

environmental benefits as: Improved environmental data gathering, environmental cleanup and restoration, pollution reduction in manufacturing, environmental conservation, and environmentally safe management of facilities.

(iv) For major contractors, the cognizant administrative contracting officer (ACO) or corporate ACO shall—

(A) Determine whether IR&D/B&P projects are of potential interest to DoD; and

(B) Provide the results of the determination to the contractor.

(v) The cognizant contract administration office shall furnish contractors with guidance on financial information needed to support IR&D/B&P costs and on technical information needed from major contractors to support the potential interest to DoD determination (also see 242.771-3).

PART 242—CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION

4. Sections 242.771, 242.771-1, 242.771-2, and 242.771-3 are revised to read as follows:

242.771 Independent research and development and bid and proposal costs.

242.771-1 Scope.

This section implements 10 U.S.C. 2372, Independent research and development and bid and proposal costs: Payments to contractors.

242.771-2 Policy.

Defense contractors are encouraged to engage in independent research and development and bid and proposal (IR&D/B&P) activities of potential interest to DoD, including activities cited in 231.205-18(c)(iii)(B).

242.771-3 Responsibilities.

(a) The cognizant administrative contracting officer (ACO) or corporate ACO shall—

(1) Determine cost allowability of IR&D/B&P costs as set forth in 231.205-18 and FAR 31.205-18.

(2) Determine whether IR&D/B&P projects performed by major contractors (see 231.205-18(a)) are of potential interest to DoD; and

(3) Notify the contractor promptly of any IR&D/B&P activities that are not of potential interest to DoD.

(b) The Defense Contract Management Command of the Defense Logistics Agency or the military department responsible for performing contract administration functions is responsible for providing the Defense Contract Audit Agency (DCAA) with IR&D/B&P statistical information, as necessary, to

assist DCAA in the annual report required by paragraph (c) of this subsection.

(c) DCAA is responsible for submitting an annual report to the Director of Defense Procurement (USD(A&T)DP) setting forth required statistical information relating to the DoD-wide IR&D/B&P program.

(d) The Director, Defense Research and Engineering (USD(A&T)DDR&E), is responsible for establishing a regular method for communication—

(1) From DoD to contractors, of timely and comprehensive information regarding planned or expected DoD future needs; and

(2) From contractors to DoD, of brief technical descriptions of contractor IR&D projects.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

48 CFR Parts 225 and 252

[DFARS Case 98-D029]

Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Singapore Accession to Government Procurement Agreement

AGENCY: Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Director of Defense Procurement has issued a final rule amending the Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) to remove the limitation on the eligibility of Singapore as a designated country under the Trade Agreements Act. The limitation previously applied to procurements by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Singapore has acceded to the World Trade Organization Government Procurement Agreement and is now fully eligible under the Trade Agreements Act.

EFFECTIVE DATE: February 23, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Amy Williams, Defense Acquisition Regulations Council, PDUSD (A&T) DP (DAR), IMD 3D139, 3062 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-3062. Telephone (703) 602-0131; telefax (703) 602-0350. Please cite DFARS Case 98-D039.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Background

On March 19, 1996 (61 FR 11233), the U.S. Trade Representative directed that products of Singapore be treated as eligible products under the Trade Agreements Act. However, this

treatment was inapplicable to procurements by the Army Corps of Engineers. Singapore's accession to the World Trade Organization Government Procurement Agreement on October 20, 1997, supercedes the previous limitation on Army Corps of Engineers procurements. Therefore, this final rule amends DFARS 225.408, 252.225-7007, and 252.225-7021 to remove the limitation.

B. Regulatory Flexibility Act

The final rule does not constitute a significant revision within the meaning of FAR 1.501 and Public Law 98-577 and publication for public comment is not required. However, comments from small entities concerning the affected DFARS subparts will be considered in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 610. Such comments should cite DFARS Case 98-D029.

C. Paperwork Reduction Act

The Paperwork Reduction Act does not apply because the final rule does not impose any information collection requirements that require the approval of the Office of Management and Budget under 44 U.S.C. 3501, *et seq.*

List of Subjects in 48 CFR Parts 225 and 252

Government procurement.

Michele P. Peterson,

Executive Editor, Defense Acquisition Regulations Council.

Therefore, 48 CFR Parts 225 and 252 are amended as follows:

1. The authority citation for 48 CFR Parts 225 and 252 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 41 U.S.C. 421 and 48 CFR Chapter 1.

PART 225—FOREIGN ACQUISITION

225.408 [Amended]

2. Section 225.408 is amended in paragraph (a)(ii) by removing the last sentence, and in paragraph (a)(iv) by removing the last sentence.

PART 252—SOLICITATION PROVISIONS AND CONTRACT CLAUSES

252.225-7021 [Amended]

3. Section 252.225-7007 is amended by removing Alternate I.

252.225-7007 [Amended]

4. Section 252.225-7021 is amended by removing Alternate I.

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