so the VCO user can read it in text. A VCO-to-TTY call allows a relay conversation to take place between a VCO user and a TTY user; a VCO-to-VCO call allows a relay conversation to take place between two VCO users.

The Commission extends the waivers of these requirements for one year for VRS and IP Relay because the most recent annual waiver reports reflect that the Internet cannot support the voice leg of a VCO call with the necessary call quality. These waivers are again conditioned on the filing of a report, due April 16, 2011, addressing whether it is necessary for the waivers to remain in effect, and whether a technical fix is imminent.

One-line HCO, HCO-to-TTY, and HCO-to-HCO. One-line HCO is a type of traditional TTY-based TRS that can be used by persons with a speech disability who can hear. The HCO user types what he or she wishes to say to the called party, and the CA voices what the HCO user has typed. The HCO user then listens to what the called party says in response. An HCO-to-TTY call allows a relay conversation to take place between a HCO user and a TTY user; an HCO-to-HCO call allows a relay conversation to take place between two HCO users. The Commission extends the waivers of these requirements for one year because the most recent annual waiver reports reflect that VRS and IP Relay providers cannot provide these services.

Call Release. Call release allows a CA to set up a TTY-to-TTY call that, once established, does not require the CA to relay the conversation. In other words, this feature allows the CA to sign-off or be “released” from the telephone line, without triggering a disconnection between two TTY users, after the CA connects the originating TTY caller to the called party’s TTY through, e.g., a business switchboard. The Commission extends the waiver of this requirement for one year due to technological infeasibility.

Pay-Per-Call (900) calls. Pay-per-call (900) calls are calls that the person making the call pays for at a charge greater than the basic cost of the call. The Commission extends the waiver of this requirement for VRS and IP Relay for one year because the providers’ annual waiver reports reflect there is still no billing mechanism available to handle the charges associated with pay-per-call calls.

Types of Calls (Operated Assisted Calls and Long Distance Calls). Commission rules require TRS providers to handle any type of call routinely commonly carried. The requirement that VRS and IP Relay providers offer operator-assisted calls and bill certain types of calls to the end user was waived because providers could not determine when a call was local or long distance. VRS and IP Relay providers are required to allow calls to be placed using calling cards and/or provide free long distance during the waiver period. The Commission extends the waiver of this requirement for VRS and IP Relay for one year because the providers’ annual waiver reports reflect that it remains technologically infeasible for providers to bill for these calls, since one leg of the call is transmitted over the Internet.

Equal Access to Interexchange Carriers. The TRS rules require that providers offer TRS users their interexchange carrier of choice to the same extent that such access is provided to voice users. The Commission has waived this requirement for VRS providers, noting that it was not possible to determine if a call is long distance and, in any event, the providers could not automatically route the calls to the caller’s long distance carrier of choice. This waiver is contingent on VRS providers providing long distance services free of charge to the caller. The Commission extends the waiver of this requirement for VRS for one year because the providers cannot determine whether a particular call is local or long distance, and so they cannot offer carrier of choice. Instead, providers do not charge consumers for long distance service. The Commission waived this requirement for IP Relay indefinitely.

Speech-to-Speech. The Commission recognized STS as a form of TRS and required that it be offered as a mandatory service. The Commission waived this requirement indefinitely for VRS, noting that STS is a speech-based service, whereas VRS is a visual service using interpreters to interpret in sign language over a video connection. The requirement for IP Relay is waived until July 1, 2010, because of technical difficulties with respect to voice-initiated calls and the Internet. The Commission extends the waiver of this requirement for IP Relay for one year because providers of this service continue to report erratic voice quality.

Waiver for Default Providers Using Other Providers’ CPE

The Commission extends the waiver of certain mandatory minimum standards for default Internet-based TRS providers that are unable to meet such standards for newly-registered Internet-based TRS users who port their customer supplied equipment (CPE) from a former default provider, in those instances where the new default provider does not have access to the technical information about such CPE that would be necessary in order to comply with these standards. Specifically, the Commission extends the waiver for operational requirements, emergency handling requirements, and point-to-point calling associated with such porting.

All of these waivers are conditioned on the filing of a report, due April 16, 2011, addressing whether it is necessary for the waivers to remain in effect.

Mark Stone,
Deputy Bureau Chief, Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau, Federal Communications Commission.
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Carlita Ballard, Office of International Policy, Fuel Economy and Consumer Programs, NHTSA, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., West Building, Room W43–439, Washington, DC 20590, by electronic mail to carlita.ballard@dot.gov. Ms. Ballard’s telephone number is (202) 366–0846. Her fax number is (202) 493–2990.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 33112 Insurer reports and information, NHTSA requires certain passenger motor vehicle insurers to file an annual report with the agency. Each insurer’s report includes information about thefts and recoveries of motor vehicles, the rating rules used by the insurer to establish premiums for comprehensive coverage, the actions taken by the insurer to reduce such premiums, and the actions taken by the insurer to reduce or deter theft.

