

Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*).

Federalism

The Coast Guard has analyzed this rule under the principles and criteria contained in Executive Order 12612 and has determined that this rule does not have sufficient federalism implications to warrant the preparation of a Federalism Assessment.

Environment

The Coast Guard considered the environmental impact of this proposal and concluded that under paragraph 2.B.2 of Commandant Instruction M16475.1B, this proposal is categorically excluded from further environmental documentation. A "Categorical Exclusion Determination" is available in the docket for inspection or copying where indicated under ADDRESSES.

List of Subjects in 33 CFR Part 117

Bridges.

For the reasons set out in the preamble, the Coast Guard proposes to amend part 117 of Title 33, Code of Federal Regulations, as follows:

PART 117—DRAWBRIDGE OPERATION REGULATIONS

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

Authority: 33 U.S.C. 499; 49 CFR 1.46; 33 CFR 1.05-1(g)(3); section 117.255 also issued under the authority of Pub. L. 102-587, 102 Stat. 5039.

2. In § 117.491, paragraph (d) is revised to read as follows:

§ 117.491 Red River.

* * * * *

(d) The draws of the Southern Pacific Railroad bridge, mile 227.0, and the Kansas City Southern Railroad bridge, mile 228.2 shall open on signal during daylight hours only, Monday through Friday, if at least five days prior written notice is given.

* * * * *

Dated February 27, 1996.

R.C. North,

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

[FR Doc. 96-8670 Filed 4-5-96; 8:45 am]

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46 CFR Parts 10, 12, and 15

[CGD 95-062]

RIN 2115-AF26

Implementation of 1995 Amendments to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978 (STCW)

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard plans to hold three public meetings to solicit input from the maritime industry and from the public at large concerning the proposed changes to current domestic rules on licensing, documentation, and manning in compliance with recent amendments to the STCW. The amendments were adopted by a Conference of Parties to STCW in July 1995, and will come into force on February 1, 1997. Some changes to domestic rules must come into force before then to ensure these rules conform to international requirements, and other changes may come into force to allow a more gradual shift in practice. The proposed changes would affect the full range of activities associated with determining that an individual is competent for serving in certain shipboard capacities.

DATES: The meetings will be held May 8, 14, and 23, 1996, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Comments must be submitted by July 24, 1996.

ADDRESSES: The May 8, 1996, meeting will be held at the New Orleans Airport Hilton, 901 Airline Highway, Kenner, Louisiana 70062. The May 14, 1996, meeting will be held at the Department of Commerce, Bldg. 9, Auditorium, NOAA Western Regional Center, 7600 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle, Washington 98115. The May 23, 1996, meeting will be held at the Department of Transportation, Nassif Building, Room 6200, 400 Seventh Street SW., Washington, DC 20590.

Written comments may be mailed to the Executive Secretary, Marine Safety Council (G-LRA), U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, 2100 Second Street SW., Washington, DC 20593-0001, or may be delivered to room 3406 at the same address between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. Comments will become part of this docket [CGD 95-062] and will be available for inspection or copying at room 3406, Coast Guard Headquarters, between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

A copy of the 1995 Amendments to STCW may be obtained by writing

Commandant (G-MOS), U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, 2100 Second Street SW., Washington, DC 20593-0001, or by calling (202) 267-0229, between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. Requests may also be submitted by facsimile at (202) 267-4570. For additional information or to obtain a copy of the STCW notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) [61 FR 13284], published on March 26, 1996, contact Mr. Christopher Young, Operating and Environmental Standards Division (G-MOS), 2100 Second Street, SW., Washington, DC 20593-0001, telephone (202) 267-0216 or fax (202) 267-4570.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. James W. Cratty, Project Facilitator, Standards, Evaluation, and Development Division (G-MES), U.S. Coast Guard, 2100 Second Street SW., Washington, DC 20593-0001, at (202) 267-6742 for public meeting information.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background and Discussion

On July 7, 1995, a Conference of Parties to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978 (STCW), meeting at the International Maritime Organization in London, adopted a package of amendments to STCW. The amendments will enter into force on February 1, 1997, unless a third of the parties to the Convention, or parties representing over 50 percent of the world's shipping tons, object to them by August 1, 1996. Because they were adopted unanimously by the Conference, no objections are expected. Consequently, the Coast Guard is taking necessary steps to implement them, and to ensure that U.S. documents and licenses are issued in compliance with them.

On August 31, 1995, the Coast Guard held a public meeting announced at [60 FR 39306; August 2, 1995] to discuss the outcome of the Conference and seek public comment on how the 1995 Amendments to STCW, adopted by the Conference, should be implemented. The meeting also provided an opportunity for the public to comment on the steps that the Coast Guard considers necessary to carry out the requirements of STCW as amended.

In addition, the Coast Guard published a Notice of Inquiry (NI) on November 13, in the Federal Register [60 FR 56970]. The purpose of the NI was to seek information that may be useful in calculating costs and benefits of implementing the 1995 Amendments to the STCW.

On March 26, 1996, the Coast Guard published the NPRM in which it proposed changes to the current domestic rules on licensing, documentation, and manning in compliance with 1995 Amendments to the 1978 STCW. The NPRM invites comments on or before July 24, 1996.

