(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance No. 83.100, "Flood Insurance.")

Dated: January 28, 2000.

#### Michael J. Armstrong,

Associate Director for Mitigation. [FR Doc. 00–2804 Filed 2–7–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6718-04-P

# FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

#### 44 CFR Part 67

[Docket No. FEMA-7310]

### Proposed Flood Elevation Determinations

**AGENCY:** Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

**ACTION:** Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: Technical information or comments are requested on the proposed base (1% annual chance) flood elevations and proposed base flood elevation modifications for the communities listed below. The base flood elevations and modified base flood elevations are the basis for the floodplain management measures that the community is required either to adopt or to show evidence of being already in effect in order to qualify or remain qualified for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

**DATES:** The comment period is ninety (90) days following the second publication of this proposed rule in a newspaper of local circulation in each community.

**ADDRESSES:** The proposed base flood elevations for each community are available for inspection at the office of the Chief Executive Officer of each community. The respective addresses are listed in the following table.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Matthew B. Miller, P.E., Chief, Hazards Study Branch, Mitigation Directorate, 500 C Street SW., Washington, DC 20472, (202) 646–3461, or (e-mail) matt.miller@fema.gov.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Federal Emergency Management Agency proposes to make determinations of base flood elevations and modified base flood elevations for each community listed below, in accordance with Section 110 of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973, 42 U.S.C. 4104, and 44 CFR 67.4(a).

These proposed base flood and modified base flood elevations, together with the floodplain management criteria required by 44 CFR 60.3, are the minimum that are required. They should not be construed to mean that the community must change any existing ordinances that are more stringent in their floodplain management requirements. The community may at any time enact stricter requirements of its own, or pursuant to policies established by other Federal, State, or regional entities. These proposed elevations are used to meet the floodplain management requirements of the NFIP and are also used to calculate the appropriate flood insurance premium rates for new buildings built after these elevations are made final, and for the contents in these buildings.

## **National Environmental Policy Act**

This proposed rule is categorically excluded from the requirements of 44 CFR Part 10, Environmental Consideration. No environmental impact assessment has been prepared.

# **Regulatory Flexibility Act**

The Associate Director for Mitigation certifies that this proposed rule is exempt from the requirements of the Regulatory Flexibility Act because proposed or modified base flood elevations are required by the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973, 42 U.S.C. 4104, and are required to establish and maintain community eligibility in the NFIP. No regulatory flexibility analysis has been prepared.

## **Regulatory Classification**

This proposed rule is not a significant regulatory action under the criteria of Section 3(f) of Executive Order 12866 of September 30, 1993, Regulatory Planning and Review, 58 FR 51735.

## Executive Order 12612, Federalism

This proposed rule involves no policies that have federalism implications under Executive Order 12612, Federalism, dated October 26, 1987

# Executive Order 12778, Civil Justice Reform

This proposed rule meets the applicable standards of Section 2(b)(2) of Executive Order 12778.

#### List of Subjects in 44 CFR Part 67

Administrative practice and procedure, Flood insurance, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Accordingly, 44 CFR Part 67 is proposed to be amended as follows:

### PART 67—[AMENDED]

1. The authority citation for Part 67 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 42 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.; Reorganization Plan No. 3 of 1978, 3 CFR, 1978 Comp., p. 329; E.O. 12127, 44 FR 19367, 3 CFR, 1979 Comp., p. 376. § 67.4

2. The tables published under the authority of § 67.4 are proposed to be amended as follows:

# § 67.4 [Amended]

State	City/town/county	Source of flooding	Location	# Depth in f ground. *Elev (NG)	ation in feet.
				Existing	Modified
Arizona	Santa Cruz County (Unincorporated Areas).	Tubac Creek	At confluence with Santa Cruz River	None	*3,192
	,		Approximately 0.35 mile (1,850 feet) upstream of Interstate 19.	None	*3,263
		Tubac Creek North Chan- nel.	At confluence with Santa Cruz River	None	*3,189
			At divergence from Tubac Creek approximately 680 feet upstream of Calle De Olivas.	None	*3,251
		Tributary 1 of Tubac Creek.	At confluence with Tubac Creek	None	*3,213
			At approximately 0.229 mile (1,210 feet)	None	*3,250

