

of such U.S. persons or entities, through 12:01 a.m. eastern daylight time, October 9, 2024.

(b) This general license does not authorize:

(1) Any debit to an account on the books of a U.S. financial institution of the Central Bank of the Russian Federation, the National Wealth Fund of the Russian Federation, or the Ministry of Finance of the Russian Federation; or

(2) Any transactions otherwise prohibited by the Russian Harmful Foreign Activities Sanctions Regulations, 31 CFR part 587 (RuHSR), including transactions involving any person blocked pursuant to the RuHSR, unless separately authorized.

(c) Effective July 10, 2024, General License No. 13I, dated April 12, 2024, is replaced and superseded in its entirety by this General License No. 13J.

Bradley T. Smith,
Director, Office of Foreign Assets Control.

Dated: July 10, 2024.

OFFICE OF FOREIGN ASSETS CONTROL

Russian Harmful Foreign Activities Sanctions Regulations

31 CFR Part 587

GENERAL LICENSE NO. 55B

Authorizing Certain Services Related to Sakhalin-2

(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this general license, all transactions prohibited by the determination of November 21, 2022 made pursuant to section 1(a)(ii) of Executive Order 14071 (“Prohibitions on Certain Services as They Relate to the Maritime Transport of Crude Oil of Russian Federation Origin”) related to the maritime transport of crude oil originating from the Sakhalin-2 project (“Sakhalin-2 byproduct”) are authorized through 12:01 a.m. eastern daylight time, June 28, 2025, provided that the Sakhalin-2 byproduct is solely for importation into Japan.

(b) This general license does not authorize any transactions otherwise prohibited by the Russian Harmful Foreign Activities Sanctions Regulations, 31 CFR part 587 (RuHSR), including transactions involving any person blocked pursuant to the RuHSR, unless separately authorized.

(c) Effective June 26, 2024, General License No. 55A, dated September 14, 2023, is replaced and superseded in its entirety by this General License No. 55B.

Bradley T. Smith,
Director, Office of Foreign Assets Control.

Dated: June 26, 2024.

Lisa M. Palluconi,

Acting Director, Office of Foreign Assets Control.

[FR Doc. 2024–18750 Filed 8–21–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810–AL–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 165

[Docket Number USCG–2024–0730]

RIN 1625–AA00

Safety Zone; Grosse Tete Passenger Ferry, Iberville LA

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Temporary final rule.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is establishing a temporary safety zone for all navigable waters within a 300 yard radius of the Grosse Tete passenger ferry at MM 46 of the Port Allen Route, Iberville, LA. The safety zone is needed to protect ferry operations for crossing school students during morning and afternoon commutes as a result of the Grosse Tete bridge closure. Entry of vessels or persons into this zone is prohibited unless specifically authorized by the Captain of the Port (COTP) New Orleans.

This rule is effective without actual notice from August 22, 2024 through noon on October 9, 2024. For the purposes of enforcement, actual notice will be used from noon on August 9, 2024, through August 22, 2024.

ADDRESSES: To view documents mentioned in this preamble as being available in the docket, go to <https://www.regulations.gov>, type USCG–2024–0730 in the search box and click “Search.” Next, in the Document Type column, select “Supporting & Related Material.”

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions on this rule, call or email LT Benjamin Adrien, Marine Safety Unit Baton Rouge, U.S. Coast Guard; telephone: (225) 281–2875, email: benjamin.d.adrien@uscg.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Table of Abbreviations

CFR Code of Federal Regulations
DHS Department of Homeland Security
FR Federal Register
NPRM Notice of proposed rulemaking
§ Section
U.S.C. United States Code

II. Background Information and Regulatory History

The Coast Guard is issuing this temporary rule without prior notice and opportunity to comment pursuant to authority under section 4(a) of the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) (5 U.S.C. 553(b)). This provision authorizes an agency to issue a rule

without prior notice and opportunity to comment when the agency for good cause finds that those procedures are “impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest.” Under 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B), the Coast Guard finds that good cause exists for not publishing a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) with respect to this rule because immediate action is needed to respond to Grosse Tete bridge allision and associated ferry operations. It is impracticable to publish an NPRM because we must establish this safety zone on August 9th, 2024.

