



APR 19 2002

Mr. Jesse Funches
Chief Financial Officer
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
11545 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852-2738

Dear Mr. Funches:

March 31, 2002, marked the end of an era, a 100-year-old system and staple of Government transportation. The Government bill of lading (GBL) concluded its long reign as the premier instrument used for the transportation of freight and property for the Federal Government. (NOTE: The use of the GBL will be allowed only for international and domestic overseas shipments, if necessary, to ease clearance through Customs.)

On April 1, 2002, a new era began as the Government moved closer to narrowing the gap between its antiquated, predominantly manual transportation system and industry's more efficient, electronically driven system. The Federal Government has converted to use of industry produced commercial bills of lading (CBLs), and, in some instances, charge cards for acquiring transportation and transportation related services. We congratulate those agencies that successfully made the transition from GBL to CBL to meet the deadline.

As with most major changes, there may be an adjustment period before all processes are compatible, and we realize there are agencies whose systems still need fine-tuning while some others may require technical remedies. We urge you to contact us so that we may assist you in correcting those issues that are impeding you from making a smooth and successful transition.

We are responsible for monitoring the effectiveness of these new procedures on the Government's transportation program. You can help us, as well as other agencies, by sharing with us the steps taken to reach compliancy. Please take a few minutes to complete the enclosed survey.

For your convenience, you may call in, fax, or e-mail your response to Ted Bembenek, Director of the Transportation Management Policy Division at (202) 208-7629; fax: (202) 501-6742; or e-mail: ted.bembenek@gsa.gov. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Becky Rhodes
Deputy Associate Administrator
Office of Transportation and Personal Property

Enclosure



**GENERAL SERVICES
ADMINISTRATION****41 CFR Parts 102-117 and 102-118**

[FMR Amendment D-1]

RIN 3090-AH43

**Transportation Management and
Transportation Payment and Audit**AGENCY: Office of Governmentwide
Policy, GSA.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The General Services Administration (GSA) is extending the retirement date of Optional Forms 1103, U.S. Government Bill of Lading (GBL), and 1203, U.S. Government Bill of Lading—Privately Owned Personal Property (PPGBL), until March 31, 2002. A GSA review indicated that instead of transitioning to standard business practices, agencies were creating a new form to replace the GBL. Extending the retirement date for six months will give agencies more time to enhance electronic transportation systems currently in place and transition to the use commercial practices.

DATES: Effective September 21, 2001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Elizabeth Allison, Program Analyst, Transportation Management Policy Program, Office of Governmentwide Policy, General Services Administration, by phone at 202-219-1729 or by e-mail at elizabeth.allison@gsa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**A. Background**

GSA published Federal Management Regulation (FMR) part 102-117 (41 CFR part 102-117), Transportation Management in the *Federal Register* on October 6, 2000 (65 FR 60059), and FMR part 102-118 (41 CFR part 102-118), Transportation Payment and Audit, in the *Federal Register* on April 26, 2000 (65 FR 24568). These final rules provided for the retirement of Optional Forms 1103 and 1203, the GBL and PPGBL, respectfully for domestic use.

B. Substantive Changes

This rule extends the retirement date for Optional Forms 1103 and 1203, to March 31, 2002. Although both the GBL and the PPGBL are being retired for domestic shipments, both forms will remain available for international and domestic overseas shipments.

The government will need to transmit some type of shipping order to the transportation service provider (TSP), but not a bill of lading. The transmittal (preferably electronic) must include all

information necessary for booking a shipment. In practicality these actions eliminate two government forms and transition agencies to the use of standard industry practice and electronic commerce.

C. Executive Order 12866

GSA has determined that this rule is not a significant regulatory action for the purposes of Executive Order 12866 of September 30, 1993.

D. Regulatory Flexibility Act

This rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities within the meaning of the Regulatory Flexibility Act, 5 U.S.C. 601, *et seq.*, because the rule only applies to internal agency management and will not have a significant effect on the public.

E. Paperwork Reduction Act

The Paperwork Reduction Act does not apply because this rule does not impose recordkeeping or information collection requirements, or the collection of information from contractors, or members of the public which require the approval of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under 44 U.S.C. 501-517.

**F. Small Business Regulatory
Enforcement Fairness Act**

This rule is exempt from Congressional review under 5 U.S.C. 901 since it relates solely to agency management and personnel.

**List of Subjects in 41 CFR Parts 102-117
and 102-118**

Freight, Government property management, Moving of household goods, Transportation.

For the reasons set forth in the preamble, 41 CFR chapter 102 is amended as follows:

**PART 102-117—TRANSPORTATION
MANAGEMENT**

1. The authority citation for part 102-117 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 31 U.S.C. 3726; 40 U.S.C. 481, *et seq.*

§ 102-117.90 [Amended]

2. Section 102-117.90 is amended by removing the date "September 30, 2001" wherever it appears and adding the date "March 31, 2002" in its place.

**PART 102-118—TRANSPORTATION
PAYMENT AND AUDIT**

3. The authority citation for part 102-118 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 31 U.S.C. 3726; 40 U.S.C. 481, *et seq.*

§§ 102-118.40, 102-118.95, 102-118.115, and 102-118.175 [Amended]

4. Remove the date "September 30, 2001" wherever it appears and add the date "March 31, 2002" in its place in the following sections:

§ 102-118.40

§ 102-118.95

§ 102-118.115

§ 102-118.175

Dated: September 10, 2001.

Stephen A. Perry,

Administrator of General Services.

[FR Doc. 01-23725 Filed 9-21-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration****50 CFR Part 635**[Docket No. 010710169-1226-02; I.D.
060401B]

RIN 0648-AP31

**Atlantic Highly Migratory Species;
Longline Fisheries**

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Revision to an emergency rule; request for comments.

SUMMARY: NMFS revises the emergency regulations governing the Atlantic highly migratory species (HMS) fisheries that require all vessels issued an Atlantic HMS permit to post in their wheelhouses NMFS-supplied sea turtle handling and release guidelines for pelagic longline gear to require that only such vessels fishing for Atlantic HMS that have pelagic or bottom longline gear on board post the guidelines. This revision is needed to make the regulations consistent with an August 31, 2001 revision to a term and condition of the reasonable and prudent measure identified in the incidental take statement accompanying the June 14, 2001 Biological Opinion on the Atlantic HMS Fishery Management Plan and its associated fisheries. The intent of this revision is to remove the requirement that non-longline vessels post sea turtle handling and release guidelines that are specific to longline gear.

DATES: Effective September 15, 2001, through January 9, 2002. Comments must be received by November 8, 2001.

AGENCY TRANSITION TO COMMERCIAL DOCUMENTS SURVEY

1. On March 31, 2002, how many Government bills of lading (GBLs) did you still have on hand?

Response:

2. How many of those GBLs were destroyed? Did you retain any of the GBL numbers for use on commercial forms?

Response:

3. How many GBLs did you retain, if any, for overseas shipments? How many GBLs do you anticipate using this year for overseas shipments?

Response:

4. Does your agency plan to use commercial forms for overseas shipments?

Response:

5. Did your agency create its own numbering system? If not, do you plan to do so?

Response:

6. What was the biggest obstacle you faced during the transition process? How did you resolve it?

Response:

7. When do you estimate your agency will be fully converted to an electronic environment?

Response:

8. Would you be willing to share your transition process at our next council meeting?

Response:

We appreciate your active participation in improving the Government's transportation program.

TELEPHONE: (202) 208-7629

FAX: (202) 501-6742

You may also respond to this survey electronically at
www.gsa.gov/transportationpolicy.