

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* C-700= 6,000, C-700(R)=1,440, C-700(SL)= 6,000.

*Estimated Time Per Response:* .25 hrs per month.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* C-700= 18,000, C-700(R)=4,320, C-700(SL)=18,000.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost:* The cost to the Government for this work is estimated to be \$2.702 million.

*Respondents Obligation:* Construction Project Reporting Surveys are voluntary.

*Legal Authority:* Title 13, United States Code, Section 182.

#### IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: October 28, 1997.

**Linda Engelmeier,**

*Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Management and Organization.*

[FR Doc. 97-29005 Filed 10-31-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-07-P

#### DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

##### International Trade Administration

##### Export Trade Certificate of Review

**AGENCY:** International Trade Administration, Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of revocation of Export Trade Certificate of Review No. 94-00004.

**SUMMARY:** The Secretary of Commerce issued an export trade certificate of review to Allegheny Highland Hardwoods, Inc. Because this certificate holder has failed to file an annual report as required by law, the Secretary is revoking the certificate. This notice summarizes the notification letter sent to Allegheny Highland Hardwoods, Inc.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Morton Schnabel, Acting Director, Office of Export Trading Company Affairs, International Trade Administration, 202/482-5131. This is not a toll-free number.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Title III of the Export Trading Company Act of 1982 ("the Act") (Pub. L. No. 97-290, 15 U.S.C. 4011-21) authorizes the Secretary of Commerce to issue export trade certificates of review. The regulations implementing Title III ("the Regulations") are found at 15 CFR part 325 (1997). Pursuant to this authority, a certificate of review was issued on July 13, 1994 to Allegheny Highland Hardwoods, Inc.

A certificate holder is required by law to submit to the Department of Commerce annual reports that update financial and other information relating to business activities covered by its certificate (Section 308 of the Act, 15 U.S.C. 4018, Section 325.14(a) of the Regulations, 15 CFR 325.14(a)). The annual report is due within 45 days after the anniversary date of the issuance of the certificate of review (Sections 325.14(b) of the Regulations, 15 CFR 325.14(b)). Failure to submit a complete annual report may be the basis for revocation (Sections 325.10(a) and 325.14(c) of the Regulations, 15 CFR 325.10(a)(3) and 325.14(c)).

On October 6, 1995, the Department of Commerce sent to Allegheny Highland Hardwoods, Inc. a letter containing annual report questions with a reminder that its annual report was due by August 28, 1995. Additional reminder letters were sent on July 18, 1996, October 18, 1996, and on January 3, 1997. The Department has received no written response from Allegheny Highland Hardwoods, Inc. to any of these letters.

On August 4, 1997, and in accordance with Section 325.10(c)(1) of the Regulations, (15 CFR 325.10(c)(1)), the Department of Commerce sent a letter by certified mail to notify Allegheny Highland Hardwoods, Inc. that the Department was formally initiating the process to revoke its certificate for failure to file an annual report. In addition, a summary of this letter allowing Allegheny Highland Hardwoods, Inc. thirty days to respond was published in the **Federal Register** on August 11, 1997 at 62 FR 42965. Pursuant to 325.10(c)(2) of the Regulations (15 CFR 325.10(c)(2)), the Department considers the failure of Allegheny Highland Hardwoods, Inc. to respond to be an admission of the statements contained in the notification letter.

The Department has determined to revoke the certificate issued to Allegheny Highland Hardwoods, Inc. for its failure to file an annual report. The Department has sent a letter, dated October 28, 1997, to notify Allegheny Highland Hardwoods, Inc. of its determination. The revocation is effective thirty (30) days from the date of publication of this notice. Any person aggrieved by this decision may appeal to an appropriate U.S. district court within 30 days from the date on which this notice is published in the **Federal Register** (325.10(c)(4) and 325.11 of the Regulations, 15 CFR 324.10(c)(4) and 325.11 of the Regulations, 15 CFR 325.10(c)(4) and 325.11).

