

operators; and to the extent reasonably practicable, at least 60-minutes advance notice of schedule changes or delays.

Vessels able to pass through the bridge in the closed position may do so at anytime. The bridge will be able to open for emergencies and there is no immediate alternate route for vessels to pass. The Coast Guard will also inform the users of the waterways through our Local and Broadcast Notices to Mariners of the change in operating schedule for the bridge so that vessel operators can arrange their transits to minimize any impact caused by the temporary deviation.

In accordance with 33 CFR 117.35(e), the drawbridge must return to its regular operating schedule immediately at the end of the effective period of this temporary deviation. This deviation from the operating regulations is authorized under 33 CFR 117.35.

## II. Public Participation and Request for Comments

We view public participation as essential to effective rulemaking, and will consider all comments and material received during the comment period. Your comment can help shape the outcome of this rulemaking. If you submit a comment, please include the docket number for this rulemaking, indicate the specific section of this 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 <http://www.regulations.gov>. If your material cannot be submitted using <http://www.regulations.gov>, contact the person in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this document for alternate instructions.

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

Dated: January 3, 2020.

**Barry Dragon,**

*Director, Bridge Branch, Seventh Coast Guard District.*

[FR Doc. 2020-00115 Filed 1-22-20; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 9110-04-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

### Coast Guard

#### 33 CFR Part 117

[Docket No. USCG-2019-0910]

#### Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Bayou Sara, Saraland, AL

**AGENCY:** Coast Guard, DHS.

**ACTION:** Notice of temporary deviation from regulations; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Coast Guard has issued a temporary deviation from the operating schedule that governs the CSX Transportation Railroad swing bridge across Bayou Sara, mile 0.1 near Saraland, Alabama. This deviation is needed to collect and analyze information on vessel traffic when the bridge tender is moved to a geographically remote centralized control point located in Mobile, AL. The Coast Guard is seeking comments from the public about the impact to vessel traffic generated by this change.

**DATES:** This deviation is effective from 6 a.m. January 23, 2020 through 6 p.m. March 23, 2020.

Comments and related material must be received by the Coast Guard on or before March 23, 2020.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments identified by docket number USCG-2019-0910 using Federal eRulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

See the "Public Participation and Request for Comments" portion of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for further instructions on submitting comments.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** If you have questions about this proposed rulemaking, call or email Mr. Doug Blakemore, Eighth Coast Guard District Bridge Administrator; telephone (504) 671-2128, email [Douglas.A.Blakemore@uscg.mil](mailto:Douglas.A.Blakemore@uscg.mil).

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **I. Background, Purpose and Legal Basis**

CSX Railroad has established a central location to operate CSX drawbridges. They have requested to relocate the Bayou Sara bridge tender to their centralized location in Mobile, AL. This CSX swing bridge is located at Bayou Sara, mile 0.1, Mobile County, near Saraland, AL. It has a vertical clearance of 5' in the closed to vessel position. The bridge operates according to 33 CFR 117.105. Bayou Sara is used primarily by recreational vessels. The bridge opens for vessels about 6 times per day and vessels that do not need the bridge to open may pass.

This deviation will last for 60 days. CSX will collect data on all bridge openings to ensure that the remote operations will not impact navigation. CSX will immediately return the tender to the bridge location if there are any system failures or weather conditions that will not allow the bridge tender to operate the bridge from Mobile.

The Coast Guard will publish information about this temporary deviation in our Local and Broadcast Notice to Mariners so that mariners are informed of this operating change and our request for comments on the change.

In accordance with 33 CFR 117.35(e), the drawbridge must return to its regular operating schedule immediately at the end of the effective period of this temporary deviation. This deviation from the operating regulations is authorized under 33 CFR 117.35.

## II. Public Participation and Request for Comments

We view public participation as essential to effective rulemaking, and will consider all comments and material received during the comment period. Your comment can help shape the outcome of this rulemaking. If you submit a comment, please include the docket number for this rulemaking, indicate the specific section of this 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 <http://www.regulations.gov>. If your material cannot be submitted using <http://www.regulations.gov>, contact the person in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this document for alternate instructions.

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

Documents mentioned in this NPRM as being available in this docket and all public comments, will be in our online docket at <http://www.regulations.gov> and can be viewed by following that website's instructions. Additionally, if you go to the online docket and sign up for email alerts, you will be notified when comments are posted or a final rule is published.

Dated: January 7, 2020.

**Douglas Allen Blakemore, Sr.,**

*Bridge Administrator, Eighth Coast Guard District.*

[FR Doc. 2020-00292 Filed 1-22-20; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9110-04-P

## LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

### Copyright Office

#### 37 CFR Part 201

[Docket No. 2017-7]

### Modernizing Copyright Recordation

**AGENCY:** U.S. Copyright Office, Library of Congress.

**ACTION:** Supplemental interim rule.

**SUMMARY:** The United States Copyright Office is issuing a supplemental interim rule amending its regulations governing recordation of transfers of copyright ownership, notices of termination, and other documents pertaining to a copyright. This rule supplements the Office's current interim recordation regulations in anticipation of the Office's forthcoming pilot program through which participating remitters will be able to record certain types of documents electronically online. The supplemental interim rule and pilot program are the next step in the recordation modernization process, which will lead to a full public release of the Office's electronic recordation system in the future.

**DATES:** Effective February 24, 2020.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Regan A. Smith, General Counsel and Associate Register of Copyrights, by email at [regans@copyright.gov](mailto:regans@copyright.gov), or Jason E. Sloan, Assistant General Counsel, by email at [jslo@copyright.gov](mailto:jslo@copyright.gov). Each can be contacted by telephone by calling (202) 707-8350.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Background

Under the Copyright Act of 1976, the U.S. Copyright Office is responsible for recording documents pertaining to works under copyright, such as assignments, licenses, and grants of security interests.<sup>1</sup> The Office is also responsible for recording notices of termination.<sup>2</sup> As discussed in a notice of

proposed rulemaking published in the **Federal Register** on May 18, 2017 ("NPRM"),<sup>3</sup> the current recordation process is a time-consuming and labor-intensive paper-based one, requiring remitters to submit their documents in hard copy.

As previously detailed, the Office is engaged in an effort to modernize the recordation process by developing a fully electronic, online system through which remitters will be able to submit their documents and all applicable indexing information to the Office for recordation. In conjunction with the anticipated development effort, the Office issued the NPRM to propose updates to the Office's regulations to govern the submission of documents to the Office for recordation once the new electronic system is developed and launched. The NPRM explained that while the Office could not estimate when the new system would be completed, public comments were being sought because the Office needed to make a number of policy decisions critical to the design of the to-be-developed system.<sup>4</sup>

In addition, the NPRM further stated that while the proposed amendments were designed with a new electronic submission system in mind, at least some of the proposed changes could be implemented sooner, without the new system. Thus, the Office noted that, to the extent possible under the Office's current paper system, the Office intended to adopt some aspects of the proposed rule on an interim basis until such time as the electronic system is complete and a final rule is enacted.<sup>5</sup> The Office adopted such regulations pursuant to an interim rule published in the **Federal Register** on November 13, 2017.<sup>6</sup> For details about the changes made by that interim rule, please consult the **Federal Register** notice.

##### II. Pilot Program

Since adoption of the interim regulations in late 2017, the Office, through the Library of Congress's Office of the Chief Information Officer, has been engaged in development efforts to build the electronic recordation system discussed in the NPRM. The first iteration of that system is nearing completion and is planned to be released on a limited basis through a pilot program, which the Office will initiate through a separate

announcement. The pilot release will be made available to certain remitters ("pilot remitters") intended to be a representative sample of the spectrum of those who submit documents for recordation. At launch, it is planned that these pilot remitters will be able to electronically submit to the Office for recordation most types of transfers of copyright ownership and other documents pertaining to a copyright under 17 U.S.C. 205. Notices of termination, however, will not be part of the pilot program when initially launched. System development will be ongoing throughout the pilot, and will eventually lead to a full public release of the Office's electronic recordation system. Some features may be released into the pilot as they are developed, while others may be held for or may not be ready until the full public release. Starting with a limited pilot release will help the Office to work with users to address feedback while development continues.

##### III. Supplemental Interim Rule

The Office is issuing a supplemental interim rule to establish the regulatory groundwork for the pilot, in advance of its commencement. The supplemental interim rule makes no changes to the Office's recordation rules for submissions made outside of the pilot program. For pilot program submissions, the supplemental interim rule makes electronic submissions permissible and provides that such submissions are to be made in accordance with special pilot program rules that the Office will separately establish and issue to pilot remitters. This will allow the Office the flexibility to be able to update and modify relevant pilot rules, procedures, and instructions as quickly as needed, without resorting to further rulemaking.<sup>7</sup> This flexibility is necessary because development will be ongoing throughout the pilot and the Office may need to address unanticipated issues that may arise. For the same reasons, the supplemental interim rule also specifies that the special pilot program rules will supersede any conflicting regulation, rule, instruction, or guidance.

<sup>7</sup> For similar reasons, the Office previously adopted such an approach to its instructions for preparing and submitting electronic title lists that may be included with paper recordation submissions. See 37 CFR 201.4(e)(3)(i) ("The electronic list must be prepared and submitted to the Office in the manner specified by the Copyright Office in instructions made available on its website."); 82 FR at 52214 ("This change will allow the Office to develop more flexible instructions for remitters that can be updated and modified as needed without resorting to a rulemaking.").

<sup>1</sup> 17 U.S.C. 205.

<sup>2</sup> A "notice of termination" is a notice that terminates a grant to a third party of a copyright in a work or any rights under a copyright. Only certain grants may be terminated, and only in certain circumstances. Termination is governed by three separate provisions of the Copyright Act, with the relevant one depending on a number of factors,

including when the grant was made, who executed it, and when copyright was originally secured for the work. See 17 U.S.C. 203, 304(c), 304(d).

<sup>3</sup> 82 FR 22771 (May 18, 2017).

<sup>4</sup> *Id.* at 22771.

<sup>5</sup> *Id.* at 22771-72.

<sup>6</sup> 82 FR 52213 (Nov. 13, 2017).