

10. Section 4.61 is revised to read as follows:

§ 4.61 Requirements for clearance.

(a) *Application for clearance.*

Application for clearance for a vessel will be made by filing a General Declaration, Customs Form 1301, by or on behalf of the master at the customs house. The master, licensed deck officer, or purser may appear in person to clear the vessel, or documents properly executed by the master or other proper officer may be delivered at the customs house by the vessel agent or other personal representative of the master. Necessary information may also be transmitted electronically pursuant to a system authorized by Customs. Clearance will be granted either on Customs Form 1378 or by approved electronic means. Customs port directors may permit the clearance of vessels at locations other than the customs house, and at times outside of normal business hours. Customs may take local resources into consideration in allowing clearance to be transacted on board vessels themselves or at other mutually convenient sites and times either within or outside of port limits. Customs must be satisfied that the place designated for clearance is sufficiently under Customs control at the time of clearance, and that the expenses incurred by Customs will be reimbursed as authorized. Customs may require that advance notice of vessel departure be given prior to granting requests for optional clearance locations.

(b) *When clearance required.* Under certain circumstances, American vessels departing from ports of the United States directly for other United States ports must obtain Customs clearance. The clearance of such vessels is required when they have merchandise aboard which is being transported in-bond, or when they have unentered foreign merchandise aboard. For the purposes of the vessel clearance requirements, merchandise transported in-bond does not include bonded ship's stores or supplies. While American vessels transporting unentered foreign merchandise must fully comply with usual clearance procedures, American vessels carrying no unentered foreign merchandise but that have in-bond merchandise aboard may satisfy vessel clearance requirements by reporting intended departure within 72 hours prior thereto by any means of communication that is satisfactory to the local Customs port director, and by presenting a completed Customs Form 1301 (General Declaration). Also, the Customs officer may require the production of any documents or papers

deemed necessary for the proper inspection/examination of the vessel, cargo, passenger, or crew. Report of departure together with providing information to Customs as specified in this paragraph satisfies all clearance requirements for the subject vessels.

(c) *Verification of compliance.* Before clearance is granted to a vessel bound to a foreign port as provided in § 4.60 and this section, the port director will verify compliance with respect to the following matters:

- (1) Accounting for inward cargo (see § 4.62).
 - (2) Outward Cargo Declarations; shippers export declarations (see § 4.63).
 - (3) Documentation (see § 4.0(c)).
 - (4) Verification of nationality and tonnage (see § 4.65).
 - (5) Verification of inspection (see § 4.66).
 - (6) Inspection under State laws (46 U.S.C. App. 97).
 - (7) Closed ports or places (see § 4.67).
 - (8) Passengers (see § 4.68).
 - (9) Shipping articles and enforcement of Seamen's Act (see § 4.69).
 - (10) Medicine and slop chests.
 - (11) Load line regulations (see § 4.65a).
 - (12) Carriage of United States securities, etc. (46 U.S.C. App. 98).
 - (13) Carriage of mail.
 - (14) Public Health regulations (see § 4.70).
 - (15) Inspection of vessels carrying livestock (see § 4.71).
 - (16) Inspection of meat, meat-food products, and inedible fats (see § 4.72).
 - (17) Neutrality exportation of arms and munitions (see § 4.73).
 - (18) Payment of State and Federal fees and fees due the Government of the Virgin Islands of the United States (46 U.S.C. App. 100).
 - (19) Orders restricting shipping (see § 4.74).
 - (20) Estimated duties deposited or a bond given to cover duties on foreign repairs and equipment for vessels of the United States (see § 4.14).
 - (21) Illegal discharge of oil (see § 4.66a).
 - (22) Attached or arrested vessel.
 - (23) Immigration laws.
- (d) *Vessel built for foreign account.* A new vessel built in the United States for foreign account will be cleared under a certificate of record, Coast Guard Form 1316, in lieu of a marine document.
- (e) *Clearance not granted.* Clearance will not be granted to any foreign vessel using the flag of the United States or any distinctive signs or markings indicating that the vessel is an American vessel (22 U.S.C. 454a).
- (f) *Clearance in order of itinerary.* Unless otherwise provided in this

section, every vessel bound for a foreign port or ports will be cleared for a definite port or ports in the order of its itinerary, but an application to clear for a port or place for orders, that is, for instructions to masters as to destination of the vessel, may be accepted if the vessel is in ballast or if any cargo on board is to be discharged in a port of the same country as the port for which clearance is sought.

