

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Defense Acquisition Regulations System

48 CFR Part 225

[Docket DARS–2024–0024]

RIN 0750–AL87

Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Strategic and Critical Materials Stock Piling Act Reform (DFARS Case 2023–D014)

AGENCY: Defense Acquisition Regulations System, Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: DoD is issuing a final rule amending the Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) to implement a section of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 that revises the name of the Strategic Materials Protection Board.

DATES: Effective August 15, 2024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kimberly Bass, telephone 703–717–3446.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

This final rule revises the DFARS to implement section 1411 of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 (Pub. L. 117–263). Section 1411 repeals 10 U.S.C. 187, which established the Strategic Materials Protection Board, and amends section 10 of the Strategic and Critical Materials Stock Piling Act (50 U.S.C. 98h–1) to establish the Strategic and Critical Materials Board of Directors. Therefore, this final rule removes the name “Strategic Materials Protection Board” and inserts the new name “Strategic and Critical Materials Board of Directors” in the DFARS.

II. Publication of This Final Rule for Public Comment Is Not Required by Statute

The statute that applies to the publication of the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) is 41 U.S.C. 1707, Publication of Proposed Regulations. Subsection (a)(1) of the statute requires that a procurement policy, regulation, procedure, or form (including an amendment or modification thereof) must be published for public comment if it relates to the expenditure of appropriated funds, and has either a significant effect beyond the internal operating procedures of the agency

issuing the policy, regulation, procedure, or form, or has a significant cost or administrative impact on contractors or offerors. This final rule is not required to be published for public comment, because the rule only revises all references to the Strategic Materials Protection Board in the DFARS, with no impact on contractors or offerors.

III. Applicability to Contracts at or Below the Simplified Acquisition Threshold (SAT), for Commercial Products (Including Commercially Available Off-the-Shelf (COTS) Items), and for Commercial Services

This final rule does not create any new solicitation provisions or contract clauses. It does not impact any existing solicitation provisions or contract clauses or their applicability to contracts valued at or below the simplified acquisition threshold, for commercial products including COTS items, or for commercial services.

IV. Executive Orders 12866 and 13563

Executive Orders (E.O.s) 12866 and 13563 direct agencies to assess all costs and benefits of available regulatory alternatives and, if regulation is necessary, to select regulatory approaches that maximize net benefits (including potential economic, environmental, public health and safety effects, distributive impacts, and equity). E.O. 13563 emphasizes the importance of quantifying both costs and benefits, of reducing costs, of harmonizing rules, and of promoting regulatory flexibility. This is not a significant regulatory action and, therefore, was not subject to review under section 6(b) of E.O. 12866, Regulatory Planning and Review, as amended.

V. Congressional Review Act

As required by the Congressional Review Act (5 U.S.C. 801–808) before an interim or final rule takes effect, DoD will submit a copy of the interim or final rule with the form, Submission of Federal Rules under the Congressional Review Act, to the U.S. Senate, the U.S. House of Representatives, and the Comptroller General of the United States. A major rule under the Congressional Review Act cannot take effect until 60 days after it is published in the Federal Register. The Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs has determined that this rule is not a major rule as defined by 5 U.S.C. 804.

VI. Regulatory Flexibility Act

The Regulatory Flexibility Act does not apply to this rule because this final rule does not constitute a significant DFARS revision within the meaning of

FAR 1.501–1, and 41 U.S.C. 1707 does not require publication for public comment.

VII. Paperwork Reduction Act

This final rule does not contain any information collection requirements that require the approval of the Office of Management and Budget under the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. chapter 35).

List of Subjects in 48 CFR Part 225

Government procurement.

Jennifer D. Johnson,

Editor/Publisher, Defense Acquisition Regulations System.

Therefore, the Defense Acquisition Regulations System amends 48 CFR part 225 as follows:

■ 1. The authority citation for 48 CFR part 225 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 41 U.S.C 1303 and 48 CFR chapter 1.

PART 225—FOREIGN ACQUISITION

■ 2. Amend section 225.7003–3 by revising paragraph (b)(1) to read as follows:

225.7003–3 Exceptions.

\* \* \* \* \*

(b) \* \* \*

(1) Electronic components, unless the Secretary of Defense, upon the recommendation of the Strategic and Critical Materials Board of Directors pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 98h–1, determines that the domestic availability of a particular electronic component is critical to national security.

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■ 3. Amend section 225.7018–3 by revising paragraph (c)(2) to read as follows:

225.7018–3 Exceptions.

\* \* \* \* \*

(c) \* \* \*

(2) An electronic device, unless the Secretary of Defense, upon the recommendation of the Strategic and Critical Materials Board of Directors pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 98h–1 determines that the domestic availability of a particular electronic device is critical to national security (but see PGI 225.7018–3(c)(2) with regard to samarium-cobalt magnets used in electronic components); or

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