meetings concerning the matters being discussed. Public comments will be limited to three minutes per speaker. If you would like to make an oral presentation at the meetings, please notify Mr. Jeff Ludwig as described in the **ADDRESSES** section above by March 23, 2011.

## Information on Services for Individuals With Disabilities

For information on facilities or services for individuals with disabilities or to request special assistance at the meeting, contact Mr. Jeff Ludwig as described in the **ADDRESSES** section above as soon as possible.

Dated: March 8, 2011.

#### Lincoln D. Stroh,

Captain, U.S. Coast Guard, Acting Director of Prevention Policy.

[FR Doc. 2011-5892 Filed 3-14-11: 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9110-04-P

## DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

### **Coast Guard**

[Docket No. USCG-2011-0129]

# TWIC/MTSA Policy Advisory Council; Voluntary Use of TWIC Readers

**AGENCY:** Coast Guard, DHS. **ACTION:** Notice of availability and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard announces the release of and seeks comments on Policy Advisory Council (PAC) Decision 01–11, "Voluntary Use of TWIC Readers." This PAC Decision provides guidance for using Transportation Security Identification Credential (TWIC) readers as part of a Vessel Security Plan or Facility Security Plan. This PAC Decision is directed at owners and operators of vessels and facilities regulated under the Maritime Transportation Security Act, for the purpose of purchasing and installing TWIC readers and systems.

**DATES:** Comments and related material must either be submitted to our online docket via *http://www.regulations.gov* on or before May 16, 2011 or reach the Docket Management Facility by that date.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments identified by docket number USCG—2011–0129 using any one of the following methods:

- (1) Federal eRulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov.
  - (2) Fax: 202–493–2251.
- (3) *Mail:* Docket Management Facility (M–30), U.S. Department of

Transportation, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590– 0001.

(4) Hand Delivery: Same as mail address above, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The telephone number is 202–366–9329.

To avoid duplication, please use only one of these four methods. *See* the "Public Participation and Request for Comments" portion of the

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section below for instructions on submitting comments.

The PAC Decision is available in the docket and can be viewed by going to <a href="http://www.regulations.gov">http://www.regulations.gov</a>, inserting USCG-2011-0129 in the "Keyword" box, and then clicking "Search." This policy is also available at <a href="http://www.homeport.uscg.mil">http://www.homeport.uscg.mil</a>; under the Maritime Security tab, click on the "MTSA/ISPS Policy Advisory Council" link, PAC 01-11.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions on this notice or the policy, call or e-mail LCDR Loan O'Brien (CG–5442), U.S. Coast Guard, telephone 202–372–1133, e-mail Loan.T.O'Brien@uscg.mil. If you have questions on viewing or submitting material to the docket, call Ms. Renee V. Wright, Program Manager, Docket Operations, telephone 202–366–9826.

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

## **Public Participation and Request for Comments**

We encourage you to submit comments and related material on the Policy Advisory Council (PAC) Decision 01–11, "Voluntary Use of TWIC Readers." All comments received will be posted, without change, to http://www.regulations.gov and will include any personal information you have provided.

Submitting comments: If you submit a comment, please include the docket number for this notice (USCG-2011-0129) and provide a reason for each suggestion or recommendation. You may submit your comments and material online, or by fax, mail or hand delivery, but please use only one of these means. We recommend that you include your name and a mailing address, an e-mail address, or a telephone number in the body of your document so that we can contact you if we have questions regarding your submission.

To submit your comment online, go to http://www.regulations.gov and insert "USCG-2011-0129" in the "Keyword" box. If you submit your comments by

mail or hand delivery, submit them in an unbound format, no larger than  $8^{1/2}$  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 and material received during the comment period.

Viewing the comments and PAC *Decision 01–11:* To view the comments and PAC Decision 01-11, go to http:// www.regulations.gov, click on the "read comments" box, which will then become highlighted in blue. In the "Keyword" box insert "USCG–2011– 0129" and click "Search." Click the "Open Docket Folder" in the "Actions" column. If you do not have access to the Internet, you may view the docket online by visiting the Docket Management Facility in Room W12-140 on the ground floor of the Department of Transportation West Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. We have an agreement with the Department of Transportation to use the Docket Management Facility.

This PAC Decision 01–11 is also available at <a href="http://www.homeport.uscg.mil">http://www.homeport.uscg.mil</a> under the TWIC tab of the "Featured Homeport Links" section, click on the "Policy Advisory Council Decisions for TWIC" link, PAC Decision 01–11.

Privacy Act: Anyone can search the electronic form of 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 a Privacy Act, system of records notice regarding our public dockets in the January 17, 2008, issue of the **Federal Register** (73 FR 3316).

### **Background and Purpose**

In accordance with the Maritime Transportation Security Act of 2002 (MTSA) (Pub. L. 107-295), and the Security and Accountability for Every Port Act of 2006 (Pub. L. 109-347), this PAC Decision facilitates the use of transportation security card readers to leverage the full security benefits of the Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC). The Department of Homeland Security, Coast Guard, and the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) remain in the process of finishing the TWIC reader pilot program. As such, many facility owners and operators who received grant funding have been reluctant to move forward on purchasing TWIC

equipment. This Policy Advisory Council (PAC) Decision 01–11, "Voluntary Use of TWIC Readers" provides guidance on how vessel and facility owners and operators can use TWIC readers to meet existing regulatory requirements for effective (1) identity verification, (2) card validity, and (3) card authentication.