Dated: September 28, 1997.

**Morton Schnabel,**

*Acting Director, Office of Export Trading Company Affairs*

[FR Doc. 97-29000 Filed 10-31-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DR-P

#### DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

##### International Trade Administration

[Docket No. 971023252-7252-01]

##### CFDA No.: 11.115; Cooperative Agreement Program for an American Business Center in Russia

**AGENCY:** International Trade Administration, Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice.

##### Background

On September 15, 1997, ITA published a notice in the **Federal Register** (62 FR 48219) soliciting proposals to operate American Business Centers in five (5) cities in Russia and the New Independent States. Closing date for receipt of proposals was October 15, 1997. No proposals were received to operate a center in Novosibirsk. Accordingly, ITA is hereby providing notice that the portion of the September 15, 1997 (62 FR 48219) solicitation pertaining to Novosibirsk is canceled. Since ITA did not receive any applications under the closed solicitation, we are issuing this solicitation with revised requirements.

##### Summary

The International Trade Administration (ITA) is soliciting competitive applications to establish and operate an American Business Center (ABC) in Novosibirsk, Russia for a two (2) year multi-year award period. ABC Novosibirsk will encourage the export of U.S. goods and services and stimulate trade and investment in

Russia's regions. Funds to support the new ABC Award are not currently available. Any award resulting from this announcement is contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds.

ABC Novosibirsk will provide, on a user fee basis, a broad range of business development and facilitation services to United States companies in Russia's regions. Services provided by ABC Novosibirsk will be designed to encourage more U.S. firms to explore opportunities for trade and investment in Russia's regions and to help them conduct business there more effectively. The core services to be provided by the ABC include: international telephone, fax, and data transmission; temporary office space; space for meetings, small seminars, and small product exhibitions or demonstrations; secretarial support (e.g. word processing, typing, message taking); translator/interpreters; photocopying; market research; counseling on local business conditions; and arranging appointments with Russian business contacts. The Center also will work closely with Russian businesses to help them become more attractive trading partners; identify and report obstacles to trade and investment; and serve as a link between financial institutions, U.S. companies, and Russian enterprises.

In addition to these core services, the ABC will support U.S. Government activities under the Regional Investment Initiative (RII). This will include providing, at cost, support for the activities of the RII coordinators. Such support may include office space, computers, telecommunications equipment and secretarial and translation services.

Projects supported under the terms of this notice will establish and operate an ABC in Novosibirsk.

**DATES:** ITA will accept only those applications which are received at the U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 1235, HCHB, no later than 3:00 pm E.S.T. December 3, 1997. Late applications will not be accepted and will not be considered. On November 7, 1997, competitive application kits are available from the Department of Commerce.

**ADDRESSES:** To obtain a copy of the application kit, please send a written request with a self-addressed mail label to: Russia-NIS Program Office, U.S. & Foreign Commercial Service, Room 1235, HCHB, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, D.C. 20230. Requests for application kits also may be faxed to 202-482-2456. Only one application kit will be provided to each organization requesting it, but the kit

may be reproduced by the requester. All forms necessary to submit an application will be included in the application kit. Completed applications should be returned to the same address. Applicants must submit a signed original and two copies of the application and supporting materials. It is anticipated that it will take ten weeks after the deadline for receipt of applications to process applications and make an award.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Applicants wishing further information should contact Ms. E. Vivian Spathopoulos, Deputy Director, Russia-NIS Program Office, U.S. & Foreign Commercial Service, U.S. Department of Commerce, room 1235, HCHB, Washington, D.C. 20230, telephone: (202) 482-2902, or Fax: (202) 482-2456.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Program Authority**

The American Business Center program is authorized by Title III of the "Freedom for Russia and Emerging Eurasian Democracies and Open Markets Support Act of 1992" or the "FREEDOM Support Act", Pub. L. 102-511. Funding for the program is provided by the Agency for International Development under Section 632(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended.

