

procedures established by the Commissioner.

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Dated: October 25, 2010.

David H. Stevens,

Assistant Secretary for Housing—Federal Housing Commissioner.

[FR Doc. 2010-28420 Filed 11-10-10; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4210-67-P

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

29 CFR Part 1910

[Docket No. OSHA-2007-0072]

RIN 1218-AB80

Walking-Working Surfaces and Personal Protective Equipment (Fall Protection Systems)

AGENCY: Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Labor.

ACTION: Proposed rule; notice of informal public hearings.

SUMMARY: OSHA is convening an informal public hearing to receive testimony and documentary evidence on the Walking-Working Surfaces and Personal Protective Equipment (Fall Protection Systems) proposed rule (29 CFR part 1910, subparts D and I), published on May 24, 2010 (73 FR 28862).

DATES: *Informal public hearings:* OSHA will hold an informal public hearing in Washington, DC, beginning at 9:30 a.m., January 18, 2011. If necessary, the hearing will continue on subsequent days at the same time and location.

Notice of intention to appear to provide testimony at the informal public hearing: Parties who intend to present testimony or question witnesses at the informal public hearing must notify OSHA in writing of their intention to do so by November 30, 2010.

Hearing testimony and documentary evidence: Parties requesting more than 10 minutes to present their testimony, or who will be submitting documentary evidence at the hearing must submit the full text of their testimony and all documentary evidence to OSHA by December 21, 2010.

ADDRESSES: *Informal public hearing:* The hearing will be held in the auditorium of the Frances Perkins Building, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC.

Notices of intention to appear, hearing testimony, and documentary

evidence: Submit notices of intention to appear, hearing testimony, and documentary evidence, identified by the docket number (OSHA-2007-0072) or the regulation identifier number (RIN 1218-AB80) using any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions online for electronically submitting materials, including attachments,

- *Fax:* Send written submissions not exceeding 10 pages in length, including attachments, to the OSHA Docket Office at (202) 693-1648. Hard copies of these documents are not required. Instead of transmitting facsimile copies of attachments that supplement these documents (e.g., studies, journal articles), submit these attachments in hard copy to the OSHA Docket Office, Technical Data Center, Room N-2625, OSHA, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20210. These attachments must clearly identify the sender's name, date, subject, and docket number (i.e., OSHA-2007-0072) so that OSHA can attach them to the appropriate document.

- *Regular mail, express delivery, hand delivery, and messenger and courier service:* Send materials to the OSHA Docket Office, Docket No. OSHA-2007-0072, Technical Data Center, U.S. Department of Labor, Room N-2625, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20210; telephone (202) 693-2350 (TTY number (877) 889-5627). Note that security-related problems may result in significant delays in receiving submissions by regular mail. Please contact the OSHA Docket Office for information about security procedures concerning delivery of materials by express delivery, hand delivery, or courier service. Deliveries (express mail, hand delivery, and messenger and courier service) are accepted during the Department of Labor's and OSHA Docket Office's normal hours of operation, 8:15 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., e.t.

Instructions: All submissions must include the Agency name and docket number (OSHA-2007-0072). All submissions, including any personal information, are placed in the public docket without change, and will be available online at <http://www.regulations.gov>. Therefore, OSHA cautions members of the public against submitting information and statements that should remain private, including comments that contain personal information (either about themselves or others) such as Social Security numbers, birthdates, and medical information. For

additional information on submitting notices of intention to appear, hearing testimony, or documentary evidence, see the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this notice below.

Docket: To read or download comments and other material in the docket, go to Docket No. OSHA-2007-0072 at <http://www.regulations.gov> or to the OSHA Docket Office at the address above. While all submissions to the docket are listed in the <http://www.regulations.gov>, some information (e.g., copyrighted material) is not publicly available to read or download through this Web site. However, all submissions, including copyrighted material, are available for inspection and copying in the OSHA Docket Office. Contact the OSHA Docket Office for assistance in locating docket submissions, including notices of intention to appear, the text of testimony, and documentary evidence. The hours of operation for the OSHA Docket Office are 8:15 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., e.t.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Press inquiries: MaryAnn Garrahan, Office of Communications, U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Room N-3647, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20210; telephone (202) 693-1999.

Technical inquiries and inquiries about the hearing: Virginia Fitzner, Office of Safety Systems, Directorate of Standards and Guidance, U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Room N-3609, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20210; telephone (202) 693-2052.

Copies of this Federal Register notice: Electronic copies of this **Federal Register** notice are available at <http://www.regulations.gov>. This notice, as well as news releases and other relevant information regarding the hearing, also are available at OSHA's Web page at <http://www.osha.gov>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background. On May 24, 2010, OSHA published a proposed rule to update, revise, and reorganize the standards on walking-working surfaces and to add personal fall protection systems to the Personal Protective Equipment standard (73 FR 28862). OSHA invited written comments and requests for hearings on the proposed rule. The deadline for submitting comments and hearing requests was August 23, 2010. During this period, a number of commenters submitted requests for an informal public hearing (see, e.g., Ex. OSHA-2007-0072-0150.1). Accordingly, OSHA

will hold an informal public hearing on the proposed rule on Walking-Working Surfaces and Personal Protective Equipment (Fall Protection Systems) in general industry on January 18, 2011, at the Department of Labor's Frances Perkins Building, Washington, DC. If necessary, the hearing will continue on subsequent days at the same time and location. This notice describes the procedures the public must use to participate in the hearings.

