

to this action are available for public inspection during normal business hours at the Air Protection Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III, 1650 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103; and the Maryland Department of the Environment, 2500 Broening Highway, Baltimore, Maryland 21224.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Maria A. Pino, (215) 814-2181, at the EPA Region III address above, or by e-mail at pino.maria@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: See the information provided in the Direct Final action of the same title, pertaining to Maryland's major VOC source RACT and minor VOC source requirements, located in the Rules and Regulations Section of this **Federal Register**.

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

Dated: August 12, 1998.

W. Michael McCabe,

Regional Administrator, Region III.

[FR Doc. 98-23505 Filed 9-3-98; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 52

[CA 20-7-0084b; FRL-6138-9]

Approval and Promulgation of State Implementation Plans; California State Implementation Plan Revision, Bay Area Air Quality Management District

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: EPA is proposing to approve revisions to the California State Implementation Plan (SIP) which concern the control of particulate matter (PM) emissions from open burning and visible emissions within the Bay Area Air Quality Management District.

The intended effect of proposing approval of these rules is to regulate emissions of PM in accordance with the requirements of the Clean Air Act, as amended in 1990 (CAA or the Act). In the Final Rules Section of this **Federal Register**, the EPA is approving the state's SIP revision as a direct final rule without prior proposal because the Agency views this as a noncontroversial revision amendment and anticipates no adverse comments. A detailed rationale for this approval is set forth in the direct final rule. If no relevant adverse comments are received in response to this 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 rule. Any parties interested in commenting on this rule should do so at this time.

DATES: Comments must be received in writing by October 5, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be addressed to: Andrew Steckel, Rulemaking Office (AIR-4), Air Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9, 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA 94105-3901.

Copies of the rule revisions and EPA's evaluation report of each rule are available for public inspection at EPA's Region 9 office during normal business hours. Copies of the submitted rule revisions are also available for inspection at the following locations:

Bay Area Air Quality Management District, 939 Ellis Street, San Francisco, CA 94109

California Air Resources Board, Stationary Source Division, Rule Evaluation Section, 2020 "L" Street, Sacramento, CA 95812.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Karen Irwin, (Rulemaking [AIR-4], Air Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9, 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA 94105-3901, Telephone: (415) 744-1903).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This document concerns Bay Area Air Quality Management District Regulation 5, Open Burning, and Regulation 6, Visible Emissions, submitted to EPA on March 10, 1998 and May 13, 1991, respectively, by the California Air Resources Board. For further information, please see the information provided in the Direct Final action that is located in the Rules Section of this **Federal Register**.

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

Dated: July 23, 1998.

Clyde Morris,

Acting Regional Administrator, Region IX.

[FR Doc. 98-23818 Filed 9-3-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Maritime Administration

[MARAD 98-4395]

46 CFR Part 249

RIN No. 2133-AB 36

Approval of Underwriters for Marine Hull Insurance

AGENCY: Maritime Administration, Department of Transportation.

ACTION: Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Maritime Administration (MARAD) is soliciting comments from interested persons concerning the need to amend the existing regulations governing the placement of marine hull insurance on subsidized and Title XI program vessels. The existing regulations were promulgated in 1988 and provided, among other things, the criteria and procedures for certain foreign underwriters to participate in the writing of hull insurance on MARAD program vessels.

DATES: Comments are requested by October 5, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Signed written comments should refer to the docket number that appears at the top of this document and must be submitted to the Docket Clerk, U.S. DOT Dockets, Room PL-401, 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC 20590. All comments received will be available for examination at the above address between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., e.t. Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays. An electronic version of this document is available on the World Wide Web at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Edmond J. Fitzgerald, Director, Office of Subsidy and Insurance, Maritime Administration, Washington DC 20590. Telephone 202/366-2400.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The 1988 explanation of the final rulemaking (53 FR 23119) provided in part that:

Members of the Institute of London Underwriters (ILU) would remain eligible subject to prescribed trust fund and limitation on risk requirements. On the basis of a comment by one American carrier, the final rule specifically reserves MARAD's right to review this eligibility at any time.

It has come to MARAD's attention that the ILU and another London based insurance organization, the London International Insurance and Reinsurance Market Association (LIRMA) have voted to merge their two organizations in the near future. The new organization will be called the International Underwriters Association (IUA) of London. MARAD's

Director, Office of Marine Insurance had discussions with the incoming chairman of the IUA and the chairman indicated that the new organization will not have the same eligibility criteria as the ILU or any internal oversight activities. In view of this, MARAD is seeking comments concerning how to deal with existing ILU member companies after the merger. Will it be necessary to qualify ILU member companies on an individual "ad hoc" basis after the merger is implemented? MARAD has a number of questions it would like to receive comment on:

(1) Should companies who were in the ILU and approved to write insurance on MARAD program vessels maintain their eligibility for some period, say a year after merger, while they are reviewed on an individual basis?

(2) Should ILU member companies (post merger) be subject to the same requirements of "Other Foreign Underwriters" under section 249.5(c) Eligibility criteria?

(3) If an ILU member company has been previously approved under 249.5(c), in the French or Scandinavian market for example, should that eligibility be governing?

(4) Should ILU member companies appearing on the Quarterly Listing of Alien Insurers compiled by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners be eligible for MARAD underwriting provided they remain in good standing and remain on this list?

(5) If an ILU member company is the subsidiary or affiliate of a company that is approved under Section 249.5(c), should it have the benefit of that approval if a satisfactory parent company or similar guarantee is provided?

(6) Any other aspect of this issue.

By Order of the Maritime Administrator.

Dated: September 1, 1998.

Joel C. Richard,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-23908 Filed 9-3-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-81-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 648

[I.D. 082098G]

New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce

ACTION: Notice of public meetings; public hearing.

SUMMARY: The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) is scheduling several public meetings of its oversight committees and advisory panels in September, 1998 to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ). Recommendations from these groups will be brought to the full Council for formal consideration and action, if appropriate.

DATES: The meetings will be held on September 9 and September 17, 1998.

See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific dates and times.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held in Gloucester and Saugus, MA. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific locations.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul J. Howard, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council; (781) 231-0422.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Meeting Dates and Agendas

Wednesday, September 9, 1998, 9:00 a.m.—Joint Habitat Committee and Advisory Panel Meeting

Location: New England Fishery Management Council Office conference room; 5 Broadway, Saugus, MA 01906-1036; telephone: (781) 231-0422.

Review and approval of the final Essential Fish Habitat Amendment document and environmental assessment prior to final consideration by the Council.

Thursday, September 17, 1998, 9:30 a.m.—Groundfish Committee Meeting

Location: The Tavern on the Harbor, 30 Western Avenue, Gloucester, MA 01930; telephone: (978) 283-4200.

Review of draft regulatory language for Amendment 9 to the Northeast Multispecies Fisheries Management Plan and development of guidance to the Council's Multispecies Monitoring Committee (MSMC). That group evaluates the effectiveness of the Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan and recommends management options for Gulf of Maine cod and other species as part of an annual review and plan adjustment process. Further regulation of recreational catches, modification or addition of closed areas, or a bycatch-only designation for Gulf of Maine cod may be among the options considered by the MSMC.

Although other issues not contained in this agenda may come before this Council for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery

Conservation and Management Act, those issues may not be the subject of formal Council action during this meeting. Council action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this notice.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Paul J. Howard (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 days prior to the meeting dates.

Dated: August 31, 1998.

Bruce C. Morehead,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 98-23935 Filed 9-3-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 679

[Docket No. 971208298-8055-02; I.D. 082798B]

Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Proposed reallocation; request for comments.

SUMMARY: Based on currently available information, NMFS has determined that the trawl catcher/processor sector will not be able to harvest its entire share of the Pacific cod total allowable catch (TAC) in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands management area (BSAI) and it proposes to make the projected unused amount of the trawl catcher/processor share of the Pacific cod TAC available to the trawl catcher vessel sector. NMFS also is proposing to reallocate the projected unused amount of Pacific cod from trawl catcher/processors to vessels using hook-and-line or pot gear in the BSAI. NMFS invites public comments, particularly from the trawl catcher vessel sector, on NMFS's determination that the trawl catcher/processor sector will not be able to harvest its share of Pacific cod and NMFS's proposal to reallocate the unused amount of Pacific cod from the trawl catcher/processor sector to hook-and-line and pot gear. The proposed action is necessary to