**Eligible Applicants**

United States for-profit firms, non-profit organizations, non-Federal government agencies, industry and trade associations, and educational institutions are eligible to apply. An enterprise which includes or intends to include participation of host country citizens or entities will be considered an eligible applicant so long as the applicant is and will remain, throughout the award period, controlled by citizens or entities of the United States.

**Funding Guidelines**

Since it is anticipated that ITA will be involved in the implementation of the project for which an award is made, the funding instrument for the program will be a cooperative agreement. Examples of ITA involvement include but are not limited to the following: supplemental marketing to promote the ABC, guidance on eligibility of ABC clients, and coordination with other U.S. government assistance programs.

ITA anticipates \$200,000 will be available for the first year of funding for one multi-year cooperative agreement award during FY 1998. Applicants will be requested to submit a work-plan and budget which cover a one (1) year

period for a total amount of not more than \$200,000 in Federal funds. Applicants must supply at least thirty-percent (30%) of total project costs, with the Federal portion of total project costs to be no more than seventy-percent (70%). A minimum of one-half (1/2) of the support supplied by the applicant must be in the form of cash. The remaining portion of the applicant's support may consist of cash or in-kind contributions (goods and services contributed by a third-party). Applicants are requested to also submit a work-plan and budget for a second year of operation based on the level of funding for the first year with the understanding that funding levels may or may not be the same as the first year.

Applicant receipt of future funding is contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds, and satisfactory performance, and will be at the sole discretion of ITA. Publication of this notice does not constitute an obligation by the Department of Commerce to enter into a cooperative agreement with any responding applicant.

**Evaluation Criteria**

Consideration for financial assistance under the program will be based on the following evaluation criteria:

- (1) Quality of Work Plan: core commercial activities, marketing strategy, management/staffing, cooperation with ITA and outreach programs to NIS firms;
- (2) Qualifications of Applicant: financial history, personnel's experience in region and in delivering commercial products/services;
- (3) Market Knowledge of Locations: applicant's demonstrated familiarity with the market conditions in the proposed city and/or region;
- (4) Project Timetable: ability of applicant to complete major stages in the scope of work quickly, particularly bringing an ABC into the fully-operational stage;

(5) U.S. Small Business Utility: accessibility of services to small firms and reasonableness of fees;

(6) Cost-Effectiveness: reasonableness, allowability and allocability of costs.

For purpose of evaluation of the applications, the above criteria will be weighted as follows: Criterion (1) will be worth a maximum of 30 (thirty) percent; criterion (2) will be worth a maximum of 30 (thirty) percent; criterion (3) will be worth a maximum of 20 (twenty) percent; criterion (4) will be worth a maximum of 10 (ten) percent; criterion (5) and (6) will be worth a maximum of 5 (five) percent each.

### Selection Procedure

Each application will be evaluated by a panel of at least three independent reviewers qualified to evaluate applications submitted under the program. Applications will be evaluated on a competitive basis in accordance with the evaluation criteria set forth above. This announcement is for applicants in Novosibirsk only. Awards will be based on highest total accumulated score and geographic location.

### Notifications

All applicants are advised of the following:

(1) Unsatisfactory performance under prior Federal awards may result in an application not being considered for funding.

(2) If applicants incur any cost prior to an award being made, they do so solely at their own risk of not being reimbursed by the Federal Government. Notwithstanding any verbal assurance that they may receive, there is no obligation on the part of the Department of Commerce to cover pre-award costs.

(3) If an application is selected for funding, the Department of Commerce has no obligation to provide any additional future funding in connection with the award. Renewal of an award to increase funding or extend the period of performance is at the total discretion of the Department of Commerce.

(4) No award of Federal funds shall be made to an applicant who has an outstanding debt until either:

a. The delinquent account is paid in full;

b. A negotiated repayment schedule is established and at least one payment is received; or

c. Other arrangements satisfactory to the Department of Commerce are made.