Under 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3), the Coast Guard finds that good cause exists for making this rule effective less than 30 days after publication in the **Federal Register**. Delaying the effective date of this rule would be impracticable because immediate action is needed to mitigate potential safety hazards associated with the bridge closure and passenger ferry operations.

III. Legal Authority and Need for Rule

The Coast Guard is issuing this rule under authority in 46 U.S.C. 70034. The COTP New Orleans has determined a safety zone is needed for the safety of passenger ferry operations at the Grosse Tete bridge on the Port Allen Route MM 46, Iberville, LA. The safety zone is needed to protect and facilitate local school students during morning and afternoon commutes across the Port Allen Route via passenger ferry on Monday through Friday at 6 a.m. to 8 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. except on Federal holidays.

IV. Discussion of the Rule

This rule establishes a temporary safety zone for all navigable waters within a 300 yard radius of the Grosse Tete passenger ferry at MM 46 of the Port Allen Route, Iberville, LA. The zone will be effective Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 8 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. except on Federal holidays. No vessel or person will be permitted to enter the safety zone without obtaining permission from the COTP or a designated representative.

V. Regulatory Analyses

We developed this rule after considering numerous statutes and Executive orders related to rulemaking. Below we summarize our analyses based on a number of these statutes and Executive orders, and we discuss First Amendment rights of protestors.

A. Regulatory Planning and Review

Executive Orders 12866 and 13563 direct agencies to assess the costs and benefits of available regulatory

alternatives and, if regulation is necessary, to select regulatory approaches that maximize net benefits. This rule has not been designated a “significant regulatory action,” under Executive Order 12866. Accordingly, this rule has not been reviewed by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

This regulatory action determination is based on the size, location, duration, and scope of the safety zone. The safety zone is limited in size and duration as it covers a 300 yard radius of the Grosse Tete passenger ferry at MM 46 of the Port Allen Route, Iberville, LA. The zone will be effective Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 8 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. except on Federal holidays. The Coast Guard would issue a Broadcast Notice to Mariners via VHF-FM marine channel 16 about the zone.

B. Impact on Small Entities

The Regulatory Flexibility Act of 1980, 5 U.S.C. 601–612, as amended, requires Federal agencies to consider the potential impact of regulations on small entities during rulemaking. The term “small entities” comprises small businesses, not-for-profit organizations that are independently owned and operated and are not dominant in their fields, and governmental jurisdictions with populations of less than 50,000. The Coast Guard certifies under 5 U.S.C. 605(b) that this rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

While some owners or operators of vessels intending to transit the safety zone may be small entities, for the reasons stated in section V.A above, this rule will not have a significant economic impact on any vessel owner or operator.

Under section 213(a) of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 (Pub. L. 104–121), we want to assist small entities in understanding this rule. If the rule would affect your small business, organization, or governmental jurisdiction and you have questions concerning its provisions or options for compliance, please call or email the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section.

Small businesses may send comments on the actions of Federal employees who enforce, or otherwise determine compliance with, Federal regulations to the Small Business and Agriculture Regulatory Enforcement Ombudsman and the Regional Small Business Regulatory Fairness Boards. The Ombudsman evaluates these actions annually and rates each agency’s

responsiveness to small business. If you wish to comment on actions by employees of the Coast Guard, call 1–888–REG–FAIR (1–888–734–3247). The Coast Guard will not retaliate against small entities that question or complain about this rule or any policy or action of the Coast Guard.

C. Collection of Information

This rule will not call for a new collection of information under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501–3520).

D. Federalism and Indian Tribal Governments

A rule has implications for federalism under Executive Order 13132, Federalism, if it has a substantial direct effect on the States, on the relationship between the National Government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government. We have analyzed this rule under that Order and have determined that it is consistent with the fundamental federalism principles and preemption requirements described in Executive Order 13132.

Also, this rule does not have tribal implications under Executive Order 13175, Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments, because it does not have a substantial direct effect on one or more Indian Tribes, on the relationship between the Federal Government and Indian Tribes, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities between the Federal Government and Indian Tribes.

E. Unfunded Mandates Reform Act

The Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1531–1538) requires Federal agencies to assess the effects of their discretionary regulatory actions. In particular, the Act addresses actions that may result in the expenditure by a State, local, or Tribal government, in the aggregate, or by the private sector of \$100,000,000 (adjusted for inflation) or more in any one year. Though this rule will not result in such an expenditure, we do discuss the effects of this rule elsewhere in this preamble.

F. Environment

We have analyzed this rule under Department of Homeland Security Directive 023–01, Rev. 1, associated implementing instructions, and Environmental Planning COMDTINST 5090.1 (series), which guide the Coast Guard in complying with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321–4370f), and have determined this action is one of a category of actions that do not

individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment. This rule involves a safety zone that will prohibit entry within a 300 yard radius of the Grosse Tete passenger ferry at MM 46 of the Port Allen Route, Iberville, LA. The zone will be effective Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 8 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. except on Federal Holidays. This type of action is categorically excluded from further review under paragraph L60(c) of Appendix A, Table 1 of DHS Instruction Manual 023–01–001–01, Rev. 1.

G. Protest Activities

The Coast Guard respects the First Amendment rights of protesters. Protesters are asked to call or email the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section to coordinate protest activities so that your message can be received without jeopardizing the safety or security of people, places or vessels.

List of Subjects in 33 CFR Part 165

Harbors, Marine safety, Navigation (water), Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Security measures, Waterways.

For the reasons discussed in the preamble, the Coast Guard amends 33 CFR part 165 as:

PART 165—REGULATED NAVIGATION AREAS AND LIMITED ACCESS AREAS

■ 1. The authority citation for part 165 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 46 U.S.C. 70034, 70051, 70124; 33 CFR 1.05–1, 6.04–1, 6.04–6, and 160.5; Department of Homeland Security Delegation No. 00170.1, Revision No. 01.3.

■ 2. Add § 165.T08–0730 to read as follows:

§ 165.T08–0730 Safety Zone; Grosse Tete Passenger Ferry, Iberville, LA.

(a) *Locations.* The following is a temporary safety zone:

(1) All waters within a 300 yard radius of the Grosse Tete passenger ferry at 30°16′0.22″ N, 091°19′16.91″ W, on the Port Allen Route at MM 46, Iberville, LA.

(2) The points are in NAD 83.

(b) *Definition.* The term “designated representative” means Coast Guard Patrol Commanders, including Coast Guard coxswains, petty officers, and other officers operating Coast Guard vessels, and Federal, state, and local officers designated by or assisting the COTP in the enforcement of the safety zone.

(c) *Regulations.* (1) No person or vessel will be permitted to enter, transit,

anchor, or remain within the safety zone unless authorized by the COTP New Orleans or a designated representative. If authorization is granted, persons and/or vessels receiving such authorization must comply with the instructions of the COTP New Orleans or designated representative.

(2) Persons who must notify or request authorization from the COTP may do so by telephone at (504) 365-2540 or may contact a designated representative via VHF radio on channel 16.

(d) *Enforcement period.* This rule will be enforced from 12 p.m. on August 9, 2024, through 12 p.m. on October 9, 2024.

Dated: August 9, 2024.

G.A. Callaghan,

Captain, U.S. Coast Guard, Captain of the Port New Orleans.

[FR Doc. 2024-18869 Filed 8-21-24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9110-04-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

38 CFR Part 17

Processing Certain Claims for Payment for Transportation, Care, and Services

AGENCY: Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notification of guidance.

SUMMARY: This notification informs the public of the Department of Veterans Affairs' (VA) interpretation of law and regulations regarding timely filing for certain claims for payment for transportation, care and services affected by a cybersecurity incident.

