

technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

DATES: Comments may be submitted on or before April 16, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Comments including suggestions for reducing this burden should be submitted to: FAR Desk Officer, OMB, Room 10102, NEOB, Washington, DC 20503, and a copy to the General Services Administration, FAR Secretariat, 1800 F Street, NW., Room 4035, Washington, DC 20405.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John Blumenstein, Federal Acquisition Policy Division, GSA (202) 501-2373.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Purpose

Part 28 of the FAR contains guidance related to obtaining financial protection against damages under Government contracts (e.g., use of bonds, bid guarantees, insurance etc.). Part 52 contains the texts of solicitation provisions and contract clauses. These regulations implement a statutory requirement for information to be provided by Federal contractors relating to payment bonds furnished under construction contracts which are subject to the Miller Act (40 USC 270a-270d). This collection requirement is mandated by section 806 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 1992 and 1993 (Pub. L. 102-190), as amended by section 2091 of the Federal Acquisition Streamlining Act of 1994 (Pub. L. 103-335). The clause at 52.228-12, Prospective Subcontractor Requests for Bonds, implements section 806(a)(3) of Pub. L. 102-190, as amended, which specifies that, upon the request of a prospective subcontractor or supplier offering to furnish labor or material for the performance of a construction contract for which a payment bond has been furnished to the United States pursuant to the Miller Act, the contractor shall promptly provide a copy of such payment bond to the requestor.

In conjunction with performance bonds, payment bonds are used in Government construction contracts to secure fulfillment of the contractor's obligations under the contract and to assure that the contractor makes all payments, as required by law, to persons furnishing labor or material in performance of the contract. This regulation provides prospective subcontractors and suppliers a copy of the payment bond furnished by the contractor to the Government for the performance of a Federal construction contract subject to the Miller Act. It is expected that prospective subcontractors and suppliers will use

this information to determine whether to contract with that particular prime contractor. This information has been and will continue to be available from the Government. The requirement for contractors to provide a copy of the payment bond upon request to any prospective subcontractor or supplier under the Federal construction contract is contained in section 806(a)(3) of Pub. L. 102-190, as amended by sections 2091 and 8105 of Pub. L. 103-355.

B. Annual Reporting Burden

Respondents: 12,000.

Responses Per Respondent: 5.

Total Responses: 60,000.

Hours Per Response: .5.

Total Burden Hours: 30,000.

Obtaining Copies of Proposals

Requester may obtain a copy of the proposal from the General Services Administration, FAR Secretariat (MVRS), Room 4035, 1800 F Street, NW., Washington, DC 20405, telephone (202) 208-7312. Please cite OMB Control No. 9000-0135, Subcontractor Payments, in all correspondence.

Dated: March 12, 2001.

Al Matera,

Acting Director, Federal Acquisition Policy Division.

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**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
GENERAL SERVICES
ADMINISTRATION
NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND
SPACE ADMINISTRATION**

[OMB Control No. 9000-0090]

**Submission for OMB Review;
Comment Request Entitled Rights in
Data and Copyrights**

AGENCIES: Department of Defense (DOD), General Services Administration (GSA), and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

ACTION: Notice of request for public comments regarding an extension to an existing OMB clearance (9000-0090).

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 35), the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Secretariat has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) a request to review and approve an extension of a currently approved information collection requirement concerning Rights in Data and Copyrights. A request for public comments was published at 65 FR

75243 December 1, 2000. No comments were received.

Public comments are particularly invited on: Whether this collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of functions of the FAR, and whether it will have practical utility; whether our estimate of the public burden of this collection of information is accurate, and based on valid assumptions and methodology; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways in which we can minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, through the use of appropriate technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

DATES: Comments may be submitted on or before April 16, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Comments including suggestions for reducing this burden, should be submitted to: FAR Desk Officer, OMB, Room 10102, NEOB, Washington, DC 20503, and a copy to the General Services Administration, FAR Secretariat, 1800 F Street, NW., Room 4035, Washington, DC 20405.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John Blumenstein, Federal Acquisition Policy Division, GSA (202) 501-2373.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

A. Purpose

Rights in Data is a regulation which concerns the rights of the Government, and organizations with which the Government contracts, to information developed under such contracts. The delineation of such rights is necessary in order to protect the contractor's rights to not disclose proprietary data and to insure that data developed with public funds is available to the public.

The information collection burdens and recordkeeping requirements included in this regulation fall into the following four categories.

(a) A provision which is to be included in solicitations where the proposer would identify any proprietary data he would use during contract performance in order that the contracting officer might ascertain if such proprietary data should be delivered.

(b) Contract clauses which, in unusual circumstances, would be included in a contract and require a contractor to deliver proprietary data to the Government for use in evaluation of work results, or is software to be used in a Government computer. These situations would arise only when the very nature of the contractor's work is comprised of limited rights data or restricted computer software and if the

Government would need to see that data in order to determine the extent of the work.

(c) A technical data certification for major systems, which requires the contractor to certify that the data delivered under the contract is complete, accurate and compliant with the requirements of the contract. As this provision is for major systems only, and few civilian agencies have such major systems, only about 30 contracts will involve this certification.

(d) The Additional Data Requirements clause, which is to be included in all contracts for experimental, developmental, research, or demonstration work (other than basic or applied research to be performed solely by a university or college where the contract amount will be \$500,000 or less). The clause requires that the contractor keep all data first produced in the performance of the contract for a period of three years from the final acceptance of all items delivered under the contract. Much of this data will be in the form of the deliverables provided to the Government under the contract (final report, drawings, specifications, etc.). Some data, however, will be in the form of computations, preliminary data, records of experiments, etc., and these will be the data that will be required to be kept over and above the deliverables. The purpose of such recordkeeping requirements is to insure that the Government can fully evaluate the research in order to ascertain future activities and to insure that the research was completed and fully reported, as well as to give the public an opportunity to assess the research results and secure any additional information. All data

covered by this clause is unlimited rights data paid for by the Government.

Paragraph (d) of the Rights in Data-General clause outlines a procedure whereby a contracting officer can challenge restrictive markings on data delivered. Under civilian agency contracts, limited rights data or restricted computer software is rarely, if ever, delivered to the Government. Therefore, there will rarely be any challenges. Thus, there is no burden on the public.

B. Annual Reporting Burden

Respondents: 1,100.

Responses Per Respondent: 1.

Total Responses: 1,100.

Hours Per Response: 2.7.

Total Burden hours: 2,970.

C. Annual Recordkeeping Burden

The annual recordkeeping burden is estimated as follows:

Recordkeepers: 9,000.

Hours Per Recordkeeper: 3.

Total Recordkeeping Burden Hours: 27,000.

Obtaining Copies of Proposals

Requester may obtain a copy of the proposal from the General Services Administration, FAR Secretariat (MVRs), Room 4035, 1800 F Street, NW., Washington, DC 20405, telephone (202) 208-7312. Please cite OMB Control No. 9000-0090, Rights in Data and Copyrights, in all correspondence.

Dated: March 12, 2001.

Al Matera,

Acting Director, Federal Acquisition Policy Division.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of Fossil Energy

[FE Docket No. 00-16-LNG, et al.]

Shell Na LNG, INC. (Formerly Coral LNG, Inc.), et al.; Orders Granting, Amending, and Terminating Authority to Import and Export Natural Gas

AGENCY: Office of Fossil Energy, DOE.

ACTION: Notice of orders.

SUMMARY: The Office of Fossil Energy (FE) of the Department of Energy gives notice that during February 2001, it issued Orders granting, amending, and terminating authority to import and export natural gas, including LNG. These Orders are summarized in the attached appendix and may be found on the FE website at <http://www.fe.doe.gov>, or on the electronic bulletin board at (202) 586-7853. They are also available for inspection and copying in the Office of Natural Gas & Petroleum Import & Export Activities, Docket Room 3E-033, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585, (202) 586-9478. The docket room is open between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Issued in Washington, DC, on March 8, 2001.

Clifford P. Tomaszewski,

Manager, Natural Gas Regulation, Office of Natural Gas & Petroleum Import & Export Activities, Office of Fossil Energy.

APPENDIX—ORDERS GRANTING IMPORT/EXPORT AUTHORIZATIONS

[DOE/FE Authority]

Order No.	Date issued	Importer/exporter FE Docket No.	Import volume	Export volume	Comments
1575-A	02-16-01	Shell NA LNG, Inc. (Formerly Coral LNG, Inc.) 00-16-LNG.	.....	.....	Name change to blanket authority.
901-A	02-20-01	Wisconsin Electric 93- 145-NG.	.....	.....	Vacation of long-term import authority.
1666	02-20-01	Powerex Corp. 01-04-NG	14 Bcf		Import and export up to a combined total from and to Canada over a two-year term beginning on March 1, 2001, and extending through February 28, 2003.
1667	02-20-01	Petro-Canada Hydrocarbons Inc. 01-03-NG.	300 Bcf .....	.....	Import from Canada over a two-year term beginning on March 4, 2001, and extending through March 3, 2003.
1668	02-21-01	CanWest Gas Supply U.S.A., Inc. 01-05-NG.	400 Bcf		Import and export up to a combined total from and to Canada over a two-year term beginning March 1, 2001, and extending through February 28, 2003.
1669	02-22-01	The Mead Corporation 01- 06-NG.	60 Bcf .....	.....	Import from Canada over two-year term beginning on March 10, 2001, and extending through March 9, 2003.