

Dated: November 27, 1996.
 T.W. Josiah,
Commander, Eighth Coast Guard District.
 [FR Doc. 96-32838 Filed 12-24-96; 8:45 am]
 BILLING CODE 4910-14-M

[CGD 96-062]

Natural Gas as Fuel in Marine Applications

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of meeting; requests for comments.

SUMMARY: On November 26, 1996, (61 FR 60138), the Coast Guard published a notice of meeting and request for comments regarding the use of compressed natural gas (CNG) and liquefied natural gas (LNG) as fuel aboard commercial ships. This notice provides additional information about the location and time of the public meeting, and building security procedures recently established.

DATES: A public meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 14, 1997, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held in room 6200 at the Department of Transportation (DOT) headquarters, Nassif Building, 400 Seventh Street SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001. Room 6200 is located on the 6th floor of the south wing. Interested members of the public wishing to attend the meeting should enter the building at the southwest entrance, located inside the DOT courtyard near the intersection of E Street and Seventh Street. The L'Enfant plaza metro stop also exits into the DOT courtyard.

Due to increased security, it is important for all attendees to have proper identification. In addition, all bags may be checked when entering the building.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lieutenant Commander R. K. Butturini, Mr. Wayne Lundy or Ensign Felicia K. Rydzewski, Systems Engineering Division, Commandant (G-MSE-3), telephone (202) 267-2206 between 7 a.m. and 3 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Dated: December 13, 1996.
 Joseph J. Angelo,
Director of Standards, Marine Safety and Environmental Protection.
 [FR Doc. 96-32820 Filed 12-24-96; 8:45 am]
 BILLING CODE 4910-14-M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Coast Guard

[CGD08-96-057]

Houston/Galveston Navigation Safety Advisory Committee Meeting

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of subcommittee meetings.

SUMMARY: The two Subcommittees (Waterways and Navigation) of the Houston/Galveston Navigation Safety Advisory Committee (HOGANSAC) will meet to discuss waterway improvements, aids to navigation, current meters, and various other navigation safety matters affecting the Houston/Galveston area. Both meetings will be open to the public.

DATES: The meeting of the Waterways Subcommittee will be held on Thursday, January 16, 1997 at 9:30 a.m. and immediately following, the Navigation Subcommittee will meet. Members of the public may present written or oral statements at the meetings.

ADDRESSES: The subcommittee meetings will be held at the Port of Houston Authority, 111 East Loop North, Houston, Texas.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Captain Kevin Eldridge, Executive Director of HOGANSAC, telephone (713) 671-5101, or Commander Paula Carroll, Executive Secretary of HOGANSAC, telephone (713) 671-5164.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice of this meeting is given pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. 2.

Agendas of the Meetings

Subcommittee on Waterways. The tentative agenda includes the following:

(1) Presentation by each work group of its accomplishments and plans for the future.

(2) Review and discuss the work completed by each work group.

Subcommittee on Navigation. The tentative agenda includes the following:

(1) Presentation by each work group of its accomplishments and plans for the future.

(2) Review and discuss the work completed by each work group.

Procedural

All meetings are open to the public. Members of the public may make oral presentations during the meetings.

Information on Services for the Handicapped

For information on facilities or services for the handicapped or to request special assistance at the meetings, contact the Executive Director as soon as possible.

Dated: December 10, 1996.
 T.W. Josiah,
Rear Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard Commander, Eighth Coast Guard District.
 [FR Doc. 96-32842 Filed 12-24-96; 8:45 am]
 BILLING CODE 4910-14-M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Maritime Administration

[Docket S-941]

Sargeant Marine, Inc.; Notice of Application for Permission Under Section 506 of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as Amended, To Operate in the Domestic Trade

Notice is hereby given that Sargeant Marine, Inc. (Sargeant), by application dated December 17, 1996, has applied for written permission under section 506 of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended (Act), for the temporary transfer of the construction-differential subsidy (CDS) built asphalt tanker ASPHALT COMMANDER (ex-FALCON CHAMPION) in the domestic trade, commencing on or about January 15, 1997. Sargeant states that it is scheduled to load 200,000 barrels (bbls.) of asphalt at Garryville, Louisiana for discharge in New York, New York. The cargo will be delivered at a temperature of 300 degrees fahrenheit, five days after completion of loading and must be discharged at 6000 bbls. per hour.

Section 506 permits the temporary transfer for up to six months of CDS-built vessels "whenever the Secretary determines that such transfer is necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of the Act." Consent by MARAD is to be conditioned upon payment to MARAD, upon such terms as MARAD may prescribe, of "an amount which bears the same proportion to the CDS paid by the Secretary as such temporary period bears to the entire economic life of the vessel."

Although publication of a Notice with respect to Sargeant's request for permission under section 506 is not required, the Maritime Administration believes that it is appropriate to provide an opportunity for interested parties to comment on Sargeant's application.

Any person, firm, or corporation having any interest in the application

for section 506 permission and desiring to submit comments concerning the application must file written comments in triplicate, to the Secretary, Maritime Administration, Room 7210, Nassif Building, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC, 20590, by the close of business on December 31, 1996. The Maritime Administration, as a matter of discretion, will consider any comments submitted and take such action with respect thereto as may be deemed appropriate.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program N. 20.800 Construction-Differential Subsidies (CDS))

By order of the Maritime Administrator.