(5) All primary applicants must submit a completed Form CD-511, "Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension and other Responsibility Matters; Drug-Free Workplace Requirements and Lobbying". Prospective participants (as defined at 15 CFR part 26, section 105) are subject to 15 CFR part 26, "Nonprocurement Debarment and Suspension" and the related section of the certification form prescribed above applies. Grantees (as defined at 15 CFR part 26, section 605) are subject to 15 CFR part 26, subpart F "Government wide Requirement for Drug-Free Workplace (Grants)" and the related section of the certification form prescribed above applies. Persons (as defined at 15 CFR part 28, section 105) are subject to the lobbying provisions of 31 U.S.C. 1352, "Limitation on the use

of appropriated funds to influence certain Federal contracting and financial transactions;" and the lobbying section of the certification form prescribed above applies to applications/bids for grants, cooperative agreements, and contracts for more than \$100,000 and loans and loan guarantees for more than \$150,000 or the single family maximum mortgage limit for affected programs, whichever is greater". Any applicant that has paid or will pay for lobbying using any funds must submit an SF-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities," as required under 15 CFR part 28, Appendix B.

(6) Recipients shall require applicants/bidders for subgrants, contracts, subcontracts, or other lower tier covered transactions at any tier under the award to submit, if applicable, a completed Form CD-512, "Certifications Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion-Lower Tier Covered Transaction and Lobbying" and disclosure form, SF-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities." Form CD-512 is intended for the use of recipients and should not be submitted by any tier recipient or sub-recipient should be submitted to the Department of Commerce in accordance with instructions contained in the award document.

(7) A false statement on an application is grounds for denial or termination of funds and grounds for possible punishment by a fine or imprisonment as provided in 18 U.S.C. 1001 and denial or termination of Federal funding.

(8) All recipients and sub-recipients are subject to all applicable Federal laws and Federal Department of Commerce policies, regulations, and procedures applicable to Federal assistance awards. For-profit organizations shall be subject to OMB Circular A-110 and 15 CFR 29a.

(9) All non-profit and for-profit applicants are subject to a name check review process. Name checks are intended to reveal if any key individuals associated with the applicant have been convicted of or are presently facing criminal charges such as fraud, theft, perjury, or other matters which significantly reflect on the applicant's management honesty or financial integrity.

(10) Recipients are subject to the Fly America Act (49 U.S.C. sec. 1517 as implemented by 41 CFR sec. 301-3.6).

(11) Executive Order 12372 "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs" does not apply to this program.

(12) Paperwork Reduction Act does apply to this program. This document

involves collections of information subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act, which have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget under OMB Control Numbers 0348-0043, 0348-0044, 0348-0040, 0348-0046, and 0651-0001. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person is required to respond to nor shall a person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act unless that collection of information displays a current valid OMB control number.

(13) The total dollar amount of the indirect costs proposed in an application under this program must not exceed the indirect cost rate negotiated and approved by a cognizant Federal agency prior to the proposed effective date of the award or 100 percent of the total proposed direct costs dollar amount in the application, whichever is less.

Dated: October 29, 1997.

**E. Vivian Spathopoulos,**

*Deputy Director, US&FCS/Russia-NIS  
Program Office*

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 102897A]

### Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Recordkeeping and Reporting Requirements; Public Workshop

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

**ACTION:** Notice of workshop

**SUMMARY:** NMFS announces a workshop to explain provisions of the 1998 recordkeeping and reporting requirements for the Alaska groundfish fisheries, to introduce the proposed electronic reporting system, to provide detailed instructions on completion and submittal of the required forms and logsheets, and to answer questions on recordkeeping and reporting from members of the fishing industry and other interested parties.

**DATES:** Tuesday, December 16, 1997, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Alaska local time.

**ADDRESSES:** The workshop will be held in the Windsor Room at the Westmark Hotel located at 720 West Fifth Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska.