DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 165

[Docket Number USCG–2015–0510]

RIN 1625–AA00

Safety Zone; TriMet Tilikum Crossing Bridge Fireworks Display, Willamette River, Portland, OR

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Temporary final rule.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is issuing this temporary final rule without prior notice and opportunity to comment pursuant to authority under section 4(a) of the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) (5 U.S.C. 553(b)). This provision authorizes an agency to issue a rule without prior notice and opportunity to comment when the agency for good cause finds that those procedures are “impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest.” Under 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B), the Coast Guard finds that good cause exists for not publishing a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) with respect to this rule. Waiting for a 30 day notice period to run would be impracticable. The Coast Guard did not receive the necessary information in time for this regulation to undertake both an NPRM prior to the scheduled event.

Under 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3), the Coast Guard finds that good cause exists for making this rule effective less than 30 days after publication in the Federal Register due to the late notification of this event and because the event will have occurred before comments could have been taken. Additionally, waiting for a 30 day notice period to run would be impracticable as delayed promulgation may result in injury or damage to persons and vessels from the hazards associated with fireworks displays.

B. Basis and Purpose

The legal basis for this rule is: 33 U.S.C. 1231; 50 U.S.C. 191; 33 CFR 1.05–1, 6.04–1, 6.04–6, and 160.5; Department of Homeland Security Delegation No. 0170.1; which collectively authorize the Coast Guard to establish regulatory safety zones for safety and environmental purposes.

Fireworks displays create hazardous conditions for the maritime public because of the large number of vessels that congregate near the displays, as well as the noise, falling debris, and explosions that occur during the event. This safety zone is necessary in order to reduce vessel traffic congestion in the proximity of fireworks discharge sites and to prevent vessel traffic within the fallout zone of the fireworks.

C. Discussion of the Temporary Final Rule

This rule establishes one safety zone in the Sector Columbia River Captain of the Port Zone.

The safety zone will encompass all waters, bank to bank of the Willamette River, in Portland, Oregon enclosed by the Marquam and Ross Island Bridges.

This event will be held on Saturday August 22, 2015 from 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

D. Regulatory Analyses

We developed this rule after considering numerous statutes and executive orders related to rulemaking. Below we summarize our analyses based on these statutes and executive orders.

1. Regulatory Planning and Review

This rule is not a significant regulatory action under section 3(f) of Executive Order 12866, Regulatory Planning and Review, as supplemented by Executive Order 13563, Improving Regulation and Regulatory Review, and does not require an assessment of potential costs and benefits under section 6(a)(3) of Executive Order 12866 or under section 1 of Executive Order 13563. The Office of Management and Budget has not reviewed it under those Orders. The Coast Guard has made this determination based on the fact that the safety zone created by this rule will not significantly affect the maritime public because vessels may still coordinate their transit with the Coast Guard in the vicinity of the safety zone.

2. Impact on Small Entities

The Regulatory Flexibility Act of 1980 (RFA), 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 rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. This rule may affect the following entities, some of which may be small entities: The owners and operators of vessels intending to operate in the area covered by the safety zone. The rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities because the safety zones will only be in effect for a limited period of time. Additionally, vessels can still transit through the zone with the permission of the Captain of the Port. Before the effective period, we will publish advisories in the Local Notice to Mariners available to users of the river. Maritime traffic will be able to schedule their transits around the safety zone.

If you think that your business, organization, or governmental jurisdiction qualifies as a small entity...
and that this 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.

3. Assistance for Small Entities

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 rule. 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 the person listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT, above.

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). The Coast Guard will not retaliate against small entities that question or complain about this rule or any policy or action of the Coast Guard.

4. Collection of Information

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

5. Federalism

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 rule under that Order and determined that this rule does not have implications for federalism.

6. Protest Activities

The Coast Guard respects the First Amendment rights of protesters. Protesting or demonstrating in the safety zones described in this rule is permitted as long as it is conducted in a manner that does not violate the general regulations in 33 CFR part 165, subpart C, or the specific regulations governing the safety zone.

The Coast Guard will not retaliate against a small entity that questions or comments on this rule and will not prohibit or limit an entity’s right to file suit under any Federal law.

7. 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 rule will not result in such expenditure, we do not discuss the effects of this rule elsewhere in this preamble.

8. Taking of Private Property

This rule will not cause a taking of private property or otherwise have taking implications under Executive Order 12630, Governmental Actions and Interference with Constitutionally Protected Property Rights.

9. 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.

10. 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 create an environmental risk to health or risk to safety that may disproportionately affect children.

11. 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.

12. Energy Effects

This action is not a “significant energy action” under Executive Order 13211, Actions Concerning Regulations That Significantly Affect Energy Supply, Distribution, or Use.

13. Technical Standards

This rule does not use technical standards. Therefore, we did not consider the use of voluntary consensus standards.

14. Environment

We have analyzed this rule under Department of Homeland Security Management Directive 023–01 and Commandant Instruction M16475.1D, which guide the Coast Guard in complying with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321–4370f), and have determined 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 rule involves the creation of one safety zone during fireworks displays to protect maritime public. This rule is categorically excluded from further review under paragraph 34(g) of Figure 2–1 of the Commandant Instruction. An environmental analysis checklist supporting this determination and a Categorical Exclusion Determination are available in the docket where indicated under ADDRESSES. We seek any comments or information that may lead to the discovery of a significant environmental impact from this rule.

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 amending 33 CFR part 165 as follows:

PART 165—REGULATED NAVIGATION AREAS AND LIMITED ACCESS AREAS

§ 165.103 Safety Zone; Willamette River, Portland, OR.
(a) Safety Zones. The following area is a designated safety zone:
(1) Location. The safety zone will encompass all waters, bank to bank of the Willamette River, in Portland, Oregon enclosed by the Marquam and Ross Island Bridges.
(2) Enforcement Period. This event will be held on Saturday August 22, 2015 from 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
(b) Regulations. In accordance with the general regulations in 33 CFR part 165, subpart C, no person may enter or remain in the safety zone created in this section or bring, cause to be brought, or allow to remain in the safety zone created in this section any vehicle, vessel, or object unless authorized by the Captain of the Port or his designated
representative. The Captain of the Port may be assisted by other Federal, State, or local agencies with the enforcement of the safety zone.

(c) Authorization. All vessel operators who desire to enter the safety zone must obtain permission from the Captain of the Port or Designated Representative by contacting either the on-scene patrol craft on VHF Ch 13 or Ch 16 or the Coast Guard Sector Columbia River Command Center via telephone at (503) 861–6211.

(d) Definitions. As used in this section, designated representative means any Coast Guard commissioned, warrant, or petty officer who has been authorized by the Sector Columbia River Captain of the Port to assist in enforcing the security zones described in paragraph (a) of this section.

Dated: June 23, 2015.

D.J. Travers,
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard, Captain of the Port, Sector Columbia River.

[FR Doc. 2015–19815 Filed 8–11–15; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

38 CFR Part 36

RIN 2900–AP25

Loan Guaranty: Adjustable Rate Mortgage Notification Requirements and Look-Back Period

AGENCY: Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This document adopts as final, without change, a proposed rule of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to amend its regulations that govern adjustable rate mortgages made in conjunction with the Home Loan Guaranty program. These revisions align VA’s disclosure and interest rate adjustment requirements with the implementing regulations of the Truth in Lending Act (TILA), as recently revised by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB). This rulemaking will ensure VA remains consistent with other applicable consumer finance and housing regulations governing adjustable rate mortgages.

DATES: Effective Date: This rule is effective September 11, 2015.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John Bell III, Assistant Director for Loan Policy (262), Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Ave. NW., Washington, DC 20420. (202) 632–8786. (This is not a toll-free number.)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

The January 29, 2015 Proposed Rule

On January 29, 2015, VA published a proposed rule in the Federal Register at 80 FR 4812, to revise VA’s regulations governing adjustable rate mortgages set forth at 38 CFR 36.4312(d). VA proposed two amendments in this rulemaking to ensure VA regulations remain aligned with TILA and the implementing regulations set forth by the CFPB. First, VA proposed amending 38 CFR 36.4312(d)(6) so that the requirements for the disclosures and notifications that must be provided to borrowers prior to an interest-rate adjustment are cross-referenced to those set forth in the TILA implementing regulations at 12 CFR 1026.20(c) and (d). Second, VA proposed amending 38 CFR 36.4312(d)(2) to require that lenders adjust interest rates based on the most recent interest rate index figure available 45 days prior to the interest rate adjustment, instead of the interest rate index available 30 days prior to the interest rate adjustment, as is currently required in VA’s regulations.

The public comment period for the proposed rule closed on March 30, 2015. VA received two comments. The comments received on the proposed rule are discussed below. VA adopts without change the proposed rule that revises VA’s adjustable rate mortgage regulations at 38 CFR 36.4312(d) to ensure consistency with other Federal agency regulations.

VA received one public comment on the proposed rule from a lender who participates in the VA Home Loan program. The commenter expressed support for the rule as written and stated that VA’s alignment with CFPB’s rules will reduce the regulatory burden on lenders and ensure protection for Veterans and Servicemembers.

VA received one public comment on the proposed rule from an individual. The commenter stated that a three-year look-back period would be detrimental to veterans and their spouses. The commenter explained that veterans and their spouses currently have a good chance of moving to an assisted living facility of their choice or staying at home with a caregiver, but that with a three-year look-back period, the majority of these individuals will no longer have that choice. The commenter explained that this would result in these veterans relying on Medicaid and going to a facility not of their choosing, which would be more expensive.

VA believes the commenter mistook the purpose of VA’s proposal, as the term look-back often relates to the period preceding the date that a person applies for Medicaid. VA does not believe this regulatory change has any impact on veterans moving to an assisted living facility, staying with a caregiver, or relying on Medicaid, as the commenter stated. Instead, this change helps ensure VA alignment with other Federal laws and current lender practices with regard to adjustable rate mortgages. See 80 FR 4814. It provides veteran borrowers who have adjustable rate mortgages more advanced notice and detailed disclosures regarding a change in their interest rates, thereby affording them a better opportunity to respond to such changes and stay in their homes. Therefore, VA is adopting the proposed rule without change.

Executive Orders 12866 and 13563

Executive Orders 12866 and 13563 direct agencies to assess the costs and benefits of available regulatory alternatives and, when regulation is necessary, to select regulatory approaches that maximize net benefits (including potential economic, environmental, public health and safety effects, and other advantages; distributive impacts; and equity). Executive Order 13563 (Improving Regulation and Regulatory Review) emphasizes the importance of quantifying both costs and benefits, reducing costs, harmonizing rules, and promoting flexibility. Executive Order 12866 (Regulatory Planning and Review) defines a “significant regulatory action” requiring review by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), unless OMB waives such review, as “any regulatory action that is likely to result in a rule that may: (1) Have an annual effect on the economy of $100 million or more or adversely affect in a material way the economy, a sector of the economy, productivity, competition, jobs, the environment, public health or safety, or State, local, or tribal governments or communities; (2) Create a serious inconsistency or otherwise interfere with an action taken or planned by another agency; (3) Materially alter the budgetary impact of entitlements, grants, user fees, or loan programs or the rights and obligations of recipients thereof; or (4) Raise novel legal or policy issues arising out of legal mandates, the President’s priorities, or the principles set forth in this Executive Order.”

The economic, interagency, budgetary, legal, and policy implications of this regulatory action have been examined. It has been determined not to be a significant regulatory action under Executive Order