

Executive Order 13175 (Tribal Consultation)

The FHWA has analyzed this action under Executive Order 13175, dated November 6, 2000, and believes that this technical correction will not have substantial direct effects on one or more Indian tribes; will not impose substantial direct compliance costs on Indian tribal governments; and will not preempt tribal law. Therefore, a tribal impact statement is not required.

Executive Order 12372 (Intergovernmental Review)

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number 20.205, Highway planning and construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 12372 regarding intergovernmental consultation on Federal programs and activities apply to this program.

Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995

This action does not contain information collection requirements for the purposes of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. 3501–3520.

Executive Order 12988 (Civil Justice Reform)

This action 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.

Executive Order 13045 (Protection of Children)

We have analyzed this action 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 concern an environmental risk to health or safety that may disproportionately affect children.

Executive Order 12630 (Taking of Private Property)

This rule does not effect a taking of private property or otherwise have taking implications under Executive Order 12630, Government Actions and Interference with Constitutionally Protected Property Rights.

National Environmental Policy Act

The agency has analyzed this action for the purposes of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321–4347), and has determined that this action will not have any effect on the quality of the environment.

Regulation Identification Number

A regulation identification number (RIN) is assigned to each regulatory action listed in the Unified Agenda of Federal Regulations. The Regulatory Information Service Center publishes the Unified Agenda in April and October of each year. The RIN contained in the heading of this document can be used to cross reference this action with the Unified Agenda.

List of Subjects in 23 CFR Part 940

Design standards, Grant programs—transportation, Highways and roads, Intelligent transportation systems.

Issued on: April 11, 2001.

Vincent F. Schimmoller,
Deputy Executive Director.

In consideration of the foregoing, the FHWA amends 23 CFR Part 940 as set forth below:

PART 940—INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE AND STANDARDS

1. The authority for 23 CFR part 940 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 23 U.S.C. 101, 106, 109, 133, 315, and 508; sec. 5206(e), Pub. L. 105–178, 112 Stat. 457 (23 U.S.C. 502 note); and 49 CFR 1.48.

§ 940.9 [Amended]

2. In § 940.9, correct the date “February 7, 2005” in paragraph (b) to read “April 8, 2005.”

§ 940.11 [Amended]

3. In § 940.11, correct the date “February 7, 2001” in paragraph (g) to read “April 8, 2001.”

[FR Doc. 01–9538 Filed 4–17–01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Coast Guard****33 CFR Part 117**

[CGD01–01–011]

RIN 2115–AE47

Drawbridge Operation Regulations: Harlem River, NY

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DOT.
ACTION: Temporary final rule.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is temporarily changing the drawbridge operation regulations for the two Broadway bridges, at mile 6.8, across the Harlem River at New York City, New York. This temporary rule will allow the bridge owner to need not open the

bridges for the passage of navigation from May 15, 2001 through August 15, 2001, in order to facilitate bridge painting operations at the bridge. Vessels that can pass under the bridges without bridge openings may do so at any time.

DATES: This rule is effective from May 15, 2001 through August 15, 2001.

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 (CGD01–01–011) and are available for inspection or copying at the First Coast Guard District, Bridge Branch Office, 408 Atlantic Avenue, Boston, Massachusetts, 02110, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Joseph Arca, Project Officer, First Coast Guard District, (212) 668–7069.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Regulatory Information**

On March 6, 2001, we published a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) entitled Drawbridge Operation Regulations; Harlem River, New York, in the **Federal Register** (66 FR 13460). We received no comments in response to the notice of proposed rulemaking. No public hearing was requested and none was held.

Background and Purpose

The two Broadway bridges, at mile 6.8, across the Harlem River have a vertical clearance of 24 feet at mean high water and 29 feet at mean low water. The existing operating regulations at 33 CFR 117.789(c) require the two Broadway bridges to open on signal from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. if at least a four-hour advance notice is given. From 5 p.m. to 10 a.m. the bridges need not open for vessel traffic.