#### Discussion

TWIC regulations state that all persons requiring unescorted access to secure areas of MTSA-covered vessels, facilities and outer continental shelf facilities must possess a TWIC before such access is granted. 33 CFR 101.514. At each entry, the TWIC must be checked for (1) identity verification, (2) card validity, and (3) card authentication. 33 CFR 104.265(c)(1), 105.255(c)(1), or 106.260(c)(1). The current requirement for identity verification is to visually compare the photograph on the TWIC to the person at the access point. The Coast Guard, however, may determine an alternative method of identity verification if the method meets or exceeds the effectiveness of a visual inspection. 33 CFR 101.130.

With this PAC Decision 01-11, the Coast Guard determines that a biometric match using a TWIC reader from the TSA list of readers that have passed the Initial Capability Evaluation Test to confirm that the biometric template stored on the TWIC matches the fingerprint of the individual presenting the TWIC meets or exceeds the effectiveness of a visual identity verification check. An owner or operator of a vessel or facility may also use a TWIC reader to check for card validity by either (1) comparing the card's internal Federal Agency Smart Card Number to the TSA Cancelled Card List, or (2) using a Certificate Revocation List. An owner or operator may also perform card authentication by using a TWIC reader to perform the CHALLENGE/ RESPONSE protocol using the Card Authentication Certificate and the card authentication private key on the TWIC.

PAC Decision 01–11 also contains additional guidance. It states that TWIC readers used under this determination should be used in accordance with manufacturer instructions, and operated by trained personnel. Additionally, it points out that TWIC readers allowed pursuant to this interim guidance may no longer be valid after promulgation of a TWIC reader final rule requiring the use of readers. Finally, it reminds vessel and facility owners/operators using PAC Decision 01–11 that they must submit a Vessel Security Plan or Facility Security

Plan amendment in accordance with applicable regulations.

Comments on PAC Decision 01–11 may be submitted to the Coast Guard via the docket as described above under ADDRESSES. PAC Decision 01–11 is considered a "significant guidance document" under the terms of the Office of Management and Budget's "Final Bulletin for Agency Good Guidance Practices," which was published in the Federal Register on January 25, 2007 (72 FR 3432).

**Authority:** This notice is issued under authority of 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 33 CFR 101.130.

Dated: March 7, 2011.

#### Kevin S. Cook,

Rear Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard, Director of Prevention Policy.

[FR Doc. 2011–5893 Filed 3–14–11; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 9110–04–P

## DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

### Federal Emergency Management Agency

[Docket ID: FEMA-2009-0003]

## **Collection of Overpayments**

**AGENCY:** Federal Emergency Management Agency, DHS.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** On September 5, 2008, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) published a notice in the Federal Register that announced FEMA's intention to implement a revised recoupment process, where warranted, on an individual basis pursuant to the procedures established by regulation for the administrative collection of debts. Now FEMA is providing notice of its revised recoupment process and the availability of the "FEMA Debt Resolution Process: In Summary," a document which includes a section describing "Your Rights and Options" and provides general information to the public on FEMA's revised recoupment procedures. The revised procedures provide the opportunity for individuals to request an oral hearing.

**DATES:** FEMA's revised recoupment procedures are effective March 15, 2011. **ADDRESSES:** "FEMA Debt Resolution Process: In Summary" can be viewed at <a href="http://www.regulations.gov">http://www.regulations.gov</a> under Docket ID FEMA–2009–0003. A hard copy may be inspected at FEMA, Office of Chief Counsel, Room 835, 500 C Street, SW., Washington, DC 20472.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Gloria Hernandez, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, Texas National Processing Services Center, P.O. Box 90215, Denton, TX 76202, telephone (940) 891–8722 (this is not a toll-free number). Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or those with speech disabilities may access this number through TTY by calling the toll-free Federal Information Relay Service at 800–877–8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On September 5, 2008, FEMA published a notice in the Federal Register (73 FR 51831) announcing FEMA's intention to implement a revised recoupment process, where warranted, on an individual basis pursuant to the procedures established by regulation for the administrative collection of debts. FEMA has developed revised recoupment procedures pursuant to Department of Homeland Security recoupment regulations at 6 CFR part 11 (adopting general procedures for administrative collection of debts set forth at 31 CFR parts 900-904). FEMA will examine the files of individual disaster applicants for evidence of overpayment. If FEMA determines that recoupment is warranted after review, the revised recoupment procedures will apply. A brief summary of these procedures follows.

Under the revised procedures, when FEMA identifies a potential overpayment, FEMA will send the applicant written notification that a debt is owed, specifying the amount of the debt and the reason for the debt. This "Notice of Debt" letter will describe the applicant's available options, including payment of the debt in full within 30 days to avoid any potential interest and/ or penalties, a payment plan, a compromise of the debt, or an appeal of the debt determination within 60 days. FEMA will advise the applicant that, if the applicant believes that his or her appeal cannot be decided based on the documentary evidence, for example, when the validity of the debt turns on a question of credibility or veracity, the applicant may request an oral hearing. The applicant will be advised that any request for an oral hearing must be accompanied by an explanation as to why the issue in dispute requires oral testimony and cannot be resolved solely by reviewing documentary evidence. Oral hearings will generally be conducted via telephone conference or may, in certain exceptional circumstances, be held in-person at a FEMA office.