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40 CFR Part 120

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY, Corps of Engineers

Deadline for Regional Roundtable Discussions Regarding Waters of the United States

AGENCY: Department of the Army Corps of Engineers. Department of Defense; Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of events; extinction of events.

SUMMARY: On October 13, 2021, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) coordinated with selected nominees based on availability. Please refer to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

DATES: Nomination letters for the Federal Register publication and public hearing on the deadline request for nominations, and the U.S. Department of the Army signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). A Federal Register publication was published on October 25, 2021. In the Federal Register, the agencies are extending the deadlines for the nominations and the public hearing on the deadline request for nominations. The Federal Register publication was published on October 25, 2021 (86 FR 58697). States: "The United States," The published on October 25, 2021, the Federal Register publication is available online at http://www.epa.gov/nosb.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kate Balasa, Office of Water, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: 312-886-4027; email address: WOTUS-outreach@epa.gov; or Stacy Janzen, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, Department of the Army, 100 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20470-0001; telephone number: 312-886-4027; email address: WOTUS-outreach@epa.gov.


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agencies are seeking input on a durable definition of ‘waters of the United States’ not limited to the scope of the regulatory processes announced on June 9, 2021.” The agencies offer the following clarification. During the regional roundtables, the agencies anticipate discussing issues related to “waters of the United States” that will be applicable to the agencies’ second rulemaking. The regional roundtables will serve as one part of a robust pre-proposal outreach and engagement strategy—including but not limited to consultation and engagement with state and tribal co-regulators—to gain an understanding of the scope of potential issues to address in the second rulemaking.

The October 25, 2021 Federal Register document also states: “The agencies are inviting stakeholders to organize interested parties and regional participants that comprise up to 15 representatives for these roundtables.” The agencies offer the following clarification. The agencies are requesting that stakeholders or organizations nominate an entire group of no more than 15 people (including the organizer) who represent diverse perspectives. Individuals should not nominate themselves alone to the agencies. The document also states: “Each nomination for a roundtable must include a proposed slate of participants representing perspectives of: Agriculture; conservation groups; developers; drinking water/wastewater management; environmental organizations; environmental justice communities; industry; and other key interests in that region.” The agencies offer the following clarification. The agencies will consider nominations that lack representation from one or more of the named stakeholder groups. However, the agencies will give more weight in the selection process to those nominations that include stakeholders representing a more robust and wider range of perspectives.

The Federal Register document also stated: “The agencies anticipate coordinating with elected officials that represent the location of selected roundtables.” The agencies offer the following clarification. The agencies’ intent is to coordinate with relevant states, tribes, and Alaska Native Villages regarding potential participation in selected roundtables.

The Federal Register document further stated: “EPA cannot hold in-person public meetings at this time. The agencies will host these roundtables virtually... The agencies also intend to livestream each roundtable to make them available for public viewing.” The agencies offer the following clarification. Information on how to access the livestream will be posted on the agencies’ websites once the roundtable dates/times have been established.

Additionally, the Federal Register document did not include information on roundtable agenda, format, or logistics. The agencies would like to clarify that roundtables will be run by a facilitator and will be scheduled for no more than two and a half hours in duration.

Additionally, the agencies will coordinate with roundtable organizers on further implementation planning once roundtables are selected.

Jaime A. Pinkham,
Acting Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works), Department of the Army.

Radhika Fox,
Assistant Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

49 CFR Part 172
[Docket No. PHMSA–2021–0058 (HM–264A)]
RIN 2137–AF55

Hazardous Materials: Suspension of HMR Amendments Authorizing Transportation of Liquefied Natural Gas by Rail

AGENCY: Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: PHMSA, in coordination with the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), proposes to amend the Hazardous Materials Regulations to suspend authorization of liquefied natural gas (LNG) transportation in rail tank cars pursuant to a final rule published in July 2020, pending the earlier of either completion of a separate rulemaking under RIN 2137–AF54 evaluating potential modifications to requirements governing rail tank car transportation of LNG, or June 30, 2024.

DATES: Comments must be received by December 23, 2021. To the extent possible, PHMSA will consider late-filed comments as a final rule is developed.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

• Federal Rulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

• Fax: 1–202–493–2251.


• Hand Delivery: U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M–30, Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590–0001 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Instructions: Include the agency name and docket number PHMSA–2021–0058 (HM–264A) or RIN 2137–AF55 for this rulemaking at the beginning of your comment. Note that all comments received will be posted without change to http://www.regulations.gov including any personal information provided. If sent by mail, comments must be submitted in duplicate. Persons wishing to receive confirmation of receipt of their comments must include a self-addressed stamped postcard.

Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents or comments received, go to http://www.regulations.gov or the DOT Docket Operations Office (see ADDRESSES).

Confidential Business Information: Confidential Business Information (CBI) is commercial or financial information that is both customarily and actually treated as private by its owner. Under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA; 5 U.S.C. 552), CBI is exempt from public disclosure. If your comments responsive to this NPRM contain commercial or financial information that is customarily treated as private, that you actually treat as private, and that is relevant or responsive to this NPRM, it is important that you clearly designate the submitted comments as CBI. Please mark each page of your submission containing CBI as “PROPIN.” Submissions containing CBI should be sent to Lily Ballengee, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590–0001. Any commentary that PHMSA receives which is not specifically designated as CBI will be placed in the public docket for this rulemaking.