

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is withdrawing two notices of proposed rulemaking to amend the regulation for the draw of the vertical lift highway bridge across the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, mile 35.6, west of Harvey Locks, near Larose, Lafourche Parish, Louisiana. The proposed rules did not meet the reasonable needs of navigation. The Coast Guard is withdrawing the notices of proposed rulemaking and terminating these rulemakings.

DATES: The proposed rules are withdrawn effective March 10, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Unless otherwise indicated, documents referred to in these notices are available for inspection or copying at the office of the Eighth Coast Guard District, Bridge Administration Branch, Hale Boggs Federal Building, room 1313, 501 Magazine Street, New Orleans, Louisiana 70130-3396 between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The telephone number is (504) 589-2965. Commander (ob) maintains the public docket for these proposed rulemakings.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. David Frank, Bridge Administration Branch, Commander (ob), Eighth Coast Guard District, 501 Magazine Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, 70130-3396, telephone number 504-589-2965.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Regulatory History

On December 7, 1994, the Coast Guard published a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) in the **Federal Register** (59 FR 63068). The NPRM proposed to change the regulation governing the operation of the vertical lift span drawbridge across the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, mile 35.6, at Larose, Lafourche Parish, Louisiana, to require that from 7 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, except Friday holidays, the draw of the bridge would remain closed to navigation for passage of vehicular traffic during peak traffic periods. At all other times the draw would open on signal for passage of vessels. Presently, the draw is required to open on signal at all times.

The Coast Guard received 10 letters in response to the NPRM objecting to the proposed rule. Many of the objectors who were associated with the local school stated that the bridge would reopen after an extended closure 30 minutes before the start of school possibly affecting the ability of students to arrive at school on time. The applicant was given an opportunity to address the objections. The applicant modified their proposal and resubmitted a new request for a proposed rule.

Inadvertently, a second NPRM was published in the **Federal Register** (60 FR 40139) on August 7, 1995, instead of a Supplementary Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (SNPRM). Additionally, the original NPRM was never withdrawn. The second NPRM proposed to change the regulation governing the operation of the vertical lift span drawbridge across the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, mile 35.6, at Larose, Lafourche Parish, Louisiana, to require that from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. and from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays, the draw of the bridge would remain closed to navigation for passage of vehicular traffic during peak traffic periods. At all other times the draw would open on signal for passage of vessels. Presently, the draw is required to open on signal at all times.

Two letters of objection were received in response to the second NPRM. These objections were from waterway interests stating that the closure would increase the risk of accidents by vessels having to wait for bridge openings while vehicles have an alternate route across the waterway. These concerns were forwarded to the applicant to attempt to reach an acceptable solution. The applicant has not addressed the concerns of these objectors or offered an alternative proposal.

The Coast Guard is, therefore, withdrawing the notices of proposed rulemaking and terminating further rulemaking on proposals (CGD08-94-033 and CGD08-95-011).

Dated: February 18, 1998.

T.W. Josiah,

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

[FR Doc. 98-6008 Filed 3-9-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-14-M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 117

[CGD08-97-007]

Drawbridge Operating Regulation; Lake Pontchartrain, LA

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DOT.

ACTION: Notice; withdrawal of proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is withdrawing a notice of proposed rulemaking to amend the regulation for the draws of the north bascule twin span highway bridges across Lake Pontchartrain, between Metairie, Jefferson Parish, Louisiana, and Mandeville, St. Tammany Parish,

Louisiana. The proposed rule did not meet the reasonable needs of navigation. The Coast Guard is withdrawing the notice of proposed rulemaking and terminating this rulemaking.

DATES: This notice is effective March 10, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Unless otherwise indicated, documents referred to in this notice are available for inspection or copying at the office of the Eighth Coast Guard District, Bridge Administration Branch, Hale Boggs Federal Building, room 1313, 501 Magazine Street, New Orleans, Louisiana 70130-3396 between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The telephone number is (504) 589-2965. Commander (ob) maintains the public docket for this rulemaking.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. David Frank, Bridge Administration Branch, Commander (ob), Eighth Coast Guard District, 501 Magazine Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, 70130-3396, telephone number 504-589-2965.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Regulatory History

On April 4, 1997, the Coast Guard published a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) in the **Federal Register** (62 FR 16122). The NPRM proposed to authorize the draws in the north bascule twin span highway bridges across Lake Pontchartrain, between Metairie, Jefferson Parish, Louisiana, and Mandeville, St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana to remain closed to navigation from June 9, 1997, until October 10, 1997, except on alternating weekends. On alternating weekends during this period when work was not being conducted, the draws would open if 3 hours notice was given. This action was necessary to facilitate the cleaning and painting of the bascule structures.

The Coast Guard received 3 letters in response to the NPRM objecting to the proposed rule. The objectors believed twelve day closures of the bridge would detrimentally effect business on the waterway. The applicant was given an opportunity to address the objections. During this time period, the applicant determined that he would be unable to accomplish the scope of working during the given time frame and decided to postpone the maintenance. The applicant has since consulted with the objectors and has adjusted his scope of work which will no longer require a temporary rule.

