

upon the date of enactment (November 26, 2002). Preemptions of terrorism risk exclusions in policies, mandatory participation provisions, disclosure and other requirements, and conditions for federal payment contained in the Act applied immediately to those entities that came within the Act's definition of "insurer."

The disclosure requirements are statutory conditions for federal payment under the Program. The disclosure requirements were effective immediately upon enactment and remain ongoing requirements that apply to new and renewed policies throughout the life of the Program. In the event of an act of terrorism resulting in insured losses under the Program, insurers must certify, and Treasury must ascertain, that these disclosure requirements have been met before federal payment is made. Similarly, the make available requirements are important elements of the Act. These requirements were effective immediately upon enactment and applied to policies in effect at that time. The make available requirements will continue to apply to new and renewed policies through the end of 2004 (and if the requirements are extended by the Secretary, through 2005). Given the significance of the disclosure and make available requirements to policyholders and insurers, there is an urgent need to issue immediately effective regulations. This includes the need to clarify, as necessary, the previously issued interim final rule. Moreover, because the changes are in the nature of clarifications, there should be no operational impact on insurers and no need for a delayed effective date.

Accordingly, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3), Treasury has determined that there is good cause for this final rule to become effective immediately upon publication.

This final rule is a significant regulatory action and has been reviewed by the Office of Management and Budget under the terms of Executive Order 12866.

It is hereby certified that this final rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. The Act requires all licensed or admitted insurers to participate in the Program. This includes all insurers regardless of size or sophistication. The Act also defines property and casualty insurance without any reference to the size or scope of the commercial entity. The disclosure and make available requirements are required by the Act. The final rule allows all insurers, whether large or small, to use existing

systems and business practices to demonstrate compliance. Accordingly, any economic impact associated with the final rule flows from the Act and not the final rule. However, the Act and the Program are intended to provide benefits to the U.S. economy and all businesses, including small businesses, by providing a federal reinsurance backstop to commercial property and casualty insurers and their policyholders and by spreading the risk of insured loss resulting from an act of terrorism.

#### List of Subjects in 31 CFR Part 50

Terrorism risk insurance.

#### Authority and Issuance

■ For the reasons set forth above, the interim final rule amending Subparts B and C of 31 CFR Part 50, which was published at 68 FR 19302 on April 18, 2003, is adopted as a final rule with the following changes:

#### PART 50—TERRORISM RISK INSURANCE PROGRAM

■ 1. The authority citation for 31 CFR Part 50 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 5 U.S.C. 301; 31 U.S.C. 321; Title I, Pub. L. 107–297, 116 Stat. 2322 (15 U.S.C. 6701 note).

■ 2. Section 50.12(d) of Subpart B is revised to read as follows:

#### § 50.12 Clear and conspicuous disclosure.

\* \* \* \* \*

(d) *Use of producer.* If an insurer normally communicates with a policyholder through an insurance producer or other intermediary, an insurer may provide disclosures through such producer or other intermediary. If an insurer elects to make the disclosures through an insurance producer or other intermediary, the insurer remains responsible for ensuring that the disclosures are provided by the insurance producer or other intermediary to policyholders in accordance with the Act.

\* \* \* \* \*

■ 3. Section 50.14 of Subpart B is revised to read as follows:

#### § 50.14 Separate line item.

An insurer is deemed to be in compliance with the requirement of providing disclosure on a "separate line item in the policy" under § 50.10(d) if the insurer makes the disclosure:

(a) On the declarations page of the policy;

(b) Elsewhere within the policy itself; or

(c) In any rider or endorsement, or other document that is made a part of the policy.

■ 4. Section 50.18(b)(2) of Subpart B is revised to read as follows:

#### § 50.18 Disclosure required by reinstatement provision

\* \* \* \* \*

(b) \* \* \*

(2) The insurer provided notice at least 30 days before any such reinstatement of the increased premium for such terrorism coverage and the rights of the insured with respect to such coverage, including the date upon which the exclusion would be reinstated if no payment is received, and the insured fails to pay any increased premium charged by the insurer for providing such terrorism coverage.

■ 5. Section 50.21(a) of Subpart C is revised to read as follows:

#### § 50.21 Make available.

(a) *General.* The requirement to make available coverage as provided in § 50.20 applies to policies in existence on November 26, 2002, new policies issued and renewals of existing policies during the period beginning on November 26, 2002 and ending on December 31, 2004 (the last day of Program Year 2), and if the requirement is extended by the Secretary, to new policies issued and renewals of existing policies in Program Year 3 (calendar year 2005). The requirement applies at the time an insurer makes the initial offer of coverage as well as at the time an insurer makes an initial offer of renewal of an existing policy.

\* \* \* \* \*

Dated: October 1, 2003.

**Wayne A. Abernathy,**

*Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.*

[FR Doc. 03–26251 Filed 10–16–03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4811–15–P

#### DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

#### Coast Guard

#### 33 CFR Part 165

[CGD09–03–270]

RIN 1625–AA00

#### Safety Zone; Wisconsin Central Rail Road Bridge Fox River, Green Bay, WI

**AGENCY:** Coast Guard, DHS.

**ACTION:** Temporary final rule.

**SUMMARY:** The Coast Guard is establishing a temporary safety zone on

the East side of the channel of the Wisconsin Central Rail Road Bridge at mile 2.61 Fox River. The east side of the channel will be closed to all vessel traffic. The rule is necessary to prevent vessels from transiting too close to the potentially unstable bridge. This rule is intended to restrict vessel traffic from a portion of Fox River mile 2.61, Green Bay, Wisconsin.

**DATES:** This rule is effective from October 1, 2003 until 11:59 p.m. December 1, 2003.

**ADDRESSES:** Documents indicated in this preamble as being available in the docket are part of docket [CGD09-03-270] and are available for inspection or copying at U.S. Coast Guard Marine Safety Office Milwaukee, 2420 South Lincoln Memorial Drive, Milwaukee, WI 53207 between 7 a.m. (CST) and 3:30 p.m. (CST), Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Marine Science Technician Michael Schmidtke, Marine Safety Office Milwaukee, (414) 747-7155.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Regulatory Information**

We did not publish a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) for this regulation. Under 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B) and under 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3), the Coast Guard finds that good cause exists for not publishing an NPRM and for making this rule effective less than 30 days after publication in the **Federal Register**. Due to a recent fire on the bridge, delaying this rule would be contrary to the public interest of ensuring the safety of those transiting the Fox River. This rule also ensures that any interested spectators do not accidentally place themselves in danger should any problems occur. As such, immediate action is necessary to prevent possible loss of life or property.

**Background and Purpose**

This Safety Zone is established to safeguard the public until the bridge is deemed safe and structurally sound. The size of the zone was determined by the necessities of safe navigation in the Captain of the Port zone and local knowledge about wind, waves, and currents in this particular area.

The safety zone is effective from October 1, 2003 until 11:59 p.m. December 1, 2003. This rule will be enforced until the bridge is deemed safe and structurally sound.

**Discussion of Rule**

The Coast Guard will implement a safety zone on the East side of the channel of the Wisconsin Central Rail Road Bridge at mile 2.61 Fox River. The

east side of the channel will be closed to all vessel traffic. The purpose of the safety zone is to protect the public from transiting too close to the unstable bridge. The safety zone will remain in place until the bridge is deemed safe and structurally sound. In addition, the Coast Guard will notify the public, in advance, by way of Ninth Coast Guard District Local Notice to Mariners, marine information broadcasts, and for those who request it from Marine Safety Office Milwaukee, by facsimile (fax).

All persons and vessels shall comply with the instructions of the Captain of the Port Milwaukee or his designated on-scene representative. Entry into, transiting through, or anchoring within the safety zone is prohibited unless authorized by the Captain of the Port Milwaukee or his designated on scene representative. The Captain of the Port Milwaukee may be contacted via VHF Channel 16.

**Regulatory Evaluation**

This rule is not a "significant regulatory action" under section 3(f) of Executive Order 12866, Regulatory Planning and Review, 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 Homeland Security (DHS).

We expect the economic impact of this proposed rule to be so minimal that a full Regulatory Evaluation under the regulatory policies and procedures of DHS is unnecessary.

This determination is based on the minimal time that vessels will be restricted from the zone and the zone is an area where the Coast Guard expects insignificant adverse impact to mariners from the zone's activation.

**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. The term "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 of 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 rule will affect the following entities: the owners or operators of

vessels intending to transit the east side of the channel of the Fox River mile 2.61 from October 1, 2003 until 11:59 p.m. December 1, 2003.

This safety zone will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities for the following reasons: This rule will be enforced to safeguard the boating public. The Coast Guard will give notice to the public via a Broadcast to Mariners that the regulation is in effect. Vessel traffic may enter or transit through the safety zone with the permission of the Captain of the Port Milwaukee or his designated on-scene representative.

**Assistance for Small Entities**

Under section 213(a) of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-121), we offer to assist small entities in understanding the rule so that they can better evaluate its effects on them and participate in the rulemaking process. If the rule would affect your small business, organization, or governmental jurisdiction and you have questions concerning its provisions or options for compliance, please contact Marine Safety Office Milwaukee (See **ADDRESSES**.)

Small businesses may send comments on the actions of Federal employees who enforce, or otherwise determine compliance with, Federal regulations to the Small Business and Agriculture Regulatory Enforcement Ombudsman and the Regional Small Business Regulatory Fairness Boards. The Ombudsman evaluates these actions annually and rates each agency's responsiveness to small business. If you wish to comment on actions by employees of the Coast Guard, call 1-888-REG-FAIR (1-888-734-3247).

**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**

A rule has implications for federalism under Executive Order 13132, Federalism, if it has a substantial direct effect on State or local governments and would either preempt State law or impose a substantial direct cost of compliance on them. We have analyzed this rule under that Order and have determined that it does not have implications for federalism.

**Unfunded Mandates Reform Act**

The Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1531-1538) requires Federal agencies to assess the effects of

their discretionary regulatory actions. In particular, the Act addresses actions that may result in the expenditure by a State, local, or tribal government, in the aggregate, or by the private sector of \$100,000,000 or more in any one year. Though this proposed rule would not result in such an expenditure, we do discuss the effects of this rule elsewhere in this preamble.

#### Taking of Private Property

This rule will not affect 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.

#### Indian Tribal Governments

This rule does not have tribal implications under Executive Order 13175, Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments, because it does not have a substantial direct effect on one or more Indian tribes, on the relationship between the Federal Government and Indian tribes, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities between the Federal Government and Indian tribes.

#### Energy Effects

We have analyzed this rule under Executive Order 13211, Actions Concerning Regulations That Significantly Affect Energy Supply, Distribution, or Use. We have determined that it is not a "significant energy action" under that order because it is not a "significant regulatory action" under Executive Order 12866 and is not likely to have a significant adverse effect on the supply, distribution, or use of energy. It has not been designated by the Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs as a significant energy action. Therefore, it does not require a Statement of Energy Effects under Executive Order 13211.

#### Environment

We have analyzed this rule under Commandant Instruction M16475.1D, which guides the Coast Guard in complying with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321–4370f), and have concluded that there are no factors in this case that would limit the use of a categorical exclusion under section 2.B.2. of the Instruction. Therefore, this rule is categorically excluded, under figure 2–1, paragraph (34)(g) of the Commandant Instruction M16475.1D, from further environmental documentation.

#### List of Subjects in 33 CFR Part 165

Harbors, Marine safety, Navigation (water), Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Security measures, and Waterways.

■ For the reasons discussed in the preamble, the Coast Guard amends 33 CFR part 165 as follows:

#### PART 165—REGULATED NAVIGATION AREAS AND LIMITED ACCESS AREAS

■ 1. The authority citation for part 165 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 33 U.S.C. 1226, 1231; 46 U.S.C. Chapter 701; 50 U.S.C. 191, 195; 33 CFR 1.05–1(g), 6.04–1, 6.04–6, and 160.5; Pub. L. 107–295, 116 Stat. 2064; Department of Homeland Security Delegation No. 0170.1.

■ 2. A new temporary § 165.T09–270 is added to read as follows:

#### § 165.T09–270 Safety Zone; Wisconsin Central Bridge Fox River mile 2.61, Green Bay, WI.

(a) *Location.* The following area is designated a safety zone: the eastern side of the channel of the Wisconsin Central Rail Road Bridge at mile 2.61 on the Fox River. The east side of the channel will be closed to all vessel traffic, Green Bay, WI.

(b) *Effective Time and Date.* This rule is effective from October 1, 2003 until 11:59 p.m. December 1, 2003.

(c) *Regulations.* (1) The general regulations contained in 33 CFR 165.23 apply.

(2) All persons and vessels shall comply with the instructions of the Coast Guard Captain of the Port Milwaukee or the designated on scene representative. Coast Guard patrol personnel include commissioned, warrant or petty officers of the U.S. Coast Guard. Upon being hailed by a U.S. Coast Guard vessel via siren, radio, flashing light, or other means, the operator shall proceed as directed.

(3) This safety zone should not adversely affect shipping. However, commercial vessels must request

permission from the Captain of the Port Milwaukee to enter or transit the safety zone. Approval will be made on a case-by-case basis. Requests must be in advance and approved by the Captain of the Port Milwaukee before transits will be authorized. The Captain of the Port Milwaukee may be contacted via U.S. Coast Guard Group Milwaukee on Channel 16, VHF–FM.

Dated: September 16, 2003.

**H.M. Hamilton,**

*Commander, U.S. Coast Guard, Captain of the Port Milwaukee.*

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#### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

#### DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

#### Coast Guard

#### DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

#### 38 CFR Part 21

#### RIN 2900–AL34

#### Veterans Education: Independent Study Approved for Certificate Programs and Other Miscellaneous Issues

**AGENCIES:** Department of Defense, Department of Homeland Security (Coast Guard), and Department of Veterans Affairs.

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** The Veterans Education and Benefits Expansion Act of 2001 allows payment of Montgomery GI Bill—Selected Reserve (MGIB–SR) benefits for accredited independent study courses that lead to a certificate that reflects educational attainment. The certificate must be offered by an institution of higher learning. The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) can provide MGIB–SR benefits for enrollments on or after December 27, 2001, in these independent study courses. We are also making changes in regulations in accordance with The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1998. The Act removed the language “in connection with the Persian Gulf War” and “during the Persian Gulf War” from certain sections in title 10, United States Code, regarding preservation of entitlement to MGIB–SR benefits for Selected Reserve members ordered to active duty in support of contingency operations. We are amending our regulations to reflect the statutory