

to expect Maine (or any area) to be adopting control measures to replace the reductions from RFG at the same time the State was defending the program. Instead, we reviewed the availability of control measures to secure the needed reductions today.

Comment 5. Maine did not demonstrate that low RVP gasoline standards are necessary to attain a national ambient air quality standard (NAAQS), and maintenance is not a statutory basis for a waiver.

Response 5. EPA believes, as discussed elsewhere in this notice, that the emission reductions from a fuels control program (i.e., RFG, or this low RVP fuel) are necessary for Maine to achieve the 1-hour ozone NAAQS. As stated in response 3, Maine has had recent exceedances of the 1-hour ozone NAAQS, and they clearly need all of the emission reductions they have achieved through this control program. The Portland area remains designated nonattainment for ozone, and these emission reductions are necessary.

F. Why Is EPA Taking This Action?

EPA is proposing to approve a SIP revision at the request of the Maine DEP. This rule has been adopted at the State level since the summer of 1999. However, to ensure that it secures the needed approval under section 211(c)(4)(C) of the Clean Air Act, Maine submitted this action for EPA approval, to make it part of the SIP.

II. Proposed Action

EPA is proposing to approve a SIP revision submitted by the State of Maine on June 7, 2000 and May 29, 2001, establishing a 7.8 psi RVP fuel requirement for gasoline distributed in southern Maine which includes York, Cumberland, Sagadahoc, Kennebec, Androscoggin, Knox, and Lincoln Counties. This revision will propose to approve into the SIP Maine DEP's Chapter 119, entitled "Motor Vehicle Fuel Volatility Limit" as amended on June 1, 2000. Maine has developed these fuel requirements to reduce emissions of volatile organic compounds (VOC) in accordance with the requirements of the Clean Air Act (CAA). EPA is proposing to approve Maine's fuel requirements into the SIP because EPA has found that the requirements are necessary for southern Maine to achieve the national ambient air quality standard for ozone.

III. What Are the Administrative Requirements?

Under Executive Order 12866 (58 FR 51735, October 4, 1993), this action is not a "significant regulatory action" and therefore is not subject to review by the

Office of Management and Budget. For this reason, this action is also not subject to Executive Order 13211, "Actions Concerning Regulations That Significantly Affect Energy Supply, Distribution, or Use" (66 FR 28355, May 22, 2001). This action merely proposes to approve a state law as meeting federal requirements and imposes no additional requirements beyond those imposed by state law. Accordingly, the Administrator certifies that this rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*). Because this rule would approve pre-existing requirements under state law and does not impose any additional enforceable duty beyond that required by state law, it does not contain any unfunded mandate or significantly or uniquely affect small governments, as described in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (Public Law 104-4). This rule also does not have a substantial direct effect on one or more Indian tribes, on the relationship between the Federal Government and Indian tribes, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities between the Federal Government and Indian tribes, as specified by Executive Order 13175 (65 FR 67249, November 9, 2000), nor will it have substantial direct effects on the States, on the relationship between the national government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government, as specified in Executive Order 13132 (64 FR 43255, August 10, 1999), because it merely approves a state rule implementing a federal standard, and does not alter the relationship or the distribution of power and responsibilities established in the Clean Air Act. This rule also is not subject to Executive Order 13045 (62 FR 19885, April 23, 1997), because it is not economically significant.

In reviewing SIP submissions, EPA's role is to approve state choices, provided that they meet the criteria of the Clean Air Act. In this context, in the absence of a prior existing requirement for the State to use voluntary consensus standards (VCS), EPA has no authority to disapprove a SIP submission for failure to use VCS. It would thus be inconsistent with applicable law for EPA, when it reviews a SIP submission, to use VCS in place of a SIP submission that otherwise satisfies the provisions of the Clean Air Act. Thus, the requirements of section 12(d) of the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995 (15 U.S.C. 272 note) do not apply.

As required by section 3 of Executive Order 12988 (61 FR 4729, February 7, 1996), in issuing this 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 rule 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, Hydrocarbons, Intergovernmental relations, Nitrogen dioxide, Ozone, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 7401 *et seq.*

Dated: November 26, 2001.

Robert W. Varney,

Regional Administrator, EPA—New England.

[FR Doc. 01-30271 Filed 12-5-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

48 CFR Part 235

[DFARS Case 2001-D002]

Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Research and Development Streamlined Contracting Procedures

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 eliminate the requirement for posting of solicitations at the research and development streamlined solicitation website. Instead, each contracting activity will use its own procedures for electronic posting of research and development streamlined solicitations. Contracting activities will continue to make synopses and solicitations available through the Governmentwide point of entry (FedBizOpps).

DATES: Comments on the proposed rule should be submitted in writing to the address shown below on or before February 4, 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–D002 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. Angelena Moy, OUSD(AT&L)DP(DAR), IMD 3C132, 3062 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301–3062; facsimile (703) 602–0350. Please cite DFARS Case 2001–D002.

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. Angelena Moy, (703) 602–1302.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Background

DFARS Subpart 235.70 contains streamlined procedures for acquiring research and development using a standard solicitation and contract format. The standard format is available on the research and development streamlined solicitation (RDSS) website at <http://www/rdss.osd.mil>. DFARS 235.7003–2 presently requires that each solicitation issued in the standard format be posted at the RDSS website. This proposed rule eliminates the requirement for contracting activities to post their solicitations at the RDSS website, to permit each activity to use its own procedures for electronic posting of solicitations. However, contracting activities will continue to make synopses and solicitations available through the Governmentwide point of entry (FedBizOpps) in accordance with FAR 5.102 and 5.203.

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 the rule does not significantly change solicitation procedures or limit public access to solicitation information. 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 subpart in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 610. Such comments should be submitted separately and should cite DFARS Case 2001–D002.

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 235

Government procurement.

Michele P. Peterson,

Executive Editor, Defense Acquisition Regulations Council.

Therefore, DoD proposes to amend 48 CFR part 235 as follows:

1. The authority citation for 48 CFR part 235 continues to read as follows:

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

PART 235—RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CONTRACTING

2. Section 235.7003–2 is revised to read as follows:

235.7003–2 RDSS process.

(a) *Synopsis.* The synopsis required by FAR 5.203 must include—

(1) The information required by FAR 5.207; and

(2) A statement that the solicitation will be issued in the research and development streamlined solicitation format shown at the RDSS/C website.

(b) *Solicitation.*

(1) The solicitation, to be made available consistent with the requirements of FAR 5.102—

(i) Must be in the format shown at the RDSS/C website;

(ii) Must include the applicable version number of the RDSS standard format; and

(iii) Must incorporate by reference the appropriate terms and conditions of the RDSS standard format.

(2) To encourage preparation of better cost proposals, consider allowing a delay between the due dates for technical and cost proposals.

[FR Doc. 01–30261 Filed 12–5–01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

50 CFR Parts 17 and 21

RIN 1018–AH87

Migratory Bird Permits; Regulations Governing Rehabilitation Activities and Permit Exceptions

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: This proposed regulation would create a permit category to specifically authorize rehabilitation activities involving migratory birds. Migratory bird rehabilitation is the practice of caring for sick, injured, or orphaned migratory birds with the goal of releasing them back to the wild. Currently, in the absence of a permit specifically for this purpose, migratory bird rehabilitation activities are authorized by issuance of a special purpose permit under 50 CFR 21.27. In addition, this proposed regulation would create a permit exception for public officials responsible for tracking infectious diseases.

DATES: You should submit written comments by March 6, 2002, to the address below.

ADDRESSES: You may mail or deliver written comments to the Division of Migratory Bird Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 634, Arlington, Virginia 22203–1610. Please reference “RIN 1018–AH87” at the top of your letter. Alternatively, you may submit your comments via the Internet to: migbird_rehab@fws.gov. Please submit Internet comments as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Please also include your name and return address in your e-mail message. If you do not receive a confirmation that we have received your message, contact us directly at 703/358–1714.

The complete file for this proposed rule is available for inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the Division of Migratory Bird Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 634, Arlington, Virginia 22203.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jon Andrew, Chief, Division of Migratory Bird Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; 703 / 358–1714.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. 703 *et seq.*) prohibits possession