public associated with this regulation would be due to an election to use the optional method.

Small Entities

Under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*), the Coast Guard must consider whether this regulation will have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. "Small entities" may include (1) small businesses and not-for-profit organizations that are independently owned and operated and are not dominant in their fields and (2) governmental jurisdictions with populations of less than 50,000.

Ås explained earlier in this preamble, this regulation merely adds an optional method of submitting certain forms and instruments to the Coast Guard for filing and recording. Since filing by facsimile is optional, any additional costs borne by any users would be at their election. Current methods of submitting instruments for filing, at no increase in costs, remain available. In addition, it is anticipated that the option of filing by facsimile would be used only in limited situations where time is of the essence. Therefore, the Coast Guard certifies under section 605(b) of the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 et seq.) that this regulation will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

Collection of Information

This regulation contains no collection-of-information requirements under the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.). This regulation merely describes an additional method which may be used as an option to submit vessel documentation related instruments to the Coast Guard for filing and recording.

Federalism

The Coast Guard has analyzed this regulation under the principles and criteria contained in Executive Order 12612 and has determined that it does not have sufficient federalism implications to warrant the preparation of a Federalism Assessment.

Environment

The Coast Guard considered the environmental impact of this regulation and concluded that under paragraph 2.B.2 of Commandant Instruction M16475.lB, it is categorically excluded from further environmental documentation. This regulation has been determined to be categorically excluded because the changes made are administrative and procedural in nature, relate solely to the documentation of

vessels, and clearly have no environmental impact. A "Categorical Exclusion Determination" is available in the docket for inspection or copying where indicated under ADDRESSES.

List of Subjects in 46 CFR Part 67

Fees, Incorporation by reference, Vessels.

For the reasons set out in the preamble, the Coast Guard amends 46 CFR part 67 as follows:

PART 67—[AMENDED]

1. The authority citation for part 67 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 14 U.S.C. 664; 31 U.S.C. 9701; 42 U.S.C. 9118; 46 U.S.C. 2103, 2107, 2110; 46 U.S.C. app. 841a, 876; 49 CFR 1.46.

§ 67.3 [Amended]

2. In § 67.3, the definition of "National Vessel Documentation Center" is amended by adding at the end the words "Telephone: (800) 799–VDOC (8362)".

§ 67.13 [Amended]

3. In § 67.13, paragraph (a) is amended by removing the words "Merchant Vessel Inspection and Documentation Division, 2100 Second Street SW., Washington, DC 20593–0001" and adding in their place the words "National Vessel Documentation Center, 2039 Stonewall Jackson Drive, Falling Waters, WV 25419".

4. Section 67.219 is added to read as follows:

§ 67.219 Optional filing of instruments by facsimile.

(a) Any instrument identified as eligible for filing and recording under § 67.200 may be submitted by facsimile for filing to the National Vessel Documentation Center at (304) 271 2400. If the instrument submitted by facsimile for filing pertains to a vessel that is not a currently documented vessel, a properly completed Application for Initial Issue, Exchange, or Replacement Certificate of Documentation; or Redocumentation (form CG-1258); or a letter application for deletion from documentation must already be on file with the National Vessel Documentation Center or must be submitted by facsimile with the instrument being submitted by facsimile

(b) Within 10 days of submission by facsimile for filing, the original and one copy of any instrument submitted by facsimile for filing must be received by the National Vessel Documentation Center. If not already on file, the original of any application required by paragraph (a) of this section must also

be received by the National Vessel Documentation Center within 10 days of submission of the instrument by facsimile for filing.

- (c) Upon receipt of the original instrument and copy in accordance with paragraph (b) of this section, the instrument may be recorded provided it complies with the requirements of this part.
- (d) All instruments submitted by facsimile for filing must be clearly legible, be submitted from 8½-inch by 11-inch paper in not less than 10-point type size, and be accompanied by a cover sheet.
- (e) The facsimile cover sheet required by paragraph (d) of this section should indicate:
- (1) The name, address, telephone number, and facsimile telephone number of the person submitting the instrument by facsimile;
- (2) The number of pages submitted by facsimile; and
- (3) The name of the vessel, official number or hull identification number of the vessel, and the name(s) of the owner(s) of the vessel to which the instrument relates.
- (f) The filing of any instrument submitted by facsimile is terminated and the instrument will be returned to the submitter if:
- (1) The instrument is subject to termination for any cause under § 67.217(a);
- (2) The original instrument and copy required to be submitted in accordance with paragraph (b) of this section is not received within the 10-day period; or
- (3) There is any alteration between the instrument submitted by facsimile for filing and the original instrument and copy received in accordance with paragraph (b) of this section.
- (g) When the filing of an instrument submitted by facsimile is terminated for an alteration in accordance with paragraph (f)(3) of this section, the original instrument and copy received in accordance with paragraph (b) of this section will be deemed to be an original filing under this subpart subject to termination. The procedures for written notification of the termination of the filing and for the disposition of instruments described in paragraphs (b) and (c) of § 67.217 will apply.
- 5. In § 67.500, paragraph (a) is revised to read as follows:

§ 67.500 Applicability.

(a) This subpart specifies documentation services provided for vessels for which fees are applicable. No documentation service for which a fee is applicable will be performed until the