Edmond T. Sommer,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96-32710 Filed 12-24-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-81-M

Research and Special Programs Administration

[Docket No. PS-142; Notice 4]

Guidance on Performance Measures for Use in the Pipeline Risk Management Demonstration Program

AGENCY: Office of Pipeline Safety, DOT.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Research and Special Programs Administration's (RSPA), Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS) is currently involved in the development of the Pipeline Risk Management Demonstration Program required by the Accountable Pipeline Safety and Partnership Act of 1996. The demonstration program will invite risk management proposals from pipeline operators that are interested in demonstrating plans to reallocate their resources in ways to achieve superior safety on their pipeline systems by more effective methods than currently required by the pipeline safety regulations. On November 15, 1996, RSPA published Program Framework for Risk Management Demonstrations" (61 FR 58605) that included a statement that a guidance document for assessing risk management would soon be available for public comment. This document, "Guidance on Performance Measures For Use in the Pipeline Risk Management Demonstration Program," prepared by the Joint Risk Assessment Quality Team, is now available for public review and comment. This document provides guidance for monitoring individual demonstration projects and to enable OPS to determine the effectiveness of risk management as a regulatory alternative to 49 CFR Parts

190-199. OPS invites the public to review and comment on this draft.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be sent to the RSPA dockets unit, U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 7th St., SW., Washington, DC 20590.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Eben M. Wyman, (202) 366-0918, or by E-mail (eben.wyman@rspa.dot.gov), for copies of this document; or John Hess, (202) 366-4576, or by E-mail (john.hess@rspa.dot.gov) or via the World Wide Web at (<http://opspm.volpe60.dot.gov>.) regarding the subject matter of this Notice. Contact the Dockets Unit, (202) 366-5046, for other material in the docket.

Issued in Washington, DC, on December 18, 1996.

Richard B. Felder,

Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety

[FR Doc. 96-32704 Filed 12-24-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-60-P

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Ex Parte No. 290 (Sub No. 5) (97-1)]

Quarterly Rail Cost Adjustment Factor

AGENCY: Surface Transportation Board.

ACTION: Approval of rail cost adjustment factor.

SUMMARY: The Board has approved a first quarter 1997 rail cost adjustment factor (RCAF) and cost index filed by the Association of American Railroads. The first quarter 1997 RCAF (Unadjusted) is 1.116 an increase of 2.2% from the fourth quarter 1996 RCAF of 1.092. The first quarter 1997 RCAF (Adjusted) is 0.774. The first quarter 1997 RCAF-5 is 0.757.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: H. Jeff Warren, (202) 927-6243. TDD for the hearing impaired: (202) 927-5721.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Additional information is contained in the Board's decision. To purchase a copy of the full decision write to, call, or pick up in person from: DC NEWS & DATA, INC., Room 2229, 1201 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20423, or telephone (202) 289-4357. [Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through TDD services (202) 927-5721.]

This action will not significantly affect either the quality of the human environment or energy conservation.

Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 605(b), we conclude that our action will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities

within the meaning of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

Decided: December 19, 1996.

By the Board, Chairman Morgan, Vice Chairman Simmons, and Commissioner Owen.

Vernon A. Williams,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96-32773 Filed 12-24-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

[STB Finance Docket No. 33317]

Union Pacific Railroad Company—Trackage Rights Exemption—Duluth, Missabe and Iron Range Railway Company

Duluth, Missabe and Iron Range Railway (DMIR) has agreed to grant overhead trackage rights to Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP) over a total of approximately 0.83 miles of rail line located in Douglas County, WI, between milepost 17.79 near Saunders (at the BN connection), and milepost 16.96 near Pokegama (at the yard of Duluth, Winnipeg and Pacific Railway).¹ The transaction was expected to be consummated on December 17, 1996.

This notice is filed under 49 CFR 1180.2(d)(7). If the notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void *ab initio*. Petitions to revoke the exemption under 49 U.S.C. 10502(d) may be filed at any time. The filing of a petition to revoke will not stay the transaction.

An original and 10 copies of all pleadings, referring to STB Finance Docket No. 33317, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Branch, 1201 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20423 and served on: Joseph D. Anthofer, General Attorney, 1416 Dodge Street, #830, Omaha, NE 68179.

As a condition to this exemption, any employees affected by the trackage rights will be protected by the conditions imposed in *Norfolk and Western Ry. Co.—Trackage Rights—BN*, 354 I.C.C. 605 (1978), as modified in *Mendocino Coast Ry., Inc.—Lease and Operate*, 360 I.C.C. 653 (1980).

Decided: December 17, 1996.

¹ The trackage rights transaction is an extension of overhead trackage rights granted to Chicago and North Western Railway Company (CNW) between South Itasca and Saunders, WI. See 47 FR 42658 (September 21, 1982). On April 25, 1995, CNW was merged into UP pursuant to authority granted in Finance Docket No. 32133, and UP continued the trackage rights operation.