

or to request special assistance at the meeting, contact Mr. Eberly at the address or phone number under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** as soon as possible.

**Background Information**

The U.S. Coast Guard's supplemental notice of proposed rulemaking (SNPRM) on "Fire-Suppression Systems and Voyage Planning for Towing Vessels" [USCG-2000-6931] was published in the **Federal Register** November 8, 2000 [65 FR 66941]. The SNPRM proposes the installation of fixed fire-extinguishing systems in the engine rooms of towing vessels, and it proposes that owners or operators, and masters, ensure that voyage planning is conducted before vessels towing barges get underway on trips or voyages of at least 12 hours. Towing vessels that engage only in assistance towing, pollution response, or fleeting duties in limited geographical areas would be exempt from the measures in this SNPRM. The SNPRM stems from the incident on January 19, 1996, off the coast of Rhode Island when the tugboat SCANDIA, with the tank barge NORTH CAPE in tow, caught fire five miles off the coast. Crewmembers could not control the fire and, without power, they were unable to prevent the barge carrying 4 million gallons of oil from grounding and spilling about a quarter of its contents into the coastal waters. The spill led Congress to amend the law to permit the Secretary of

Transportation—"in consultation with the Towing Safety Advisory Committee" (TSAC)—to require fire-suppression and other measures on all towing vessels. The measures outlined in the SNPRM would likely decrease the number and severity of injuries to crews, prevent damage to vessels, structures and other property, and protect the environment.

**Public Meeting**

This meeting is open to the public. Please note that the meeting may close early if all business is finished. 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 Coast Guard point of contact listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** no later than February 2, 2001.

Dated: December 19, 2000.

**Joseph J. Angelo,**

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

[FR Doc. 00-33079 Filed 12-27-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-15-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Coast Guard**

**33 CFR Part 401**

**[USCG-2000-8569]**

**Great Lakes Pilotage Regulations**

**AGENCY:** Coast Guard, DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Coast Guard's Office of Great Lakes Pilotage will hold a public meeting. This meeting is in response to the marine industry's request for a comprehensive review of the Great Lakes Pilotage System. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss options for improving the safety, reliability, and efficiency of the Great Lakes Pilotage System. We encourage interested parties to attend the meeting and submit comments for discussion during the meeting. We also seek written comments from any party who is unable to attend the meeting.

**DATES:** Public Meeting: We will hold the meeting on January 30, 2001, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Written Comments: The Docket Management Facility must receive your comments on or before January 22, 2001.

**ADDRESSES:** Public Meeting: We will hold the meeting in room B1, The Federal Building, 1240 East 9th Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44199.

Written Comments: Look in the first column of the table to select *one* of the four methods to send your comments. Then, use the address or fax number in the second column to submit your comments:

If you are using this method	Please use this address or fax number
(1) By mail .....	Docket Management Facility, (USCG-2000-8569), U.S. Department of Transportation, Room PL-401, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001.
(2) In Person .....	Room PL-401. On the plaza level of the Nassif Building, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC. • <i>Hours:</i> 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Closed on Federal holidays. • <i>Telephone number:</i> 202-366-9329. <a href="http://dms.dot.gov">http://dms.dot.gov</a> .
(3) Internet .....	Docket Management Facility: 202-493-2251.
(4) Fax .....	

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For information concerning this notice or the public meeting, contact Tom Lawler, Chief Economist, Office of Great Lakes Pilotage (G-MW), U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, 2100 Second Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590, telephone 202-267-6164. For questions on viewing or submitting material to the docket contact Dorothy Beard, Chief, Dockets, Department of Transportation, telephone 202-366-9329.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**How Do I Participate in This Action?**

The Coast Guard encourages you to participate by submitting comments and related material, and by attending the public meeting. If you submit written comments, please include—

- Your name and address;
- The docket number for this notice (USCG-2000-8569);
- The specific section of this notice to which each comment applies; and
- The reason for each comment.

You may mail, deliver, fax, or electronically submit your comments and attachments to the Docket

Management Facility, using an address or fax number listed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice. Please do not submit the same comment or attachment by more than one method. If you mail or deliver your comments, 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 you would like to know if the Docket Management Facility received them, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed postcard or envelope. We will consider all

comments and material received during the comment period.