State	City/town/county	Source of flooding	Location	# Depth in f ground. *Elev (NG)	ation in feet.
				Existing	Modified
		Tributary 2 of Tubac	At confluence with Tubac Creek	None	*3,195
		Creek.	Immediately downstream of East Frontage Road.	None	3,222
•		-	ongress Drive, Nogales, Arizona. N. Congress Drive, Nogales, Arizona 85621		
lowa	Johnston (City) Polk County.	Beaver Creek	Approximately 1,550 feet above its confluence with Des Moines River. At NW 70th Avenue	None *822	*805 *824
•		all, 6221 Merle Hay Road, Jol atterson, Mayor, City of John		022	02-
lowa	Urbandale (City) Polk County.	Beaver Creek	Approximately 1,000 feet upstream of Merle Hay Road.	*800	*811
Mana ara available fo	or increation at Comm	with Davidanment Danastma	Approximately 3,600 feet upstream of Merle Hay Road.	*810	*812
			nt, City Hall, 3315 70th Street, Urbandale, Io, 3315 70th Street, Urbandale, Iowa 50322.	wa.	
Louisiana	Tangipahoa Parish (Unincorporated	Ponchatoula Creek	At Old Genessee Road	None	*54
	Areas).		Approximately 1,100 feet from confluence with Ponchatoula Creek Tributary 2.	None	*60
		Ponchatoula Creek Tributary 1.	At confluence with Ponchatoula Creek	None	*5
		Ponchatoula Creek Tribu-	Approximately 3,300 feet upstream from confluence with Ponchatoula Creek.  At confluence with Ponchatoula Creek	None None	*5
		tary 2.	Approximately 2,200 feet upstream from	None	*56 *60
			confluence with Ponchatoula Creek. Eluxe Road, Hammond, Louisiana. O. Box 215, Amite, Louisiana 70422.		
Louisiana	Village of Tickfaw (Tangipahoa Par- ish).	Ponchatoula Creek	Approximately 2,950 feet downstream from Highway 442.	None	*60
	.6.1.7.	Ponchatoula Creek Tribu- tary 1.	At Niccio Road	None None	*65 *57
		tary	Approximately 3,000 feet upstream from State Highway 442.	None	*63
		Ponchatoula Creek Tributary 2.	Approximately 1,800 feet downstream from Chapel Road.	None	*60
Maps are available for	□ or inspection at City Ha	। all, 50081 Highway 51, Tickfa	At Chapel Roadw, Louisiana.	None	*61
Send comments to T	he Honorable Anthony	Lamonte, Mayor, Village of	Гісkfaw, P.O. Box 249, Tickfaw, Louisiana 70	)466.	
Louisiana	West Baton Rouge Parish and Incor- porated Areas.	Lateral 1–C	At the confluence with the Gulf Intra- coastal Waterway.	*9	*(
			At intersection with Interstate 10 At intersection with State Highway 986	*11 *17	*1( *1)
		Oaks Avenue Canal	At the confluence with the Gulf Intra- coastal Waterway.	None	*10
		Oaks Avenue Canal Tribu- tary No. 1.	Just upstream of LeBlanc Road	None None	*19 *10
Maps are available for	r inspection at Parish		Just upstream of South Jefferson Avenue xander, Port Allen, Louisiana.	None	*2
Send comments to T Maps are available for	he Honorable Ted Der or inspection at City Ha	nster, Parish President, P.O. I all, 750 N. Jefferson Avenue,	Box 757, Port Allen, Louisiana 70767. Port Allen, Louisiana.		
Send comments to T	he Honorable Marilyn	Robertson, Mayor, City of Po	rt Allen, 750 N. Jefferson Avenue, Port Allen	, Louisiana 707	67.
Missouri	Creve Coeur (City) St. Louis County.	Monsanto Sunswept Creek.	Approximately 950 feet downstream of Private Bridge.	*531	*532

