

- *Plan of Action*—provide specific detail on how the applicant will start operations. NABECs have thirty (30) days to become fully operational after an award is made. Fully operational means that all staff are hired, all signs are up, all items of furniture and equipment are in place and operational, all necessary forms are developed (e.g., client engagement letters, other standard correspondence, etc.), and the center is ready to open its doors to the public (5 points);

- *Work Requirement Execution*

Plan—The applicant will be evaluated on how effectively and efficiently all staff time will be used to achieve the work requirements (5 points).

4. Proposed Budget and Supporting Budget Narrative (10 Points)

The applicant's proposal will be evaluated on the following sub-criteria:

- Reasonableness, allowability and allocability of costs. All of the proposed expenditures must be discussed and the budget line item narrative must match the proposed budget. Fringe benefits and other percentage item calculations must match the proposed budget line-item (5 points); and

- Performance Based Budget. Discuss how the budget is related to the accomplishment of the work requirements and the performance measures. Provide a budget narrative that clearly shows the connections (5 points).

Bonus for Non-Federal Cost Sharing (maximum of 5 points): Non-Federal cost sharing is not required under the NABEC program. However, applicants will be awarded bonus points to the extent that the proposed overall project budget includes non-Federal contributions, measured as a percentage of the overall project budget (i.e., Federal and non-Federal shares). Specifically, a maximum of five (5) bonus points will be awarded based on the following scale: more than 0—less than 5%—1 point; 5% or more—less than 10%—2 points; 10% or more—less than 15%—3 points; 15% or more—less than 20%—4 points; and 20% or more—5 points. The non-Federal contributions (if proposed) may consist of one or more of the following: (1) Client fees; (2) cash contributions; (3) non-cash applicant contributions; and/or (4) third party in-kind contributions, and must be adequately identified and documented in the application

Review and Selection Process

1. *Initial Screening*—Prior to the formal paneling process, each application will receive an initial screening to ensure that all required

forms, signatures and documentation are present.

2. *Panel Review*—Each application will receive an independent, objective review by a panel qualified to evaluate the applications submitted. MBDA anticipates that the review panel will be made up of at least three independent reviewers who are Federal employees who will review all applications based on the above evaluation criteria. Each reviewer will evaluate and provide a score for each proposal. In order for an application to be considered for funding, it shall need to achieve 70% of the available points for each evaluation criterion. Failure to achieve the minimum required points will deem the application as unsuccessful.

3. *Final Recommendation*—The MBDA National Director makes the final recommendation to the Department of Commerce Grants Officer regarding the funding of applications, taking into account the selection criteria as outlined in this notice and the following:

A. Evaluations and rankings of the independent review panel;

B. Funding Priorities. The National Director (or his designee) reserves the right to conduct a site visit (subject to the availability of funding) to applicant organizations receiving at least 70% of the total points available for each evaluation criterion, in order to make a better assessment of the organization's capability to achieve the funding priorities for this competition; and

C. Availability of funding.

Intergovernmental Review

Applications under this program are not subject to Executive Order 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs."

Limitation of Liability

In no event will the Department of Commerce or MBDA be responsible for proposal preparation costs if this program is cancelled because of other Agency priorities. Publication of this announcement does not oblige the Department of Commerce or MBDA to award any specific project or to obligate any available funds.

Universal Identifier

Applicants should be aware that they will be required to provide a Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering system (DUNS) number during the application process. See the June 27, 2003 **Federal Register** notice (68 FR 38402) for additional information. Organizations can receive a DUNS number at no cost by calling the dedicated toll-free DUNS Number request line at 1-866-705-5711 or by

accessing the Grants.gov Web site at <http://www.Grants.gov>.

Department of Commerce Pre-Award Notification Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements

The Department of Commerce Pre-Award Notification Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements contained in the **Federal Register** notice of December 30, 2004 (69 FR 78389) are applicable to this solicitation.

Paperwork Reduction Act

This document contains collection-of-information requirements subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA). The use of Standard Forms 424, 424A, 424B, SF-LLL, and CD-346 have been approved by OMB under the respective control numbers 0348-0043, 0348-0044, 0348-0040, 0348-0046, and 0605-0001. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with a collection of information subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act unless that collection displays a currently valid OMB Control Number.

Executive Order 12866

This notice has been determined to be not significant for purposes of E.O. 12866.

Administrative Procedure Act/Regulatory Flexibility Act

Prior notice and an opportunity for public comment are not required by the Administrative Procedure Act for rules concerning public property, loans, grants, benefits, or contracts (5 U.S.C. 533(a)(2)). Because notice and opportunity for comment are not required pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 533 or any other law, the analytical requirements of the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*) are inapplicable. Therefore, a regulatory flexibility analysis is not required and has not been prepared.

Dated: May 8, 2007.

Ronald N. Langston,

National Director, Minority Business Development Agency.

[FR Doc. E7-9096 Filed 5-10-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-21-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Institute of Standards and Technology

Judges Panel of the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of closed meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. app. 2, notice is hereby given that the Judges Panel of the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award will meet Tuesday, June 5, 2007. The Judges Panel is composed of twelve members prominent in the fields of quality, innovation, and performance excellence and appointed by the Secretary of Commerce. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the Judging process and Judging process changes for 2007; the Judges' survey of applicants; and the Judges' mentoring process. The applications under review by Judges contain trade secrets and proprietary commercial information submitted to the Government in confidence.

DATES: The meeting will convene June 5, 2007 at 9 a.m. and adjourn at 4:30 p.m. on June 5, 2007. The entire meeting will be closed.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the National Institute of Standards and Technology, Administration Building, Lecture Room A, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Harry Hertz, Director, National Quality Program, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899, telephone number (301) 975-2361.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Assistant Secretary for Administration, with the concurrence of the General Counsel, formally determined on December 27, 2005, that the meeting of the Judges Panel will be closed pursuant to Section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. app. 2, as amended by Section 5(c) of the Government in the Sunshine Act, Public Law 94-409. The meeting, which involves examination of Award applicant data from U.S. companies and other organizations and a discussion of this data as compared to the Award criteria in order to recommend Award recipients, may be closed to the public in accordance with Section 552b(c)(4) of Title 5, United States Code, because the meetings are likely to disclose trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person which is privileged or confidential.

Dated: May 4, 2007.

James M. Turner,
Deputy Director.

[FR Doc. E7-9145 Filed 5-10-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-13-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Institute of Standards and Technology****Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award Board of Overseers**

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. app. 2, notice is hereby given that there will be a meeting of the Board of Overseers of the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award on June 6, 2007. The Board of Overseers is composed of eleven members prominent in the fields of quality, innovation, and performance excellence and appointed by the Secretary of Commerce, assembled to advise the Secretary of Commerce on the conduct of the Baldrige Award. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss and review information received from the National Institute of Standards and Technology with the members of the Judges Panel of the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award. The agenda will include: Discuss the Award Eligibility Rules; Baldrige Improvement Panel's Recommendations to the Program and the Baldrige Foundation; Oral Feedback for Award Recipients; and Formation of Business School Deans' Council.

DATES: The meeting will convene June 6, 2007, at 8:30 a.m. and adjourn at 3 p.m. on June 6, 2007.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the National Institute of Standards and Technology, Administration Building, Lecture Room A, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899. All visitors to the National Institute of Standards and Technology site will have to pre-register to be admitted. Please submit your name, time of arrival, email address and phone number to Diane Harrison no later than Tuesday, June 5, 2007, and she will provide you with instructions for admittance. Ms. Harrison's e-mail address is diane.harrison@nist.gov and her phone number is (301) 975-2361.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Harry Hertz, Director, National Quality Program, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899, telephone number (301) 975-2361.

Dated: May 4, 2007.

James M. Turner,
Deputy Director.

[FR Doc. E7-9143 Filed 5-10-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-13-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[I.D. 031507B]

Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement; Seismic Surveys in the Beaufort and Chukchi Seas, Alaska

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: On April 6, 2007, notice was published in the Federal Register that NMFS and the Minerals Management Service had released for public comment a Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (Draft PEIS) for Seismic Surveys in the Beaufort and Chukchi Seas, Alaska. Also, the times, dates, and locations for public hearings in order to receive comments from the public on the Draft PEIS were provided. Based on verbal requests during the public hearings and two written requests, the comment period on this document has been extended.

DATES: Written comments must be postmarked by June 29, 2007.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on the Draft PEIS should be addressed to Mr. P. Michael Payne, Chief of the Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910-3225. The mailbox address for providing email comments is PR1.ALASKAEIS@noaa.gov. Comments sent via e-mail, including all attachments, must not exceed a 10-megabyte file size.

A copy of the Draft PEIS may be obtained by writing to this address or by telephoning the contact listed here and is also available at: <http://www.mms.gov/alaska/>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kenneth R. Hollingshead, (301)713-2289, ext 128.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Additional information on the content of the Draft PEIS can be found in the notice of availability (72 FR 17117, April 6, 2007).

Dated: May 8, 2007.

Wanda L. Cain,
Acting Director, Office of Protected Resources,
National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. E7-9093 Filed 5-10-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S