PART 3000—STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

2. The authority citation for part 3000 continues to read as follows:


3. Revise subpart A of part 3000 to read as follows:

Subpart A—General Provisions

Sec. 3000.5 Post-employment restriction.

3000.10 Additional required notification of disqualification when seeking employment.

3000.15 Additional restriction on gifts.

3000.20 [Reserved]

§ 3000.5 Post-employment restrictions.

All former employees of the Postal Regulatory Commission (Commission) are subject to the following restrictions on appearance and practice before the Commission on behalf of any participant, including the United States Postal Service (Postal Service):

(a) No former employee of the Commission may practice or act as an attorney, expert witness, or representative in connection with any proceeding or matter before the Commission that the former employee has handled, advised, or participated in the consideration of while in the service of the Commission.

(b) No former employee of the Commission may within 1 year after his or her employment has ceased, practice before or act as an attorney, expert witness, or representative in connection with any proceeding or matter before the Commission that was under the official responsibility of such individual, as defined in 18 U.S.C. 202(b), while in the service of the Commission.

§ 3000.10 Additional required notification of disqualification when seeking employment.

(a) An employee that seeks employment with the Postal Service must provide written notice to the Designated Agency Ethics Official (DAEO) consistent with §5601.103(a) of this section.

(b) An employee may withdraw written notice under paragraph (a) of this section consistent with §5601.103(b) of title 5.

§ 3000.15 Additional limitation on acceptance of anything of value.

Regardless of §2635.203(b)(7) of title 5, a Commission employee may not accept a gift from the Postal Service, unless another exception or exclusion to §2635.203 of title 5 applies or a waiver is granted by the DAEO.

§ 3000.20 [Reserved]

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 770


RIN 2070–AK35

Compliance Date Extension; Formaldehyde Emission Standards for Composite Wood Products

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: EPA is proposing to amend a final rule that published in the Federal Register on December 12, 2016, concerning formaldehyde emission standards for composite wood products. EPA is publishing this proposed amendment to extend the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Title VI final rule compliance dates including: extending the December 12, 2017 date for emission standards, recordkeeping, and labeling provisions until March 22, 2018; extending the December 12, 2018 date for import certification provisions until March 22, 2019; and extending the December 12, 2023 date for provisions applicable to producers of laminated products until March 22, 2024. Additionally, this proposed amendment would extend the transitional period during which the California Air Resources Board (CARB) Third Party Certifiers (TPC) may certify composite wood products under TSCA Title VI so long as the TPC remains approved by CARB. The proposed amendment also extends the transitional period for CARB to conduct an accreditation body assessment.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before June 8, 2017. Comments postmarked after the close of the comment period will be stamped “late” and may or may not be considered by the Agency.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, identified by docket identification (ID) number EPA–HQ–OPPT–2017–0244, by one of the following methods:

• Federal eRulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments. Do not submit electronically any information you consider to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute.


• Hand Delivery: To make special arrangements for hand delivery or delivery of boxed information, please follow the instructions at http://www.epa.gov/dockets/contacts.html.

Additional instructions on commenting or visiting the docket, along with more information about dockets generally, is available at http://www.epa.gov/dockets.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For technical information contact: Erik Winchester, National Program Cheimicals Division, Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW., Washington, DC 20460–0001; telephone number: (202) 564–6450; email address: winchester.erik@epa.gov.

For general information contact: The TSCA-Hotline, ABVI-Goodwill, 422 South Clinton Ave., Rochester, NY 14620; telephone number: (202) 554–1404; email address: TSCA-Hotline@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: For further information about the proposed changes to the compliance dates, please see the information provided in the direct final action, with the same title, that is located in the “Rules and Regulations” section of this issue of the Federal Register.

List of Subjects in 40 CFR Part 770

Environmental protection, Formaldehyde, Incorporation by reference, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Third-party certification, Toxic substances, Wood.
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 648

[Docket No. 170113076–7463–01]

RIN 0648–BG60

Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Regulatory Omnibus Framework Adjustment To Modify Reporting Requirements for Electronic Vessel Trip Reports by Federally Permitted Party and Charter Vessel Operators in the Mid-Atlantic Region

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Proposed rule, request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Omnibus Electronic Vessel Trip Report Framework proposes management measures to increase the timeliness, accuracy, and quality of fisheries data submitted to NMFS while also reducing the burden on the charter and party fishing fleets. The electronic vessel trip report Framework would implement a requirement for charter and party vessels to submit a permit for fishing for Atlantic bluefish, black sea bass, scup, summer flounder, tilefish, squid, Atlantic mackerel, and/or butterfish, while on a trip carrying passengers for hire, to submit required VTRs by electronic means. These proposed measures are intended to improve the timeliness and accuracy of charter and party vessel trip reporting.

DATES: Public comments must be received by June 23, 2017.

ADDRESSES: Copies of supporting documents used by the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, including the Proposed Framework Adjustment with Regulatory Impact Review (RIR) is available from: Dr. Christopher M. Moore, Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 800 North State Street, Suite 201, Dover, DE 19901, telephone (302) 674–2331. The Proposed Framework/RIR is also accessible via the Internet at http://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov.

You may submit comments, identified by NOAA–NMFS–2017–0043, by either of the following methods:

—Electronic Submission: Submit all electronic public comments via the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal. Go to www.regulations.gov/#!docketDetail;D=NOAA-NMFS-2017–0043, click the “Comment Now!” icon, complete the required fields, and enter or attach your comments.

—Mail: Submit written comments to NMFS, Greater Atlantic Regional Office, 55 Great Republic Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930. Mark the outside of the envelope “Comments on Omnibus eVTR Framework.”

Instructions: Comments sent by any other method, to any other address or individual, or received after the end of the comment period, may not be considered by NMFS. All comments received are a part of the public record and will generally be posted for public viewing on www.regulations.gov without change. All personal identifying information (e.g., name, address, etc.), confidential business information, or otherwise sensitive information submitted voluntarily by the sender will be publicly accessible. NMFS will accept anonymous comments (enter “N/A” in the required fields if you wish to remain anonymous).

Written comments regarding the burden-hour estimates or other aspects of the collection-of-information requirements contained in this proposed rule may be submitted to the Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office and by email to OIRA_Submission@omb.eop.gov or fax to (202) 395–5806.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

For the past 25 years, NMFS has mandated reporting of catch, landings, and trip information through vessel trip reports (VTRs). Between 1992 and 1996, NMFS implemented this requirement for most vessels holding Federal fishing permits in Northeast Atlantic fisheries. In 2004, mandatory electronic reporting by federally permitted dealers was implemented for almost all federally-managed species. Requirements for weekly submissions of VTRs were implemented in 2010 for fisheries under catch shares, with weekly reporting later expanded to herring, mackerel, and surf clam/ocean quahog IFQ fisheries. In July 2011, the NMFS Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office approved the use of electronic reporting of VTRs on a limited and voluntary basis for a segment of the groundfish fleet, and, in 2013, NMFS made electronic vessel trip reports (eVTRs) available as an alternative to submitting handwritten hardcopies for all Mid-Atlantic and New England Fishery Management Council fishery management plans (FMPs).

Owners and operators of vessels possessing permits for fisheries managed by Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC) FMPs are required to submit a VTR for every commercial, party, or charter trip taken, regardless of where they fish (state or Federal waters) or what they catch. MAFMC-managed species that include a for-hire VTR requirement include black sea bass, bluefish, scup, summer flounder, tilefish, Atlantic mackerel, squid, and butterfish.

Current regulations require vessel owners or operators with permits for MAFMC-managed species to submit VTRs monthly to NMFS’s Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office (GARFO) by the 15th day of the month following the month in which the trip occurred. The Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish FMP requires weekly VTR reporting. If a trip encompasses multiple NMFS statistical areas, a separate VTR must be submitted for each statistical area where fishing activity takes place. A separate VTR is also required for each reporting period. If a vessel does not land any fish on a trip, all trip information must be completed and “No Catch” entered in as the species code name. A VTR is required regardless of whether fishing occurs, meaning that a vessel subject to these requirements in the Greater Atlantic must report even if they fish in the Southeast or any other region (does not apply to vessels holding only an American lobster permit). Since VTRs are in addition to any other reports which may be required by other Regions or plans, multiple reports may be required. VTRs, and any records upon which the reports were based, must be kept on board the vessel for at least one year and retained by the owner/operator for a total of three years after the date of the last entry on the report.

Proposed Measure

The Omnibus eVTR Framework would require charter and party vessels that hold a permit for species managed by MAFMC FMPs, while on a trip carrying passengers for hire, to submit VTRs by electronic means. These vessels would also be required to submit the eVTRs within 48 hours following the completion of the trip. Federally permitted vessel owners and operators on commercial fishing trips