

Executive Order 12988 (61 FR 4729, February 7, 1996), in issuing this proposed rule, EPA has taken the necessary steps to eliminate drafting errors and ambiguity, minimize potential litigation, and provide a clear legal standard for affected conduct. EPA has complied with Executive Order 12630 (53 FR 8859, March 15, 1988) by examining the takings implications of the rule in accordance with the "Attorney General's Supplemental Guidelines for the Evaluation of Risk and Avoidance of Unanticipated Takings" issued under the executive order.

This proposed approval of the Birmingham attainment demonstration SIP does not impose an information collection burden under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*).

List of Subjects in 40 CFR Part 52

Environmental protection, Air pollution control, Nitrogen dioxide, Ozone, Volatile Organic Compounds, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Dated: August 24, 2001.

A. Stanley Meiburg,

Acting Regional Administrator, Region 4.

[FR Doc. 01-22734 Filed 9-10-01; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 300

[FRL-7052-4]

National Oil and Hazardous Substance Pollution Contingency Plan; National Priorities List

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of intent to delete the Farmers' Mutual Cooperative Superfund site (site) from the National Priorities List (NPL).

SUMMARY: The EPA Region VII is issuing a notice of intent to delete the Farmers' Mutual Cooperative Superfund site (site) located in Hospers, Iowa, from the NPL and requests public comments on this notice of intent. The NPL, promulgated pursuant to Section 105 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) of 1980, as amended, is found at Appendix B of 40 CFR Part 300 of the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP). The EPA and the state of Iowa through the Iowa Department of Natural Resources have determined that all

appropriate response actions under CERCLA have been completed. However, this deletion does not preclude future actions under Superfund.

In the "Rules and Regulations" section of today's **Federal Register**, we are publishing a direct final notice of deletion of the Farmers' Mutual Cooperative Superfund site without prior notice of intent to delete because we view this as a noncontroversial revision and anticipate no adverse comment. We have explained our reasons for this deletion in the preamble to the direct final deletion. If we receive no adverse comment(s) on the direct final notice of deletion, we will not take further action on this notice of intent to delete. If we receive adverse comment(s), we will withdraw the direct final notice of deletion and it will not take effect. We will, as appropriate, address all public comments in a subsequent final deletion notice based on this notice of intent to delete. We will not institute a second comment period on this action. Any parties interested in commenting must do so at this time. For additional information, see the direct final notice of deletion which is located in the Rules section of this **Federal Register**.

DATES: Comments concerning this site must be received by October 11, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be addressed to Catherine Barrett, Remedial Project Manager, Superfund Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region VII, 901 North 5th Street, Kansas City, KS 66101.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Catherine Barrett, Remedial Project Manager, U.S. EPA, Region VII, Superfund Division, Missouri/Kansas Remedial Branch, 901 North 5th Street, Kansas City, KS 66101, fax (913) 551-7063 or 1-800-223-0425.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: For additional information, see the Direct Final Notice of Deletion which is located in the Rules section of this **Federal Register**.

Information Repositories

Information concerning this deletion decision can be found in the Deletion Docket at the information repositories at the following locations: U.S. EPA, Region VII, Superfund Division Records Center, 901 North 5th Street, Kansas City, KS 66101 and at the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Wallace State Office Building, 900 East Grand, Des Moines, IA 50319.

List of Subjects in 40 CFR Part 300

Environmental protection, Air pollution control, Chemicals, Hazardous waste, Hazardous substances, Intergovernmental relations, Penalties, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Superfund, Water pollution control, Water supply.

Authority: 33 U.S.C. 1321(c)(2); 42 U.S.C. 9601-9657; E.O. 12777, 56 FR 54757, 3 CFR, 1991 Comp., p. 351; E.O. 12580, 52 FR 2923; 3 CFR, 1987 Comp., p. 193.

Dated: August 30, 2001.

William W. Rice,

Acting Regional Administrator, EPA Region VII.

[FR Doc. 01-22608 Filed 9-10-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

48 CFR Parts 213, 247, and 252

[DFARS Case 2000-D014]

Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Ocean Transportation by U.S.-Flag Vessels

AGENCY: Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: Proposed rule with request for comments.

SUMMARY: DoD is proposing to amend the Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) to specify that requirements for use of U.S.-flag vessels, in the transportation of supplies by sea, apply to contracts at or below the simplified acquisition threshold as well as those that exceed the simplified acquisition threshold.

DATES: Comments on its proposed rule should be submitted to the address shown below on or before November 13, 2001 to be considered in the formation of the final rule.

ADDRESSES: Respondents may submit comments directly on the World Wide Web at <http://emissary.acq.osd.mil/dar/dfars.nsf/pubcomm>. As an alternative, respondents may e-mail comments to: dfars@acq.osd.mil. Please cite DFARS Case 2000-D014 in the subject line of e-mailed comments.

Respondents that cannot submit comments using either of the above methods may submit comments to: Defense Acquisition Regulations Council, Attn: Mr. Rick Layser, OUSD (AT&L)DP(DAR), IMD 3C132, 3062 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-3062; facsimile (703) 602-0350. Please cite DFARS Case 2000-D014.

