

**SUMMARY:** The Coast Guard will enforce a segment of the Safety Zone; Brandon Road Lock and Dam to Lake Michigan including Des Plaines River, Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal, Chicago River, Calumet-Saganashkee Channel on all waters of the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal from Mile Marker 296.1 to Mile Marker 296.7 at specified times from March 21 to March 30, 2014. This action is necessary to protect the waterway, waterway users, and vessels from the hazards associated with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Fish Suppression and Dispersal Barriers testing operations.

During any of the enforcement periods listed below, entry into, transiting, mooring, laying-up or anchoring within the enforced area of this safety zone by any person or vessel is prohibited unless authorized by the Captain of the Port, Lake Michigan, or his designated representative.

**DATES:** The regulations in 33 CFR 165.930 will be enforced from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. and from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on March 21, 2014, and during those hours each day from March 24 to March 30, 2014.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** If you have questions on this notice, call or email MST1 Joseph McCollum, Prevention Department, Coast Guard Sector Lake Michigan, telephone 414-747-7148, email address [joseph.p.mccollum@uscg.mil](mailto:joseph.p.mccollum@uscg.mil).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Coast Guard will enforce a segment of the Safety Zone; Brandon Road Lock and Dam to Lake Michigan including Des Plaines River, Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal, Chicago River, Calumet-Saganashkee Channel, Chicago, IL, listed in 33 CFR 165.930. Specifically, the Coast Guard will enforce this safety zone between Mile Marker 296.1 to Mile Marker 296.7 on all waters of the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal. Enforcement will occur from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. and from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on March 21, 2014, and during those hours each day from March 24 to March 30, 2014. This enforcement action is necessary because the Captain of the Port, Lake Michigan, has determined that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Fish Suppression and Dispersal Barriers testing operations pose risks to life and property. Because of these risks, it is necessary to control vessel movement during the operations to prevent injury and property loss.

In accordance with the general regulations in § 165.23 of this part, entry into, transiting, mooring, laying up, or anchoring within the enforced area of this safety zone by any person or vessel

is prohibited unless authorized by the Captain of the Port, Lake Michigan, or his or her designated representative.

Vessels that wish to transit through the safety zone may request permission from the Captain of the Port, Lake Michigan. Requests must be made in advance and approved by the Captain of the Port before transits will be authorized. Approvals will be granted on a case by case basis. The Captain of the Port may be contacted via U.S. Coast Guard Sector Lake Michigan on VHF channel 16.

This notice is issued under authority of 33 CFR 165.930 and 5 U.S.C. 552(a). In addition to this notice in the **Federal Register**, the Captain of the Port, Lake Michigan, will also provide notice through other means, which may include, but are not limited to, Broadcast Notice to Mariners, Local Notice to Mariners, local news media, distribution in leaflet form, and on-scene oral notice. Additionally, the Captain of the Port, Lake Michigan, may notify representatives from the maritime industry through telephonic and email notifications.

Dated: March 4, 2014.

**M.W. Sibley,**

*Captain, U.S. Coast Guard, Captain of the Port, Lake Michigan.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

### 38 CFR Part 17

**RIN 2900-AN98**

#### **Payment for Home Health Services and Hospice Care to Non-VA Providers; Delay of Effective Date**

**AGENCY:** Department of Veterans Affairs.

**ACTION:** Final rule; delay of effective date.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) published in the **Federal Register** on November 14, 2013 (78 FR 68364), a notification delaying the effective date of a final rule that amends the payment methodology for providers of home health services and hospice care. That notification changed the effective date from November 15, 2013, to April 1, 2014. We are now delaying until June 1, 2014, the effective date of the final rule at 78 FR 26250.

**DATES: Effective Date:** The effective date for the final rule published May 6, 2013, at 78 FR 26250, is delayed from April 1, 2014 to June 1, 2014.

#### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Karyn Barrett, Director of Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Health Administration, 3773 Cherry Creek Drive North, East Tower, Ste. 485, Denver, CO 80209, (303) 331-7829. (This is not a toll-free number.)

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This rulemaking makes the VA regulation governing payments for certain non-VA health care, 38 CFR 17.56, applicable to non-VA home health services and hospice care. Section 17.56 provides, among other things, that Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) fee schedule or prospective payment system amounts will be paid to certain non-VA providers, unless VA negotiates other payment amounts with such providers. See 38 CFR 17.56(a)(2)(i). This change in the billing methodology for non-VA home health and hospice care was put forth in a proposed rule. We received one comment to this change and responded to that comment in a final rule published in the **Federal Register** on May 6, 2013 (78 FR 26250). The original effective date of the final rule was stated as November 15, 2013; however, we now delay the effective date of the final rule at 78 FR 26250 to the new effective date of June 1, 2014. The delay of the effective date is necessary to accommodate difficulties in the outreach and implementation of standardized processes for VA staff involved in the process of approving and paying for home health services and hospice care. Technology issues continue to be addressed in order to apply the billing methodology under § 17.56 to non-VA home health services and hospice care. These difficulties relate to separate administration of hospice care and home health services by the Veterans Health Administration's Office of Geriatrics and Extended Care, which uses separate methods for forming agreements with non-VA providers for the provision of these services, and difficulties regarding information technology systems necessary to use the CMS rate made applicable under § 17.56.

Dated: March 19, 2014.

**Robert C. McFetridge,**

*Director, Regulation Policy and Management, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs.*

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