11. Part 4 is amended by removing and reserving Footnotes 97, 99 and 100a through 101.

12. Section 4.68 is revised to read as follows:

§ 4.68 Federal Maritime Commission certificates for certain passenger vessels.

No vessel having berth or stateroom accommodations for 50 or more passengers and embarking passengers at U.S. ports will be granted a clearance at the port or place of departure from the United States unless it is established that the vessel has valid certificates issued by the Federal Maritime Commission.

13. Section 4.70 is revised to read as follows:

§ 4.70 Public Health Service requirements.

No clearance will be granted to a vessel subject to the foreign quarantine regulations of the Public Health Service.

Raymond W. Kelly,

Commissioner of Customs.

Approved: December 22, 1999.

Dennis M. O'Connell,

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

[FR Doc. 00-1120 Filed 1-18-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4820-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Minerals Management Service

30 CFR Parts 203, 250, 251, 253, 254, and 256

Outer Continental Shelf Regulations

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service (MMS), Interior.

ACTION: Technical amendments.

SUMMARY: This document makes minor technical changes to regulations that were published in various **Federal Register** documents and are codified in the Code of Federal Regulations. These changes will correct the name of form MMS-126; correct a citation in 30 CFR 250, subpart N; and correct the instructions in 30 CFR parts 203, 251, 253, 254, and 256 for commenting on information collection burdens.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 19, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Alexis London, (703) 787-1600.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

These technical amendments affect all offshore oil, gas, and sulphur operators and lessees. The following are explanations of the corrections.

(1) On February 5, 1997 (62 FR 5331), we published a final rule revising the 30 CFR 250, subpart N, regulations on OCS civil penalties (subsequently redesignated at 63 FR 29479 on May 29, 1998). The final rule contained a citation error in § 250.1409(d)(3). We are correcting the citation.

(2) In September 1999, under the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) reapproved the information collected on form MMS-126. When we submitted the form to OMB for approval, we made no changes to the information collected, but we did shorten the official title of the form. We are correcting the regulations in 30 CFR 250, subpart K, to reflect the change in the title of this form.

(3) Under the PRA, the OMB must approve the information collection burden of all our requirements. Each part of our regulations has a section that provides the OMB control numbers of the approved information collection burdens and other required information. These sections provide instructions on how the public may comment on the burdens. The regulations currently indicate that comments may be submitted directly to the OMB and to MMS. The OMB has now determined that comments should be made only to the agency and not directly to OMB. Agencies are required to address any comments received in subsequent submissions to OMB for reapproval of the information collection burdens. We are correcting our regulations to reflect this change in comment procedures. In addition, we are bringing the section on authority for collecting information in part 256 up-to-date to reflect the 1995 amendments to the PRA and to make the part 256 section consistent with the corresponding sections in the other parts of our regulations.

Need for Correction

As published, the final regulations contain errors which may prove to be misleading or have sections which are no longer technically correct and are in need of clarification.

List of Subjects

30 CFR Part 203

Continental shelf, Government contracts, Indians—lands, Mineral royalties, Oil and gas exploration, Public lands—mineral resources, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Sulphur.

30 CFR Part 250

Continental shelf, Environmental impact statements, Environmental protection, Government contracts, Investigations, Mineral royalties, Oil and gas development and production, Oil and gas exploration, Oil and gas reserves, Penalties, Pipelines, Public lands—mineral resources, Public lands—rights-of-way, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Sulphur development and production, Sulphur exploration, Surety bonds.

30 CFR Part 251

Continental shelf, Freedom of information, Oil and gas exploration, Public lands—mineral resources, Public lands—rights-of-way, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Research.

30 CFR Part 253

Continental shelf, Environmental protection, Insurance, Oil and gas exploration, Oil pollution, Penalties, Pipelines, Public lands—mineral resources, Public lands—rights-of-way, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Surety bonds.

30 CFR Part 254

Continental shelf, Environmental protection, Oil and gas development and production, Oil and gas exploration, Pipelines, Public lands—mineral resources, Public lands—rights-of-way, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

30 CFR Part 256

Administrative practice and procedure, Continental shelf, Environmental protection, Government contracts, Mineral royalties, Oil and gas exploration, Pipelines, Public lands—mineral resources, Public lands—rights-of-way, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Surety bonds.

Accordingly, 30 CFR parts 203, 250, 251, 253, 254, and 256 are amended by making the following technical amendments:

PART 203—RELIEF OR REDUCTION IN ROYALTY RATES

1. The authority citation for part 203 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 25 U.S.C. 396 *et seq.*, 25 U.S.C. 396a *et seq.*, 25 U.S.C. 101 *et seq.*, 30 U.S.C.

181 *et seq.*, 30 U.S.C. 351 *et seq.*, 30 U.S.C. 1001 *et seq.*, 30 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.*, 31 U.S.C. 9701 *et seq.*, 43 U.S.C. 1301 *et seq.*, 43 U.S.C. 1331 *et seq.*, and 43 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

2. In § 203.82, paragraph (d) is revised to read as follows:

§ 203.82 What is MMS's authority to collect this information?

* * * * *

(d) Send comments regarding any aspect of the collection of information under this part, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Information Collection Clearance Officer, Minerals Management Service, Mail Stop 4230, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, DC 20240.

PART 250—OIL AND GAS AND SULPHUR OPERATIONS IN THE OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF

3. The authority citation for part 250 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 43 U.S.C. 1331 *et seq.*

4. In § 250.1102, the second sentence of paragraph (b)(2) is corrected to read as follows:

§ 250.1102 Oil and gas production rates.

* * * * *

(b) * * *

(2) * * * Within 15 days after the end of the test period, the lessee must submit a proposed MPR with well potential test for the individual well completion on Form MMS-126, Well Potential Test Report. * * *

§ 250.1409 [Amended]

5. In § 250.1409(d)(3), the citation "43 CFR part 62, subpart D" is corrected to read 43 CFR part 12, subpart D".

PART 251—GEOLOGICAL AND GEOPHYSICAL (G&G) EXPLORATIONS OF THE OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF

6. The authority citation for part 251 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 43 U.S.C. 1331 *et seq.*

7. In § 251.15, paragraph (e) is revised to read as follows:

§ 251.15 Authority for information collection.

* * * * *

(e) Send comments regarding any aspect of the collection of information under this part, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Information Collection Clearance Officer, Minerals Management Service, Mail Stop 4230, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, DC 20240.

PART 253—OIL SPILL FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR OFFSHORE FACILITIES

8. The authority citation for part 253 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 33 U.S.C. 2701 *et seq.*

9. In § 253.5, paragraph (d) is revised to read as follows:

§ 253.5 What is the authority for collecting Oil Spill Financial Responsibility (OSFR) information?

* * * * *

(d) Send comments regarding any aspect of the collection of information under this part, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Information Collection Clearance Officer, Minerals Management Service, Mail Stop 4230, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, DC 20240.

PART 254—OIL SPILL RESPONSE REQUIREMENTS FOR FACILITIES LOCATED SEAWARD OF THE COAST LINE

10. The authority citation for part 254 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 33 U.S.C. 1321 *et seq.*

11. In § 254.9, paragraph (d) is revised to read as follows:

§ 254.9 Authority for information collection.

* * * * *

(d) Send comments regarding any aspect of the collection of information under this part, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Information Collection Clearance Officer, Minerals Management Service, Mail Stop 4230, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, DC 20240.

PART 256—LEASING OF SULPHUR OR OIL AND GAS IN THE OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF

12. The authority citation for part 256 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 6213, 43 U.S.C. 1331 *et seq.*

13. Section 256.0 is revised to read as follows:

§ 256.0 Authority for information collection.

(a) The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has approved the information collection requirements in this part under 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.* OMB assigned the control number 1010-0006. The title of this information collection is “30 CFR Part 256, Leasing of Sulphur or Oil and Gas in the Outer Continental Shelf.”

(b) MMS collects this information to determine if the applicant filing for a

lease on the Outer Continental Shelf is qualified to hold such a lease. Response is required to obtain a benefit according to 43 U.S.C. 1331 *et seq.* MMS will protect proprietary information collected according to section 26 of the OCS Lands Act and 30 CFR 256.10.

(c) An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

(d) Send comments regarding any aspect of the collection of information under this part, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Information Collection Clearance Officer, Minerals Management Service, Mail Stop 4230, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, DC 20240.

Dated: January 6, 2000.

E. P. Danenberger,

Chief, Engineering and Operations Division.

[FR Doc. 00-1200 Filed 1-18-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-MR-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 110

[CGD07 99-058]

RIN 2115-AA98

Special Anchorage Area; St. Lucie River, Stuart, Florida

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DOT.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is establishing a special anchorage area on the St. Lucie River in Stuart, FL. This area is currently used as a temporary and long-term area for vessels to anchor. The establishment of this anchorage will improve the safety of vessels anchoring within and transiting the highly trafficked area, while also lessening the detrimental impact on the ecosystem by providing a designated safer area for vessels to anchor.

DATES: This regulation becomes effective on February 18, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Comments and material received from the public, as well as documents indicated in this preamble as being available in the docket, are part of docket [CGD07 99-058] and are available for inspection or copying at the Seventh Coast Guard District, Room 406, 909 S.E. First Avenue, Miami, FL, between 7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: LT Kerstin Rhinehart, Seventh Coast Guard

District, Aids to Navigation Branch, at (305) 536-4566.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Regulatory Information

We published a notice of proposed rulemaking concerning these regulations in the **Federal Register** on August 30, 1999 (64 FR 47156). Two comments were received during the comment period.

Background and Purpose

This rule is in response to a request made by the City of Stuart to establish a city managed mooring field on the St. Lucie River. The intended effect of the regulation is to reduce the risk of vessel collisions by providing notice to mariners of the establishment of a special anchorage area, in which vessels not more than 65 feet in length shall not be required to carry or exhibit anchor lights as required by the Navigation Rules. The establishment of the special anchorage has been in coordination with and endorsed by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). The DEP determined that properly managed mooring and anchorage fields located in appropriate areas, will encourage vessels to utilize them for safety purposes, and as a side benefit the ecosystem will incur lessened or negligible detrimental impacts.

Discussion of Comments and Changes

Two letters were received objecting to the establishment of the a special anchorage in St. Lucie, FL. The letters objected to the regulation of live aboard vessels, the possibility of future development in the area, the cost of utilizing an established mooring within the special anchorage, and the possible restricted use of the waterways between boats in the area. The Coast Guard considered these comments, however has decided not to make any changes to the proposed rule. The Coast Guard has no control over future development in the area and the cost to utilize the anchorage will be determined by the City of Stuart. The Coast Guard still feels that the establishment of this anchorage area as published will improve the safety of vessels in this highly trafficked area

Regulatory Evaluation

This rule is not a “significant regulatory action” under section 3(f) of Executive Order 12866 and does not require an assessment of potential costs and benefits under section 6(a)(3) of that order. The Office of Management and Budget has not reviewed it under that order. It is not “significant” under the