At the end of the comment period, interested parties may view public comments on the World Wide Web at

http://emissary.acq.oad.mil/dar/dfars.nsf.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Rich Layser, (703) 602-0293.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Background

The clause at DFARS 252.7023, Transportation of Supplies by Sea, contains requirements for use of U.S. -flag vessels when transporting supplies by sea under a DoD contract. The clause requires a contractor to (1) submit any request for use of other than U.S. -flag vessels in writing to the contracting officer; (2) provide a copy of the bill of lading to the contracting officer and the Maritime Administration after each shipment of supplies by sea; (3) provide with the final invoice a representation as to whether ocean transportation and U.S. -flag vessels were used in performance of the contract; and (4) include the clause in subcontracts for construction supplies, noncommercial items, and certain commercial items.

The DFARS presently exempts contracts and subcontracts at or below the simplified acquisition threshold from use of the clause at 252.247-7023. In accordance with 10 U.S.C. 2631, Supplies: Preference for United States Vessels, and regulations of the Maritime Administration at 46 CFR 381, the proposed rule would eliminate this exemption. Consistent with the provisions of 41 U.S.C. 427, Simplified Acquisition Procedures, the rule prescribes an alternate version of the clause for contracts and subcontracts at or below the simplified acquisition threshold. The alternate version excludes the requirement for a contractor or subcontractor to provide a representation regarding ocean transportation with its final invoice.

This rule was not subject to Office of Management and Budget review under Executive Order 12866, dated September 30, 1993.

B. Regulatory Flexibility Act

The proposed rule is not expected to 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 most entities that provide ocean transportation of freight are not small businesses. Therefore, DoD has not performed an initial regulatory flexibility analysis. DoD invites comments from small businesses and other interested parties. DoD also will consider comments from small entities concerning the affected DFARS subparts in accordance with 5U.S.C. 610. Such comments should be submitted

separately and should cite DFARS Case 2000-D014.

C. Paperwork Reduction Act

The Paperwork Reduction Act applies. The proposed rule increases the number of contractors subject to the information collection requirements in paragraphs (d) and (e) of the clause at DFARS 252.247-7023. DoD estimates that this change will increase paperwork burden by approximately 240 hours. The additional hours were included in the estimate published at 66 FR 9070 on February 6, 2001, under OMB Control Number 0704-0245.

List of Subjects in 48 CFR Parts 213, 247, and 252

Government procurement.

Michele P. Peterson, Executive Editor, Defense Acquisition Regulations Council.

Therefore, DoD proposes to amend 48 CFR parts 213, 247, and 252 as follows:

1. The authority citation for 48 CFR parts 213, 247, and 252 continues to read as follows:

PART 213—SIMPLIFIED ACQUISITION PROCEDURES

2. Section 213.301 is amended in paragraph (2)(i)(E) by removing the word "and", and by adding paragraph (2)(i)(G) to read as follows:

213.301 Governmentwide commercial purchase card.

* * * * *

(2) * * *

(i) * * *

(G) Does not require transportation of supplies by sea; and

* * * * *

PART 247—TRANSPORTATION

247.572-1 [Amended]

3. Section 247.572-1 is amended by removing paragraph (c) and redesignating paragraph (d) as paragraph (c).

4. Section 247.573 is amended by revising paragraph (b)(1) and adding paragraph (b)(4) to read as follows:

247.573 Solicitation provision and contract clauses.

* * * * *

(b)(1) Use the clause at 252.247-7023, Transportation of Supplies by Sea, in all solicitations and resultant contracts, except those for direct purchase of ocean transportation services.

* * * * *

(4) Use the clause with its Alternate III in solicitations and contracts with an

anticipated value at or below the simplified acquisition threshold.

* * * * *

PART 252—SOLICITATION PROVISIONS AND CONTRACT CLAUSES

5. Section 252.247-7023 is amended by revising the clause date, paragraph (e) introductory text, paragraph (f) introductory text, and paragraph (h), and by adding Alternate III to read as follows:

252.247-7023 Transportation of Supplies by Sea.

* * * * *

Transportation of Supplies by Sea (XXX 2001)

* * * * *

(e) The Contractor shall, within 30 days after each shipment covered by this clause, provide the Contracting Officer and the Maritime Administration, Office of Cargo Preference, U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590, one copy of the rated on board vessel operating carrier's ocean bill of lading, which shall contain the following information:

* * * * *

(f) The Contractor shall provide with its final invoice under this contract a representation that to the best of its knowledge and belief—

* * * * *

(h) In the award of subcontracts for the types of supplies described in paragraph (b)(2) of this clause, the Contractor shall flow down the requirements of this clause as follows:

(1) The Contractor shall insert the substance of this clause, including this paragraph (h), in subcontracts that exceed the simplified acquisition threshold in part 2 of the Federal Acquisition Regulation.

(2) The Contractor shall insert the substance of paragraphs (a) through (e) of this clause, and this paragraph (h), in subcontracts that are at or below the simplified acquisition threshold in part 2 of the Federal Acquisition Regulation.

* * * * *

Alternate III (XXX 2001)

As prescribed in 247.573(b)(4), substitute the following paragraph (f) for paragraphs (f), (g), and (h) of the basic clause:

(f) The Contractor shall insert the substance of this clause, including this paragraph (f), in subcontracts that are for a type of supplies described in paragraph (b)(2) of this clause.

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