

deployment of Intelligent Transportation Systems and components; installation and improvement of safety and communications equipment, including hazard elimination and mitigation; and retrofitting existing transportation vehicles, facilities or structures.

(6) Acquisition or transfer of an interest in real property that is not within or adjacent to recognized environmentally sensitive areas (e.g., wetlands, non-urban parks, wildlife management areas) and does not result in a substantial change in the functional use of the property or in substantial displacements, such as scenic easements and historic sites for the purpose of preserving the site. This CE extends only to acquisitions that will not limit the evaluation of alternatives.

(7) Acquisition, rehabilitation and maintenance of vehicles or equipment, within or accommodated by existing facilities, that does not result in a change in functional use of the facilities, such as equipment to be located within existing facilities and with no substantial off-site impacts; and vehicles, including buses, rail cars, trolley cars, ferry boats and people movers that can be accommodated by existing facilities or by new facilities that qualify for categorical exclusion.

(8) Maintenance and minimally intrusive rehabilitation and reconstruction of facilities that occupy substantially the same environmental footprint and do not result in a change in functional use, such as improvements to bridges, tunnels, storage yards, buildings, and terminals; and construction of platform extensions and passing track.

(9) Assembly or construction of facilities that is consistent with existing land use and zoning requirements (including floodplain regulations), is minimally intrusive, and requires no special permits, permissions, and uses a minimal amount of undisturbed land, such as buildings and associated structures; bus transfers, busways and streetcar lines within existing transportation right-of-way; and parking facilities.

(10) Development activities for transit and non-transit purposes, located on, above, or adjacent to existing transit facilities, that are not part of a larger transportation project and do not substantially enlarge such facilities, such as police facilities, daycare facilities, public service facilities, and amenities.

(d) Additional actions which meet the criteria for a CE in the CEQ regulations (40 CFR 1508.4) and paragraph (a) of this section may be designated as CEs

only after FTA approval. The applicant shall submit documentation which demonstrates that the specific conditions or criteria for these CEs are satisfied and that significant environmental effects will not result. Examples of such actions include but are not limited to:

(1) Modernization of a highway by resurfacing, restoration, rehabilitation, reconstruction, adding shoulders, or adding auxiliary lanes (e.g., parking, weaving, turning, climbing).

(2) Bridge rehabilitation, reconstruction or replacement or the construction of grade separation to replace existing at-grade railroad crossings.

(3) Acquisition of land for hardship or protective purposes. Hardship and protective buying will be permitted only for a particular parcel or a limited number of parcels. These types of land acquisition qualify for a CE only where the acquisition will not limit the evaluation of alternatives, including shifts in alignment for planned construction projects, which may be required in the NEPA process. No project development on such land may proceed until the NEPA process has been completed.

(i) Hardship acquisition is early acquisition of property by the applicant at the property owner's request to alleviate particular hardship to the owner, in contrast to others, because of an inability to sell his property. This is justified when the property owner can document on the basis of health, safety or financial reasons that remaining in the property poses an undue hardship compared to others.

(ii) Protective acquisition is done to prevent imminent development of a parcel which may be needed for a proposed transportation corridor or site. Documentation must clearly demonstrate that development of the land would preclude future transportation use and that such development is imminent. Advance acquisition is not permitted for the sole purpose of reducing the cost of property for a proposed project.

(4) Acquisition of pre-existing railroad right-of-way pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 5324(c). No project development on the acquired railroad right-of-way may proceed until the NEPA process for such project development, including the consideration of alternatives, has been completed.

(e) Where a pattern emerges of granting CE status for a particular type of action, the Administration will initiate rulemaking proposing to add this type of action to the appropriate list of categorical exclusions in this section.

9. Amend § 771.119 by adding a new paragraph (k) to read as follows:

§ 771.119 Environmental assessments.

* * * * *

(k) For FTA actions: If the applicant selects a contractor to prepare the EA, the contractor's final scope of work for the preparation of the EA will not be determined until the informal scoping process is completed, and the scope of study has been approved by FTA in consultation with the applicant.

10. Amend § 771.123 by deleting paragraph (j) and by adding the following sentence at the end of paragraph (d) to read as follows:

§ 771.123 Draft environmental impact statements.

* * * * *

(d) * * *. For FTA actions, the contractor's final scope of work for the preparation of the EIS will not be determined until scoping has been completed, and the scope of study has been approved by FTA in consultation with the applicant.

§ 771.133 [Amended]

11. Amend § 771.133 in its final sentence by replacing the word "Administration's" with the word "FHWA's" and by adding the following text at the end of the paragraph: "FTA's approval of an environmental document constitutes its finding of compliance with the requirements of 49 U.S.C. 5323(b) and 49 U.S.C. 5324(b)."

Issued on: March 7, 2012.

Peter Rogoff,
Administrator, Federal Transit Administration.

Victor M. Mendez,
Administrator, Federal Highway Administration.

[FR Doc. 2012-6327 Filed 3-14-12; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

26 CFR Part 1

[REG-130777-11]

RIN 1545-BK45

Treasury Inflation-Protected Securities Issued at a Premium; Hearing Cancellation

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Cancellation of notice of public hearing on proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: This document cancels a public hearing on proposed regulations

(REG-130777-11), providing guidance on the tax treatment of Treasury Inflation-Protected Securities issued with more than a de minimis amount of premium.

DATES: The public hearing originally scheduled for March 28, 2012 at 10 a.m., is cancelled.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Funmi Taylor of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Legal Processing Division, Associate Chief Counsel (Procedure and Administration), at (202) 622-7180 (not a toll-free number).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: A notice of proposed rulemaking by cross-reference to temporary regulations and notice of public hearing that appeared in the **Federal Register** on Monday, December 5, 2011 (76 FR 75829), announced that a public hearing was scheduled for March 28, 2012, at 10 a.m., in the IRS Auditorium, Internal Revenue Service Building, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC. The subject of the public hearing is under section 1275 of the Internal Revenue Code.

The public comment period for these regulations expired on March 7, 2012. The notice of proposed rulemaking by cross-reference to temporary regulations and notice of public hearing, instructed those interested in testifying at the public hearing to submit a request to speak and an outline of the topics to be addressed. As of Monday, March 12, 2012, no one has requested to speak. Therefore, the public hearing scheduled for March 28, 2012, is cancelled.

LaNita Van Dyke,

Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Legal Processing Division, Associate Chief Counsel (Procedures and Administration).

[FR Doc. 2012-6212 Filed 3-14-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 100

[Docket No. USCG-2012-0109]

RIN 1625-AA08

Special Local Regulations for Marine Events; Temporary Change of Dates for Recurring Marine Events in the Fifth Coast Guard District, Bogue Sound; Morehead City, NC

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard proposes to temporarily change the enforcement

period of a special local regulation for a recurring marine event in the Fifth Coast Guard District. This change applies only to the “Crystal Coast Super Boat Grand Prix” conducted on the waters of Bogue Sound near Morehead City, North Carolina. This Special Local Regulation is necessary to provide for the safety of life on navigable waters during the event, which has been rescheduled from the fourth or last Sunday in September to the third Saturday and Sunday in September. This regulation would close a portion of the waters of Bogue Sound to vessel traffic during the boat race.

DATES: Comments and related material must be received by the Coast Guard on or before April 16, 2012.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments identified by docket number USCG-2012-0109 using any one of the following methods:

(1) *Federal eRulemaking Portal:*

<http://www.regulations.gov>.

(2) *Fax:* 202-493-2251.

(3) *Mail:* Docket Management Facility (M-30), U.S. Department of Transportation, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590-0001.

(4) *Hand delivery:* Same as mail address above, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The telephone number is 202-366-9329.

To avoid duplication, please use only one of these four methods. See the “Public Participation and Request for Comments” portion of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section below for instructions on submitting comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions on this proposed rule, call or email BOSN3 Joseph M. Edge, Coast Guard Sector North Carolina, Coast Guard; telephone 252-247-4525, email

Joseph.M.Edge@uscg.mil. If you have questions on viewing or submitting material to the docket, call Renee V. Wright, Program Manager, Docket Operations, telephone 202-366-9826.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Public Participation and Request for Comments

We encourage you to participate in this rulemaking by submitting comments and related materials. All comments received will be posted without change to *<http://www.regulations.gov>* and will include any personal information you have provided.

Submitting Comments

If you submit a comment, please include the docket number for this rulemaking (USCG-2012-0109), indicate the specific section of this document to which each comment applies, and provide a reason for each suggestion or recommendation. You may submit your comments and material online (via *<http://www.regulations.gov>*) or by fax, mail, or hand delivery, but please use only one of these means. If you submit a comment online via *www.regulations.gov*, it will be considered received by the Coast Guard when you successfully transmit the comment. If you fax, hand deliver, or mail your comment, it will be considered as having been received by the Coast Guard when it is received at the Docket Management Facility. We recommend that you include your name and a mailing address, an email address, or a telephone number in the body of your document so that we can contact you if we have questions regarding your submission.

To submit your comment online, go to *<http://www.regulations.gov>*, click on the “submit a comment” box, which will then become highlighted in blue. In the “Document Type” drop down menu select “Proposed Rule” and insert “USCG-2012-0109” in the “Keyword” box. Click “Search” then click on the balloon shape in the “Actions” column. If you submit your comments by mail or hand delivery, submit them in an unbound format, no larger than 8½ by 11 inches, suitable for copying and electronic filing. If you submit comments by mail and would like to know that they reached the Facility, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed postcard or envelope. We will consider all comments and material received during the comment period and may change the rule based on your comments.

Viewing Comments and Documents

To view comments, as well as documents mentioned in this preamble as being available in the docket, go to *<http://www.regulations.gov>*, click on the “read comments” box, which will then become highlighted in blue. In the “Keyword” box insert “USCG-2012-0109” and click “Search.” Click the “Open Docket Folder” in the “Actions” column. You may also visit the Docket Management Facility in Room W12-140 on the ground floor of the Department of Transportation West Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal