Committee members to review your comment before the meetings, please submit your comments no later than August 24, 2020. We are particularly interested in comments on the issues in the “Agenda” section below. We encourage you to submit comments through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at https://www.regulations.gov. If your material cannot be submitted using https://www.regulations.gov, call or email the individual in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section of this document for alternate instructions. You must include the words “Department of Homeland Security” and the docket number USCG–0322. Comments received will be posted without alteration at https://www.regulations.gov, including any personal information provided. For more about privacy submissions in response to this document, see DHS’s eRulemaking System of Records notice (85 FR 14226, March 11, 2020). If you encounter technical difficulties with comment submission, contact the individual listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section of this notice.

Docket Search: Documents mentioned in this notice as being available in the docket, and all public comment, will be in our online docket at https://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.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Ellen Engleman Conners. Alternate Designated Federal Officer of the Great Lakes Pilotage Advisory Committee, telephone (202) 578–2815, or email Ellen.EnglemanConners@uscg.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice of this meeting is in compliance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. Appendix). The Great Lakes Pilotage Advisory Committee is established under the authority of 46 U.S.C. 9307, and makes recommendations to the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Coast Guard on matters relating to Great Lakes pilotage, including review of proposed Great Lakes pilotage regulations and policies.

Agenda: The Great Lakes Pilotage Advisory Committee will meet on Tuesday, September 1, 2020 to review, discuss, deliberate and formulate recommendations, as appropriate on the following topics:
1. Status of GLPAC members terms and appointments.
2. St. Lawrence River flow/Lake Ontario flooding/Seaway closure.
3. Individual pilot compensation reporting.
4. Limited Pilot Registration.
6. Staffing Model.
7. Annual review and report comparing previous rate-setting projections with actual data.
8. Designation of the Straits of Mackinac.
10. Pilot Association project and updates.
11. Stakeholder Outreach.
13. Host Pilots Association presentation.

A copy of all meeting documentation will be available at https://dco.uscg.apfims.mil/Our-Organization/Assistant-Commandant-for-Prevention-Policy-CG-5P/Office-of-Waterways-and-Ocean-Policy/Office-of-Waterways-and-Ocean-Policy-Great-Lakes-Pilotage-Div/ by August 24, 2020. Alternatively, you may contact Ms. Ellen Engleman Conners as noted in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section above. Public comments or questions will be taken throughout the meeting as the Committee discusses the issues and prior to deliberations and voting. There will also be a public comment period at the end of the meeting. Speakers are requested to limit their comments to 5 minutes. Please note that the public comment period will end following the last call for comments. Contact the individual listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section above, to register as a speaker.


Michael D. Emerson,
Director, Marine Transportation Systems.

[FR Doc. 2020–17540 Filed 8–10–20; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9110–04–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

[Docket No. USCG–2019–0698]

RIN 1625–AC54

Request for Information on Integration of Automated and Autonomous Commercial Vessels and Vessel Technologies Into the Maritime Transportation System

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Request for information (RFI).

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is seeking input regarding the introduction and development of automated and autonomous commercial vessels and vessel technologies subject to U.S. jurisdiction, on U.S. flagged commercial vessels, and in U.S. port facilities. The Coast Guard is also seeking input regarding barriers to the development of autonomous vessels. This document solicits the public’s view on issues related to the opportunities, challenges, and impacts of automated and autonomous commercial vessels and vessel technologies.

DATES: Comments must be received by the Coast Guard on or before October 13, 2020.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments using the Federal eRulemaking Portal at https://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: For information about this document call or email Ted J. Kim, Coast Guard; telephone 202–372–1528, email Ted.J.Kim3@uscg.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Public Participation and Request for Comments

The Coast Guard views public participation as essential to understanding the emerging automated and autonomous commercial vessels and vessel technologies, how vessel owners and operators foresee implementing such technologies, and the Coast Guard’s role with regard to such technologies. The Coast Guard will consider all information, comments, and material received during the comment period. If you submit a comment, please indicate the specific question from this document to which each comment applies.

