

Services and Access to Research for Women, Infants, Children, and Youth will be required to comply with the limitation on administrative expenses to be established in the final notice that will follow this comment period.

Dated: August 5, 2003.

Elizabeth M. Duke,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 03-20439 Filed 8-11-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4165-15-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

[USCG-2003-15836]

Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notice of meetings.

SUMMARY: The Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Committee (MERPAC) and its working groups will meet to discuss various issues relating to the training and fitness of merchant marine personnel. MERPAC advises the Secretary of Homeland Security on matters relating to the training, qualifications, licensing, certification, and fitness of seamen serving in the U.S. merchant marine. All meetings will be open to the public.

DATES: MERPAC will meet on Thursday, September 18, 2003, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Friday, September 19, 2003, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. These meetings may adjourn early if all business is finished. Requests to make oral presentations should reach the Coast Guard on or before September 4, 2003. Written material and requests to have a copy of your material distributed to each member of the committee or subcommittee should reach the Coast Guard on or before September 4, 2003.

ADDRESSES: MERPAC will meet on both days in the Fourth Floor Boardroom of the Port of Houston Authority Building, 111 East Loop North, Houston, TX 77029. Further directions regarding the location of the Port of Houston Authority Building may be obtained by contacting Mr. Alistair McNab at (713) 678-4300. Send written material and requests to make oral presentations to Commander Brian J. Peter, Commandant (G-MSO-1), U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, 2100 Second Street SW., Washington, DC 20593-0001. This notice is available on the Internet at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For questions on this notice, contact

Commander Brian J. Peter, Executive Director of MERPAC, or Mr. Mark C. Gould, Assistant to the Executive Director, telephone 202-267-0229, fax 202-267-4570, or e-mail mgould@comdt.uscg.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice of these meetings is given under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. 2.

Agenda of Meeting on September 18, 2003

The full committee will meet to discuss the objectives for the meeting. The committee will then break up into the following working groups: Task statement 36, concerning the recommendations on a training program for officers in charge of an engineering watch coming up through the hawsepipe; and Task statement 37, concerning credit for sea service on vessels with no, or limited, underway time.

New working groups may be formed to address the following issues: Recommendations concerning training requirements and certification requirements needed to obtain STCW certification as Ship's Security Officer (and Company/Port Facility Security Officer); Competency needed to obtain STCW certification as an able-bodied seaman; Security issues with the new merchant mariner's document; and Practical competency demonstrations needed to obtain STCW certification as Master and Chief Mate on ships of between 500 and 3000 Gross Tonnage, as measured under the International Tonnage Convention on both international and near coastal voyages. At the end of the day, the working groups will make a report to the full committee on what has been accomplished in their meetings. No action will be taken on these reports on this date.

Agenda of Meeting on September 19, 2003

The agenda comprises the following:

- (1) Introduction.
- (2) Working Groups' Reports—
 - (a) Task Statement 36, concerning the recommendations on a training program for officers in charge of an engineering watch coming up through the hawsepipe;
 - (b) Task Statement 37, concerning credit for sea service on vessels with no, or limited, underway time; and
 - (c) Other task statements which may have been adopted for discussion and action.
- (3) Other items to be discussed—
 - (a) Standing Committee—Prevention Through People, and

(b) Other items brought up for discussion by the committee or the public.

Procedural

Both meetings are open to the public. Please note that the meetings may adjourn early if all business is finished. At the Chair's discretion, members of the public may make oral presentations during the meetings. If you would like to make an oral presentation at a meeting, please notify the Executive Director no later than September 4, 2003. Written material for distribution at a meeting should reach the Coast Guard no later than September 4, 2003. If you would like a copy of your material distributed to each member of the committee or subcommittee in advance of the meeting, please submit 25 copies to the Executive Director no later than September 4, 2003.

Information on Services for Individuals With Disabilities

For information on facilities or services for individuals with disabilities or to request special assistance at the meetings, contact the Assistant Executive Director as soon as possible.

Dated: August 5, 2003.

Joseph J. Angelo,

Director of Standards, Marine Safety, Security and Environmental Protection.

[FR Doc. 03-20468 Filed 8-11-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-15-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

[USCG 2001-9269]

Guidance for Assessing Merchant Mariners Through Demonstrations of Proficiency as Officers in Charge of Engineering Watches in Manned Engine-Rooms or as Designated Duty Engineers in Periodically Unmanned Engine-Rooms

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notice of availability and request for public comments.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard announces the availability of the national performance measures proposed here for use as guidelines when mariners demonstrate their proficiency as officers in charge of engineering watches in manned engine-rooms or as designated duty engineers in periodically unmanned engine-rooms. Because of the comments submitted to the original docket published on April 5, 2001, the Coast Guard is re-publishing these

measures. They were developed from recommendations and input provided by the Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Committee (MERPAC). We again request your comments on them.

