

Proposed Rules

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains notices to the public of the proposed issuance of rules and regulations. The purpose of these notices is to give interested persons an opportunity to participate in the rule making prior to the adoption of the final rules.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

22 CFR Part 62

[Public Notice: 12273]

RIN 1400-AF12

Exchange Visitor Program—Au Pairs; Extension of Comment Period

AGENCY: U.S. Department of State.

ACTION: Proposed rule; extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: On October 30, 2023, the U.S. Department of State (Department of State) published a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for the Exchange Visitor Program—Au pair category. The Notice of Proposed Rulemaking provided a deadline for submitting comments by December 29, 2023. The Department of State received a request from the Alliance for International Exchange seeking an extension of the public comment period. The Department of State has reviewed this request and is announcing an extension of the public comment period for 30 days to allow public comments to be submitted on or before January 28, 2024.

DATES: The comment period for the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking published in the **Federal Register** on October 30, 2023 (88 FR 74071) is extended. Written comments must be received by January 28, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Interested parties may submit comments to the Department of State by any of the following methods:

- Visit the *Regulations.gov* website at: <https://www.regulations.gov> and search for the docket number DOS-2023-0025.
- Email: JExchanges@state.gov. You must include RIN 1400-AF12 in the subject line of your message.

- All comments should include the commenter's name, the organization the commenter represents, if applicable, and the commenter's email address. If the Department of State is unable to read your comment for any reason, and cannot contact you for clarification, the Department of State may not be able to consider your comment.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Karen Ward, Director, Office of Private Sector Exchange Designation, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, U.S. Department of State, SA-5, 2200 C Street NW, Washington, DC 20522-0505. Telephone: 202-733-7852. Email: DesignationAuPair@state.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On October 30, 2023, the Department of State published a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for the Au pair category (88 FR 74071) (RIN 1400-AF12; Document ID DOS-2023-0025-0001). On November 6, 2023, the Department received a request from the Alliance for International Exchange (the Alliance), whose members represent a large percentage of Department of State-designated sponsors in the Au pair category, for a minimum 30-day extension of the public comment period of the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking. The Alliance requested a comment period extension given the many designated sponsors, exchange community host families, participants, and groups interested in filing comments and the number of issues addressed in the rule.

The Department of State has reviewed the request and has decided to extend the deadline. Therefore, the public comment period for the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking will now close on January 28, 2024.

Karen Ward,

Director, Office of Private Sector Exchange Designation, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, U.S. Department of State.

[FR Doc. 2023-26292 Filed 11-29-23; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-05-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 165

[Docket Number USCG-2023-0845]

RIN 1625-AA00

Safety Zone; Marina Del Rey, California

AGENCY: Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is proposing to add two events to the table regarding

“Southern California Annual Firework Events for the Los Angeles Long Beach Captain of the Port zone.” The proposed additions are temporary safety zones, one for the Marina Del Rey annual Boat Parade fireworks show and another for the Marina Del Rey New Year’s Eve fireworks display. Entry into these safety zones would be prohibited during the annual events to provide for the safety of the waterway users and to keep them clear of potential harmful debris within the fallout zone.

DATES: Comments and related material must be received by the Coast Guard on or before December 15, 2023.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments identified by docket number USCG-2023-0845 using the Federal Decision-Making Portal at <https://www.regulations.gov>. See the “Public Participation and Request for Comments” portion of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for further instructions on submitting comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions about this proposed rulemaking, call or email LCDR Kevin Kinsella, U.S. Coast Guard Sector Los Angeles-Long Beach; telephone (310) 521-3861, email D11-SMB-SectorLALB-WWM@uscg.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Table of Abbreviations

CFR Code of Federal Regulations
 DHS Department of Homeland Security
 FR Federal Register
 NPRM Notice of proposed rulemaking
 § Section
 U.S.C. United States Code