Pursuant to 49 U.S.C. Section 33112(f), the following insurers are subject to the reporting requirements:

(1) Issuers of motor vehicle insurance policies whose total premiums account for 1 percent or more of the total premiums of motor vehicle insurance issued within the United States;

(2) Issuers of motor vehicle insurance policies whose premiums account for 10 percent or more of total premiums written within any one state and;

(3) Rental and leasing companies with a fleet of 20 or more vehicles not covered by theft insurance policies issued by insurers of motor vehicles, other than any governmental entity.

Pursuant to its statutory exemption authority, the agency exempted certain passenger motor vehicle insurers from the reporting requirements.

A. Small Insurers of Passenger Motor Vehicles

Section 33112(f)(2) provides that the agency shall exempt small insurers of passenger motor vehicles if NHTSA finds that such exemptions will not significantly affect the validity or usefulness of the information in the reports, either nationally or on a state-by-state basis. The term “small insurer” is defined, in Section 33112(f)(1)(A) and (B), as an insurer whose premiums for motor vehicle insurance issued directly or through an affiliate, including pooling arrangements established under state law or regulation for the issuance of motor vehicle insurance, account for less than 1 percent of the total premiums for all forms of motor vehicle insurance issued by insurers within the United States. However, that section also stipulates that if an insurance company satisfies this definition of a “small insurer,” but accounts for 10 percent or more of the total premiums for all motor vehicle insurance issued in a particular state, the insurer must report about its operations in that state.

In the final rule establishing the insurer reports requirement (49 CFR Part 544; 52 FR 59, January 2, 1987), NHTSA exercised its exemption authority by listing in Appendix A each insurer that must report because it had at least 1 percent of the motor vehicle insurance premiums nationally. Listing the insurers subject to reporting, instead of each insurer exempted from reporting because it had less than 1 percent of the premiums nationally, is administratively simpler, since the former group is much smaller than the latter. In Appendix B, NHTSA lists those insurers required to report for particular states because each insurer had a 10 percent or greater market share of motor vehicle premiums in those states. In the January 1987 final rule, the agency stated that it would update Appendices A and B annually. NHTSA updates the appendices based on data voluntarily provided by insurance companies to A.M. Best, which A.M. Best 1 publishes in its State/Line Report each spring. The agency uses the data to determine the insurers’ market shares nationally and in each state.

B. Self-Insured Rental and Leasing Companies

In addition, upon making certain determinations, NHTSA grants exemptions to self-insurers, i.e., any person who has a fleet of 20 or more motor vehicles (other than any governmental entity) used for rental or lease whose vehicles are not covered by theft insurance policies issued by insurers of passenger motor vehicles. 49 U.S.C. 33112(b)(1) and (f). Under 49 U.S.C. 33112(e)(1) and (2), NHTSA may exempt a self-insurer from reporting, if the agency determines:

(1) The cost of preparing and furnishing such reports is excessive in relation to the size of the business of the insurer;

(2) The insurer’s report will not significantly contribute to carrying out the purposes of Chapter 331.

In a final rule published June 22, 1990 (55 FR 25606), the agency granted a class exemption to all companies that rent or lease fewer than 50,000 vehicles, because it believed that the largest companies’ reports sufficiently represent the theft experience of rental and leasing companies. NHTSA concluded that smaller rental and leasing companies’ reports do not significantly contribute to carrying out NHTSA’s statutory obligations and that exempting such companies will relieve an unnecessary burden on them.

As a result of the June 1990 final rule, the agency added Appendix C, consisting of an annually updated list of the self-insurers subject to Part 544. Following the same approach as in Appendix A, NHTSA included, in Appendix C, each of the self-insurers subject to reporting instead of the self-insurers which are exempted. NHTSA updates Appendix C based primarily on information from Automotive Fleet Magazine and Auto Rental News. 2

C. When a Listed Insurer Must File a Report

Under Part 544, as long as an insurer is listed, it must file reports on or before October 25 of each year. Thus, any insurer listed in the appendices must file a report before October 25, 2010, and by each succeeding October 25, absent an amendment removing the insurer’s name from the appendices.

II. Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

1. Insurers of Passenger Motor Vehicles

On June 21, 2010, NHTSA published a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) to update the list of insurers in Appendices A, B, and C required to file reports (75 FR 34966). Appendix A lists insurers that must report because each had 1 percent of the motor vehicle insurance premiums on a national basis. The list was last amended in a final rule published on January 12, 2010 (75 FR 1548). Based on the 2007 calendar year market share data from A.M. Best, NHTSA proposed to make no change to Appendix A. Appendix B lists insurers required to report because each insurer had a 10 percent or greater market share of motor vehicle premiums in a particular State. Based on the 2007 calendar year data for market shares from A.M. Best, we proposed to add Balboa Insurance Group of South Dakota to Appendix B.

