

(v) Vessels operated by federal, state, county, or municipal agencies.

(2) Other persons or vessels requiring entry into a zone described in this section must request express permission to enter from the Captain of the Port Houston-Galveston, or designated representative.

(3) To request permission as required by these regulations contact "Houston Traffic" via VHF Channels 11/12 or by phone at (713) 671-5103.

(4) All persons and vessels shall comply with the instructions of the Captain of the Port Houston-Galveston and designated on-scene U.S. Coast Guard patrol personnel. On-scene U.S. Coast Guard patrol personnel include commissioned, warrant, and petty officers of the U.S. Coast Guard.

Dated: March 28, 2003.

**Kevin S. Cook,**

*Captain, U.S. Coast Guard, Captain of the Port, Houston-Galveston.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

### Coast Guard

#### 33 CFR Part 165

[COTP Mobile-03-009]

RIN 1625-AA00

#### Security Zone; Bayou Casotte, Pascagoula, MS

**AGENCY:** Coast Guard, DHS.

**ACTION:** Temporary final rule.

**SUMMARY:** The Coast Guard is establishing a temporary security zone encompassing all waters of Bayou Casotte east of a line drawn from position 30°19'09"N, 88°30'63"W to position 30°20'42"N, 88°30'51"W at the Chevron Pascagoula Refinery. This security zone is necessary to protect Chevron Pascagoula refinery, persons, and vessels from subversive or terrorist acts. Entry of persons or vessels into this security zone is prohibited unless authorized by the Captain of the Port Mobile or a designated representative.

**DATES:** This rule is effective from 8 a.m. on March 22, 2003, until 5 p.m. on September 22, 2003.

**ADDRESSES:** Documents indicated in this preamble as being available in the docket, are part of docket (COTP Mobile-03-009) and are available for inspection or copying at Marine Safety Office Mobile, Brookley Complex, Bldg 102, South Broad Street, Mobile, AL 36615-1390 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.,

Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Lieutenant (LT) Carolyn Beatty, Operations Department, Marine Safety Office Mobile, AL, at (251) 441-5771.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Regulatory Information

We did not publish a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) for this regulation. Under 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B), the Coast Guard finds that good cause exists for not publishing an NPRM, and under 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3), good cause exists for making this rule effective less than 30 days after publication in the **Federal Register**.

National security and intelligence officials warn that future terrorist attacks against United States interests are likely. Current advisories of terrorist threats and the nature of the material handled at Chevron Pascagoula refinery make this rulemaking necessary for the protection of national security interests. Any delay in making this regulation effective would be contrary to the public interest because action is necessary to protect against the possible loss of life, injury, or damage to property.

The Coast Guard will, during the effective period of this temporary rule, complete notice and comment rulemaking for a proposed permanent regulation.

##### Background and Purpose

On September 11, 2001, both towers of the World Trade Center and the Pentagon were attacked by terrorists. The President has continued the national emergencies he declared following those attacks (67 FR 58317 (Sep. 13, 2002) (continuing the emergency declared with respect to terrorist attacks); 67 FR 59447 (Sep. 20, 2002) (continuing emergency with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit or support terrorism)). The President also has found pursuant to law, including the Act of June 15, 1917, as amended August 9, 1950, by the Magnuson Act (50 U.S.C. 191 *et seq.*), that the security of the United States is and continues to be endangered following the terrorist attacks E.O. 13,273, 67 FR 56215 (Sep. 3, 2002) (security of U.S. endangered by disturbances in international relations of U.S. and such disturbances continue to endanger such relations). In response to these terrorist acts and warnings, heightened awareness for the security and safety of all vessels, ports, and harbors is necessary. The Captain of the Port Mobile is establishing a temporary security zone encompassing all waters

of Bayou Casotte east of a line drawn from position 30°19'09"N, 88°30'63"W to position 30°20'42"N 88°30'51"W at the Chevron Pascagoula Refinery. These coordinates are based upon (NAD 83). This security zone is necessary to protect the Chevron Pascagoula refinery, persons, and vessels from subversive or terrorist acts. Entry of persons or vessels into this security zone is prohibited unless authorized by the Captain of the Port Mobile or a designated representative.

##### Regulatory Evaluation

This rule is not a "significant regulatory action" under section 3(f) of Executive Order 12866, Regulatory Planning and Review, and does not require an assessment of potential costs and benefits under section 6(a)(3) of that Order. The Office of Management and Budget has not reviewed it under that Order. It is not "significant" under the regulatory policies and procedures of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

This rule will not obstruct the regular flow of vessel traffic and will allow vessel traffic to pass safely around the security zone. Vessels may be permitted to enter the security zone on a case-by-case basis.

##### Small Entities

Under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601-612), we have considered whether this rule would have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. 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. The Coast Guard is unaware of any small entities that would be impacted by this rule. The navigable channel remains open to all vessel traffic.

If you are a small business entity and are significantly affected by this regulation please contact LT Carolyn Beatty, Operations Department, Marine Safety Office, Mobile, AL, at (251) 441-5771.

##### Assistance for Small Entities

Under section 213(a) of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 (Pub. L. 104-121), we offered to assist small entities in understanding the rule so they could better evaluate its effects on them and