#### How Can I Get Additional Information, Including Copies of This Notice or Other Related Documents?

The Docket Management Facility maintains the public docket for this notice. The docket number for this notice is USCG-2000-8569. Comments, and other documents related to this notice will become part of this docket and will be available for inspection or copying as follows:

- *In person:* You may access the docket in room PL-401, on the Plaza Level of the Nassif Building at the same address, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. The facility is closed on Federal holidays.
- *Electronically:* You may access the docket on the Internet at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

#### Where Can I Get Information on Service for Individuals With Disabilities?

To obtain information on facilities or services for individuals with disabilities or to request that we provide special assistance at the public meeting, please contact Mr. Tom Lawler as soon as possible. You will find his address and phone number in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this notice.

#### Why Is the Coast Guard Holding This Public Meeting?

This meeting is in response to requests for a comprehensive review to improve the safety, reliability, and efficiency of the Great Lakes pilotage system. The requests came from all facets of the marine industry operating on the Great Lakes. We are holding the meeting to discuss ways to design a safer, more reliable and efficient pilotage system for the Great Lakes.

#### What Issues Should I Discuss at the Meeting or Address in Written Comments?

The public meeting on January 30, 2001 will provide a forum for members of the public to discuss ways to improve the safety, reliability and efficiency of the Great Lakes Pilotage System. You can discuss or comment on any ideas you have for improving the safety, reliability, and efficiency of the Great Lakes pilotage system. Interested parties are strongly encouraged to submit issues for discussion at the public meeting to the docket prior to January 22, 2001.

#### What Is the Agenda for the Public Meeting?

##### Agenda

The agenda for the meeting on January 30, 2001 is as follows:

- Session I—Introduction and Overview.
- Session II—Presentation and discussion of Concept Papers on centralized dispatch, centralized billing, and the possible advantages and disadvantages of combining the existing three pilotage Districts into one District or one Pilots' Association.
- Session III—Discussion of issues submitted to the docket.

Dated: December 21, 2000.

**Joseph J. Angelo,**

*Acting Assistant Commandant for Marine Safety and Environmental Protection.*

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**BILLING CODE 4910-15-U**

## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

### 47 CFR Part 73

[MM Docket No. 00-244; FCC 00-427]

#### Broadcast Services; Radio Stations, Television Stations

**AGENCY:** Federal Communications Commission.

**ACTION:** Proposed rule.

**SUMMARY:** This document proposes to revise the Commission's methodologies for defining radio markets, counting the number of stations in a radio market, and determining the number of stations that a party owns in a radio market for the purposes of determining compliance with its multiple ownership rules. Experience in applying those methodologies since the enactment of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, has indicated that the Commission's current framework may be having results that may frustrate the structure of the Telecommunications Act and that are not in the public interest.

**DATES:** Comments are due by January 26, 2001; reply comments are due by February 12, 2001.

**ADDRESSES:** Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20554

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Roger Holberg, Mass Media Bureau, Policy and Rules Division, (202) 418-2134 or Dan Bring, Mass Media Bureau, Policy and Rules Division, (202) 418-2170.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This is a synopsis of the Notice of Proposed Rule

Making ("NPRM") in MM Docket No. 00-244, FCC 00-427, adopted December 6, 2000, and released December 13, 2000. The complete text of this NPRM is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the FCC Reference Center, Room CY-A257, 445 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC and may also be purchased from the Commission's copy contractor, International Transcription Service (202)857-3800, 445 12th Street, SW., Room CY-B402, Washington, DC. The NPRM is also available on the Internet at the Commission's website: <http://www.fcc.gov>.

#### Synopsis of Notice of Proposed Rule Making

1. We are adopting this NPRM to seek comment on whether and how we should modify the way in which we determine the dimensions of radio markets and count the number of stations in them. We are also seeking comment on whether and how we should amend the method by which we determine the number of radio stations owned by a party in a radio market for the purpose of applying our multiple ownership rules.

#### Overview

2. In 1991, we commenced a proceeding to relax our local and national radio ownership rules. We ultimately established two market sizes that would determine the number of radio stations in which an entity could have an attributable interest in a local area. One tier included markets with 15 or more commercial radio stations. The other market tier consisted of markets with fewer than 15 stations. A party could have attributable interests in a different number of stations depending on the tier into which its market fell. This decision required that we establish both how we would define a market and, because of the different treatment of markets with less than 15 stations and those with 15 or more, how we would count the number of stations in a market. We determined that:

we will define the radio market as that area encompassed by the principal community contours (*i.e.*, predicted or measured 5 mV/m for AM stations and predicted 3.16 mV/m for FM stations) of the mutually overlapping stations proposing to have common ownership.

With regard to how we would count the number of stations in a market, we stated:

[t]he number of stations in the market will be determined based on the principal community contours of all commercial stations whose principal community contours overlap or intersect the principal