			<i>y</i> ,		
State	City/town/county	Source of flooding	Location	#Depth in f ground. *Elev (NG)	ation in feet.
				Existing	Modified
		all, 300 North New Ballas Roa e Kolis-Mandel, Mayor, City	Just upstream of Chilton Lanead, Creve Coeur, Missouri. of Creve Coeur, 300 North New Ballas Ro		*561 eur, Missouri
Missouri	Des Peres (City) St. Louis County.	Des Peres Creek	At confluence with Sugar Creek	*448	*450
	Ct. Louis County.		Approximately 450 feet upstream of Hospital Drive.	*460	*459
		Sugar Creek	Approximately 1,150 feet downstream of Old Dougherty Ferry Road.	*445	*446
•		। all, 12325 Manchester Road, Burkhardt, Mayor, City of Des	│ Just upstream of Interstate 270 Des Peres, Missouri. s Peres, 12325 Manchester Road, Des Peres	*463   s, Missouri 631;	*462 31.
Missouri	Frontenac (City) St.	Deer Creek	Just upstream of Lindbergh Boulevard	*523	*524
	Louis County.		Approximately 3,300 feet upstream of Spoede Road.	*541	*542
		Monsanto Sunswept Creek.	Approximately 400 feet downstream of Glen Abbey Road.	*527	*528
			Approximately 180 feet upstream of Glen Abbey Road.	*527	*528
•	'	all, 10555 Clayton Road, Fror Brennan, Mayor, City of Fror	ntenac, Missouri. ntenac, 10555 Clayton Road, Frontenac, Mis	souri 63131.	
Missouri	Kirkwood (City) St.	Sugar Creek	Just upstream of Interstate 270	*463	*462
	Louis County.		Approximately 150 feet upstream of Interstate 270.	*463	*462
•		all, 139 South Kirkwood Road Schramm, Mayor, City of Kirky		Missouri 63122	
Missouri	St. Louis County (Unincorporated Areas).	Grand Glaize Creek	Approximately 400 feet upstream of Dougherty Ferry Road.	*441	*442
	,		Approximately 3,000 feet upstream of Dougherty Ferry Road.	*445	*446
		_	oth Central Avenue, Clayton, Missouri. Outive, 41 South Central Avenue, Clayton, Mis	ssouri 63105.	
Missouri	Valley Park (City)	Grand Glaize Creek	Grand Glaize Creek.		
•		l all, 320 Benton Street, Valley Adams, Mayor, City of Valley	। Park, Missouri. Park, City Hall, 320 Benton Street, Valley Pa	rk. Missouri 63	088.
Missouri	Westwood (Village)	Deer Creek	Approximately 3,300 feet upstream of	*541	*542
	St. Louis County.		Spoede Road. Approximately 4,500 feet upstream of	None	*549
•	The Honorable Phillip	twood Country Club Ground F Isserman, Chairman, Board o	Spoede Road. Road, Westwood, Missouri. of Trustees, Village of Westwood, 9 Westwo	ood Country Cl	ub Gardens,
Nevada	Washoe County and Incorporated	Golden Valley Wash	Approximately 2,180 feet upstream of Tholl Drive.	None	4,981
	Areas.		Approximately 2,700 feet upstream of Spearhead Way.	None	*5,176
		Hidden Valley Wash	Approximately 1,800 feet upstream of its confluence with Steamboat Creek.	None	*4,442
			Approximately 3,420 feet upstream of Parkway Drive.	None	*4,647
		Sun Valley Wash	At the Sun Valley Flood Control Detention Dam.	*4,445	*4,548
		Sun Valley Wash Split Flow.	At East 7th Avenue At convergence with Sun Valley Wash	None None	*4,725 4,647

