18/2008.

Incident: Severe Storms and Tornadoes.

Incident Period: 12/08/2008.

Effective Date: 12/18/2008.

Physical Loan Application Deadline Date: 02/16/2009.

Economic Injury (EIDL) Loan Application Deadline Date: 09/18/2009.

ADDRESSES: Submit completed loan applications to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: A. Escobar, Office of Disaster Assistance, U.S. Small Business Administration, 409 3rd Street, SW., Suite 6050, Washington, DC 20416.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given that as a result of the Administrator's disaster declaration, applications for disaster loans may be filed at the address listed above or other locally announced locations.

The following areas have been determined to be adversely affected by the disaster:

Primary Counties: Grayson.

Contiguous Counties:

Texas: Collin, Cooke, Denton, Fannin.

Oklahoma: Bryan, Love, Marshall.

The Interest Rates are:

	Percent
Homeowners With Credit Available Elsewhere	5.375
Homeowners Without Credit Available Elsewhere	2.687
Businesses With Credit Available Elsewhere	7.750
Businesses & Small Agricultural Cooperatives Without Credit Available Elsewhere	4.000
Other (Including Non-Profit Organizations) With Credit Available Elsewhere	4.500
Businesses And Non-Profit Organizations Without Credit Available Elsewhere	4.000

The number assigned to this disaster for physical damage is 11596 C and for economic injury is 11597 O. The States which received an EIDL Declaration # are Texas, Oklahoma.
(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Numbers 59002 and 59008)

December 18, 2008.

Sandy K. Baruah,
Acting Administrator.

[FR Doc. E8-31000 Filed 12-29-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8025-01-P

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Interest Rates

The Small Business Administration publishes an interest rate called the optional "peg" rate (13 CFR 120.214) on a quarterly basis. This rate is a weighted average cost of money to the government for maturities similar to the average SBA direct loan. This rate may be used as a base rate for guaranteed fluctuating interest rate SBA loans. This rate will be 4.500 (4½) percent for the January-March quarter of FY 2009.

Pursuant to 13 CFR 120.921(b), the maximum legal interest rate for any third party lender's commercial loan which funds any portion of the cost of a 504 project (see 13 CFR 120.801) shall be 6% over the New York Prime rate or, if that exceeds the maximum interest rate permitted by the constitution or laws of a given State, the maximum interest rate will be the rate permitted by the constitution or laws of the given State.

Grady B. Hedgespeth,

Director, Office of Financial Assistance.

[FR Doc. E8-30998 Filed 12-29-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8025-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 6462]

Shipping Coordinating Committee; Notice of Subcommittee Meetings

Various subcommittees of the Shipping Coordinating Committee (SHC) will be holding public meetings in January 2009. Members of the public may attend these meetings up to the seating capacity of the rooms. Details for the meetings, including points of contact for further information, are provided in this notice.

I. Facilitation

The SHC's Subcommittee on Facilitation will conduct an open meeting at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, January 7, 2009, in Room 1303 of the United States Coast Guard Headquarters building, 2100 Second Street, SW., Washington, DC 20593. The primary purpose of the meeting is to prepare for the thirty-fifth session of the Facilitation Committee (FAL 35) of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) to be held 12-16 January 2009 at the IMO's London Headquarters. The primary matters for discussion for FAL 35 will include:

—General review and implementation of the Convention on Facilitation of International Maritime Traffic;

¹¹ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

- Adoption of proposed amendments to the Annex to the Convention;
- Electronic means for the clearance of ships;
- Prevention and suppression of unlawful acts in port and at sea;
- Formalities connected with the arrival, stay and departure of persons;
- Facilitation aspects of IMO forms and certificates;
- Securing and facilitating international trade;
- Ship/port interface;
- Technical co-operation and assistance for facilitation; and
- Application of the Committee's Guidelines.

Please note that printed copies of documents associated with FAL 35 will not be available at this meeting. Documents will be available in Adobe Acrobat format on CD-ROM. To request copies of documents, please contact Mr. David Du Pont via e-mail at David.A.DuPont@uscg.mil or write to the address provided below. Please note that due to security considerations, two valid, government issued photo identifications must be presented to gain entrance to the Coast Guard Headquarters building. To facilitate the building security process, those who plan to attend should call or send an e-mail message at least two days before the SHC meeting to David.A.DuPont@uscg.mil. Interested persons may seek additional information concerning the meeting by writing to Mr. David Du Pont, Commandant (CG-523), U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, 2100 2nd Street SW., Room 1400, Washington, DC 20593-0001 or by calling (202) 372-1497.

II. Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping

The SHC's Subcommittee on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping will conduct an open meeting at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, January 22, 2009. The meeting will be held in Room 6103 of the United States Coast Guard Headquarters Building, 2100 Second Street, SW., Washington, DC 20593. The purpose of the meeting is to prepare for the fortieth session of the IMO Sub-Committee on Standards of Training and Watchkeeping (STW 40) to be held 2-6 February 2009 at the IMO's London Headquarters. The primary matters to be considered include:

- Comprehensive review of the STCW Convention and the STCW Code;
- Unlawful practices associated with certificates of competency;
- Training for seafarer safety representatives; and

- Review of the principles for establishing the safe manning levels of ships.

Please note that printed copies of documents associated with STW 40 will not be available at this meeting. The documents will be available at the meeting in portable document format (.pdf) on CD-ROM. To request documents before the meeting, please write to the address provided below, and include your name, address, phone number, and electronic mail address. Copies of the papers will be sent via electronic mail to the address provided. Interested persons may seek additional information concerning the meeting by writing to Robert Kenney, U.S. Coast Guard (CG-5221), Room 1210, 2100 2nd St., SW., Washington, DC 20593-0001 or by e-mailing Robert.F.Kenney@uscg.mil or by calling (202) 372-1408.

III. Fire Protection

The SHC's Subcommittee on Fire Protection will conduct an open meeting at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, January 27, 2009, at the Radio Technical Commission for Maritime Services (RTCM), 1800 N. Kent Street, Suite 1060, Arlington, VA 22209. The primary purpose of the meeting is to prepare for the fifty-third session of the IMO Subcommittee on Fire Protection (FP 53) to be held 16-20 February 2009 at the IMO's London Headquarters. The primary matters to be considered include:

- Performance testing and approval standards for fire safety systems;
- Comprehensive review of the Fire Test Procedures Code;
- Measures to prevent explosions on oil and chemical tankers transporting low flash-point cargoes;
- Fire resistance of ventilation ducts;
- Guidelines for drainage systems in closed vehicle and ro-ro spaces and special category spaces;
- Clarification of SOLAS chapter II-2 requirements regarding interrelation between central control station and safety centre;
- Evacuation analysis for new and existing passenger ships;
- Measures to prevent fires in engine-rooms and cargo pump-rooms;
- Development of provisions for gas-fuelled ships;
- Consideration of IACS unified interpretations;
- Fixed hydrocarbon gas detection systems on double-hull oil tankers;
- Harmonization of the requirements for the location of entrances, air inlets and openings in the superstructures of tankers;

- Amendments to SOLAS chapter II-2 related to the releasing controls and means of escape for spaces protected by fixed carbon dioxide systems;
- Means of escape from machinery spaces;
- Explanatory notes for the application of the safe return to port requirements;
- Review of fire protection requirements for on-deck cargo areas; and
- Analysis of fire casualty records.

The Radio Technical Commission for Maritime Service is accessible by taxi and public transportation. Please refer any questions about this meeting to the meeting coordinator, Mr. Randy Eberly, by phone at (202) 372-1393 or via e-mail at randall.eberly@uscg.mil.

Dated: December 18, 2008.

Mark Skolnicki,

Executive Secretary, Shipping Coordinating Committee, Department of State.

[FR Doc. E8-31002 Filed 12-29-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-09-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Office of the Secretary

Notice of Applications for Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity and Foreign Air Carrier Permits Filed Under Subpart B (formerly Subpart Q) During the Week Ending November 8, 2008

The following Applications for Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity and Foreign Air Carrier Permits were filed under Subpart B (formerly Subpart Q) of the Department of Transportation's Procedural Regulations (*See* 14 CFR 301.201 *et seq.*). The due date for Answers, Conforming Applications, or Motions to Modify Scope are set forth below for each application. Following the Answer period DOT may process the application by expedited procedures. Such procedures may consist of the adoption of a show-cause order, a tentative order, or in appropriate cases a final order without further proceedings.

Docket Number: DOT-OST-2008-0321.

Date Filed: November 3, 2008.

Due Date for Answers, Conforming Applications, or Motion to Modify Scope: November 24, 2008.

Description: Application of Comlux Malta Ltd. requesting an exemption and a foreign air carrier permit to conduct: (i) Foreign charter air transportation of persons, property and mail from any point or points behind any Member