



Marine Safety Information Bulletin

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Coast Guard Publishes Final Rule to Amend Notification of Arrival Regulations Concerning Certain Dangerous Cargoes

The Coast Guard announced on September 28, 2010, the publication in the Federal Register of a final rule that amends the definition of certain dangerous cargo residue (CDC residue) in its notice of arrival regulations. This final rule will relieve an unnecessary burden on industry by including more lower-risk cargo in the CDC residue category and reducing the number of notice of arrival (NOA) submissions required based on the cargo a vessel is carrying—allowing the Coast Guard to better focus resources on cargo that poses the highest risk to the safety and security of the United States.

This final rule revises the definition of CDC residue to include residue quantities of bulk liquids and liquefied gases. The Coast Guard has included certain bulk liquids and liquefied gases in its definition of CDC residue which is limited to cargo that remains onboard in a cargo system after discharge that is not accessible through normal transfer procedures. This rule also ensures that certain bulk liquefied gas cargoes – anhydrous ammonia, chlorine, ethane, ethylene oxide, methane (LNG), methyl bromide, sulfur dioxide, and vinyl chloride – remain CDC even when carried in residue quantities.

Most vessels carrying CDC are subject to notice of arrival requirements found in 33 CFR part 160. Vessels not carrying CDC – including vessels carrying CDC residue – may still be subject to NOA requirements based on non-CDC criteria.

By expanding the number of vessels deemed to carry CDC residue, this final rule will reduce the number of NOAs that will be submitted. This change will allow the Coast Guard to focus its safety and security resources on vessels carrying CDC, rather than on CDC residue. This will promote maritime safety and security, facilitate the uninterrupted flow of commerce, and allow the Coast Guard to allocate resources better to vessels that are carrying CDCs.

The final rule and related materials may be reviewed at <http://www.regulations.gov> docket number USCG-2010-0173.

For more information about this rule, please call Lieutenant Sharmine Jones, Office of Vessel Activities, U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, at 202-372-1234 or e-mail Sharmine.N.Jones@uscg.mil.

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