2. Rental and Leasing Companies

Appendix C lists rental and leasing companies required to file reports. Subsequent to publishing the January 12, 2010 final rule (see 75 FR 1548), the agency was informed by Enterprise Rent-A–Car company (Enterprise), that

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1 A.M. Best Company is a well-recognized source of insurance company ratings and information. 49 U.S.C. 33112(i) authorizes NHTSA to consult with public and private organizations as necessary.

2 Automotive Fleet Magazine and Auto Rental News are publications that provide information on the size of fleets and market share of rental and leasing companies.
it purchased Vanguard Car Rental, USA (Vanguard) in August of 2007, and that Vanguard will no longer be reporting as a separate entity because it merged with Enterprise in August of 2009. Specifically, Enterprise stated that all reporting would be performed by its parent company, Enterprise Holdings, Inc. for all three brands, National, Alamo and Enterprise. Therefore, NHTSA proposed to remove Vanguard Car Rental USA from the list of insurers required to meet the reporting requirements.

Public Comments on Final Determination

Insurers of Passenger Motor Vehicles

The agency received no comments in response to the NPRM. Therefore, this final rule adopts the proposed changes to Appendices B and C. Accordingly, NHTSA has determined that each of the 19 insurers listed in Appendix A, each of the nine insurers listed in Appendix B and each of five companies listed in Appendix C are required to submit an insurer report on its experience for calendar year 2007 no later than October 25, 2010, and set forth the information required by part 544. As long as these insurers and companies remain listed, they would be required to submit reports before each subsequent October 25 for the calendar year ending slightly less than 3 years before.

Submission of Theft Loss Report

Passenger motor vehicle insurers listed in the appendices can forward their theft loss reports to the agency in several ways:


b. E-Mail: carlita.ballard@dot.gov

c. Fax: (202) 493–2990.

Theft loss reports may also be submitted to the docket electronically [identified by Docket No. NHTSA–2010–0017] by:

1. Costs and Other Impacts

This notice has not been reviewed under Executive Order 12866, Regulatory Planning and Review. NHTSA has considered the impact of this final rule and determined that the action is not “significant” within the meaning of the Department of Transportation’s regulatory policies and procedures. This final rule implements the agency’s policy of ensuring that all insurance companies that are statutorily eligible for exemption from the insurer reporting requirements are in fact exempted from those requirements. Only those companies that are not statutorily eligible for an exemption are required to file reports.

NHTSA does not believe that this rule, reflecting current data, affects the impacts described in the final regulatory evaluation prepared for the final rule establishing Part 544 (52 FR 59; January 2, 1987). Accordingly, a separate regulatory evaluation has not been prepared for this rulemaking action. The cost estimates in the 1987 final regulatory evaluation should be adjusted for inflation, using the Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index for 2007 (see http://www.bls.gov/cpi).

The agency estimates that the cost of compliance is $50,000 (1987 dollars) for any insurer added to Appendix A, $20,000 (1987 dollars) for any insurer added to Appendix B, and $5,770 (1987 dollars) for any insurer added to Appendix C. This final rule will make no change to Appendix A, add one company to Appendix B, and remove one company from Appendix C. Therefore, the net effect of this final rule is an increased cost of $14,220 (1987 dollars) to insurers as a group.

Interested persons may wish to examine the 1987 final regulatory evaluation. Copies of that evaluation were placed in Docket No. T86–01; Notice 2. Any interested person may obtain a copy of this evaluation by writing to NHTSA, Technical Reference Division, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., East Building (Ground Floor), Room E12–100, Washington, DC 20590, or by calling (202) 366–2588.

2. Paperwork Reduction Act

This action has been analyzed according to the principles and criteria contained in Executive Order 12612, and it has been determined that the final rule does not have sufficient federalism implications to warrant the preparation of a Federalism Assessment.

5. Environmental Impacts

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, NHTSA has considered the environmental impacts of this final rule and determined that it would not have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment.

6. Civil Justice Reform

This final rule does not have any retroactive effect, and it does not preempt any State law, 49 U.S.C. 33117 provides that judicial review of this rule may be obtained pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 32909, and section 32909 does not require submission of a petition for reconsideration or other administrative proceedings before parties may file suit in court.
7. Regulation Identifier Number (RIN)

The Department of Transportation assigns a regulation identifier number (RIN) to each regulatory action listed in the Unified Agenda of Federal Regulations. The Regulatory Information Service Center publishes the Unified Agenda in April and October of each year. You may use the RIN contained in the heading at the beginning of this document to find this action in the Unified Agenda.

8. Plain Language

Executive Order 12866 requires each agency to write all rules in plain language. Application of the principles of plain language includes consideration of the following questions:

☐ Have we organized the material to suit the public’s needs?
☐ Are the requirements in the proposal clearly stated?
☐ Does the proposal contain technical language or jargon that is not clear?
☐ Would a different format (grouping and order of sections, use of headings, paragraphing) make the rule easier to understand?
☐ Would more (but shorter) sections be better?
☐ Could we improve clarity by adding tables, lists, or diagrams?
☐ What else could we do to make the proposal easier to understand?

If you have any responses to these questions, you can forward them to me several ways:

b. E-mail: carlita.ballard@dot.gov; or Fax: (202) 493–2990.

List of Subjects in 49 CFR Part 544

Crime insurance, Insurance, Insurance companies, Motor vehicles, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

In consideration of the foregoing, 49 CFR part 544 is amended as follows:

PART 544—[AMENDED]

1. The authority citation for part 544 continues to read as follows:


2. In § 544.5, paragraph (a), the second sentence is revised to read as follows:

§ 544.5 General requirements for reports.

(a) * * * This report shall contain the information required by § 544.6 of this part for the calendar year 3 years previous to the year in which the report is filed (e.g., the report due by October 25, 2010 will contain the required information for the 2007 calendar year).

* * * * *

3. Appendix A to part 544 is revised to read as follows:

Appendix A—Insurers of Motor Vehicle Insurance Policies Subject to the Reporting Requirements in Each State in Which They Do Business

Allstate Insurance Group
American Family Insurance Group
American International Group
Auto Club Enterprise Insurance Group
Auto-Owners Insurance Group
Erie Insurance Group
Berkeley Hathaway/GEICO Corporation Group
California State Auto Group
Hartford Insurance Group
Liberty Mutual Insurance Companies
Metropolitan Life Auto & Home Group
Mercury General Group
Nationwide Group
Progressive Group
SafeCo Insurance Companies
State Farm Group
Travelers Companies
USAA Group
Farmers Insurance Group

Appendix B to part 544 is revised to read as follows:

Appendix B—Issuers of Motor Vehicle Insurance Policies Subject to the Reporting Requirements Only in Designated States

Alfa Insurance Group (Alabama)
Auto Club (Michigan)
Balboa Insurance Group (South Dakota) 1
Commerce Group, Inc. (Massachusetts)
Kentucky Farm Bureau Group (Kentucky)
New Jersey Manufacturers Group (New Jersey)
Safety Group (Massachusetts)
Southern Farm Bureau Group (Arkansas, Mississippi)
Tennessee Farmers Companies (Tennessee)

1 Indicates a newly listed company which must file a report beginning with the report due October 25, 2010.

5. Appendix C to part 544 is revised to read as follows:

Appendix C—Motor Vehicle Rental and Leasing Companies (Including Licensees and Franchisees) Subject to the Reporting Requirements of Part 544

Gendant Car Rental
Dollar Thrifty Automotive Group
Enterprise Holding Inc./Enterprise Rent-A-
Car Company 1
Hertz Rent-A-Car Division (subsidiary of The Hertz Corporation)
U-Haul International, Inc. (Subsidiary of AMERCO)


Issued on: August 30, 2010.
Joseph S. Carra,
Acting Associate Administrator for Rulemaking.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 665

[Docket No. 0907211157–0327–03]

RIN 0648–AX76

Fisheries in the Western Pacific; Community Development Program Process

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This final rule establishes eligibility requirements and procedures for reviewing and approving community development plans for western Pacific fisheries. The intent of this final rule is to require the participation of island communities in fisheries that they have traditionally depended upon, but in which they may not have the capabilities to support continued and substantial participation.

DATES: This rule is effective October 4, 2010, except for § 665.20(c), which contains information collection requirements that have not yet been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA). When OMB approval is received, the control number and the effective date for that information collection will be published in the Federal Register.

ADDRESSES: The background and details of the community development plan process are described in Amendment 1 to the fishery ecosystem plans for American Samoa, Hawaii, the Mariana Archipelago, and western Pacific pelagic fisheries (the amendment is identical for each plan), which is available from the Western Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council), 1164 Bishop St., Suite 1400, Honolulu, HI 96813, tel 808–522–8220, fax 808–522–8226, or www.wpcouncil.org.

Written comments regarding the burden-hour estimates or other aspects of the collection-of-information requirements contained in this final rule may be submitted to NMFS, attention Michael D. Tosatto, 1601 Kapiolani