**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Maritime Administration**

**46 CFR Part 221**

**Approval Process for Transfers to Foreign Registry of U.S. Documented Vessels Over 1,000 Gross Tons**

**AGENCY:** Maritime Administration (MARAD), DOT.

**ACTION:** Clarification.

**SUMMARY:** This document clarifies the Maritime Administration’s (MARAD’s) approval process in 46 CFR part 221, for requests relating to proposed transfers to foreign registry of U.S. documented vessels over 1,000 gross tons.

**DATES:** The applicability date of this clarification is February 14, 2011. Comments may be submitted on or before July 27, 2011.

**ADDRESSES:** Mail or hand deliver comments to the U.S. Department of Transportation, Dockets Management Facility, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590, or submit electronically at http://www.regulations.gov or fax comments to (202) 493–2251. All comments should include the docket number that appears in the heading of this document. All comments received will be available for examination and copying at the above address from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., E.T., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. Those desiring notification or receipt of comments must include a self-addressed, stamped postcard or you may print the acknowledgment page that appears after submitting comments electronically. You may review DOT’s complete Privacy Act Statement in the Federal Register published on April 11, 2000 (Volume 65, Number 70, Page 19477–78), or you may visit http://dms.dot.gov.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Michaela Noble, Office of Chief Counsel, Maritime Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590. Telephone: 202–366–5184; or e-mail Michaela.Noble@dot.gov. Copies of this notice may also be obtained from that office. An electronic copy of this document may be downloaded from the Federal Register’s home page at: http://www.archives.gov and the Government Printing Office’s database at: http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Maritime Administration (MARAD) is clarifying its approval process in 46 CFR Part 221 for requests relating to proposed transfers to foreign registry of U.S. documented vessels over 1000 gross tons. The approval process will require vessel owners to self-certify that the vessel(s) does not contain polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in amounts greater than or equal to 50 ppm as regulated by the Toxic Substances Control Act (15 U.S.C. 2601 et seq.).” The Maritime Administration will provide the EPA with up to 30 days notice prior to approving any transfer request. Applicants are advised to account for this processing time when submitting transfer requests.

Dated: June 20, 2011.

By Order of the Maritime Administrator.

Murray A. Bloom,
Acting Secretary, Maritime Administration.

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