Public Participation and Request for Comments

The Coast Guard views public participation as essential to making effective policy, and will consider all comments and material received during the comment period. Your comment can help shape the final form of this policy. If you submit a comment, please include the docket number for this notice, indicate the specific section of the document to which each comment applies, and provide a reason for each suggestion or recommendation.

We encourage you to submit comments through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at https://www.regulations.gov. If you cannot submit your material by using https://www.regulations.gov, contact the person in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section of this proposed rule for alternate instructions. Documents mentioned in this proposed rule, and all public comments, will be available in our online docket at https://www.regulations.gov, and can be viewed by following that website’s instructions. Additionally, if you visit the online docket and sign up for email alerts, you will be notified when comments are posted or if a final rule is published.

We accept anonymous comments. All comments received will be posted without change to https://www.regulations.gov and will include any personal information you have provided. For more about privacy and the docket, visit https://www.regulations.gov/privacyNotice.

Discussion

Navigation publications have always been a principal source of voyage planning information. Mariners researched books of tide tables, the United States Coast Pilot, local notices to mariners, and other information sources to glean relevant information for a particular transit. Although such publications have historically been required to be kept on board a vessel, the Coast Guard has formally recognized that a mariner engaged in voyage planning might not need an entire publication at all times. Since 2010, the Coast Guard has allowed U.S. vessels to carry certain navigation publications electronically to meet U.S. domestic regulations and Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) certificate requirements. This is an acceptance of common industry practice.

In response to recommendations from the Navigation Safety Advisory Council and the public, the Coast Guard is updating its policy on electronic carriage of the Inland Navigation Rules and electronic publications in general. Currently, the Coast Guard, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency are providing marine safety information in an updated electronic format, some of which is now graphical and geographically selectable. Electronic devices (both hardware and software) have improved such that a mariner can efficiently access navigation publications when needed.

Furthermore, the Coast Guard recognizes that the maritime industry and mariners in general have made substantial investments to ensure vessels maintain internet connectivity, even while underway. Because mariners use navigation publications primarily for voyage planning purposes, the Coast Guard sees no safety barriers preventing vessels from accessing required navigation information via the internet on an as-needed basis, versus keeping a publication or extract onboard. To encourage the use of electronic voyage planning products, the Coast Guard is allowing vessels to meet the publication requirements via internet access.

Therefore, Navigation and Vessel Inspection Circular (NVIC) 01–16 Change 1 is revised to allow publications required by 33 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) parts 83, 161, and 164 and various parts of Title 46 CFR and SOLAS Chapter V regulation 27 to be accessed via web services. If a mariner uses this NVIC for a publication that must be available as a “ready reference”, as cited in 33 CFR parts 83 and 161, the publication must be displayable within 2 minutes.

The Coast Guard has prepared a Deregulatory Savings Analysis for NVIC 01–16 Change 2 that identifies and examines the potential costs and cost savings associated with implementing the new equivalency determination for carriage. This Deregulatory Savings Analysis is available in the docket. We request your comments on any concerns that you may have related to these policy changes or the economic analysis thereof.

NVIC 01–16 is not a substitute for applicable legal requirements, nor is it itself a rule.

This Notice is published under the authority of 5 U.S.C. 552.

1 33 CFR 164.33 and 164.72 and 46 CFR 26.03–4, 28.225, 78.05–5, 97.05–5, 109.565, 121.420, 130.330, 140.705, 184.420, and 196.05–5 allow for an “applicable currently corrected extract.”

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Federal Emergency Management Agency

[Docket ID FEMA–2007–0008]

National Advisory Council; Meeting

AGENCY: Federal Emergency Management Agency, DHS.

ACTION: Committee management; notice of open Federal advisory committee meeting.

SUMMARY: The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) National Advisory Council (NAC) will meet remotely via teleconference and web conference on October 2, 2019. The meeting will be open to the public.

DATES: The NAC will meet Wednesday, October 2, 2019, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time (ET). Please note that the meeting may close early if the NAC has completed its business.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held via teleconference and web conference. It is recommended that attendees register with FEMA by September 20, 2019, by providing their name, telephone number, email address, title, and organization to the person listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT below.

Reasonable accommodations are available for people with disabilities and others with access and functional needs. To request a reasonable accommodation at the meeting, contact the person listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section below as soon as possible.

To facilitate public participation, members of the public are invited to provide written comments on the issues to be considered by the NAC. The “Agenda” section below outlines these issues. The full agenda and any related documents for this meeting will be posted by Monday, September 30, 2019, on the NAC website at https://www.fema.gov/national-advisory-council. Written comments must be submitted and received by 5:00 p.m. ET on September 30, 2019, identified by Docket ID FEMA–2007–0008, and submitted by one of the following methods:
REPEAT

• Federal eRulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
• Fax: (540) 504–2331. Please include a cover sheet addressing the fax to ATTN: Jasper Cooke.
• Mail: Regulatory Affairs Division, Office of Chief Counsel, FEMA, 500 C Street SW, Room 8NE, Washington, DC 20472–3100.

Instructions: All submissions must include the words “Federal Emergency Management Agency” and the docket number for this action. Comments received, including any personal information provided, will be posted without alteration at http://www.regulations.gov.

Docket: For access to the docket to read comments received by the NAC, go to http://www.regulations.gov, and search for Docket ID FEMA–2007–0008.

A public comment period will be held at the NAC meeting on Wednesday, October 2, 2019, from 2:00 p.m. to 2:10 p.m. ET. All speakers must limit their comments to three minutes. Comments should be addressed to the NAC. Any comments not related to the agenda topics will not be considered by the NAC. To register to make remarks during the public comment period, contact the individual listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section below by September 30, 2019. Please note that the public comment period may end before the time indicated, following the last call for comments.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice of this meeting is given under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. Appendix.

The NAC advises the FEMA Administrator on all aspects of emergency management. The NAC incorporates input from state, local, tribal and territorial governments, non-governmental organizations and the private sector, in the development and revision of FEMA plans and strategies. The NAC includes a cross-section of officials, emergency managers, and emergency response providers from state, local, and tribal governments, the private sector, and nongovernmental organizations.

Agenda: The purpose of this meeting is to provide the full NAC an opportunity to discuss recommendations developed by each of its subcommittees. The Agenda therefore will afford each subcommittee roughly 30 minutes to present their recommendations and then receive feedback from the full NAC. The subcommittees will present in this order: Federal Insurance and Mitigation; Response and Recovery; Marginalized, Tribal, Rural, and Small Communities; and Preparedness and Protection. The full agenda and any related documents for this meeting will be posted by Friday, September 27, 2019, on the NAC website at http://www.fema.gov/national-advisory-council.

Dated: September 12, 2019.

Pete Gaynor,
Acting Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency.

[FR Doc. 2019–20349 Filed 9–19–19; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 9111–48–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service


Records of Decision for the Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for Four Wind Energy Project Habitat Conservation Plans in Hawaii

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability of records of decision and habitat conservation plans.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce the availability of four separate records of decision (RODs) for the proposed issuance of an Endangered Species Act (ESA) section 10(a)(1)(B) incidental take permit (ITP) or ITP amendments to four wind energy companies for implementation of their respective projects and final habitat conservation plans (HCPs) or HCP amendments. Each ROD documents the Service’s decision to issue an ITP to the respective applicant. As summarized in each ROD, the Service has selected Alternative 2, the proposed action, which includes implementation of the HCP and issuance of the ITP authorizing incidental take of one or more of the following covered species that may occur as a result of project operations during the permit period: The Hawaiian hoary bat (‘opu’ape’a in Hawaiian; Lasiurus cinereus semotus), Hawaiian goose (nēnē; Branta sandvicensis), and the Hawaiian petrel (‘ua‘u; Pterodroma sandwichensis).

We are advising the public of the availability of the RODs, developed in compliance with the agency decision-making requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA), as well as the final HCP and HCP amendments as submitted by the applicants. All alternatives have been described in detail, evaluated, and analyzed in our final programmatic environmental impact statement (FPEIS). Our notice of availability of the FPEIS and four HCPs was published in the Federal Register on August 2, 2019 (84 FR 37909).

Background

All four wind projects are currently constructed and operating. Three of the