

of the proposed permit is unlikely to adversely affect any threatened or endangered species or its critical habitat. EPA is seeking written concurrence from the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) on this determination.

Environmental Impact Statement

EPA determined that issuance of the NPDES General Permit for Discharges from the Offshore subcategory of the Oil and Gas Extraction Category to the Territorial Seas of Louisiana was a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. Thus, pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) evaluation of the potential environmental consequences of the permit action in the form of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was required.

On February 12, 1993, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 6, published a Notice of Intent in the Federal Register, to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) on its proposed New Source NPDES General Permit for the Offshore Subcategory of the Oil & Gas Extraction Category to the Territorial Seas of the Gulf of Mexico off Texas and Louisiana. The 45-day public review and comment period ended on March 16, 1994. A public hearing to receive comments on the Draft EIS and NPDES permit was held March 16, 1994.

Because the Draft EIS evaluated the NPDES general permits for oil and gas operations in the Territorial Seas of Texas and Louisiana, and all issues related to the Texas permit have not been resolved, EPA's Final EIS only covers the Louisiana NPDES general permit. The Final EIS will be made available for a 30-day review by interested agencies, environmental groups, and the public. Comments received on the Final EIS will be considered in EPA's Record of Decision, documenting the completion of the NEPA process and final decision of the Louisiana NPDES general permit.

Ocean Discharge Criteria Evaluation

For discharges into waters of the territorial sea, contiguous zone, or oceans CWA section 403 requires EPA to consider guidelines for determining potential degradation of the marine environment in issuance of NPDES permits. These Ocean Discharge Criteria (40 CFR 125, Subpart M) are intended to "prevent unreasonable degradation of the marine environment and to authorize imposition of effluent limitations, including a prohibition of

discharge, if necessary, to ensure this goal" (45 FR 65942, October 3, 1980). An Ocean Discharge Criteria Evaluation was conducted to determine compliance of this proposed permit with those criteria. Based on the terms and conditions of the territorial seas permit as it is proposed, EPA has determined that discharges authorized by the permit will not cause unreasonable degradation of the marine environment. Therefore, issuance of the permit will not violate Ocean Discharge Criteria promulgated under CWA 403 (c).

Coastal Zone Management Act

The proposed permit is more stringent than the general permit for New and Existing Sources in the Oil and Gas Extraction Category for the Western Portion of the Outer Continental Shelf of the Gulf of Mexico (GMG290000) which has been determined to be consistent with Louisiana's Coastal Zone Management Plan (CZMP). Since it covers similar operations as that permit and is more stringent, EPA has determined that the activities authorized by this proposed permit are consistent with the local and state Coastal Zone Management Plans. The proposed permit and consistency determination will be submitted to the State of Louisiana for interagency review at the time of public notice.

Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act

The Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act (MPRSA) of 1972 regulates the dumping of all types of materials into ocean waters and establishes a permit program for ocean dumping. In addition the MPRSA establishes Marine Sanctuaries Program, implemented by the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), which requires NOAA to designate ocean waters as marine sanctuaries for the purpose of preserving or restoring their conservation, recreational, ecological or aesthetic values. No marine sanctuaries designated under the Marine Research and Sanctuaries Act exist in the area to which this permit applies.

Executive Order 12866

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has exempted this action from the review requirements of Executive Order 12866. It should be noted, however, that EPA in fact prepared a regulatory impact analysis in connection with its promulgation of the Guidelines, submitted it to the OMB, and included it in the public review. See 58 FR 12492. Each of the technology-based conditions in the

proposed permit which will increase industry compliance costs was considered in that regulatory impact analysis and review.

Paperwork Reduction Act

The information collection required by this permit has been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under the provisions of the Paperwork

Reduction Act, 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*, in submission made for the NPDES permit program and assigned OMB control numbers 2040-0086 (NPDES permit application) and 2040-0004 (discharge monitoring reports).

Since this permit is very similar in reporting and application requirements and in discharges which are required to be monitored as the Western Gulf of Mexico Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) general permit (GMG290000) the paperwork burdens are expected to be nearly identical. When it issued the OCS general permit, EPA estimated it would take an affected facility three hours to prepare the request for coverage and 38 hours per year to prepare discharge monitoring reports. It is estimated that the time required to prepare the request for coverage and discharge monitoring reports for this permit will be the same.

Regulatory Flexibility Act

The Regulatory Flexibility Act, 5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*, requires that EPA prepare a regulatory flexibility analysis for regulations that have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. In promulgating the Guidelines, EPA prepared an economic impact analysis showing they would directly impact no small entities. See 58 FR 12492. Based on those findings, EPA Region 6 certifies, pursuant to the provisions of 5 USC 605(b), that the permit proposed today will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities.

Dated: April 18, 1996.
Oscar Ramirez,
Acting Director, Water Quality Protection
Division, EPA Region 6.
[FR Doc. 96-18382 Filed 7-18-96; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

Notice of Agreement(s) Filed

The Federal Maritime Commission hereby gives notice of the filing of the following agreement(s) pursuant to section 5 of the Shipping Act of 1984.

Interested parties may inspect and obtain a copy of each agreement at the

Washington, DC Office of the Federal Maritime Commission, 800 North Capitol Street, NW., 9th Floor. Interested parties may submit comments on each agreement to the Secretary, Federal Maritime Commission, Washington, DC 20573, within 10 days after the date of the Federal Register in which this notice appears. The requirements for comments are found in section 572.603 of Title 46 of the Code of Federal Regulations. Interested persons should consult this section before communicating with the Commission regarding a pending agreement.

Agreement No.: 217-011548.

Title: Hanjin/SINOTRANS Slot Charter Agreement.

Parties:

Hanjin Shipping Co., Ltd. ("Hanjin")
China National Foreign Trade
("SINOTRANS") Transportation
Corp.

Synopsis: The proposed Agreement authorizes Hanjin to charter space to SINOTRANS in the trade between ports in China and Korea and ports on the West Coast of the United States.

Agreement No.: 224-200389-001.

Title: Houston Maritime Freight Handlers Discussion Agreement.

Parties:

Ceres Gulf, Inc.
Fairway Terminal Corporation
Southern Stevedoring Company
Harbor Freight Transport
SSA Ryan-Walsh, Inc.
Strachan Shipping Co. of Texas
Chaparral Stevedoring Co. of Texas
Port-Cooper/T. Smith Stevedoring Co.

Synopsis: The proposed amendment amends Articles I, II, V, and VI to permit the parties to share credit information and begin refusing to handle cargo of delinquent creditors.

Agreement No.: 224-200994.

Title: Wharfage Agreement between Jacksonville Port Authority/Autoliners, Inc.

Parties:

Jacksonville Port Authority ("Port")
Autoliners, Inc. ("Autoliners")

Under the proposed Agreement, Autoliners will pay the Port wharfage on automobiles crossing the Port's Blount Island Marine Terminal.

Dated: July 16, 1996.

By Order of the Federal Maritime Commission.

Joseph C. Polking,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96-18348 Filed 7-18-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6730-01-M

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Agency information collection activities: Proposed collection; comment request

AGENCY: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System

ACTION: Notice

BACKGROUND:

On June 15, 1984, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) delegated to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (Board) its approval authority under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, as per 5 CFR 1320.16, to approve of and assign OMB control numbers to collection of information requests and requirements conducted or sponsored by the Board under conditions set forth in 5 CFR 1320 Appendix A.1. The Federal Reserve may not conduct or sponsor, and the respondent is not required to respond to, an information collection that has been extended, revised, or implemented on or after October 1, 1995, unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. Board-approved collections of information will be incorporated into the official OMB inventory of currently approved collections of information. A copy of the OMB 83-I and supporting statement and the approved collection of information instrument(s) will be placed into OMB's public docket files. The following information collections, which are being handled under this delegated authority, have received initial Board approval and are hereby published for comment. At the end of the comment period, the proposed information collection, along with an analysis of comments and recommendations received, will be submitted to the Board for final approval under OMB delegated authority. Comments are invited on the following:

(a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the Federal Reserve's functions; including whether the information has practical utility;

(b) the accuracy of the Federal Reserve's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(d) ways to minimize the burden of information collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before September 17, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Comments, which should refer to the OMB control number (or Agency form number in the case of a new information collection that has not yet been assigned an OMB number), should be addressed to William W. Wiles, Secretary, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, 20th and C Streets, N.W., Washington, DC 20551, or delivered to the Board's mail room between 8:45 a.m. and 5:15 p.m., and to the security control room outside of those hours. Both the mail room and the security control room are accessible from the courtyard entrance on 20th Street between Constitution Avenue and C Street, N.W. Comments received may be inspected in room M-P-500 between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., except as provided in section 261.8 of the Board's Rules Regarding Availability of Information, 12 CFR 261.8(a).

A copy of the comments may also be submitted to the OMB desk officer for the Board: Alexander T. Hunt, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, New Executive Office Building, Room 3208, Washington, DC 20503.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: A copy of the proposed form and instructions, the Paperwork Reduction Act Submission (OMB 83-I), supporting statement, and other documents that will be placed into OMB's public docket files once approved may be requested from the agency clearance officer, whose name appears below.

Mary M. McLaughlin, Federal Reserve Board Clearance Officer (202-452-3829), Division of Research and Statistics, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Washington, DC 20551. Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) users may contact Dorothea Thompson (202-452-3544), Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Washington, DC 20551.

Proposal to approve under OMB delegated authority the extension, without revision, of the following reports:

1. *Report title:* OTC Margin Stock Report

Agency form number: FR 2048

OMB control number: 7100-0004

Frequency: quarterly

Reporters: corporations that have stock trading over-the-counter and that are being considered for inclusion on the Board's List of Marginable OTC Stocks
Annual reporting hours: 75

Estimated average hours per response: 0.25

Number of respondents: 75

Small businesses are not affected.

General description of report: This information collection is voluntary (12 U.S.C. §§78g and 78w) and is not given