State	City/town/county	Source of flooding	Location	# Depth in fo ground. *Eleva (NG\	ation in feet.
				Existing	Modified
Send comments to T Maps are available for	he Honorable Jim Gall or inspection at Engine	oway, Commission Chairman ering Department, 431 Prater	At divergence from Sun Valley Wash tment, 1001 E. 9th Street, Reno, Nevada. n, P.O. Box 11130, Reno, Nevada 89520. r Way, Sparks, Nevada. ks, 431 Prater Way, Sparks, Nevada 89431.	None	*4,695
North Dakota	Fargo (City) Cass County.	County Drain 45	At County Road 14 (52nd Avenue)	None	*893
	,		Approximately 2,800 feet upstream of 19th Avenue.	None	*894
•		all, 200 N. 3rd Street, Fargo, urness, Mayor, City of Fargo,	North Dakota. 200 N. 3rd Street, Fargo, North Dakota 581	02.	
North Dakota	Harwood (City) Cass County.	Sheyenne River	At U.S. Highway 81	None	*891
			Approximately 7,600 feet upstream from County Highway 22.	None	*894
		County Drain 40/45	Approximately 3,600 feet downstream from County Highway 22. Approximately 1,200 feet upstream from	None None	*890 *897
Mans are available fo	or inspection at City Ha	 all, 202 Dakota Avenue, Harw	County Drain 40/45 split.	None	097
			108 Lind Boulevard, Harwood, North Dakota	58042.	
	Reed (Township) Cass County.	Sheyenne River	Approximately 7,400 feet downstream of County Road 17.	*893	*894
			At 52nd Avenue	*895 *898	*896 *898
		County Drain 21	At confluence with the Sheyenne River Approximately 900 feet upstream of its	*898 None	*898 *898
		County Drain 45	confluence with the Sheyenne River. Approximately 5,800 feet downstream of 52nd Avenue.	None	*893
		Maple River	At County Road 20 At its confluence with the Sheyenne River Approximately 480 feet upstream of its	None None None	*893 *897 *897
Mans are available for	or inspection at City Ha	 all, 7420 40th Avenue North,	confluence with the Sheyenne River.	None	097
•			raigo, North Dakota. nip, 7420 40th Avenue North, Fargo, North D	akota 58103.	
North Dakota	Reiles Acres (City) Cass County.	County Drain 45	Approximately 5,400 feet downstream from 32nd Avenue.	None	*893
			Approximately 3,000 feet upstream from 32nd Avenue.	None	*893
•	•	5th Street N.W., Reiles Acres aumann, Mayor, City of Reile	s, North Dakota. s Acres, 3545 46th Street N.W., Fargo, Nortl	h Dakota 58108	i.
North Dakota	West Fargo (City) Cass County.	Sheyenne River	Approximately 8,700 feet downstream from 19th Avenue.	None	*898
	Cass County.	County Drain 21	At confluence with County Drain 2	None *898	*899 *898
			from Township Road. At divergence of County Drain 21 outlet structure.	None	*899
•		all, 800 4th Avenue East, Westedman, Mayor, City of West		orth Dakota 580	)78.
South Dakota	North Sioux (City) Union County.	Big Sioux River	Approximately 5,900 feet downstream from Military Road.	*1,100	*1,101
	Official Country.		Approximately 7,425 feet upstream from the Chicago Milwaukee St. Paul and Pacific Railroad.	*1,109	*1,108
		Big Sioux River Split at Interstate 29.	Approximately 50 feet downstream from Westshore Drive.	None	*1,109
Mans are available fo	 or inspection at City Ha	 all, 301 Military Road, North S	At divergence from Big Sioux River	None	*1,110

State City/town/county	City/town/county	Source of flooding	Location	#Depth in feet above ground. *Elevation in feet. (NGVD)	
				Existing	Modified
Send comments to T	he Honorable Lieser F	Hallwas, Mayor, P.O. Box 338	North Sioux City, South Dakota 57049.	,	
South Dakota	Union County (Un- incorporated Areas).	Big Sioux River	At mouth of Big Sioux River	*1,090	*1,090
			At Interstate 29	None	*1,094
			At State Route 48	None	*1,143
			Approximately 1,800 feet downstream of Westshore Drive.	None	*1,108
		Big Sioux River Split at Interstate 29.	At divergence from Big Sioux River	None	*1,110

Maps are available for inspection at Union County Planning and Zoning Office, 209 East Main, Elk Point, South Dakota.

