

from December 2003 through November 2004. The Assistant Regional Administrator has made a preliminary determination that the application contains all of the required information and warrants further consideration and that the activities to be authorized under the EFPs would be consistent with the goals and objectives of the Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan. However, further review and consultation may be necessary before a final determination is made to issue EFPs.

DATES: Comments on this action must be received on or before November 28, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be sent to Patricia A. Kurkul, Regional Administrator, NMFS, NE Regional Office, 1 Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930. Mark the outside of the envelope "Comments on CCCHFA Undersized Cod EFP Proposal." Comments may also be sent via fax to (978) 281-9135. Comments will not be accepted if submitted via e-mail or the Internet.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Heather Sagar, Fishery Management Specialist, phone: (978) 281-9341, fax: (978) 281-9135, email: heather.sagar@noaa.gov

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On October 1, 2003, CCCHFA, in collaboration with the New England Aquarium and NMFS, submitted a complete application for up to six vessels to conduct a study on mortality rates and survivability of undersized Atlantic cod harvested in the bottom-set longline and jig fisheries in southern New England. Currently the mortality for undersized cod returned to the water is considered to be 100 percent, since there is little information to indicate otherwise. Exemptions would be necessary to relieve vessels from the restrictions on possession of undersized Atlantic cod at § 648.83(a). The proposed study would occur inside the area defined as follows: The outer Cape Cod shoreline at 42° N. lat. and 70° W. long., then follow the 70° W. long. line south to the northern border of the Nantucket Lightship Closed Area, then follow the northern border of the Nantucket Lightship Closed Area east to 69° W. long., then follow the 69° W. long. line north to the western border of Georges Bank Closed Area I, then follow the western border of Georges Bank Closed Area I (Loran C 13700) to the 42° N. lat. line, then follow the 42° N. lat. line west to 70° W. long. At no time

would fishing operations be conducted inside year-round closure areas.

The experiment would occur from December 2003 through November 2004, during which time longline vessels would sample at 20, 30, and 40 fathoms (36.6, 54.9, and 73.2 m, respectively) 3 times each, during each season, for a total of 36 trips (3 depths x 3 samples x 4 seasons = a total of 36 days). There will be six vessels participating in this study for a total of 36 trips for the experiment. Each vessel would fish its bottom-set longline gear consisting of 1,800 ft (548.6 m) of mainline with 300 #12 circle hooks spaced every 6 ft (1.83 m). Approximately 3,600 hooks would be set per fishing day, with a soak time of 3-4 hours. After the vessel sets the longline it would begin the jigging portion of the study. The undersized cod would be measured, weighed, and tagged to determine survivability rates of the undersized cod. The applicant would use two different handling techniques for all longline caught fish: Alternate fish would be flipped off the hook or snubbed (allowing the hook to pass through the jaw). All fish caught during the jigging portion would be flipped off the hook. During each season, a minimum of 150 undersized fish would be collected and retained for 72 hours in each cage at each of the sample depths. The cage would be constructed to hug tight to the sea floor and to resist rolling in the highly tidal areas. Other than the above protocol, the vessels would follow normal fishing practices. All fish landed would be subject to existing minimum size and trip limit requirements.

A scientific data collector would be present on board each participating vessel. Scientific data collectors would be responsible for collecting all relevant biological and environmental data. CCCHFA would be responsible for developing a full report of results and provide this report to NMFS.

Regulations under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act require publication of this notification to provide interested parties the opportunity to comment on applications for proposed EFPs.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: November 3, 2003.

Bruce C. Morehead,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. 03-28210 Filed 11-10-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[Docket No. 030602141-3271-04]

Availability of Grants Funds for Fiscal Year 2004

AGENCY: National Sea Grant College Program, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of extension of application deadline.

SUMMARY: The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) published a document in the **Federal Register** of October 17, 2003 (68 FR 59778), concerning the availability of NOAA grant funds for fiscal year 2004. NOAA publishes this notice to announce that the Sea Grant—Industry Fellowship Program, a Fellowship program initiated by the National Sea Grant Office (NSGO), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), has extended their submission date for applications. The submission date for applications for the Sea Grant—Industry Fellowship Program has been extended to February 3, 2004, to allow applicants more time to submit their applications. All applications must be received by 5 p.m. (local time) on February 3, 2004, by a State Sea Grant Program or by the National Sea Grant Office (NSGO) in the case of an institution of higher education in a non-Sea Grant State. Applications are to be forwarded to the NSGO by the State Sea Grant Programs by 5 p.m. e.s.t. on February 10, 2004. All other program requirements and information published in the October 17, 2003 notice remain the same.

DATES: All applications must be received by 5 p.m. (local time) on February 3, 2004, by a State Sea Grant Program or by the National Sea Grant Office (NSGO) in the case of an institution of higher education in a non-Sea Grant State.

ADDRESSES: For a list of addresses, please read the full notice. A copy of the full notice can be found at: <http://www.ofa.noaa.gov/%7Egrants/fbo/Oct-OAR-Industry-Fellow.pdf>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Nikola Garber, 301-713-2431 ext. 124; e-mail: nikola.garber@noaa.gov.

Dated: November 4, 2003.

Louisa Koch,

Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

[FR Doc. 03-28271 Filed 11-10-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-KA-M

COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Request for Public Comments on Commercial Availability Petition under the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) and the United States - Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act (CBTPA)

November 6, 2003.

AGENCY: The Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements

ACTION: Request for public comments concerning a petition for a determination that micro-denier 30 singles and 36 singles solution-dyed, open-end spun, staple spun viscose yarns, produced on open-ended spindles, cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner under the AGOA and CBTPA.

SUMMARY: On November 3, 2003, the Chairman of CITA received a petition from Fabritex alleging that micro-denier 30 singles and 36 singles solution-dyed, open-end spun, staple spun viscose yarns produced on open-ended spindles, for use in manufacturing fabrics, classified in subheading 5510.11.0000 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS), cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner. The petition requests that apparel articles of U.S. formed fabrics of such yarns assembled in one or more AGOA or CBTPA beneficiary countries be eligible for preferential treatment under the AGOA and the CBTPA. CITA hereby solicits public comments on this petition, in particular with regard to whether this yarn can be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner. Comments must be submitted by November 28, 2003 to the Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements, Room 3001, United States Department of Commerce, 14th and Constitution, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20230.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Janet E. Heinzen, International Trade Specialist, Office of Textiles and

Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482-3400.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: Section 112(b)(5)(B) of the AGOA; Section 213(b)(2)(A)(v)(II) of the CBERA, as added by Section 211(a) of the CBTPA; Sections 1 and 6 of Executive Order No. 13191 of January 17, 2001.

Background

The AGOA and the CBTPA provide for quota- and duty-free treatment for qualifying textile and apparel products. Such treatment is generally limited to products manufactured from yarns or fabrics formed in the United States. The AGOA and the CBTPA also provide for quota- and duty-free treatment for apparel articles that are both cut (or knit-to-shape) and sewn or otherwise assembled in one or more AGOA or CBTPA beneficiary countries from fabric or yarn that is not formed in the United States, if it has been determined that such fabric or yarn cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner. In Executive Order No. 13191, the President delegated to CITA the authority to determine whether yarns or fabrics cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner under the AGOA and the CBTPA and directed CITA to establish procedures to ensure appropriate public participation in any such determination. On March 6, 2001, CITA published procedures that it will follow in considering requests. (66 FR 13502).

On November 3, 2003, the Chairman of CITA received a petition from Fabritex alleging that micro-denier 30 singles and 36 singles solution-dyed, open-end spun, staple spun viscose yarn, produced on open-ended spindles, for use in manufacturing fabrics, classified in HTSUS subheading 5510.11.0000, cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner and requesting quota- and duty-free treatment under the AGOA and the CBTPA for apparel articles that are cut and sewn in one or more AGOA or CBTPA beneficiary countries from U.S. formed fabrics containing such yarns. Two petitions submitted by Fabritex on solution-dyed, open-end spun, staple spun viscose yarn were denied by CITA in May and August of 2001.

CITA is soliciting public comments regarding this request, particularly with respect to whether this yarn can be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner. Also relevant is whether other yarns that are supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a

timely manner are substitutable for the yarn for purposes of the intended use. Comments must be received no later than November 28, 2003. Interested persons are invited to submit six copies of such comments or information to the Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements, room 3100, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20230.

If a comment alleges that this yarn can be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner, CITA will closely review any supporting documentation, such as a signed statement by a manufacturer of the yarn stating that it produces the yarns that are the subject of the request, including the quantities that can be supplied and the time necessary to fill an order, as well as any relevant information regarding past production.

CITA will protect any business confidential information that is marked "business confidential" from disclosure to the full extent permitted by law. CITA will make available to the public non-confidential versions of the request and non-confidential versions of any public comments received with respect to a request in room 3100 in the Herbert Hoover Building, 14th and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20230. Persons submitting comments on a request are encouraged to include a non-confidential version and a non-confidential summary.

James C. Leonard III,

Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

[FR Doc. 03-28341 Filed 11-10-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

ACTION: Notice. The Department of Defense has submitted to OMB for clearance, the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

DATES: Consideration will be given to all comments received by December 12, 2003.

Title, Form Number, and OMB Number: Third Party Collection Program (Insurance Information); DD Form 2569; OMB Number 0704-0323.

Type of Request: Revision.

Number of Respondents: 511,232.