II. Background, Purpose, and Legal Basis

On October 5, 2023, Los Angeles County notified the Coast Guard that it will be conducting its annual boat parade firework display on the second weekend in December, as well as its New Year’s Eve fireworks display on December 31st each year. In both events, the fireworks will be launched from Marina Del Rey’s South Jetty that runs between Ballona Creek and the entrance to Marina Del Rey, CA. Hazards from the fireworks displays include accidental discharge of fireworks, dangerous projectiles, and falling hot embers or other debris. The Captain of the Port Sector Los Angeles-Long Beach (COTP) has determined that potential

hazards associated with the fireworks to be used in this display would be a safety concern for anyone within a 1,000-foot radius of the pyrotechnics platform. The purpose of this rulemaking is to ensure the safety of vessels and the navigable waters within a 1,000-foot radius of the fireworks platform before, during, and after the scheduled annual event for this year and future years. The Coast Guard is proposing this rulemaking under authority in 46 U.S.C. 70034. In addition, the Coast Guard is providing a shorter than usual comment period to obtain public input before the upcoming annual display for the 2023 season. The Coast Guard will use the input to determine if any changes are needed to the safety zones for these fireworks events.

III. Discussion of Proposed Rule

The COTP is proposing to amend the current Table 1 to 33 CFR 165.1125 for Southern California Annual Firework Events for the Los Angeles-Long Beach Captain of the Port zone. The proposed amendment adds two events to Table 1. The temporary safety zones will take place annually in the Marina Del Rey Harbor Channel Entrance for approximately two hours each on the second weekend in December and on New Year's Eve, December 31st. The temporary safety zones would cover all navigable waters within a 1,000-foot radius of the discharge area on the Marina Del Rey South Jetty located in position 33°57'45" N/118°27'21" W. The duration of the zones is intended to ensure the safety of vessels and these navigable waters before, during, and after the scheduled fireworks displays. No vessel or person would be permitted to enter the safety zone without obtaining permission from the COTP or a designated representative. The regulatory text we are proposing appears at the end of this document.

IV. Regulatory Analyses

We developed this proposed rule after considering numerous statutes and Executive orders related to rulemaking. Below we summarize our analyses based on a number of these statutes and Executive orders, and we discuss First Amendment rights of protestors.

A. Regulatory Planning and Review

Executive Orders 12866 and 13563 direct agencies to assess the costs and benefits of available regulatory alternatives and, if regulation is necessary, to select regulatory approaches that maximize net benefits. This NPRM has not been designated a "significant regulatory action," under section 3(f) of Executive Order 12866, as

amended by Executive Order 14094 (Modernizing Regulatory Review). Accordingly, the NPRM has not been reviewed by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

This regulatory action determination is based on the size, location, duration, and time-of-day of the safety zone. Vessel traffic would be able to safely transit around this safety zone before and after the Firework displays, which would impact the entrance of Marina Del Rey and Ballona Creek for less than a 2-hour window during the evening when vessel traffic is normally low. Moreover, the Coast Guard would issue a Broadcast Notice to Mariners via VHF-FM marine channel 16 about the zone, and the rule would allow vessels to seek permission to enter the zone.

B. Impact on Small Entities

The Regulatory Flexibility Act of 1980, 5 U.S.C. 601–612, as amended, requires Federal agencies to consider the potential impact of regulations on small entities during rulemaking. 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 proposed rule would not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

While some owners or operators of vessels intending to transit the safety zone may be small entities, for the reasons stated in section IV.A above, this proposed rule would not have a significant economic impact on any vessel owner or operator.

If you think that your business, organization, or governmental jurisdiction qualifies as a small entity and that this proposed rule would have a significant economic impact on it, please submit a comment (see **ADDRESSES**) explaining why you think it qualifies and how and to what degree this rule would economically affect it.

Under section 213(a) of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 (Pub. L. 104–121), we want to assist small entities in understanding this proposed rule. If the proposed rule would affect your small business, organization, or governmental jurisdiction and you have questions concerning its provisions or options for compliance, please call or email the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section. The Coast Guard will not retaliate against small entities that question or complain about this proposed rule or any policy or action of the Coast Guard.

C. Collection of Information

This proposed rule would not call for a new collection of information under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501–3520).

D. Federalism and Indian Tribal Governments

A rule has implications for federalism under Executive Order 13132 (Federalism), if it has a substantial direct effect on the States, on the relationship between the National Government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government. We have analyzed this proposed rule under that order and have determined that it is consistent with the fundamental federalism principles and preemption requirements described in Executive Order 13132.

Also, this proposed rule does not have tribal implications under Executive Order 13175 (Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments) because it would 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. If you believe this proposed rule has implications for federalism or Indian tribes, please call or email the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section.

E. 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 (adjusted for inflation) or more in any one year. Though this proposed rule would not result in such an expenditure, we do discuss the potential effects of this proposed rule elsewhere in this preamble.

F. Environment

We have analyzed this proposed rule under Department of Homeland Security Directive 023–01, Rev. 1, associated implementing instructions, and Environmental Planning COMDTINST 5090.1 (series), which guide the Coast Guard in complying with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321–4370f), and have made a preliminary determination that this action is one of a category of actions that do not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on

the human environment. This proposed rule involves two safety zones lasting two hours each that would prohibit entry within 1,000 feet of a fireworks display. Normally such actions are categorically excluded from further review under paragraph L60a of Appendix A, Table 1 of DHS Instruction Manual 023-01-001-01, Rev. 1. We seek any comments or information that may lead to the discovery of a significant environmental impact from this proposed rule.

G. Protest Activities

The Coast Guard respects the First Amendment rights of protesters. Protesters are asked to call or email the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section to coordinate protest activities so that your message can be received without jeopardizing the safety or security of people, places, or vessels.

V. Public Participation and Request for Comments

We view public participation as essential to effective rulemaking and will consider all comments and material received during the comment period. Your comment can help shape the outcome of this rulemaking. If you submit a comment, please include the docket number for this rulemaking, indicate the specific section of this document to which each comment

applies, and provide a reason for each suggestion or recommendation.

Submitting comments. We encourage you to submit comments through the Federal Decision-Making Portal at <https://www.regulations.gov>. To do so, go to <https://www.regulations.gov>, type USCG-2023-0845 in the search box and click “Search.” Next, look for this document in the Search Results column, and click on it. Then click on the Comment option. If you cannot submit your material by using <https://www.regulations.gov>, call or email the person in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this proposed rule for alternate instructions.

Viewing material in docket. To view documents mentioned in this proposed rule as being available in the docket, find the docket as described in the previous paragraph, and then select “Supporting & Related Material” in the Document Type column. Public comments will also be placed in our online docket and can be viewed by following instructions on the <https://www.regulations.gov> Frequently Asked Questions web page. Also, if you click on the Dockets tab and then the proposed rule, you should see a “Subscribe” option for email alerts. The option will notify you when comments are posted, or a final rule is published.

We review all comments received, but we will only post comments that address the topic of the proposed rule. We may choose not to post off-topic,

inappropriate, or duplicate comments that we receive.

Personal information. We accept anonymous comments. Comments we post to <https://www.regulations.gov> will include any personal information you have provided. For more about privacy and submissions to the docket in response to this document, see DHS’s eRulemaking System of Records notice (85 FR 14226, March 11, 2020).

List of Subjects in 33 CFR Part 165

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

For the reasons discussed in the preamble, the Coast Guard is proposing to amend 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: 46 U.S.C. 70034, 70051, 70124; 33 CFR 1.05-1, 6.04-1, 6.04-6, and 160.5; Department of Homeland Security Delegation No. 00170.1, Revision No. 01.3.

- 2. In § 165.1125, amend Table 1 to § 165.1125 by adding an entry for items 14 and 15 to read as follows:

§ 165.1125 Southern California Annual Firework Events for the Los Angeles Long Beach Captain of the Port zone.

* * * * *

TABLE 1 TO § 165.1125

14. Holiday Fireworks, Los Angeles County	
Sponsor	Los Angeles County, CA.
Event Description	Fireworks Display.
Date	Second weekend in December.
Location	Marina Del Ray, CA.
Regulated Area	1,000-foot radius zone around the firework display located approximately: 33°57'45" N, 118°27'21" W on the Marina Del Rey South Jetty.
15. New Years Eve Fireworks, Los Angeles County	
Sponsor	Los Angeles County, CA.
Event Description	Fireworks Display.
Date	December 31.
Location	Marina Del Rey, CA.
Regulated Area	1,000-foot radius zone around the firework display located approximately: 33°57'45" N, 118°27'21" W on the Marina Del Rey South Jetty.

Dated: November 23, 2023.

R.D. Manning,

Captain, U.S. Coast Guard, Captain of the Port Sector Los Angeles-Long Beach.

[FR Doc. 2023-26341 Filed 11-29-23; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9110-04-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

49 CFR Parts 107, 171, and 173

[Docket No. PHMSA-2020-0103 (HM-257A)]

RIN 2137-AF50

Hazardous Materials: Streamlining Requirements for the Approval of Certain Energetic Materials

AGENCY: Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

SUMMARY: PHMSA proposes to amend the Hazardous Materials Regulations to revise the classification and approval process for certain low-hazard fireworks; to revise classification criteria for small arms cartridges to include tracer ammunition; to include the PHMSA portal as the method to submit applications for all explosives approvals; and to allow for voluntary termination of an explosive approval by the approval holder.

DATES: Comments must be submitted by February 28, 2024. PHMSA will consider late-filed comments to the extent possible.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by identification of the docket number (PHMSA-2020-0103 [HM-257A]) by any of the following methods:

Federal Rulemaking Portal: <https://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

Fax: 1-202-493-2251.

Mail: Docket Management System, U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590-0001.

Hand Delivery: U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590-0001 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Instructions: Include the agency name and docket number PHMSA-2020-0103 (HM-257A) or RIN 2137-AF50 for this

rulemaking at the beginning of your comment. Note that all comments received will be posted without change to <https://www.regulations.gov> including any personal information provided. If sent by mail, comments must be submitted in duplicate. Persons wishing to receive confirmation of receipt of their comments must include a self-addressed stamped postcard.

Docket: For access to the public docket to read background documents or comments received, visit <https://www.regulations.gov> or the DOT Docket Operations Office (*see ADDRESSES*).

Confidential Business Information: Confidential Business Information (CBI) is commercial or financial information that is both customarily and actually treated as private by its owner. Under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA; 5 U.S.C. 552), CBI is exempt from public disclosure. If your comments responsive to this NPRM contain commercial or financial information that is customarily treated as private, that you actually treat as private, and that is relevant or responsive to this NPRM, it is important that you clearly designate the submitted comments as CBI. Please mark each page of your submission containing CBI as "PROPIN." Submissions containing CBI should be sent to Eugenio Cardez, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590-0001. Any commentary PHMSA receives that is not specifically designated as CBI will be placed in the public docket for this rulemaking.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Eugenio Cardez, Transportation Specialist, Standards and Rulemaking Division, Office of Hazardous Materials Safety, 202-366-8553, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590.

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I. Background

The pyrotechnic industry is a global logistics supply chain comprised of mostly foreign fireworks manufacturers and domestic importers, retailers, distributors, carriers, and consumers. Fireworks are a Class 1 explosive material in accordance with the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR; 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) parts 171-180). Class 1 explosives are divided into six divisions based on their explosion hazard: 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, and 1.6. PHMSA proposes to amend the classification and approval process of certain low-hazard fireworks of Division 1.4G. As defined in § 173.50 of the HMR, Division 1.4 consists of explosives that present a minor explosion hazard. Division 1.4 explosives have explosive effects that are largely confined to the package; no projection of fragments of appreciable size or range is to be expected; and an external fire must not cause virtually instantaneous explosion of almost the entire contents of the package. Explosives are assigned compatibility codes used to specify the controls for the transportation, and storage related thereto, of explosives and to prevent an increase in hazard that might result if certain types of explosives were stored or transported together. Explosives assigned a "G" code are not limited to fireworks and may also be defined as pyrotechnic substances or articles containing a pyrotechnic substance, or articles containing both an explosive substance and an illuminating, incendiary, tear-producing or smoke-producing substance.

Subpart C of part 173 details requirements for the classification and packaging of Class 1 explosive materials and specifies that explosives, including fireworks, must be approved and assigned an explosives approval number—*i.e.*, an EX number—by PHMSA, based on actual testing and classification, prior to transportation to, from, and within the United States. Section 173.64 permits Division 1.3G and 1.4G fireworks to be approved without prior examination based on certain conditions, including compliance with the provisions of the 2018 American Pyrotechnic Association (APA) Standards 87-1A, 1B, and 1C,