

Register (60 FR 56007) advancing the consensus decisions of the Committee regarding the valuation of gas produced from Federal leases. On December 13, 1995, in the Federal Register (60 FR 64000), MMS extended the period for receiving comments on the proposed rule through February 5, 1996. MMS is holding a meeting of the Committee to discuss how to proceed with further rulemaking in light of the comments received on the proposed rule.

DATES: The Committee will meet on: Wednesday, June 12, 1996, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Thursday, June 13, 1996, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Friday, June 14, 1996, 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held at the Denver Federal Center, building 85, West 6th Avenue and Kipling Street, Lakewood, Colorado, 80225.

Written statements may be submitted to Ms. Deborah Gibbs Tschudy, Chief, Valuation and Standards Division, Minerals Management Service, Royalty Management Program, P.O. Box 25165, MS 3150, Denver, Colorado 80225-0165, courier delivery to Building 85, Denver Federal Center, Denver, CO 80225.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Deborah Gibbs Tschudy, Chief, Valuation and Standards Division, Minerals Management Service, Royalty Management Program, P.O. Box 25165, MS 3150, Denver, Colorado, 80225-0165, telephone number (303) 275-7200, fax number (303) 275-7227.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The meetings will be open to the public without advanced registration. Public attendance may be limited to the space available. Members of the public may make statements during the meeting, to the extent time permits, and file written statements with the Committee for its consideration.

Written statements should be submitted to the address listed above. Minutes of Committee meetings will be available for public inspection and copying 10 days following each meeting at the same address. In addition, the materials received to date during the input sessions are available for inspection and copying at the same address.

Dated: May 7, 1996.

Robert E. Brown,

Associate Director for Royalty Management.
[FR Doc. 96-11853 Filed 5-10-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-MR-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 100

[CGD01-95-058]

RIN 2115-AE 46

Special Local Regulation: Connecticut River Raft Race, Middletown, CT

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard proposes to amend the regulations governing the Connecticut River Raft Race. The event name would change to the "Great Connecticut River Raft Race" due to a change in sponsor. The regulated area would move upriver to coincide with a change in the race course. The effective period would also change to July 27, 1996, and each year thereafter on a date and times specified in a Federal Register document. This regulation is necessary to control vessel traffic within the regulated area due to the confined nature of the waterway and anticipated congestion at the time of the event, thus providing for the safety of life and property on the affected navigable waterway.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before June 27, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be mailed to Commander (b), First Coast Guard District, Captain John Foster Williams Federal Building, 408 Atlantic Ave., Boston, Massachusetts 02110-3350. Comments also may be hand-delivered to room 428 at the same address between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lieutenant (Junior Grade) Benjamin M. Algeo, Chief, Boating Affairs Branch, First Coast Guard District, (617) 223-8311.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Request for Comments

The Coast Guard encourages interested persons to participate in this rulemaking by submitting written data, views, or arguments. Each person submitting comments should include their name and address, identify this notice (CGD01-95-058), the specific section of the proposal to which each comment applies, and give the reason for each comment. Comments and attachments should be submitted on 8½" x 11" unbound paper in a format suitable for copying and electronic filing. If that is not practical, a second copy of any bound material is requested.

Persons requesting acknowledgement of receipt of comments should enclose a stamped, self-addressed postcard or envelope.

All comments received during the comment period will be considered by the Coast Guard and may change this proposal. The Coast Guard has no plans to hold a public hearing. Persons may request a public hearing by writing to Commander (b), First Coast Guard District at the address under **ADDRESSES**. The request should include reasons why a hearing would be beneficial. If the Coast Guard determines that oral presentations will aid this rulemaking, it will hold a public hearing at a time and place announced by a later notice in the Federal Register.

Discussion of Proposed Amendments

The Connecticut River Raft Race is in its twenty-second year, and is a popular local event. A permanent special local regulation, 33 CFR Part 100.102, governs the running of the event. Due to a change in sponsor, the name of the event will change to the "Great Connecticut River Raft Race" and the location of the race will be moved a short distance upriver. The event will continue to be annually recurring, therefore, the Coast Guard proposes to permanently amend the special local regulation found in 33 CFR Part 100.102. The race course and regulated area will change to consist of that portion of the Connecticut River between Marker nos. 92 and 73, Middletown, CT. The event date will also change from the first Saturday in August to the last Saturday in July or first Saturday in August.

This event will include up to 60 homemade rafts and is expected to draw up to 100 spectator craft. The Coast Guard, Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, and local fire and police departments will each assign a patrol to the event. However, due to the restricted maneuverability of the participating rafts, it is necessary to establish a special local regulation to control spectator and commercial vessel movement within this confined area. Spectator craft are authorized to watch the race from any area as long as they remain outside the designated regulated area.