Persons needing the assistance of sign language interpretation at the meetings should notify the person listed above under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** as soon as possible so that arrangements may be made to provide the necessary assistance.

Attendance is open to the public. With advance notice, and as time permits, members of the public may make oral presentations during the meetings. Persons wishing to make oral presentations should notify the person listed above under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** no later than 48 hours before the meeting. Written material may be submitted before, during, or after the meetings. Persons unable to attend the public meetings are encouraged to submit written comments as outlined in the NPRM prior to July 24, 1996.

Dated: March 29, 1996.

Joseph J. Angelo,

Director for Standards, Marine Safety and Environmental Protection Directorate.

[FR Doc. 96-8352 Filed 4-5-96; 8:45 am]

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

47 CFR Parts 1, 73, and 74

[MM Docket No. 96-58, FCC 96-118]

Minor Changes in Broadcast Facilities Without a Construction Permit

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: *This Notice of Proposed Rule Making* (NPRM) in MM Docket No. 96-58 seeks comment regarding various proposals to streamline the Commission's rules and processes applicable to broadcast stations seeking to make minor modifications in their transmission facilities. The proposals set forth in this NPRM would allow broadcast stations to effectuate certain types of minor modifications without first obtaining a construction permit from the Commission authorizing the change. The types of minor modifications that are proposed for this streamlined procedure are those which would be expected to have no potential

to cause interference to other stations. The Commission also seeks comments on other types of minor modifications that would be appropriate for this streamlined one-step licensing procedure. The NPRM also proposes some additional changes to relevant rule sections to make clarifications and to conform the rules to existing policy.

DATES: Initial comments are due May 16, 1996; reply comments are due June 17, 1996. Written comments by the public on the proposed and/or modified information collections are due May 16, 1996. Written comments must be submitted by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) on the proposed and/or modified information collections on or before June 7, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, Washington, D.C. 20554. In addition to filing comments with the Secretary, a copy of any comments on the information collections contained herein should be submitted to Dorothy Conway, Federal Communications Commission, Room 234, 1919 M Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20554, or via the Internet to dconway@fcc.gov, and to Timothy Fain, OMB Desk Officer, 10234 NEOB, 725-17th Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20503 or via the Internet to fain_t@al.eop.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dale Bickel, Mass Media Bureau, Audio Services Division, (202) 418-2720, or Richard Waysdorf, Mass Media Bureau, Audio Services Division, (202) 418-2679. For additional information concerning the information collections contained in the NPRM, contact Dorothy Conway at (202) 418-0217, or via the Internet at dconway@fcc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is the synopsis of the Commission's *Notice of Proposed Rule Making* in MM Docket No. 96-58, adopted March 19, 1996, and released March 22, 1996.

The complete text of this NPRM, which was adopted in MM Docket No. 96-58, is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the FCC Reference Center (Room 239), 1919 M Street, N.W., Washington, DC, and may also be purchased from the Commission's copy contractor, International Transcription Services, Inc., at (202) 857-3800, 2100 M Street, N.W., Suite 140, Washington, DC 20037.

Synopsis of Order and Notice of Proposed Rule Making

1. In the NPRM, the Commission seeks comment regarding various proposals to streamline the Commission's rules and procedures relating to modifications of broadcast

station transmission facilities. The NPRM proposes to modify portions of Section 73 and 74 of the rules to permit broadcast stations to implement certain types of minor modifications of their facilities without first obtaining a construction permit authorizing the modifications. The Commission's Rules generally require that modifications of broadcast licenses and permits may be accomplished only through a two-step process: first, the station files an application for a construction permit, and second, after the facilities are modified, the station files an application for a license for the modified facilities. However, because certain types of minor modifications are unlikely to have any impact on other stations, the requirement of prior review and authorization of the change by the Commission staff often involves redundant analysis and unnecessarily delays the implementation of such changes.

2. Pursuant to a request from the Commission, Congress included in the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Pub. L. No. 104-104, 110 Stat. 56 (1996), a specific provision (Section 403(m)) that authorized the Commission to allow certain types of minor modifications without the need for a construction permit. With this new authority, the Commission, in the NPRM, has proposed that the types of minor license modifications discussed below be permitted without first obtaining a construction permit. In addition, in the NPRM, the Commission explicitly seek suggestions from the public and the broadcast industry as to additional types of minor modifications that could be effectuated through a one-step licensing process without prior approval of the Commission. The NPRM also proposes some additional changes to relevant rule sections to make clarifications and to conform the rules to existing policy.

3. The NPRM proposes that the following types of minor license and permit modifications would be permitted to be implemented without the prior authorization of the Commission, provided that the licensee or permittee file a modification of license application, using FCC Form 302, within 10 days of effectuating the change: 1) commercial FM stations would be permitted to increase effective radiated power up to the maximum level for the class of station; 2) FM and television stations would be permitted to replace one directional antenna with another; 3) FM stations would be permitted to delete contour protection status under Section 73.215 of the rules where the stations they are providing contour protection move to fully spaced