

PART 3000—STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

■ 2. The authority citation for part 3000 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 39 U.S.C. 503; 504, 3603; E.O. 12674; 54 FR 15159; 3 CFR, 1989 Comp., p. 215, as modified by E.O. 12731, 56 FR 42547, 3 CFR, 1990 Comp., p. 396, 5 CFR parts 2634 and 2635.

■ 3. Revise subpart A of part 3000 to read as follows:

Subpart A—General Provisions

Sec.

3000.5 Post-employment restriction.

3000.10 Additional required notification of disqualification when seeking employment.

3000.15 Additional restriction on gifts.

3000.20 [Reserved]

§ 3000.5 Post-employment restrictions.

All former employees of the Postal Regulatory Commission (Commission) are subject to the following restrictions on appearance and practice before the Commission on behalf of any participant, including the United States Postal Service (Postal Service):

(a) No former employee of the Commission may practice or act as an attorney, expert witness, or representative in connection with any proceeding or matter before the Commission that the former employee has handled, advised, or participated in the consideration of while in the service of the Commission.

(b) No former employee of the Commission may within 1 year after his or her employment has ceased, practice before or act as an attorney, expert witness, or representative in connection with any proceeding or matter before the Commission that was under the official responsibility of such individual, as defined in 18 U.S.C. 202(b), while in the service of the Commission.

§ 3000.10 Additional required notification of disqualification when seeking employment.

(a) An employee that seeks employment with the Postal Service must provide written notice to the Designated Agency Ethics Official (DAEO) consistent with § 5601.103(a) of title 5.

(b) An employee may withdraw written notice under paragraph (a) of this section consistent with § 5601.103(b) of title 5.

§ 3000.15 Additional limitation on acceptance of anything of value.

Regardless of § 2635.203(b)(7) of title 5, a Commission employee may not accept a gift from the Postal Service,

unless another exception or exclusion to § 2635.203 of title 5 applies or a waiver is granted by the DAEO.

§ 3000.20 [Reserved]

[FR Doc. 2017–10636 Filed 5–23–17; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**40 CFR Part 770**

[EPA–HQ–OPPT–2017–0244; FRL–9962–85]

RIN 2070–AK35

Compliance Date Extension; Formaldehyde Emission Standards for Composite Wood Products

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: EPA is proposing to amend a final rule that published in the **Federal Register** on December 12, 2016, concerning formaldehyde emission standards for composite wood products. EPA is publishing this proposed amendment to extend the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Title VI final rule compliance dates including: extending the December 12, 2017 date for emission standards, recordkeeping, and labeling provisions until March 22, 2018; extending the December 12, 2018 date for import certification provisions until March 22, 2019; and extending the December 12, 2023 date for provisions applicable to producers of laminated products until March 22, 2024. Additionally, this proposed amendment would extend the transitional period during which the California Air Resources Board (CARB) Third Party Certifiers (TPC) may certify composite wood products under TSCA Title VI without an accreditation issued by an EPA TSCA Title VI Accreditation Body so long as the TPC remains approved by CARB, is recognized by EPA, and complies with all aspects of the December 12, 2016 final rule. Extension of these compliance dates and the transitional period for CARB TPCs adds regulatory flexibility for regulated entities, reduces compliance burdens, and helps to prevent disruptions to supply chains. EPA believes that the proposed amendment is non-controversial and does not expect to receive any adverse comments. Therefore, in addition to this Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, elsewhere in this issue of the **Federal Register**, EPA is promulgating the amendment as a direct final rule.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before June 8, 2017. Comments postmarked after the close of the comment period will be stamped “late” and may or may not be considered by the Agency.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, identified by docket identification (ID) number EPA–HQ–OPPT–2017–0244, by one of the following methods:

- **Federal eRulemaking Portal:** <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments. Do not submit electronically any information you consider to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute.

- **Mail:** Document Control Office (7407M), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics (OPPT), Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW., Washington, DC 20460–0001.

- **Hand Delivery:** To make special arrangements for hand delivery or delivery of boxed information, please follow the instructions at <http://www.epa.gov/dockets/contacts.html>.

Additional instructions on commenting or visiting the docket, along with more information about dockets generally, is available at <http://www.epa.gov/dockets>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For technical information contact: Erik Winchester, National Program Chemicals Division, Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW., Washington, DC 20460–0001; telephone number: (202) 564–6450; email address: winchester.erik@epa.gov.

For general information contact: The TSCA–Hotline, ABVI–Goodwill, 422 South Clinton Ave., Rochester, NY 14620; telephone number: (202) 554–1404; email address: TSCA-Hotline@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: For further information about the proposed changes to the compliance dates, please see the information provided in the direct final action, with the same title, that is located in the “Rules and Regulations” section of this issue of the **Federal Register**.

List of Subjects in 40 CFR Part 770

Environmental protection, Formaldehyde, Incorporation by reference, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Third-party certification, Toxic substances, Wood.

Dated: May 17, 2017.

Louise P. Wise,

Acting Assistant Administrator, Office of
Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention.

[FR Doc. 2017-10547 Filed 5-23-17; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 648

[Docket No. 170113076-7463-01]

RIN 0648-BG60

Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Regulatory Omnibus Framework Adjustment To Modify Reporting Requirements for Electronic Vessel Trip Reports by Federally Permitted Party and Charter Vessel Operators in the Mid-Atlantic Region

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

ACTION: Proposed rule, request for
comments.