Send comments to The Honorable Roger Boldenow, Chairman, Union County Commissioners, County Courthouse, 209 East Main Street, Elk Point, South Dakota 57025.

Texas	Gillespie County and Incorporated Areas.	Baron's Creek	Approximately 4,000 feet upstream of U.S. Highway 290.	*1,611	*1,611
	7 6		Approximately 4,200 feet upstream of U.S. Highway 290.	*1,611	*1,612
			Downstream of East Main Street	*1,649	*1,650
		Stream FB-1	At confluence with Baron's Creek	*1,641	*1,641
			Approximately 1,500 feet upstream of confluence with Baron's Creek.	*1,646	*1,647
			Approximately 1,950 feet upstream of Lower Crabapple Road.	None	*1,780
		Town Creek	Approximately 60 feet downstream of Edison Street.	*1,710	*1,710
			Approximately 200 feet upstream of Schubert Road.	*1,712	*1,711
			Approximately 2,150 feet upstream of Morse Street.	None	*1,751
		Pedernales River	At Gillespie/Blanco County Line	None	*1,398
			Approximately 3,100 feet upstream of Cellemar Lane.	None	*1,473
		Salt Branch	At confluence with Pedernales River	None	*1,442
			Approximately 4,300 feet upstream of Highway 290.	None	*1,473
		Stream SB-1	At confluence with Salt Branch	None	*1,444
			Approximately 5,800 feet upstream of Highway 290.	None	*1,465
		Split Flow #1	At convergence with Pedernales River	None	*1,422
			At divergence from Pedernales River	None	*1,435

Maps are available for inspection at City Hall, 126 W. Main Street, Fredericksburg, Texas.

Send comments to The Honorable Linda Langerhans, Mayor, City of Fredericksburg, P.O. Box 111, Fredericksburg, Texas 78624.

Maps are available for inspection at Gillespie County Floodplain Department, 101 West Main, Unit #9, Fredericksburg, Texas.

Send comments to The Honorable Mark Stroeher, County Judge, 101 West Main, Unit #9, Fredericksburg, Texas 78624.

Texas	Tom Green County (Unincorporated Areas).	Red Arroyo	Just downstream of eastbound Route 67	None	*1,888
	,		Approximately 1,300 feet upstream of earthen lake dam.	None	*1,987
		Stream RA-1	At confluence with Red Arroyo	None	*1,897
			Just downstream of O.C. Fisher Dam spillway.	None	*1,928
		Stream RA-2	At confluence with Red Arroyo	None	*1,898
			Just upstream of Arden Road	None	*1,941
		Goodfellow Draw	120 feet downstream of Stock Tank Dam	None	*1,805
			790 feet upstream of Stock Tank Dam	None	*1,810

Maps are available for inspection at the Public Health Building, Two City Hall Plaza, San Angelo, Texas.

Send comments to The Honorable Michael D. Brown, Judge, Tom Green County, County Courthouse, 112 West Beauregard Street, San Angelo, Texas 76902.

Washington	Whatcom County and Incorporated Areas.	Johnson Creek	At the confluence with Sumas River	None	*38
			Approximately 1,500 feet upstream of South Pass Road.	None	*85

State	City/town/county	Source of flooding	Location	#Depth in f ground. *Elev (NG)	ation in feet.
				Existing	Modified
		Nooksack River	At Bellingham Bay	None *226	*8 *222
		Nooksack River Right Overbank Divided Flow.	At Lummi Bay	None	*8
			Approximately 800 feet upstream of River Road.	None	*26
		Middle Fork Nooksack River.	At the confluence with North Fork Nooksack River.	None	*284
			Approximately 11,500 feet upstream of the confluence of Canyon Creek.	None	*406
		North Fork Nooksack River.	At the confluence with South Fork Nooksack River.	None	*222
		1	Approximately 35,600 feet (7 miles) upstream from Mosquito Lake Road.	None	*466
		South Fork Nooksack River.	At the confluence with North Fork Nooksack River.	*226	*222
		1	Approximately 7,400 feet upstream of Saxon Road.	*386	*385
	Whatcom County Incorporated Areas (Cont'd).	South Fork Nooksack River Divided Flow.	At Burlington Northern Railroad	None	*246
	(		At Acme Road	None	*280
		Samish River	Approximately 2,900 feet downstream of Wickersham Road at the County Boundary.	None	*267
		Squalicum Creek	At Burlington Northern Railroad Approximately 200 feet upstream of Chi-	None None	*311 *127
			cago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railroad.		
			Approximately 2,000 feet upstream of Dewey Road.	None	*206
		Sumas River	Approximately 1,700 feet downstream of Jones Road at the International Boundary.	None	*34
			Approximately 1,000 feet upstream of Massey Road.	None	*93
		Sumas River Left Overbank Divided Flow.	Approximately 200 feet downstream of Telegraph Road.	None	*56
			Approximately 6,300 feet upstream of Kadin Road.	None	*69
		Terrell Creek	Approximately 500 feet downstream of Alderson Road.	None	*8
			At Helweg Road	None	*10

Maps are available for inspection at Whatcom County Public Works Department, Division of Engineering, 5280 NW Drive, Suite C, Bellingham, Washington.

Send comments to The Honorable Pete Kremen, County Executive, 311 Grand Avenue #108, Bellingham, Washington 98225.

Maps are available for inspection at the Community Development Department, 210 Lottie Street, Bellingham, Washington.

Send comments to The Honorable Mark Asmundson, Mayor, City of Bellingham, 210 Central Avenue, Bellingham, Washington 98225.

Maps are available for inspection at City Hall, 111 W. Main Street, Everson, Washington.

Send comments to The Honorable Gena Tolle, Mayor, P.O. Box 315, Everson, Washington 98247.

Maps are available for inspection at the Planning Department, 5694 2nd Avenue, Ferndale, Washington.

Send comments to The Honorable Yvonne Goldsmith, Mayor, City of Ferndale, 5694 2nd Avenue, Ferndale, Washington 98248.

Maps are available for inspection at the Planning Department 2828 Kwina Road, Bellingham, Washington.

Send comments to The Honorable Tim Ballew, Tribal Chair, City of Lummi Indian Nation, 2626 Kwina Road, Bellingham, Washington 98226.

Maps are available for inspection at the Planning Department, 323 Front Street, Lynden, Washington.

Send comments to The Honorable Daryl Brennick, Mayor, City of Lynden, 323 Front Street, Lynden, Washington 98264.

Maps are available for inspection at City Hall, 103 W. Madison Street, Nooksack, Washington 98276.

Send comments to The Honorable James S. Ackerman, Mayor, City of Nooksack, P.O. Box 4265, Nooksack, Washington 98276.

Maps are available for inspection at City Hall, 433 Cherry Street, Sumas, Washington 98295.

Send comments to The Honorable Don Peterson, Mayor, City of Sumas, P.O. Box 9 Sumas, Washington 98295.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance No. 83.100, "Flood Insurance.")

Dated: January 28, 2000.

#### Michael J. Armstrong,

Associate Director for Mitigation. [FR Doc. 00–2805 Filed 2–7–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6718-04-P

#### **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

#### **Coast Guard**

46 CFR Parts 110 and 111

[USCG-1999-6096]

RIN 2115-AF89

# Marine Shipboard Electrical Cable Standards

**AGENCY:** Coast Guard, DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed rulemaking.

**SUMMARY:** The Coast Guard proposes to amend its electrical engineering regulations for merchant vessels by adding alternate cable standards that are equivalent to the existing standards. Our intent is to revise requirements that create an unwarranted difference between domestic rules and international standards for marine cable.

**DATES:** Comments and related material must reach the Docket Management Facility on or before May 8, 2000.

ADDRESSES: To make sure your comments and related material are not entered more than once in the docket, please submit them by only one of the following means:

- (1) By mail to the Docket Management Facility (USCG-1999-6096), U.S. Department of Transportation, room PL-401, 400 Seventh Street SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001.
- (2) By hand delivery to room PL-401 on the Plaza level of the Nassif Building, 400 Seventh Street SW., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The telephone number is 202–366–
- (3) By fax to the Docket Management Facility at 202–493–2251.
- (4) Electronically through the Web Site for the Docket Management System at http://dms.dot.gov.

The Docket Management Facility maintains the public docket for this rulemaking. Comments and material received from the public, as well as documents mentioned in this preamble as being available in the docket, will become part of this docket and will be available for inspection or copying at room PL–401 on the Plaza level of the Nassif Building, 400 Seventh Street

SW., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. You may also find this docket on the Internet at http://dms.dot.gov.

You may inspect the material proposed for incorporation by reference at room 1300, U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, 2100 Second Street SW., Washington, DC 20593–0001 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The telephone number is 202–267–0658. Copies of the material are available as indicated in the "Incorporation by Reference" section of this preamble.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For questions on this proposed rule, call Ms. Dolores Mercier, Project Manager, Office of Design and Engineering Standards (G–MSE), Coast Guard, telephone 202–267–0658. For questions on viewing or submitting material to the docket, call Dorothy Walker, Chief, Dockets, Department of Transportation, telephone 202–366–9329.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Request for Comments

We encourage you to participate in this rulemaking by submitting comments and related material. If you do so, please include your name and address, identify the docket number for this rulemaking (USCG-1999-6096), indicate the specific section of this document to which each comment applies, and give the reason for each comment. You may submit your comments and material by mail, hand delivery, fax, or electronic means to the Docket Management Facility at the address under ADDRESSES; but please submit your comments and material by only one means. If you submit them by mail or hand delivery, submit them in an unbound format, no larger than 81/2 by 11 inches, suitable for copying and electronic filing. If you submit them by mail and would like to know they reached the Facility, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed postcard or envelope. We will consider all comments and material received during the comment period. We may change this proposed rule in view of them.

#### **Public Meeting**

We do not now plan to hold a public meeting. But you may submit a request for one to the Docket Management Facility at the address under ADDRESSES explaining why one would be beneficial. If we determine that a public meeting would aid this rulemaking, we will hold one at a time and place announced by a later notice in the Federal Register.

### **Background and Purpose**

Since the last revision of our electrical engineering regulations in 46 CFR chapter I, subchapter J, (62 FR 23894, May 1, 1997), we have received a number of letters concerning the construction requirements in 46 CFR 111.60-1 and 111.60-3 for cable used on merchant vessels. Sections 111.60-1 and 111.60-3 allow the use of cables meeting certain industry standards listed in those sections. The letters suggest that there are other cable standards beside those listed in the two sections that would provide a level of performance and safety equivalent to the listed standards. The Coast Guard reviewed these standards and found them to be equivalent. Therefore, the purpose for this notice of proposed rulemaking is to gather your comments on whether you agree that these standards do provide an equivalent level of performance and safety for cable used on merchant vessels. The Coast Guard completed equivalency determinations on UL 1309 (1995); IEC 92-350, 1988, amendment 1 (1994); and IEC 92-353 (1995-01). We believe that these standards offer an equivalent level of performance and safety to those standards already listed. These equivalency determinations have been placed in the public docket for the rulemaking.

In the text of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee report accompanying HR 820, the committee stated that the Coast Guard should undertake a formal rulemaking process before deciding whether IEC 92–350, IEC 92–353, and UL 1309 are approved for use.

The Coast Guard encourages public comment on all aspects of this rulemaking initiative.

Discussion of Proposed Rule

The title and edition of the standards referred to in this discussion are found in proposed § 110.10–1(b) or in existing 46 CFR 110.10–1(b).

Proposed § 111.60-1(a)

This paragraph would be amended to allow the use of marine shipboard cable meeting UL 1309, IEC 92–350, or IEC 92–353, as well as cable meeting one of the standards presently listed.

Proposed § 111.60–1(b)

This paragraph would be amended to specify the flammability requirements for cable meeting IEC 92–350 or IEC 92–353.