SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Claiborne Avenue bridge has a vertical clearance of 40 feet above mean high water in the closed-to-navigation position and 156 feet above mean high water in the open-to-navigation position. Currently, according to 33 CFR 117.458(a), the draw of the bridge shall open on signal; except that, from 6:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. Monday through Friday, the draw need not be open for the passage of vessels. This deviation allows the draw span of the bridge to remain closed to navigation for two (2) 120-hour periods within a three week time frame between March 15, 2010 and April 4, 2010. The exact dates of the closures will be determined at a later date to allow for deep draft vessel movements either just prior or between the closure periods. Exact times and dates of the closures will be published in the Local Notice to Mariners and broadcast via the Coast Guard Broad Notice to Mariners system.

Navigation on the waterway consists mainly of tugs with tows and ships. As a result of coordination between the Coast Guard and the waterway users, it has been determined that this closure has been coordinated to minimize the possibility of any significant effects on these vessels. There are no alternate routes available to vessel traffic; however, vessels that can pass under the bridge in the closed-to-navigation position can do so at any time. The bridge will not be able to open for emergencies.

In accordance with 33 CFR 117.35(e), the drawbridge must return to its regular operating schedule immediately at the end of the designated time period. This deviation from the operating regulations is authorized under 33 CFR 117.35.


David M. Frank,
Bridge Administrator.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
Coast Guard

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is establishing a temporary regulated navigation area on the navigable waters of the Hudson River south of the Troy Locks. This regulated navigation area is necessary to promote maritime safety, and protect mariners and the environment from the hazards associated with ice conditions. The regulated navigation area is intended to restrict vessels with less than 3000 horsepower while engaged in towing operations, from operating on the navigable waters of the Hudson River south of the Troy Locks when ice conditions are 8 inches or greater unless authorized by the Captain of the Port New York or a designated representative.

DATES: Effective Date: this rule is effective in the CFR on February 25, 2010 until March 31, 2010. This rule is effective with actual notice for purposes of enforcement on February 5, 2010.

ADDRESSES: Documents indicated in this preamble as being available in the docket are part of docket USCG–2010–0009 and are available online by going to http://www.regulations.gov, inserting USCG–2010–0009 in the “Keyword” box, and then clicking “Search.” They are also available for inspection or copying at 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, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions on this temporary rule, call or e-mail Lieutenant William George, Coast Guard Sector New York, Waterways Management Division; telephone 718–354–4114, e-mail William.J.George@uscg.mil. If you have questions on viewing the docket, call Renee V. Wright, Program Manager, Docket Operations, telephone 202–366–9826.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Regulatory Information

The Coast Guard is issuing this temporary final rule without prior notice and opportunity to comment pursuant to authority under section 4(a) of the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) (5 U.S.C. 553(b)). This provision authorizes an agency to issue a rule without prior notice and opportunity to comment when the agency for good cause finds that those procedures are “impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest.” Under 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B), the Coast Guard finds that good cause exists for not publishing a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).