

amendments codify the options position reporting requirements as set forth in Notice to Members 94-46, which state that the reporting requirements are "applicable to all standardized options positions established by 'access' firms or their customers and all conventional options positions established by members or their customers." Access firms are defined as NASD members that conduct a business in exchange-traded options but are not themselves members of the options exchange upon which such options are listed and traded. Limiting reporting of standardized options positions under NASD rules to access firms only avoids imposing duplicative reporting requirements on NASD members who are also members of an options exchange, inasmuch as members of an options exchange (*i.e.*, dual members) are required to report positions on standardized options pursuant to the rules of the options exchange(s) of which they are a member.

Finally, NASD Regulation proposes an amendment to clarify that, consistent with current practices, a member may report positions directly to the Association or have such positions reported to the Association by another firm, such as the member's clearing firm. The amendment is accomplished by using the phrase "file or cause to be filed." This amendment would not eliminate the member's ultimate responsibility to ensure that the firm reporting the positions on the member's behalf makes the necessary filings with the NASD.

2. Statutory Basis

NASD Regulation represents that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 15A(b)(6)⁶ of the Act, which requires, among other things, that the Association's rules must be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest. The NASD represents that applying options positions and exercise limits and position reporting requirements to transactions effected by members of non-member brokers and non-member dealers preserves the integrity and effectiveness of position and exercise limits. In this manner, the proposed rule change promotes just and equitable principles of trade and protects investors and the public interest.

B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

NASD Regulation does not believe that the proposed rule change will result in any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act, as amended.

C. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received From Members, Participants, or Others

Written comments were neither solicited nor received.

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

Within 35 days of the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** or within such longer period (i) as the Commission may designate up to 90 days of such date if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding or (ii) as to which the self-regulatory organization consents, the Commission will:

- (A) By order approve such proposed rule change, or
- (B) Institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be disapproved.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing. Persons making written submissions should file six copies thereof with the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549-0609. Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for inspection and copying in the Commission's Public Reference Room. Copies of such filing will also be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the NASD. All submissions should refer to SR-NASD-00-36 and should be submitted by September 28, 2000.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.⁷

Margaret H. McFarland,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-22862 Filed 9-6-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Coast Guard

[CGD08-00-022]

Lower Mississippi River Waterway Safety Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Lower Mississippi River Waterway Safety Advisory Committee (LMRWSAC) will meet to discuss various issues relating to navigational safety on the Lower Mississippi River and related waterways. The meeting will be open to the public.

DATES: LMRWSAC will meet on Tuesday, October 3, 2000, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. This meeting may close early if all business is finished. Written material and requests to make oral presentations should reach the Coast Guard on or before September 25, 2000. Requests to have a copy of your material distributed to each member of the committee should reach the Coast Guard on or before September 25, 2000.

ADDRESSES: LMRWSAC will meet in the basement conference room of the Hale Boggs Federal Building, 501 Magazine Street, New Orleans, LA. Send written material and requests to make oral presentations to M. M. Ledet, Committee Administrator, c/o Commander, Eighth Coast Guard District (m), 501 Magazine Street, New Orleans, LA 70130-3396. This notice is available on the Internet at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For questions on this notice, contact M. M. Ledet, Committee Administrator, telephone (504) 589-6271, Fax (504) 589-4999.

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

Agenda of Meeting

Lower Mississippi River Waterway Safety Advisory Committee (LMRWSAC). The agenda includes the following:

- (1) Introduction of committee members.

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 780(b)(6).

⁷ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

(2) Election of Committee Chairman & Vice Chairman

(3) Remarks by RADM P. Pluta, Committee Sponsor.

(4) Approval of the April 26, 2000 minutes.

(5) Old Business: VTS Update and PORTS Update reports.

(6) New Business:

(7) Next meeting.

(8) Adjournment.

Procedural

The meeting is open to the public. Please note that the meeting may close early if all business is finished. At the Chair's discretion, members of the public may make oral presentations during the meeting. If you would like to make an oral presentation at the meeting, please notify the Committee Administrator no later than September 25, 2000. Written material for distribution at the meeting should reach the Coast Guard no later than September 25, 2000. 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 28 copies to the Committee Administrator at the location indicated under Addresses no later than September 25, 2000.

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 Committee Administrator at the location indicated under Addresses as soon as possible.

Dated: August 18, 2000.

K.J. Eldridge,

Captain, U.S. Coast Guard, Acting Commander, Eighth Coast Guard District.

[FR Doc. 00-22977 Filed 9-6-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-15-U

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Maritime Administration

[Docket No. MARAD-2000-7841]

AGENCY: Maritime Administration, Department of Transportation.

ACTION: Extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: The Maritime Administration (MARAD) is hereby giving notice that the closing date for comments in Docket No. MARAD-2000-7841, application of Marine Transport Corporation for written permission for temporary transfer to the coastwise trade of the integrated tug barge *SMT Chemical Trader*, has been extended to close of

business (5:00 p.m. edt) September 15, 2000. The notice of application in Docket No. MARAD-2000-7841 was published in the **Federal Register** of August 28, 2000 (65 FR 52157-52158).

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program)

By Order of the Maritime Administrator.

Dated: September 1, 2000.

Joel C. Richard,

Secretary, Maritime Administration.

[FR Doc. 00-23034 Filed 9-6-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-81-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Research and Special Programs Administration

[Docket 98-4957 Notice 22]

Extension of Existing Information Collection: Comment Request

AGENCY: Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice and request for public comments.

SUMMARY: This notice requests public participation in the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval process for extension of an existing RSPA collection of information. RSPA intends to request OMB approval of information collection 2137-0596, National Pipeline Mapping System (NPMS) under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 and 5 CFR Part 1320.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received on or before November 6, 2000 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to send comments in duplicate to the Dockets Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh St., SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001 or e-mail to <http://dms.dot.gov>. Please identify the docket and notice numbers shown in the heading of this notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Marvin Fell, (202) 366-6205, to ask questions about this notice, or write by e-mail to marvin.fell@rspa.dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: National Pipeline Mapping System.

Type of Request: Extension of existing information collection.

Abstract: RSPA's Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS), along with state agencies, have been working with natural gas and hazardous liquid pipeline operators to develop NPMS. When complete, NPMS will depict and provide data on all natural gas transmission and hazardous liquid pipeline systems operating in the

United States. OPS is extending its volunteer pilot program to all regulated transmission operators. OPS will be compensating the states and regional repositories for their startup and operating costs.

Estimate of Burden: 20 hours per operator.

Respondents: Gas transmission and hazardous liquid operators.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1350.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 27,000 hours.

This document can be reviewed between 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays, at the Dockets Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, Room PL-401, 400 Seventh St., SW., Washington, DC 20590.

Comments are invited on: (a) The need for the proposed collection of information for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques.

All timely written comments to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. Comments will be available to the public in the docket.

Issued in Washington, DC on August 31, 2000.

Stacey L. Gerard,

Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety.

[FR Doc. 00-22848 Filed 9-6-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-60-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Research and Special Programs Administration

[Docket No. RSPA-00-7283; Notice No. 00-10]

Advisory Notice; Transportation of Lithium Batteries

AGENCY: Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA), DOT.

ACTION: Advisory notice.