Public participation—comments and hearings. OSHA invites members of the public to participate in this rulemaking by providing oral testimony and documentary evidence at the informal public hearings. In particular, OSHA invites interested parties who have knowledge of, or experience with, walking-working surfaces and the issues raised in the proposed rule to participate in the hearings. OSHA also welcomes data and documentary evidence that will provide the Agency with the best available evidence to use in developing the final rule.

Hearing arrangements. Pursuant to section 6(b)(3) of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (OSH Act) (29 U.S.C. 655), members of the public have an opportunity at the informal public hearing to provide oral testimony and documentary evidence concerning the issues raised in the proposal. An administrative law judge (ALJ) presides over the hearing and will resolve procedural matters relating to the hearing on the first day.

Purpose of the hearing. The legislative history of Section 6 of the OSH Act, as well as OSHA's rules governing public hearings (29 CFR 1911.15), establish the purpose and procedures of informal public hearings. Although the presiding officer of the hearing is an ALJ, and questioning of witnesses is allowed on pertinent issues, the proceeding is largely informal and legislative in purpose. Therefore, the hearing provides interested parties with an opportunity to make effective and expeditious oral presentations in the absence of procedural restraints or rigid procedures that could impede or protract the rulemaking process. The hearing is not an adjudicative proceeding subject to the technical rules of evidence. Instead, it is an informal administrative proceeding convened to gather information and clarify the record. OSHA's regulations governing public hearings and the pre-hearing guidelines that the ALJ issues for the hearings will ensure fairness and due process for participants, as well as facilitate the development of a clear, accurate, and complete record. Accordingly, application of these rules

and guidelines will be such that questions regarding relevance, procedures, and participation generally will be resolved in favor of developing a complete record.

Conduct of the hearing. Conduct of the hearing will conform to the provisions of 29 CFR part 1911 (Rules of Procedure for Promulgating, Modifying, or Revoking Occupational Safety and Health Standards). Although the ALJ who presides over the hearings makes no decisions or recommendations on the merits of the proposed or final rules, the ALJ has the responsibility and authority to ensure that the hearing progresses at a reasonable pace and in an orderly manner. To ensure that interested persons receive a full and fair hearing, the ALJ has the authority to: Regulate the course of the proceedings; dispose of procedural requests, objections, and similar matters; confine presentations to matters pertinent to the issues raised in the proposed rule; use appropriate means to regulate the conduct of the parties who are present at the hearing; question witnesses, and permit others to do so; and limit the time for such questioning.

At the close of the hearing, the ALJ will establish a post-hearing comment period for parties who filed a timely notice of intention to appear at the hearing. During the first part of this post-hearing period, these parties may submit additional data and information to OSHA, and, during the second part of this period, they may submit briefs, arguments, and summations.

Notice of intention to appear to provide testimony at the informal public hearing. Hearing participants must file a written notice of intention to appear prior to the hearing that provides the following information:

- Name, address, and telephone number of each individual who will give oral testimony;
- Name of the establishment or organization each individual represents, if any;
- Occupational title and position of each individual testifying;
- Approximate amount of time required for each individual's testimony;
- A brief statement of the position each individual will take with respect to the issues identified in the proposed rule; and
- A brief summary of documentary evidence each individual intends to present.

OSHA emphasizes that, while the hearings are open to the public and interested parties are welcome to attend, only a party that files a notice of intention to appear may question

witnesses and participate fully at the hearing. If time permits, and at the discretion of the ALJ, a party that did not file a notice of intention to appear may be allowed to testify at the hearing, but for no more than 10 minutes.

Hearing testimony and documentary evidence. Parties who request more than 10 minutes to present oral testimony at the hearing, or will submit documentary evidence at the hearing, must submit the full text of their testimony and all documentary evidence no later than December 21, 2010. The Agency will review each submission and determine if the information it contains warrants the amount of time the party requested for the presentation. If OSHA determines that the requested time is excessive, the Agency will allocate an appropriate amount of time for the presentation; OSHA then will notify the participants of the time allotted for their presentations, and will provide the reasons for this determination. The Agency also may limit to 10 minutes the presentation of any participant who fails to comply substantially with these procedural requirements. During the hearing, OSHA may request that a participant return for questioning at a later time. Before the hearing, OSHA will provide the pre-hearing guidelines and hearing schedule to each hearing participant.

Certification of the record and final determination after the informal public hearing. Following the close of the hearing and the post-hearing comment periods, the ALJ will certify the record to the Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health. The record will consist of all of the written comments, oral testimony, and documentary evidence received during the hearing. The ALJ, however, will not make or recommend any decisions as to the content of the final standard. Following certification of the record, OSHA will review all the evidence received as part of the record, and then will issue the final rule based on the record as a whole.