The Coast Guard is, therefore, withdrawing the notice of proposed rulemaking and terminating further

rulemaking on the proposal (CGD08-97-007).

Dated: February 18, 1998.

T.W. Josiah,

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

[FR Doc. 98-6006 Filed 3-9-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-14-M

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 52

[NH-9-1-5823b; A-1-FRL-5969-5]

Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; New Hampshire; Revised Regulations and Source-Specific Reasonably Available Control Technology Plans Controlling Volatile Organic Compound Emissions and Emission Statement Requirements

AGENCY: Environmental Protection
Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: EPA is proposing to approve State Implementation Plan (SIP) revisions submitted by the State of New Hampshire. These revisions consist of the State's volatile organic compound (VOC) regulations in Chapter Env-A 1204 (except 1204.06), certain testing and monitoring requirements in Chapter Env-A 800, and recordkeeping and reporting requirements in Chapter Env-A 900, all of which require the implementation of reasonably available control technology (RACT) for certain sources of volatile organic compounds (VOCs), as required by the Clean Air Act. These revisions also consist of source specific VOC RACT determinations for L.W. Packard and Company, Textile Tapes Corporation, and Kalwall Corporation. In the Final Rules Section of this **Federal Register**, EPA is approving the State's SIP revisions as a direct final rule without prior proposal because the Agency views these amendments as a noncontroversial revision and anticipates no adverse comments. A detailed rationale for the approval is set forth in the direct final rule. If no adverse comments are received in response to that direct final rule, no further activity is contemplated in relation to this proposed rule. If EPA receives relevant adverse comments, the direct final rule will not take effect and all public comments received will be addressed in a subsequent final rule based on this proposed rule. EPA will not institute a second comment period on this proposal. Any parties interested

in commenting on this proposal should do so at this time.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before April 9, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be mailed to Susan Studlien, Deputy Director, Office of Ecosystem Protection (mail code CAA), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region I, JFK Federal Bldg., Boston, MA 02203. Copies of the State submittal and EPA's technical support document are available for public inspection during normal business hours, by appointment at the Office of Ecosystem Protection, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region I, One Congress Street, 11th floor, Boston, MA and Air Resources Division, Department of Environmental Services, 64 North Main Street, Caller Box 2033, Concord, NH 03302-2033.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jeanne Cosgrove, (617) 565-9451.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: For additional information, see the direct final rule which is located in the Rules Section of this **Federal Register**.

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 7401 *et seq.*

Dated: February 9, 1998.

John P. DeVillars,

Regional Administrator, Region I.

[FR Doc. 98-5315 Filed 3-9-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 62

[AR-2-2-5972b; FRL-5954-3]

Approval and Promulgation of State Plans for Designated Facilities and Pollutants Arkansas; Revisions of Regulations

AGENCY: Environmental Protection
Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: This action proposes to approve a recodification and revisions of the regulations for the Arkansas Plan for Designated Facilities and Pollutants (111(d) Plan) under section 111(d) of the Federal Clean Air Act. In the Rules and Regulations section of this **Federal Register**, EPA is approving this revision to the Arkansas 111(d) Plan as a direct final rule without prior proposal because the Agency views this as a noncontroversial revision and anticipates no adverse comments. The rationale for the approval is set forth in the direct final rule. If no adverse comments are received in response to this proposed rule, no further activity is contemplated in relation to this rule. If

EPA receives adverse comments, the direct final rule will be withdrawn, and all public comments received during the 30-day comment period set forth below will be addressed in a subsequent final rule based on this proposed rule. Any parties interested in commenting on this action should do so at this time.

DATES: Comments on this proposed rule must be received in writing by April 9, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on this action should be addressed to Mr. Thomas H. Diggs, Chief, Planning Section, at the EPA Region 6 office listed below. Copies of documents relevant to this action are available for public inspection during normal business hours at the following locations. Anyone wanting to examine these documents should make an appointment with the appropriate office at least two working days in advance.

Environmental Protection Agency,
Region 6, Air Planning Section (6PD-L),
1445 Ross Avenue, Dallas, Texas 75202-2733.

Arkansas Department of Pollution
Control and Ecology, Division of Air
Pollution Control, 8001 National Drive,
P.O. Box 8913, Little Rock, Arkansas
72219-8913.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bill
Deese of the Air Planning Section (6PD-
L) at (214) 665-7253 of the EPA Region
6 Office and at the address above.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: For
additional information, see the direct
final rule which is published in the
Rules and Regulations section of this
Federal Register.

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 7401-7671q.

Dated: January 15, 1998.

Lynda F. Carroll,

Acting Regional Administrator, Region 6.

[FR Doc. 98-5849 Filed 3-9-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 721

[OPPTS-50630; FRL-5765-6]

RIN 2070-AB27

Sinorhizobium Meliloti Strain RMBPC- 2; Proposed Significant New Use Rule

AGENCY: Environmental Protection
Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: EPA is proposing a significant
new use rule (SNUR) under section
5(a)(2) of the Toxic Substances Control
Act (TSCA) for the microorganism