DATES: Comments and related material must reach the Docket Management Facility on or before October 14, 2003.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments identified by Coast Guard docket number USCG-2001-9269 to the Docket Management Facility at the U.S. Department of Transportation. To avoid duplication, please use only one of the following methods:

(1) Web Site: <http://dms.dot.gov>.

(2) Mail: Docket Management Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001.

(3) Fax: 202-493-2251.

(4) Delivery: Room PL-401 on the Plaza level of the Nassif Building, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The telephone number is 202-366-9329.

(5) Federal eRulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>.

The Docket Management Facility maintains the public docket for this notice. Comments and material received from the public will become part of this docket and will be available for inspection or copying at room PL-401 on the Plaza level of the Nassif Building, 400 Seventh Street SW., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. You may also find this docket on the Internet at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions on this notice, write or call Mr. Gould where indicated under **ADDRESSES**. If you have questions on viewing or submitting materials to the docket, call Ms. Dorothy Beard, Chief, Dockets, Department of Transportation, telephone 202-366-5149.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Public Participation and Request for Comments

We encourage you to submit comments. All comments received will be posted, without change, to <http://dms.dot.gov> and will include any personal information you have provided. We have an agreement with the Department of Transportation (DOT) to use the Docket Management Facility. Please see DOT's "Privacy Act" paragraph below.

Submitting comments: If you submit a comment, please include your name and address, identify the docket number for this rulemaking (USCG-2001-9269),

indicate the specific section of this document to which each comment applies, and give the reason for each comment. You may submit your comments and material by electronic means, mail, fax, or delivery to the Docket Management Facility at the address under **ADDRESSES**; but please submit your comments and material by only one means. If you submit them by mail or delivery, submit them in an unbound format, no larger than 8½ by 11 inches, suitable for copying and electronic filing. If you submit them by mail and would like to know that they reached the Facility, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed postcard or envelope. We will consider all comments received during the comment period. We may change these national performance measures in view of them.

Viewing comments and documents:

To view comments, as well as documents mentioned in this preamble as being available in the docket, go to <http://dms.dot.gov> at any time and conduct a simple search using the docket number. You may also visit the Docket Management Facility in room PL-401 on the Plaza level of the Nassif Building, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Privacy Act: Anyone can search the electronic form of all comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the comment, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review the Department of Transportation's Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** published on April 11, 2000 (65 FR 19477), or you may visit <http://dms.dot.gov>.

What Action Is the Coast Guard Taking?

Section A-III/1 of the Code accompanying the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW), 1978, as amended in 1995, articulates qualifications for ensuring merchant mariners' attaining the minimum standard of competence through demonstrations of their proficiency as officers in charge of engineering watches in manned engine-rooms or as designated duty engineers in periodically unmanned engine-rooms. The Coast Guard tasked MERPAC with referring to the Section, modifying and specifying it as it deemed necessary, and recommending national performance measures. The Coast Guard reviewed the measures recommended by MERPAC and

developed a set of guidelines for assessing proficiency. Those guidelines were published in the original docket on April 5, 2001. A number of comments were made on that proposal and we have now modified those guidelines to incorporate many of the comments. We are now proposing these modified guidelines here for use as the final guidelines for assessing proficiency.

The guidelines are set up as follows:

First, we set forth the Competency within the STCW a mariner should demonstrate to meet the STCW section. Next we give a series of examples of Performance Conditions, a set of Performance Behaviors for each Performance Condition, and a set of Performance Standards for each Performance Behavior.

For example, if the Competency to demonstrate is: "Use appropriate tools for fabrication and repair * * * typically performed on ships"—

A Performance Condition for that competency demonstrating knowledge, understanding, and proficiency is: In a workshop [or] laboratory or other safe working environment, given proper tools, lighting, [and] ventilation, and a thin steel plate of no less than ¼ inch thickness, * * *

A Performance Behavior for that Condition is: * * * the candidate will plan, prepare, and safely cut out a circular blank flange with four 7/16" bolt-holes 90 degrees apart and corresponding to the dimensions of a two-inch pipe flange, or similar multi-tasked project using oxyacetylene process, and describe actions as they are being performed.

A Performance Standard for that Behavior is—or, in this example, the Standards are—"The applicant (1) correctly plans for and lays out the job, in proper sequence, and incorporates all safety considerations; (2) sets up all required equipment; (3) cuts the hole uniformly according to plan within tolerance of +/− ⅛ inch; and (4) ensures that no safety violations occur."

If the mariner properly meets all of the Performance Standards, he or she passes the practical demonstration. If he or she fails to carry out any of the Standards, he or she fails it.

Why Is the Coast Guard Taking This Action?

The Coast Guard is taking this action to comply with STCW, as amended in 1995 and 1997 and incorporated into domestic regulations at 46 CFR parts 10, 12, and 15 in 1997 and since. Guidance from the International Maritime Organization on shipboard assessments of proficiency suggests that Parties develop standards and measures of

performance for practical tests as part of their programs for training and assessing seafarers.