DATES: The guidance is effective August 22, 2024. Claims submitted pursuant to this document must be received by VA by October 31, 2024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Joseph Duran, Policy Directorate, 16IVCEO3, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20420; 303-370-1637. This is not a toll-free number.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Factual Background: On February 21, 2024, a cybersecurity incident impacted Change Healthcare (CHC). CHC serves as a clearinghouse for a number of claims for payment related to ambulance transportation and health care services under a contract with VA. This incident prevented providers and entities from submitting claims electronically to VA. As of May 8, 2024, VA is able to receive all claims electronically. Between

February 21, 2024, and May 8, 2024, VA had limited or no ability to receive and process claims because of this incident. During this period of more than 70 days, providers and entities were unable to, or were limited in their ability to, submit claims to VA for services for which VA would normally have processed payment that were provided either before or during this period.

Legal Background: Entities seeking payment from VA for ambulance transportation and health care services are required to comply with timely filing requirements established by several different provisions of law and regulation.

Section 1703D(b) of title 38, United States Code (U.S.C.), requires health care entities or providers that furnish hospital care, medical services, or extended care services under chapter 17, title 38, U.S.C., to submit to VA claims for payment for furnishing such services not later than 180 days after the date on which the entity or provider furnished the services.

Section 17.126 requires claimants to file a claim for reimbursement for emergency services for service-connected care within 2 years of the date the care or services were rendered, or, in the case of care or services rendered prior to VA adjudication allowing service-connection, within two years of the date the veteran was notified by VA of the allowance of the award of service connection.

Section 17.1004(d) of title 38, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), requires claimants to file a claim for reimbursement for emergency services for non-service-connected care within 90 days of the latest of the date the veteran was discharged from the facility that furnished emergency treatment; the date of death (but only if death occurred during transportation to a facility for emergency treatment or if the death occurred during the stay in the facility that included the provision of emergency treatment); or the date the veteran finally exhausted, without success, action to obtain payment or reimbursement for the treatment from a third-party.

Sections 17.1225 and 17.1230 of title 38, CFR, require providers of emergent suicide care and emergency transportation for emergent suicide care, respectively, to submit to VA a standard billing form and other information as required no later than 180 calendar days from the date the services or transportation was furnished.

Section 70.20(b) of title 38, CFR, requires claimants to apply for payment of beneficiary travel within 30 calendar days after completing beneficiary travel

that does not include a special mode of transportation. For travel that includes a special mode of transportation (including ambulances), claimants must apply for payment of beneficiary travel and obtain approval from VA prior to the travel; if prior approval has not been granted, claimants must apply for payment within 30 calendar days after the travel is completed. VA may pay for transportation for emergency treatment under separate authorities as well.

Section 17.276 of title 38, CFR, requires claims under the Civilian Health and Medical Program of VA (CHAMPVA) program to be filed not later than one year after the date of service or the date of discharge (for inpatient care), or within 180 days following beneficiary notification of authorization in the case of retroactive approval for medical services or supplies, generally. Requests for extensions must be submitted in writing, and VA may grant exceptions if it determines there was good cause for missing the filing deadline.

Section 17.903 of title 38, CFR, requires claims for the Children of Women Vietnam Veterans and the Spina Bifida program to be filed not later than one year after the date of service or the date of discharge (for inpatient care), or within 180 days following beneficiary notification of authorization in the case of retroactive approval for medical services or supplies, generally.

Other claims, including those for medical care provided through reimbursement agreements with the Indian Health Service, Tribal health programs, and Urban Indian Organizations under 25 U.S.C. 1645 and 38 U.S.C. 8153, are subject to timely filing requirements and were also affected by the CHC outage. Timely filing under these reimbursement agreements generally requires claims submission within one year of the date of service.

Legal Issue: The plain text of these statutes and regulations, with the exception of 17.276, does not include exceptions for established timely filing requirements. If VA applied these statutes and regulations without exception, it would be forced to deny claims affected by the CHC outage as not timely filed and thus not payable. This would expose veterans to personal liability in some cases for these services through no fault of their own. It also would result in inequitable outcomes, where entities and providers furnished services on behalf of VA but were unable to be paid for reasons beyond either VA's or their control.

Legal Interpretation: In light of this issue, VA is publicly stating its