The proposed section will be effective annually on the last Saturday in July or first Saturday in August, between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., or as published in a Coast Guard Notice to Mariners. A rain date may be established and announced in a Coast Guard Notice to Mariners. In emergency situations, the Coast Guard patrol commander may establish escort

procedures for vessels requiring transit through the regulated area.

Regulatory Evaluation

This proposal 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. It has been exempted from review by the Office of Management and Budget 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). The Coast Guard expects the economic impact of this proposal to be so minimal that a full Regulatory Evaluation, under paragraph 10e of the regulatory policies and procedures of DOT, is unnecessary. This conclusion is based on the limited duration of the race, the extensive advisories that will be made to the affected maritime community, and the minimal restrictions the regulation places on vessel traffic.

Small Entities

Under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*), the Coast Guard must consider the economic impact on small entities of a rule for which a general notice of proposed rulemaking is required. "Small entities" may include (1) small businesses and not-for-profit organizations that are independently owned and operated and are not dominant in their fields and (2) governmental jurisdictions with populations of less than 50,000. For the reasons discussed in the Regulatory Evaluation, the Coast Guard certifies under 5 U.S.C. 605(b) that this proposal will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

Collection of Information

This proposal contains no collection of information requirements under the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*).

Federalism

The Coast Guard has analyzed this proposal in accordance with the principles and criteria contained in Executive Order 12612 and has determined that this proposal does not raise sufficient federalism implications to warrant the preparation of a Federalism Assessment.

Environment

The Coast Guard has considered the environmental impacts of this proposal and concluded that, under paragraph 2.B.2.e.34(h) of COMDTINST 16475.1B

(as revised by 59 FR 38654, July 29, 1994), this proposal is a regulation issued in conjunction with an annually issued regatta or marine parade permit and is categorically excluded from further environmental documentation.

List of Subjects in 33 CFR Part 100

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

Proposed Regulation

For the reasons set out in the preamble, the Coast Guard proposes to amend 33 CFR part 100 as follows:

PART 100—[AMENDED]

1. The authority citation for Part 100 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 33 U.S.C. 1233; 49 CFR 1.46 and 33 CFR 100.35.

2. Section 100.102 is revised to read as follows:

§ 100.102 Great Connecticut River Raft Race, Middletown, CT.

(a) *Regulated Area.* That section of the Connecticut River between Dart Island (Marker no. 73) and Portland Shoals (Marker no. 92), Middletown, CT.

(b) *Special Local Regulations.*

(1) The Coast Guard patrol commander may delay, modify, or cancel the race as conditions or circumstances require.

(2) No person or vessel may enter, transit, or remain in the regulated area unless participating in the event or unless authorized by the Coast Guard patrol commander.

(3) Vessels encountering emergencies which require transit through the regulated area should contact the Coast Guard patrol commander on VHF Channel 16. In the event of an emergency, the Coast Guard patrol commander may authorize a vessel to transit through the regulated area with a Coast Guard designated escort.

(4) All persons and vessels shall comply with the instructions of the on-scene Coast Guard patrol commander. On-scene patrol personnel may include commissioned, warrant, and petty officers of the U.S. Coast Guard. Upon hearing five or more short blasts from a U.S. Coast Guard vessel, the operator of a vessel shall proceed as directed. Members of the Coast Guard Auxiliary will also be present to inform vessel operators of this regulation and other applicable laws.

(c) *Effective period.* This section is in effect from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on July 27, 1996, and each year thereafter on a date and times specified in a Federal Register Document.

Dated March 19, 1996.

J.L. Linnon,

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

[FR Doc. 96-11774 Filed 5-10-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-14-M

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 100

[CGD01-96-025]

RIN 2115-AE 46

Special Local Regulation: Newport-Bermuda Regatta, Narragansett Bay, Newport, RI

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard proposes to establish a permanent special local regulation for the Newport-Bermuda Regatta. The event will be held on June 21, 1996, and biennially thereafter on even numbered years on the third Friday in June. The regatta begins in the approach to Newport Harbor, Newport, RI, in the East Passage of Narragansett Bay, continuing offshore to Bermuda, U.K. This regulation is needed to control vessel movement in the confined waters of the regatta start area.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before June 12, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be mailed to Commander (b), First Coast Guard District, Captain John Foster Williams Federal Building, 408 Atlantic Ave., Boston, MA 02110-3350, or may be hand delivered to Room 428 at the same address, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except federal holidays. Comments will become part of this docket and will be available for inspection or copying at the above address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lieutenant (Junior Grade) Benjamin. M. Algeo, Chief, Boating Affairs Branch, First Coast Guard District, (617) 223-8311.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Request for Comments

The Coast Guard encourages interested persons to participate in this rulemaking by submitting written data, views, or arguments. Each person submitting comments should include their name and address, identify this notice (CGD01-96-025), the specific section of the proposal to which each comment applies, and give the reason for each comment. Comments and attachments should be submitted on