

Requirements for VWPP Participation

For a country to qualify as a participant in the VWPP, the country:

- Must agree to waive the visa requirement for nationals of the United States entering for business or pleasure for ninety (90) days or less,
- Must meet statutorily prescribed limits on visa refusal rates for the prior two year period, as well as the prior year;
- Must meet statutorily prescribed limits on rates of exclusion at ports of entry and on overstay rates,
- Must have a machine readable passport program. VWPP travelers must meet the following conditions:
 - They must present a valid passport;
 - They must be seeking entry into the United States for business or pleasure;
 - They must be seeking entry into the United States for ninety days or less (no extensions or changes/adjustments of status are allowed);
 - They must possess an onward or return ticket if traveling by air or sea;
 - They must not be ineligible under the Immigration and Nationality Act;
 - They must agree to waive any right to appeal a denial of entry.

Addition of Qualifying Countries*Portugal, Singapore and Uruguay*

The Attorney General, in consultation with the Secretary of State, has recently determined that Portugal, Singapore, and Uruguay have met the statutory requirements of INA 217 and, effective August 9, 1999, are eligible to participate in the Visa Waiver Pilot Program.

Interim Rule

The Department is promulgating this regulation in conjunction with the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) because section 217 of the INA, requires action by the Attorney General, in consultation with the Secretary of State. [See INS Rule also published in this **Federal Register** issue.]

The Department is implementing this regulation as an interim rule, with a 30-day provision for post-promulgation public comments. Publication as an interim rule is based upon the "good cause" exceptions set forth at 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B) and 553(d)(3). Because this rule will facilitate tourist and business travel to and from the designated countries, delay for pre-promulgation public comment would be contrary to the public interest.

In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 605(b) [Regulatory Flexibility Act], the Department certifies that this rule does not have a "significant adverse economic impact" on a substantial

number of small entities, because it is inapplicable. This rule is exempt from E.O. 12866 [Regulatory Planning and Review] but has been coordinated with the Immigration and Naturalization Service because action by the Attorney General is required under section 217 of the INA, as amended. The rule imposes no reporting or record-keeping action from the public requiring the approval of the Office of Management and Budget under the Paperwork Reduction Act. The Department has reviewed the rule as required by E.O. 12988 [Civil Justice Reform] and certifies it to be in compliance therewith.

List of Subjects in 22 CFR Part 41

Aliens, Nonimmigrants, Passports, Temporary visitors, Visas, Waivers.

This interim rule, with request for comments, amends Part 41, Title 22 as follows:

PART 41—[AMENDED]

1. The authority citation for part 41 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 8 U.S.C. 1104.

§ 41.2 [Amended]

2. Amend paragraph (l)(2) of § 41.2 by removing the period at the end of the paragraph and adding "Portugal, Singapore and Uruguay" (effective August 9, 1999)" at the end of the sentence.

Dated: June 25, 1999.

Mary A. Ryan,

Assistant Secretary for Consular Affairs.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Coast Guard****33 CFR Part 117**

[CGD11-99-012]

Drawbridge Operation Regulations; Sacramento River, California Department of Transportation Highway Bridge at Mile 90.1, at Knights Landing, Between Sutter and Yolo Counties, CA

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of temporary deviation from regulations.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Coast Guard has issued a temporary deviation to regulations governing opening of the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) Knights Landing bascule bridge over the Sacramento River at Knights Landing, CA. The bridge need open for vessels only on 24 hours

advance notice from August 2 through September 14, 1999. Additionally, only the south leaf of the bridge will be in service during this period. The bridge is normally operated on 12 hour advance notice, but Caltrans needs additional notice to facilitate replacement of the submarine power cable.

DATES: Effective period of the deviation is August 2, 1999, through September 14, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Jerry Olmes, Bridge Administrator, Eleventh Coast Guard District, Building 50-6, Coast Guard Island, Alameda, CA 94501-5100, telephone (510) 437-3515.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Caltrans notified the Eleventh Coast Guard District of the need for the submarine cable replacement on June 25, 1999. These dates represent the only available work window, due to potential impacts to sensitive species at other times. Although alternate routes past the bridge are not available, there would be little or no impact to vessel traffic since vessels can still transit the bridge with advance notice. The horizontal clearance through the bridge with one leaf operation is 100 feet, which is adequate for all vessels normally using the waterway in the Knights Landing area. The bridge provides 30 feet vertical clearance above Low Water and is opened only a few times each year for large recreational vessels or marine construction or dredging equipment.

This deviation from the normal operating regulations in 33 CFR 117.189(b) is authorized in accordance with the provisions of 33 CFR 117.35.

Dated: July 22, 1999.

T.H. Collins,

Vice Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard, Commander, Eleventh Coast Guard District.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**40 CFR Part 261**

[SW-FRL-6409-3]

Hazardous Waste Management System; Identification and Listing of Hazardous Waste; Final Exclusion

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is granting a petition submitted by Occidental Chemical Inc. (Occidental) to exclude from hazardous waste control (or delist) a certain solid