Please submit comments (or related material) through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at https://www.regulations.gov. Enter the docket number “USCG–2019–0698” into the search bar to find the relevant docket and submit comments. Documents mentioned in this notice, and all public comments, will be available in the online docket as well. Additionally, if you visit the online docket and sign up for email alerts, you will be notified when comments are posted.

If you cannot submit your material by using https://www.regulations.gov, call or email the person in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Ellen Engleman Conners. Alternate Designated Federal Officer of the Great Lakes Pilotage Advisory Committee, telephone (202) 578–2815, or email Ellen.EnglemanConners@uscg.mil.
autonomous vessels have the potential to improve safety in the maritime system, where it is estimated that 75% of accidents are caused, at least in part, by human error. However, the introduction of automation and autonomous technology into commercial vessel operations brings a new set of challenges that need to be addressed, affecting design, operations, safety, security, training, and the workforce. Development of automated and autonomous vessel technology is happening quickly internationally. In light of this, in 2018, the International Maritime Organization (IMO) began a regulatory scoping exercise of its various international conventions for the effects autonomous technology could potentially have on current regulatory approaches and treaties. In 2019, the IMO developed interim guidelines for trials of autonomous ships. The Coast Guard recognizes the National Science & Technology Council and the U.S. Department of Transportation’s (DOT) efforts to unify automated transportation technologies across the Federal government and independent agencies. This RFI aims to complement the principles outlined in the National Science & Technology Council and U.S. DOT report on “Ensuring American Leadership in Automated Vehicle Technologies: Automated Vehicles (AVs) 4.0.” and to coordinate across the agencies in its automation activities. The Coast Guard is interested in hearing from the public on a range of issues related to the potential introduction and development of automated and autonomous technologies aboard commercial vessels or any automated and autonomous vessels subject to U.S. jurisdiction and U.S. port facilities. The Coast Guard recognizes that the phrase “automated and autonomous commercial vessels and vessel technologies” covers a wide range of maritime applications. For purposes of this RFI, automated and autonomous commercial vessels and vessel technologies are systems that use automation: (1) To perform operations without, or with less, human intervention, (2) related to one or more vessel functions, and (3) for the duration of operations or in limited time periods. These vessel functions may include, but are not limited to, navigation operation, communication, machinery operation, cargo management, emergency response, and maintenance. The Coast Guard intends for commenters to interpret the phrase, “automated and autonomous commercial vessels and vessel technologies,” expansively. Please provide relevant information on all issues, challenges, and solutions related to the development and implementation of automation and autonomous technologies aboard commercial vessels. In addition, the Coast Guard seeks public comments more broadly on automated and autonomous commercial vessels and vessel technologies that may not be covered in the following questions. (1) What existing statutes or Coast Guard-issued regulations, policies, or standards may present a challenge or barrier to the development, demonstration, deployment, or evaluation of automated and autonomous commercial vessels and vessel technologies? Please provide specific examples of these statutes, regulations, policies, or standards. How would these statutes, regulations, policies, or standards need to be changed to remove barriers or challenges? (2) What specific Coast Guard regulations, policies, or standards may become obsolete or serve as an impediment to overall industry participation, innovation, or implementation of automated and autonomous commercial vessels and vessel technologies? Please provide specific examples of such regulatory barriers that will affect such activities. If such barriers would have a particular impact on certain types of vessels or businesses (for example, small businesses), please specify. (3) The Coast Guard currently applies its existing legal authorities to allow testing in various locations throughout the United States. There are current projects in various developmental stages across the nation. Are there any additional legislative, regulatory, or policy changes needed to facilitate testing or enhance coordination between the commercial sector and the U.S. government for testing? Please provide specific examples. (4) What non-Coast Guard regulatory, policy, or legislative challenges, not otherwise specified in response to a previous question above, may present a challenge or barrier to the development, demonstration, deployment, or evaluation of automated and autonomous commercial vessels and vessel technologies? Please specify or describe these challenges, and propose resolutions, if possible. (5) What additional regulations, policies, or voluntary consensus standards should the Coast Guard consider to provide better clarity or certainty to the maritime industry and communities related to the automated transportation industry?
and autonomous commercial vessels and vessel technologies? Please specify areas where additional regulations, policies, standards, or common terminology contained within voluntary consensus standards might be necessary or appropriate to better ensure safety, security, or environmental stewardship, or for other reasons.

(6) What are the benefits (direct and indirect) and cost-savings of automated and autonomous commercial vessels and vessel technologies, if any? Please provide information and data that evidences such benefits and cost-savings.

(7) For what purposes and in what ways are commercial vessels already making use of automated and autonomous technologies? For instance, how are commercial vessels making use of automated and autonomous technologies for such purposes as navigation, machinery operation, maintenance, docking, security, or firefighting, or other purposes?

(8) What types of automated and autonomous commercial vessels and vessel technology (depending on vessel types, classes, and automation levels) may be adaptable for use on commercial vessels subject to U.S. jurisdiction?

(9) What vessel functions, procedures, equipment components, or systems can be replaced, augmented, or aided with automated and autonomous commercial vessels and vessel technologies?

(10) What changes should be made to ensure port facilities can accommodate automated and autonomous commercial vessels and vessel technologies?

(11) What potential economic factors (such as risks, costs, or practical limitations) will a commercial vessel owner or operator have to consider before implementing automated and autonomous commercial vessels and vessel technologies?

(12) What impacts to the maritime workforce do you anticipate would occur with the introduction of automated and autonomous commercial vessels and vessel technologies? Please provide information and data regarding any relevant costs or benefits to the maritime workforce associated with their introduction.

(13) What specific training may need to be developed in consideration of these new technologies? Please provide information and data (whether quantitative or qualitative) regarding costs that training providers might incur from having to update current courses and training requirements.

(14) What type of infrastructure (whether physical or cyber), procedures, and operational data, if available, would help facilitate the safe, secure, and efficient deployment of automated and autonomous commercial vessels and vessel technologies on subject to U.S. jurisdiction?

(15) What threats do automated and autonomous commercial vessels and vessel technologies present to cybersecurity or privacy? How can vessel, facility, and port owners and operators mitigate or minimize the threat?

(16) What are the negative or positive safety and security implications of automated and autonomous commercial vessels and vessel technologies? Please explain and provide details, if possible.


Karl L. Schultz,
Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard, Commandant.

[FR Doc. 2020–17496 Filed 8–10–20; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9110–04–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

[Docket No. USCG–2020–0189]

Collection of Information Under Review by Office of Management and Budget; OMB Control Number 1625–0073

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Thirty-day notice requesting comments.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 the U.S. Coast Guard is forwarding an Information Collection Request (ICR), abstracted below, to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA), requesting an extension of its approval for the following collection of information: 1625–0073, Alteration of Unreasonable Obstructive Bridges; without change.

Our ICR describes the information we seek to collect from the public. Review and comments by OIRA ensure we only impose paperwork burdens commensurate with our performance of duties.

DATES: You may submit comments to the Coast Guard and OIRA on or before September 10, 2020.

ADDRESSES: Comments to the Coast Guard should be submitted using the Federal eRulemaking Portal at https://www.regulations.gov. Search for docket number [USCG–2020–0189]. Written comments and recommendations to OIRA for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain.

Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function.


FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: A.L. Craig, Office of Privacy Management, telephone 202–475–3528, or fax 202–372–9405, for questions on these documents.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Public Participation and Request for Comments

This notice relies on the authority of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995; 44 U.S.C. chapter 35, as amended. An ICR is an application to OIRA seeking the approval, extension, or renewal of a Coast Guard collection of information (Collection). The ICR contains information describing the Collection’s purpose, the Collection’s likely burden on the affected public, an explanation of the necessity of the Collection, and other important information describing the Collection. There is one ICR for each Collection.

The Coast Guard invites comments on whether this ICR should be granted based on the Collection being necessary for the proper performance of Departmental functions. In particular, the Coast Guard would appreciate comments addressing: (1) The practical utility of the Collection; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden of the Collection; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of information subject to the Collection; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the Collection on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Consistent with the requirements of Executive Order 13771, Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs, and Executive Order 13777, Enforcing the Regulatory Reform Agenda, the Coast Guard is also requesting comments on the extent to which this request for information could be modified to reduce the burden on respondents. These comments will help OIRA determine whether to approve the ICR referred to in this Notice.