

**COMMISSION ON UNITED STATES-PACIFIC TRADE AND INVESTMENT POLICY**

**Office of the United States Trade Representative**

**Notice of Meeting of the Commission on United States-Pacific Trade and Investment Policy**

**AGENCY:** Commission on United States-Pacific Trade and Investment Policy/ Office of the United States Trade Representative.

**ACTION:** Notice that the meeting of the Commission on United States-Pacific Trade and Investment Policy is scheduled for November 25, 1996 from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. This meeting will be closed to the public.

**SUMMARY:** The Commission on United States-Pacific Trade and Investment Policy will hold a meeting on November 25, 1996 from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. This meeting will be closed to the public. This meeting will include a review and discussion of current issues affecting U.S. trade policy with Asia and discussion of the Commission's final recommendations for its report to the President. Pursuant to Section 2155(f)(2) of Title 19 of the United States Code, the USTR has determined that these meetings will be concerned with matters the disclosure of which would seriously compromise the development by the United States Government of trade policy, priorities, negotiating objectives or bargaining positions with respect to the operation of any trade agreement and other matters arising in connection with the development, implementation and administration of the trade policy of the United States.

**DATES:** This meeting is scheduled for November 25, 1996, unless otherwise notified.

**ADDRESSES:** These meetings will be held at the U.S. Department of Commerce, Patent and Trademark Office, Office of Patent Policy Dissemination, Crystal Square 4, Suite 700, 1745 Jefferson Davis Highway (Route 1), Arlington, VA 22202, unless otherwise notified.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Nancy Adams, Executive Director of the Commission on United States-Pacific Trade and Investment Policy, Room 400,

600 17th Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20508, (202) 395-9679.

Nancy Adams,

*Executive Director, Commission on United States-Pacific Trade and Investment Policy.*

Charlene Barshefsky,

*Acting United States Trade Representative.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Coast Guard**

[CGD 96-063]

**Incineration of Solid Waste Aboard U.S. Coast Guard Cutters; Environmental Assessment and Proposed Finding of No Significant Impact**

**AGENCY:** Coast Guard, DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** The Coast Guard has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) and proposed Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the proposed installation of marine incinerators on board certain classes of cutters (vessels larger than 65 feet in length) for the purpose of burning shipboard solid waste and waste oil to mitigate its accumulation. The EA analysis provides the basis for concluding that there will be no significant impact on the marine environment and that preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement will not be necessary. This notice announces availability of the EA and proposed FONSI and solicits comments.

**DATES:** Comments must be received on or before December 26, 1996.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments may be mailed to the Commanding Officer (ELC code 016), 2401 Hawkins Point Road, Baltimore, MD 21226-5000, or may be delivered to the same address between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. EST, Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays. The telephone number is (410) 636-3585, and FAX (410) 636-7379.

Copies of the EA and proposed FONSI may be obtained by contacting Mr. Hari Bindal at (410) 636-3585 or faxing a request to (410) 636-7379. Copies of EA and FONSI are also available for inspection at the office of the Commanding Officer, Engineering Logistics Center (ELC 016), 2401 Hawkins Point Road, Baltimore, Maryland 21226-5000.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Mr. Hari Bindal, Environmental Protection Specialist, (410) 636-3585.

**Request for Comments**

Copies of EA and proposed FONSI are available as described under **ADDRESSES**. The Coast Guard encourages interested persons to comment on these documents. The Coast Guard will consider these comments prior to finalizing the proposed FONSI and prior to making a decision to implement installation of incinerators aboard its cutters. If comments are received that merit revision of the EA, the EA will be revised before finalizing the FONSI.

**Background**

U.S. Coast Guard's major missions are: Law Enforcement, Defense Operations, Search and Rescue, Ice Operations, Marine Science, Pollution Response, and Aids to Navigation. To accomplish these missions, USCG operates a fleet of boats and cutters on the U.S. domestic and international waters. Cutters having designed endurance of 5 days or more, and with a crew of more than 50, face problems with shipboard generated solid waste (trash, garbage) and waste oil. Some of the Coast Guard cutters voyage for a period up to 180 days between port visits, and carry a crew of over 200. The International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) and the U.S. Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships (APPS) prohibit disposal of plastics anywhere at sea and restrict discharge of other waste to certain distances from shore. MARPOL also has designated certain special areas where waste discharge regulations are more stringent. To comply with MARPOL, APPS, and other environmental laws and regulations, Coast Guard cutters must either store and carry the waste back to port, or install on-board disposal devices which comply with these regulations. Given that cutters have very limited storage space, and to provide for healthy and safe conditions for the crew, the Coast Guard considered several alternatives, and has proposed incinerators as the means to handle the shipboard solid waste.

This environmental assessment (EA) was prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969; and the Coast Guard's NEPA Implementing Procedures, to evaluate the potential environmental impacts of the proposed installation of incinerators on certain classes of Coast Guard cutters. Other International and U.S. Laws which apply to the use of incinerators on ships include: The Antarctic Treaties; Clean Air Act; Resource Conservation and Recovery Act; Coastal Zone Management Act;