How May I Participate In This Action?

We are requesting your comments on these proposed national performance measures. You may participate in this action by submitting comments and related material on the national performance-measures proposed here. (Although the Coast Guard does not seek public comment on the measures recommended by MERPAC, as distinct from the measures proposed here, those measures are available on the Internet at the home page of MERPAC, <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/g-m/advisory/merpac/merpac.htm>.) These measures are available on the Internet at <http://dms.dot.gov>, under this docket number [USCG 2001-9269]. They are also available from Mr. Gould where indicated under **ADDRESSES**. If you submit written comments please include—

- Your name and address;
- The docket number for this notice [USCG 2001-9269];
- The specific section of the measures to which each comment applies; and
- The reason for each comment.

You may mail, deliver, fax, or electronically submit your comments and related material to the Docket Management Facility, using an address or fax number listed in **ADDRESSES**. (But please do not submit the same comment or material more than once.) If you mail or deliver your comments and material, they must be on 8½-by-11-inch paper, and the quality of the copy should be clear enough for copying and scanning. If you mail your comments and material and would like to know whether the Facility received them, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed postcard or envelope. The Coast Guard will consider all comments and material received during the 60-day comment period.

Your comments will be considered in preparing the final version of the national performance measures which will be used as guidelines by the general public. Individuals and institutions assessing the competence of mariners may refine the final version of these measures and develop innovative alternatives. If you vary from the final version of these measures, however, you should submit your alternative to the National Maritime Center for approval by the Coast Guard under 46 CFR 10.303(e) before you use it as part of an approved course or training program.

Dated: July 25, 2003.

Joseph J. Angelo,

Director of Standards, Marine Safety, Security & Environmental Protection.

[FR Doc. 03-20466 Filed 8-11-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-15-U

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR-4665-N-11]

Upcoming Meeting of the Manufactured Housing Consensus Committee

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Housing—Federal Housing Commissioner, HUD.

ACTION: Notice of upcoming meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice sets forth the schedule and proposed agenda of an upcoming meeting of the Manufactured Housing Consensus Committee (the Committee). The meeting is open to the public and the site is accessible to individuals with disabilities.

DATES: The meetings will be held on Wednesday, August 20, 2003, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Thursday, August 21, 2003, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Friday, August 22, 2003, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

ADDRESSES: These meetings will be held at the Radisson Hotel “Old Town”, 901 North Fairfax Street, Alexandria, Virginia, telephone (703) 683-6000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: William W. Matchneer III, Administrator, Office of Manufactured Housing Programs, Office of Deputy Assistant Secretary for Regulatory Affairs and Manufactured Housing, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street SW., Washington, DC 20410, telephone (202) 708-6409 (this is not a toll-free number). Persons who have difficulty hearing or speaking may access this number via TTY by calling the toll-free Federal Information Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice of this meeting is provided in accordance with section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.2) and 41 CFR 102-3.150. The Manufactured Housing Consensus Committee was established under section 604(a)(3) of the National Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974, 42 U.S.C. 4503(a)(3). The Consensus Committee is charged with providing recommendations to the Secretary to adopt, revise, and interpret manufactured housing construction and safety standards and procedural and

enforcement regulations, and with developing proposed model installation standards.

Tentative Agenda:

- A. Welcome and Opening Remarks
- B. Presentation on Manufactured Housing Research
- C. Proposed Installation Standards
- D. Discussion of HUD's published response to two committee proposals
- E. Reports to Full Committee
 - Dispute Resolution
 - Standards Up-date
 - On-site Completion
- F. Public Testimony
- G. Full Committee meeting
- H. Adjournment

Dated: August 1, 2003.

John C. Weicher,

Assistant Secretary for Housing—Federal Housing Commissioner.

[FR Doc. 03-20486 Filed 8-11-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[NV-025-1232-EA; Special Recreation Permit #NV-025-03-07]

Notice of Temporary Closures of Public Lands; Pershing, Washoe, and Humboldt Counties, NV

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Winnemucca Field Office, Nevada.

ACTION: Notice to the public of a closure on public lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management, Winnemucca Field Office, Nevada.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that certain lands in and around the Civilian Space Exploration Team (CSXT) rocket launch site, located in Pershing, Washoe and Humboldt counties, Nevada, would be temporarily closed for public use from 0900 to 1200 hours, September 15th through the 18th 2003 and October 14th through the 17th 2003. These in the interest of public safety at and around the location of a high-altitude rocket launch site. These events are expected to involve approximately 50 participants. Affected lands are located in the Black Rock Desert—High Rock Canyon Emigrant Trails National Conservation Area, situated northeast of Gerlach, Nevada, in the Mount Diablo Meridian.

The following Public Lands are Closed to public use: Public land areas north of the Union Pacific Railroad tracks and east of State Road 34 and County Road 200, and west of the Pahute Peak and Black Rock Desert Wilderness boundaries, as described below: