

for the acquisition of vessels or vessel propellers, unless—

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

48 CFR Part 226

[DFARS Case 2001-D007]

Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Preference for Local 8(a) Contractors—Base Closure or Realignment

AGENCY: Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: DoD has issued a final rule amending the Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) to clarify policy pertaining to preferences for local businesses in acquisitions that support a base closure or realignment. The rule clarifies that both competitive and noncompetitive acquisitions under the Section 8(a) Program are permitted if an eligible 8(a) contractor is located in the vicinity of the base to be closed or realigned.

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 14, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Angelena Moy, Defense Acquisition Regulations Council, OUSD(AT&L)DP(DAR), IMD 3C132, 3062 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-3062. Telephone (703) 602-1302; facsimile (703) 602-0350. Please cite DFARS Case 2001-D007.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Background

This final rule amends DFARS 226.7103 to clarify policy pertaining to preferences for local businesses in acquisitions that support a base closure or realignment. The present policy permits award under the Section 8(a) Program if “the 8(a) contractor” is located in the vicinity of the base to be closed or realigned. This rule amends the text to permit use of 8(a) procedures if “at least one eligible 8(a) contractor” is located in the vicinity. This change clarifies the intent of the policy, which is to permit both competitive and noncompetitive 8(a) acquisitions in support of a base closure or realignment. A similar clarifying amendment is made to the text pertaining to set-asides for small business concerns.

DoD published a proposed rule at 66 FR 47158 on September 11, 2001. DoD received no comments on the proposed rule. Therefore, DoD is adopting the

proposed rule as a final rule without change.

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

B. Regulatory Flexibility Act

DoD certifies that this final 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 merely clarifies existing policy pertaining to acquisitions made in support of a base closure or realignment.

C. Paperwork Reduction Act

The Paperwork Reduction Act does not apply because the 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 Part 226

Government procurement.

Michele P. Peterson,

Executive Editor, Defense Acquisition Regulations Council.

Therefore, 48 CFR Part 226 is amended as follows:

1. The authority citation for 48 CFR Part 226 continues to read as follows:

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

PART 226—OTHER SOCIOECONOMIC PROGRAMS

2. Section 226.7103 is amended by revising paragraph (c) to read as follows:

226.7103 Procedure.

* * * * *

(c) If offers can be expected from business concerns in the vicinity—

(1) Consider section 8(a) only if at least one eligible 8(a) contractor is located in the vicinity.

(2) Set aside the acquisition for small business only if at least one of the expected offers is from a small business located in the vicinity.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

48 CFR part 237

[DFARS Case 2001-D018]

Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Performance of Security Functions

AGENCY: Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: Interim rule with request for comments.

SUMMARY: DoD has issued an interim rule amending the Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) to implement Section 1010 of the USA Patriot Act. Section 1010 provides an exception to the prohibition on contracting for security functions at a military installation or facility. The exception applies during the period of time that United States armed forces are engaged in Operation Enduring Freedom and 180 days thereafter.

DATES: *Effective date:* March 14, 2002.

Comment date: Comments on the interim rule should be submitted to the address shown below on or before May 13, 2002, 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 2001-D018 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: Ms. Sandra Haberlin, OUSD(AT&L)DP(DAR), IMD 3C132, 3062 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-3062; facsimile (703) 602-0350. Please cite DFARS Case 2001-D018.

At the end of the comment period, interested parties may view public comments on the World Wide Web at <http://emissary.acq.osd.mil/dar/dfars.nsf>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Sandra Haberlin, (703) 602-0289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Background

10 U.S.C. 2465 prohibits DoD from entering into contracts for the performance of firefighting or security-guard functions at military installations or facilities, unless certain exceptions apply. Section 1010 of the USA Patriot Act (Public Law 107-56) adds another exception to this prohibition, to apply during the period of time that United States armed forces are engaged in Operation Enduring Freedom and 180 days thereafter. The exception permits award of contracts for security functions to proximately located local and State governments. This interim rule amends DFARS 237.102-70 to implement Section 1010 of Public Law 107-56.

This rule was not subject to Office of Management and Budget review under