on a specific exercise frequency requirement at this time. In the absence of any defined scope and frequency interval in the regulations, BSEE will continue to conduct deployments of source control capabilities at the discretion of the BSEE Oil Spill Preparedness Division Chief, in consultation with the appropriate BSEE Regional Director, as needed in order to assess and verify the overall preparedness of a plan holder, or group of plan holders, to operate in an Outer Continental Shelf region. As the scope and cost of such deployment exercises can be quite large, BSEE does not intend to require plan holders or providers of source control, subsea containment, and supporting equipment to conduct deployment exercises at the same semi-annual or annual frequency as required for other spill response equipment.

BSEE purposely added section 6.5 to the 2016.1 PREP Guidelines to provide specific interim guidance for exercising source control and subsea containment equipment. BSEE will work to clarify expectations and requirements in the regulations in a future rulemaking.

The Nature of IMT exercises for offshore facilities: One commenter stated that the title of section 6.2 of the 2016.1 PREP Guidelines should be changed from “Functional Exercise (FE): Incident Management Team Exercise—Offshore Facility” to “Tabletop Exercise (TTX): Incident Management Team Exercise—Offshore Facility” to better align with language in 30 CFR part 254.

Response: While this comment is outside the scope of the proposed changes made in the 2016.1 PREP Guidelines, the BSEE feels it is important to provide clarification on this important issue. When the PREP 4C published the 2016 PREP Guidelines, it updated many terms and concepts to align with developments that have occurred in the National Response System since the previous version was published in 2002. This included adopting the term “Incident Management Team,” as opposed to “Spill Management Team,” as well as incorporating many elements of today’s exercise typology and terminology as established by the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP). As such, the 2016 PREP Guidelines changed “SMT Tabletop Exercises (TTX)” to “IMT Exercise.” This language was purposely adopted to allow each PREP agency the flexibility to determine the type and scope of the IMT exercise. As defined in HSEEP and the 2016 PREP Guidelines, a TTX is a type of discussion-based exercise intended to generate discussion of various issues regarding a hypothetical, simulated emergency. The 2016 PREP Guidelines also state that discussion-based exercises focus on strategic, policy-oriented issues, with facilitators or presenters usually leading the discussion to keep participants on track to meet exercise objectives. In addition, the 2016 PREP Guidelines state that functional exercises focus on exercising plans, policies, and procedures, and staff members are involved in management, direction, command, and control functions. In functional exercises, events are projected through an exercise scenario with event updates that drive activity at the management level, and are conducted in a realistic, real-time environment, even though the movement of personnel and equipment is usually simulated. The BSEE believes that functional exercises, as currently defined by the terminology under HSEEP and the 2016 PREP Guidelines, more closely capture the stated intent of 30 CFR 254.42(b)(1), which provides that “the exercise must test the spill management team’s organization, communication and decision-making in managing a response.” Therefore, the BSEE will retain the “Functional Exercise (FE)” language in the existing title for section 6.2 of the 2016.1 PREP Guidelines. However, in a future regulatory update, the BSEE will amend the exercise terminology in 30 CFR 254.42(b)(1) to reflect that an annual IMT functional exercise is required to properly align the CFR terminology with today’s HSEEP and the PREP guidance. For additional background information on the adoption of HSEEP exercise terminology for the 2016 PREP Guidelines, see 81 FR 21362.

IV. Cost Savings Analysis

Since our affected population and projected cost estimates have remained the same from when we published the potential deregulatory savings analysis in February 2018, we have retained the projected cost-saving estimates for this notice, which we present below. As stated in the aforementioned economic analysis, which is available in the public docket, we estimate the net cost savings to the U.S. maritime industry to be $1,084,671 annually ($1,177,975 for drills under prior PREP Guidelines—$93,304 for drills under new PREP Guidelines), undiscounted. We estimate the discounted net cost savings to the U.S. maritime industry over a 10-year period of analysis to be between $7.6 million and $9.3 million at 7- and 3-percent discount rates, respectively. The Coast Guard did not identify any costs or potential cost savings associated with the Federal government as a result of the changes in the 2016.1 PREP Guidelines.

V. Public Availability of 2016.1 PREP Guidelines

The PREP 4C has finalized the 2016.1 PREP Guidelines, which are now publicly available. The Coast Guard is releasing the 2016.1 PREP Guidelines on behalf of the PREP 4C.


Dated: September 27, 2018.

K. M. Sligh, Acting Chief, Office of Marine Environmental Response Policy.

[FR Doc. 2018–21450 Filed 10–1–18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9110–04–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

[1651–0018]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Ship’s Store Declaration


ACTION: 30-Day notice and request for comments; Extension of an existing information collection.

SUMMARY: The Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Customs and Border Protection will be submitting the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA). The information collection is published in the Federal Register to obtain comments from the public and affected agencies. Comments are encouraged and will be accepted no later than November 1, 2018 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments on this proposed information collection to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget. Comments should be addressed to the OMB Desk Officer for Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, and sent via electronic mail to dhsdeskofficer@omb.eop.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for additional PRA information should be directed to Seth Runkoma, Chief, Economic Impact Analysis Branch, U.S. Customs and Border
DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Federal Emergency Management Agency

[Internal Agency Docket No. FEMA–4394–DR; Docket ID FEMA–2018–0001]

South Carolina; Major Disaster and Related Determinations

AGENCY: Federal Emergency Management Agency, DHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This is a notice of the Presidential declaration of a major disaster for the State of South Carolina (FEMA–4394–DR), dated September 16, 2018, and related determinations.

DATES: The declaration was issued September 16, 2018.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given that, in a letter dated September 16, 2018, the President issued a major disaster declaration under the authority of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq. (the “Stafford Act”), as follows:

I have determined that the damage in certain areas of the State of South Carolina resulting from Hurricane Florence beginning on September 8, 2018, and continuing, is of...