The owner of the bridges, the New York City Department of Transportation (NYCDOT), requested a temporary change to the operating regulations for the bridges to allow the bridges to remain in the closed position from May 15, 2001 through August 15, 2001, to facilitate painting operations. Vessels that can pass under the bridges without openings may do so at all times.

Discussion of Comments and Changes

The Coast Guard received no comments in response to the notice of proposed rulemaking and no changes will be made to this final rule.

Regulatory Evaluation

This rule is not a “significant regulatory action” under section 3(f) of

Executive Order 12866 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. It is not "significant" under the regulatory policies and procedures of the Department of Transportation (DOT) (44 FR 11040; February 26, 1979). This conclusion is based on the fact that keeping the bridges closed should have no significant impact on navigation because the bridges opened only one time from 1999 through 2001.

Small Entities

Under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601–612) we considered whether this rule would have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. "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 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 conclusion is based on the fact that the closure of the bridges should have no significant impact on navigation because the bridges have opened only one time from 1999 through 2001.

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

We have analyzed this rule under Executive Order 13132 and have determined that this rule does not have implications for federalism under that Order.

Unfunded Mandates Reform Act

The Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1531–1538) governs the issuance of Federal regulations that require unfunded mandates. An unfunded mandate is a regulation that requires a State, local, or tribal government or the private sector to incur direct costs without the Federal Government's having first provided the funds to pay those unfunded mandate costs. This rule will not impose an unfunded mandate.

Taking of Private Property

This rule will not effect 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 concern an environmental risk to health or risk to safety that may disproportionately affect children.

Environment

The Coast Guard considered the environmental impact of this rule and concluded that under figure 2–1, paragraph (32)(e) of Commandant Instruction M16475.1C, this rule is categorically excluded from further environmental documentation because promulgation of changes to drawbridge regulations have been found to not have a significant effect on the environment. A written "Categorical Exclusion Determination" is not required for this final rule.

List of Subjects in 33 CFR Part 117

Bridges.

Regulations

For the reasons set out in the preamble, the Coast Guard amends 33 CFR part 117 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); section 117.255 also issued under the authority of Pub. L. 102–587, 106 Stat. 5039.

2. From May 15, 2001 through August 15, 2001, § 117.789 is temporarily amended by suspending paragraph (c) and adding a new paragraph (g) to read as follows:

§ 117.789 Harlem River.

* * * * *

(g) The draws of the bridges at 103rd Street, mile 0.0, Willis Avenue, mile 1.5, 3rd Avenue, mile 1.9, Madison Avenue, mile 2.3, 145th Street, mile 2.8, Macombs Dam, mile 3.2, and 207th Street, mile 6.0, shall open on signal from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. if at least a four-hour advance notice is given to the New York City Highway Radio (Hotline)

Room. The two Broadway bridges, mile 6.8, need not open for vessel traffic.

Dated: April 9 2001.

G.N. Naccara,

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

[FR Doc. 01–9535 Filed 4–17–01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–15–U

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

38 CFR Part 3

RIN 2900–AJ55

Certification of Evidence for Proof of Service

AGENCY: Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This document amends the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) adjudication regulations concerning the nature of evidence that VA will accept as proof of military service. In the past, VA only accepted original service documents or copies of service documents issued by the service department or by a public custodian of records. This change authorizes VA to accept photocopies of service documents as evidence of military service if they are certified to be true copies of documents acceptable to VA by an accredited agent, attorney or service organization representative who has successfully completed VA-prescribed training on military records. The intended effect of this amendment is to streamline the processing of claims for benefits.

DATES: April 18, 2001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bill Russo, Attorney-Advisor, Compensation and Pension Service, Veterans Benefits Administration, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420; telephone (202) 273–7210; e-mail capbruss@vba.va.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On June 27, 2000, VA published in the **Federal Register** (65 FR 39580–39581), a proposed regulation to amend VA adjudication regulations to allow VA to accept photocopies of service documents as proof of service if they are certified by a claimant's representative who has successfully completed VA-prescribed training on military records, to be true copies of the original documents acceptable to VA. We asked for comments by August 28, 2000 and we received written comments from the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. The two commentors did not suggest any changes.