SUMMARY: The Omnibus Electronic
Vessel Trip Report Framework proposes
management measures to increase the
timeliness, accuracy, and quality of
fisheries data submitted to NMFS while
also reducing the burden on the charter
and party fishing fleets. The electronic
vessel trip report Framework would
implement a requirement for charter
and party vessels that hold a permit to
fish for Atlantic bluefish, black sea bass,
scup, summer flounder, tilefish, squid,
Atlantic mackerel, and/or butterfish,
while on a trip carrying passengers for
hire, to submit required VTRs by
electronic means. These proposed
measures are intended to improve the
timeliness and accuracy of charter and
party vessel trip reporting.

DATES: Public comments must be
received by June 23, 2017.

ADDRESSES: Copies of supporting
documents used by the Mid-Atlantic
Fishery Management Council, including
the Proposed Framework Adjustment
with Regulatory Impact Review (RIR) is
available from: Dr. Christopher M.
Moore, Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic
Fishery Management Council, 800 North
State Street, Suite 201, Dover, DE 19901,
telephone (302) 674-2331. The
Proposed Framework/RIR is also
accessible via the Internet at [http://
www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov](http://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov).

You may submit comments, identified
by NOAA-NMFS-2017-0043, by either
of the following methods:

—**Electronic Submission:** Submit all
electronic public comments via the
Federal e-Rulemaking Portal. Go to
www.regulations.gov/
#!/docketDetail;D=NOAA-NMFS-2017-
0043, click the “Comment Now!”
icon, complete the required fields,
and enter or attach your comments.
—**Mail:** Submit written comments to
NMFS, Greater Atlantic Regional
Office, 55 Great Republic Drive,
Gloucester, MA 01930. Mark the
outside of the envelope “Comments
on Omnibus eVTR Framework.”

Instructions: Comments sent by any
other method, to any other address or
individual, or received after the end of
the comment period, may not be
considered by NMFS. All comments
received are a part of the public record
and will generally be posted for public
viewing on www.regulations.gov
without change. All personal identifying
information (e.g., name, address, etc.),
confidential business information, or
otherwise sensitive information
submitted voluntarily by the sender will
be publicly accessible. NMFS will
accept anonymous comments (enter “N/
A” in the required fields if you wish to
remain anonymous).

Written comments regarding the
burden-hour estimates or other aspects
of the collection-of-information
requirements contained in this proposed
rule may be submitted to the Greater
Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office and
by email to [OIRA_Submission@
omb.eop.gov](mailto:OIRA_Submission@omb.eop.gov) or fax to (202) 395-5806.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Daniel Luers, Fishery Management
Specialist, (978) 282-8457, fax (978)
281-9135.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

For the past 25 years, NMFS has
mandated reporting of catch, landings,
and trip information through vessel trip
reports (VTRs). Between 1992 and 1996,
NMFS implemented this requirement
for most vessels holding Federal fishing
permits in Northeast Atlantic fisheries.
In 2004, mandatory electronic reporting
by federally permitted dealers was
implemented for almost all federally-
managed species. Requirements for
weekly submissions of VTRs were
implemented in 2010 for fisheries under
catch shares, with weekly reporting later
expanded to herring, mackerel, and surf
clam/ocean quahog IFQ fisheries. In July
2011, the NMFS Greater Atlantic
Regional Fisheries Office approved the
use of electronic reporting of VTRs on

a limited and voluntary basis for a
segment of the groundfish fleet, and, in
2013, NMFS made electronic vessel trip
reports (eVTRs) available as an
alternative to submitting handwritten
hardcopies for all Mid-Atlantic and New
England Fishery Management Council
fishery management plans (FMPs).

Owners and operators of vessels
possessing permits for fisheries
managed by Mid-Atlantic Fishery
Management Council (MAFMC) FMPs
are required to submit a VTR for every
commercial, party, or charter trip taken,
regardless of where they fish (state or
Federal waters) or what they catch.
MAFMC-managed species that include a
for-hire VTR requirement include black
sea bass, bluefish, scup, summer
flounder, tilefish, Atlantic mackerel,
squid, and butterfish.

Current regulations require vessel
owners or operators with permits for
MAFMC-managed species to submit
VTRs monthly to NMFS’s Greater
Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office
(GARFO) by the 15th day of the month
following the month in which the trip
occurred. The Atlantic Mackerel, Squid,
and Butterfish FMP requires weekly
VTR reporting. If a trip encompasses
multiple NMFS statistical areas, a
separate VTR must be submitted for
each statistical area where fishing
activity takes place. A separate VTR is
also required for each reporting period.
If a vessel does not land any fish on a
trip, all trip information must be
completed and “No Catch” entered in as
the species code name. A VTR is
required regardless of where fishing
occurs, meaning that a vessel subject to
these requirements in the Greater
Atlantic must report even if they fish in
the Southeast or any other region (does
not apply to vessels holding only an
American lobster permit). Since VTRs
are in addition to any other reports
which may be required by other Regions
or plans, multiple reports may be
required. VTRs, and any records upon
which the reports were based, must be
kept on board the vessel for at least one
year and retained by the owner/operator
for a total of three years after the date
of the last entry on the report.

Proposed Measure

The Omnibus eVTR Framework
would require charter and party vessels
that hold a permit for species managed
by MAFMC FMPs, while on a trip
carrying passengers for hire, to submit
VTRs by electronic means. These
vessels would also be required to submit
the eVTRs within 48 hours following
the completion of a fishing trip.
Federally permitted vessel owners and
operators on commercial fishing trips