

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION****Coast Guard****33 CFR Part 117**

[CGD08-01-044]

**Drawbridge Operating Regulation;  
Lake Pontchartrain, LA****AGENCY:** Coast Guard, DOT.**ACTION:** Notice of temporary deviation from regulations.

**SUMMARY:** The Commander, Eighth Coast Guard District has issued a temporary deviation from the regulation governing the operation of the bascule spans of the Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission Causeway across Lake Pontchartrain between Metairie, Jefferson Parish and Mandeville, St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana. This deviation allows the draws of the bridges to remain closed to navigation from 6 a.m. on Monday, December 17, 2001 until 6 a.m. on Wednesday, December 19, 2001. This temporary deviation allows for the connection of new submarine cables to operate the draw spans of the bridges.

**DATES:** This deviation is effective from 6 a.m. on Monday, December 17, 2001 until 6 a.m. on Wednesday, December 19, 2001.

**ADDRESSES:** Unless otherwise indicated, documents referred to in this notice are available for inspection or copying at the office of the Eighth Coast Guard District, Bridge Administration Branch, Commander (ob), 501 Magazine Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, 70130-3396 between 7 a.m. and 3 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The Bridge Administration Branch maintains the public docket for this temporary deviation.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** David Frank, Bridge Administration Branch, telephone (504) 589-2965.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Presently, the draw is required to open on signal if at least three hours notice is given; except that, the draw need not be opened for the passage of vessels Monday through Friday except Federal holidays from 5:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. and from 3 p.m. until 7 p.m. The draw opens on signal for any vessel in distress or vessel waiting immediately following the closures listed above.

During the closure period, the bridges will not be able to open for vessels to transit through the bascule spans of the bridge. The bridges have a vertical clearance of 42 feet above mean high water in the closed-to-navigation position. Navigation on the waterway

consists of small tugs with tows, fishing vessels, sailing vessels, and other recreational craft. In case of an emergency, the bridge owner will be able to hand crank the draws of the bridges to the open-to-navigation position. As an alternate route, the south channel fixed spans of the dual bridges provide a vertical clearance of 50 feet above mean high water.

The Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission requested a temporary deviation from the normal operation of the drawbridge in order to allow for the connection of new submarine cables to operate the draw spans of the bridges.

This deviation allows the draws of the bridges of the Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission Causeway across Lake Pontchartrain to remain closed to navigation from 6 a.m. on Monday, December 17, 2001 until 6 a.m. on Wednesday, December 19, 2001.

Dated: December 3, 2001.

**J. R. Whitehead,**

*Captain, U.S. Coast Guard, Commander, 8th Coast Guard Dist., Acting.*

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**BILLING CODE 4910-15-U**

**FEDERAL EMERGENCY  
MANAGEMENT AGENCY****44 CFR Part 64**

[Docket No. FEMA-7773]

**Suspension of Community Eligibility**

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

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** This rule identifies communities, where the sale of flood insurance has been authorized under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), that are suspended on the effective dates listed within this rule because of noncompliance with the floodplain management requirements of the program. If the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) receives documentation that the community has adopted the required floodplain management measures prior to the effective suspension date given in this rule, the suspension will be withdrawn by publication in the **Federal Register**.

**EFFECTIVE DATES:** The effective date of each community's suspension is the third date ("Susp.") listed in the third column of the following tables.

**ADDRESSES:** If you wish to determine whether a particular community was suspended on the suspension date, contact the appropriate FEMA Regional Office or the NFIP servicing contractor.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Edward Pasterick, Division Director, Program Marketing and Partnership Division, Federal Insurance Administration and Mitigation Directorate, 500 C Street, S.W.; Room 411, Washington, D.C. 20472, (202) 646-3098.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The NFIP enables property owners to purchase flood insurance which is generally not otherwise available. In return, communities agree to adopt and administer local floodplain management aimed at protecting lives and new construction from future flooding. Section 1315 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 4022, prohibits flood insurance coverage as authorized under the National Flood Insurance Program, 42 U.S.C. 4001 *et seq.*; unless an appropriate public body adopts adequate floodplain management measures with effective enforcement measures. The communities listed in this document no longer meet that statutory requirement for compliance with program regulations, 44 CFR part 59 *et seq.* Accordingly, the communities will be suspended on the effective date in the third column. As of that date, flood insurance will no longer be available in the community. However, some of these communities may adopt and submit the required documentation of legally enforceable floodplain management measures after this rule is published but prior to the actual suspension date. These communities will not be suspended and will continue their eligibility for the sale of insurance. A notice withdrawing the suspension of the communities will be published in the **Federal Register**.

In addition, the Federal Emergency Management Agency has identified the special flood hazard areas in these communities by publishing a Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM). The date of the FIRM if one has been published, is indicated in the fourth column of the table. No direct Federal financial assistance (except assistance pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act not in connection with a flood) may legally be provided for construction or acquisition of buildings in the identified special flood hazard area of communities not participating in the NFIP and identified for more than a year, on the Federal Emergency Management Agency's initial flood insurance map of the community as having flood-prone areas (section 202(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973, 42 U.S.C. 4106(a), as amended). This prohibition