Authority and Signature

David Michaels, PhD, MPH, Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health, directed the preparation of this notice under the authority granted by Section 6(b) of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (29 U.S.C. 655), Secretary of Labor's Order 4–2010 (75 FR 55355), and 29 CFR part 1911.

Signed at Washington, DC, on November 8, 2010.

David Michaels,

Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health.

[FR Doc. 2010-28544 Filed 11-10-10; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 165

[Docket No. USCG-2010-0995]

RIN 1625-AA00

Safety Zone; Beaufort River/Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway, Beaufort, SC

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard proposes to establish a temporary safety zone on the Beaufort River portion of the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway, South Carolina during the construction and expansion of the J.E. McTeer Bridge, also referred to as the S.C. 802 Bridge. This regulation is necessary to protect life and property on the navigable waters of the Beaufort River during the construction and expansion of the J.E. McTeer Bridge. Persons and vessels will be prohibited from entering, transiting through, anchoring in, or remaining within the safety zone unless authorized by the Captain of the Port Charleston or a designated representative.

DATES: Comments and related material must be received by the Coast Guard on or before December 13, 2010. The Coast Guard anticipates that this proposed rule will be effective from January 24, 2011 through January 28, 2011 and enforced daily from 9 a.m. until 12 p.m. and 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. on January 24, 2011 through January 28, 2011.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments identified by docket number USCG-2010-0995 using any one of the following methods:

(1) *Federal eRulemaking Portal:*
<http://www.regulations.gov>.

(2) *Fax:* 202-493-2251.

(3) *Mail:* Docket Management Facility (M-30), U.S. Department of Transportation, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590-0001.

(4) *Hand delivery:* Same as mail address above, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The telephone number is 202-366-9329.

To avoid duplication, please use only one of these four methods. See the "Public Participation and Request for Comments" portion of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section below for instructions on submitting comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions on this proposed rule, call or e-mail Lieutenant Julie Blanchfield, Coast Guard; telephone 843-740-3184, e-mail Julie.E.Blanchfield@uscg.mil. If you have questions on viewing or submitting material to the docket, call Renee V. Wright, Program Manager, Docket Operations, telephone 202-366-9826.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Public Participation and Request for Comments

We encourage you to participate in this rulemaking by submitting comments and related materials. All comments received will be posted without change to <http://www.regulations.gov> and will include any personal information you have provided.

Submitting Comments

If you submit a comment, please include the docket number for this rulemaking (USCG-2010-0995), indicate the specific section of this document to which each comment applies, and provide a reason for each suggestion or recommendation. You may submit your comments and material online (via <http://www.regulations.gov>) or by fax, mail, or hand delivery, but please use only one of these means. If you submit a comment online via <http://www.regulations.gov>, it will be considered received by the Coast Guard when you successfully transmit the comment. If you fax, hand deliver, or mail your comment, it will be considered as having been received by the Coast Guard when it is received at the Docket Management Facility. We recommend that you include your name and a mailing address, an e-mail address, or a telephone number in the body of your document so that we can contact you if we have questions regarding your submission.

To submit your comment online, go to <http://www.regulations.gov>, click on the "submit a comment" box, which will then become highlighted in blue. In the "Document Type" drop down menu select "Proposed Rule" and insert "USCG-2010-0995" in the "Keyword" box. Click "Search" then click on the balloon shape in the "Actions" column. If you submit your comments by mail or

hand delivery, submit them in an unbound format, no larger than 8½ by 11 inches, suitable for copying and electronic filing. If you submit comments by mail and would like to know that they reached the Facility, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed postcard or envelope. We will consider all comments and material received during the comment period and may change the rule based on your comments.

Viewing Comments and Documents

To view comments, as well as documents mentioned in this preamble as being available in the docket, go to <http://www.regulations.gov>, click on the "read comments" box, which will then become highlighted in blue. In the "Keyword" box insert "USCG-2010-0995" and click "Search." Click the "Open Docket Folder" in the "Actions" column. You may also visit the Docket Management Facility in Room W12-140 on the ground floor of the Department of Transportation West Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. We have an agreement with the Department of Transportation to use the Docket Management Facility.

Privacy Act

Anyone can search the electronic form of comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the comment, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review a Privacy Act notice regarding our public dockets in the January 17, 2008, issue of the **Federal Register** (73 FR 3316).

Public Meeting

We do not now plan to hold a public meeting. But you may submit a request for one using one of the four methods specified under **ADDRESSES**. Please explain why you believe a public meeting would be beneficial. If we determine that one would aid this rulemaking, we will hold one at a time and place announced by a later notice in the **Federal Register**.

Background and Purpose

The construction and expansion of the J.E. McTeer Bridge will create safety hazards within the main channel of the Beaufort River in the vicinity of the J.E. McTeer Bridge due to the presence of construction equipment and the nature of the construction project. The described portion of the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway/Beaufort River will be affected daily from 9 a.m. until