Streamlining the Portability Process

Housing Choice Voucher Program:

Agency: Office of General Counsel, HUD.

Action: Final rule, technical correction.

Summary: This document corrects an inadvertent omission of regulatory text in HUD’s final rule on Housing Choice Voucher Program: Streamlining the Portability Process, published on August 20, 2015.

Dates: Effective Date: September 21, 2015.

For Further Information Contact: For further information about this technical correction, contact Camille E. Acevedo, Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Office of General Counsel, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street SW., Room 10262, Washington, DC 20410–6500, telephone number 202–708–1793 (this is not a toll-free number). Individuals with speech or hearing impairments may access this number through TTY by calling the Federal Relay Service at 800–877–8339 (this is a toll-free number).

Supplementary Information: On August 20, 2015, at 80 FR 50564, HUD published a final rule to streamline the portability process. Portability is a feature of the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program that allows an eligible family with a housing choice voucher to use that voucher to lease a unit anywhere in the United States where there is a public housing agency (PHA) operating an HCV program. The purpose of the changes made to the portability regulations published on August 10, 2015, is to enable PHAs to better serve families and expand housing opportunities by improving portability processes.

HUD received comments about the requirement and content of HCV family briefings. The majority of commenters, commenting on the briefings, expressed opposition to expanding the briefing requirements, stating that the existing briefing requirements are already complex and any expansion would increase administrative burden. In response to these comments, HUD stated that it determined that providing information about the factors the family should consider when determining where to lease a unit with voucher assistance will only be required as part of the briefing should HUD make such information available to PHAs for distribution. HUD stated that if required, PHAs are to provide such information as part of the oral briefing and the information packet provided to families selected to participate in the program, and that HUD would revise the regulation at § 982.301 accordingly. HUD further stated that an explanation of the benefits of living in low-poverty census tracts should be provided to all families, not just those families living in high-poverty census tracts. This explanation of benefits should also be included in the information packet provided to families selected to participate in the HCV program. (See 80 FR 50569, first column.) While HUD stated that it would amend § 982.301 accordingly, the corresponding amendments were inadvertently omitted from the regulatory text. Therefore, this document revises § 982.301 to include the missing regulatory text.

§ 982.301 Information when family is selected.

(a) * * *

(1) * * *

(iii) Where the family may lease a unit, including renting a dwelling unit inside or outside the PHA jurisdiction, and any information on selecting a unit that HUD provides.

(2) An explanation of how portability works. The PHA may not discourage the family from choosing to live anywhere in the PHA jurisdiction, or outside the PHA jurisdiction under portability procedures, unless otherwise expressly authorized by statute, regulation, PIH Notice, or court order. The family must be informed of how portability may affect the family’s assistance through screening, subsidy standards, payment standards, and any other elements of the portability process which may affect the family’s assistance.

(3) The briefing must also explain the advantages of areas that do not have a high concentration of low-income families.

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(b) * * *

(1) The term of the voucher, voucher suspensions, and PHA policy on any extensions of the term. If the PHA allows extensions, the packet must explain how the family can request an extension:

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(4) Where the family may lease a unit and an explanation of how portability works, including information on how portability may affect the family’s assistance through screening, subsidy standards, payment standards, and any other elements of the portability process which may affect the family’s assistance.

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(9) Materials (e.g., brochures) on how to select a unit and any additional information on selecting a unit that HUD provides.

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(11) A list of landlords known to the PHA who may be willing to lease a unit to the family or other resources (e.g., newspapers, organizations, online search tools) known to the PHA that may assist the family in locating a unit. PHAs must ensure that the list of landlords or other resources covers areas outside of poverty or minority concentration.

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(15) The advantages of areas that do not have a high concentration of low-income families.
DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 100

[DOCKET NUMBER USCG–2015–0737]

RIN 1625–AA00

Safety Zone; Unexploded Ordnance Removal, Vero Beach, FL

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Temporary final rule.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is establishing a safety zone on the waters of the Atlantic Ocean for the removal of unexploded ordnance located east of Vero Beach. There will be a zone approximately 2.6 nautical mile wide along the beach extending due east for approximately 2.3 nautical miles, in Vero Beach, Florida. This safety zone will be in effect from August 10th through September 4, 2015. This safety zone will only be enforced while operations are being conducted. The safety zone is necessary to protect the public from hazards associated with removal of the unexploded ordnance. Persons and vessels are prohibited from entering, transiting through, anchoring in, or remaining within the safety zone during operations unless authorized by the Captain of the Port Miami or a designated representative.

DATES: This rule is effective without prior notice and opportunity to comment pursuant to authority under section 4(a) of the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) (5 U.S.C. 553(b)). This provision authorizes an agency to issue a rule without prior notice and opportunity to comment when the agency for good cause finds that those procedures are “impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest.” Under 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B), the Coast Guard finds that good cause exists for not publishing a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) with respect to this rule because the Coast Guard did not receive notice of this event until late July and there is an immediate need to remove hazards presented by unexploded ordinance. Any delay in the effective date of this rule would be unnecessary and contrary to the public interest because immediate action is needed to minimize potential danger to the public from this operation.

We are issuing this final rule, and under 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3), the Coast Guard finds that good cause exists for making it effective less than 30 days after publication in the Federal Register for the same reasons described above.

III. Legal Authority and Need for Rule

The legal basis for the rule is the Coast Guard’s authority to establish regulated navigation areas and other limited access areas: 33 U.S.C. 1221; 50 U.S.C. 191; 33 CFR 1.05–1, 6.04–1, 6.04–6, and 160.5; Department of Homeland Security Delegation No. 0170.1.

The purpose of the rule is to provide for the safety of life on navigable waters during the removal and disposition of unexploded ordnance.

IV. Discussion of the Final Rule

From August 10, 2015 to September 4, 2015, the Army Corp of Engineers will be removing and disposing unexploded ordnance off the coast of Vero Beach, Florida.

A safety zone will encompass certain waters of the Atlantic Ocean in Vero Beach, Florida. The safety zone will be effective beginning 12:01 a.m. on August 10, 2015 through 11:59 p.m. on September 4, 2015 unless cancelled sooner by the Captain of the Port. The safety zone will be enforced while operations associated with the removal and disposition of the unexploded ordnance are ongoing. Weather conditions may inhibit ordinance removal operations; as a result, exact enforcement times cannot be identified at this time. The USCG and other Law Enforcement agencies will have vessels on-scene to enforce this rule. The safety zone will encompass all waters of the Atlantic Ocean from Windward Way to Seaway Court extending east for 2.3 nautical miles, in Vero Beach, Florida. All persons and vessels are prohibited from entering, transiting through, anchoring in, or remaining within this regulated area.

Persons and vessels may request authorization to enter the safety zone by contacting the Captain of the Port Miami by telephone at 305–535–4472, or a designated representative via VHF radio on channel 16. If authorization to enter, transit through, anchor in, or remain within the safety zone is granted by the Captain of the Port Miami or a designated representative, all persons and vessels receiving such authorization must comply with the instructions of the Captain of the Port Miami or a designated representative. The Coast Guard will provide notice of the safety zone by Broadcast Notice to Mariners, and on-scene designated representatives.