

conjunction with non-U.S. satellite systems and foreign satellite service providers file certain information regarding the foreign service, markets, and satellite systems. This is not estimated to be a significant economic burden for these entities.

*E. Federal Rules That Overlap, Duplicate or Conflict With These Rules*

15. None.

*F. Description, Potential Impact and Number of Small Facilities Affected*

16. The proposed rules would apply to all earth stations or service providers (including small entities) that seek authorization under Part 25 and Part 100 of the Commission's rules to operate with a non-U.S. licensed satellite. These proposals are intended to ensure that U.S. satellite systems can compete effectively in international markets and that competition in the United States is maximally enhanced. Copies of this Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking will be sent to the Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the Small Business Administration.

*G. Any Significant Alternative Minimizing Impact on Small Entities Consistent With Stated Objectives*

17. The Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking solicits comment on other alternatives to achieve the Commission's objectives.

**List of Subjects in 47 CFR Part 25**

Satellites.

Federal Communications Commission.

**William F. Caton,**  
*Acting Secretary.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**

**48 CFR Part 236**

[DFARS Case 97-D015]

**Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Architect-Engineer Selection process**

**AGENCY:** Department of Defense (DoD).

**ACTION:** Proposed rule with request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Director of Defense Procurement is proposing to amend the Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) to streamline the process for selection of firms for architect-engineer contracts.

**DATES:** Comments on the proposed rule should be submitted in writing to the

address shown below on or before September 29, 1997, to be considered in the formulation of the final rule.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested parties should submit written comments to: Defense Acquisition Regulations Council, Attn: Ms. Amy Williams, PDUSD (A&T) DP (DAR), IMD 3D139, 3062 Defense Pentagon, Washington DC 20301-3062. Telefax number (703) 602-0350. Please cite DFARS Case 97-D015 in all correspondence related to this issue.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Ms. Amy Williams, (703) 602-0131.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**A. Background**

This rule proposes revisions to DFARS 236.602 to streamline the process for selection of firms for architect-engineer contracts. The rule eliminates requirements for formal constitution and minimum size of preselection boards; eliminates special approval requirements for selection of firms for contracts exceeding \$500,000; and changes the criteria for inclusion of firms on a preselection list from "the maximum practicable number of qualified firms" to "the qualified firms that have a reasonable chance of being considered as most highly qualified by the selection board."

**B. Regulatory Flexibility Act**

This 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 streamlines, but does not significantly alter, the process for selection of firms for architect-engineer contracts. An Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis has, therefore, not been performed. Comments are invited from small businesses and other interested parties. Comments from small entities concerning the affected DFARS subpart also will be considered in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 610. Such comments should be submitted separately and should cite DFARS Case 97-D015 in correspondence.

**C. Paperwork Reduction Act**

The Paperwork Reduction Act does not apply, because this proposed rule does not impose any information collection requirements that require approval of the Office of Management and Budget under 44 U.S.C. 3401, *et seq.*

**List of Subjects in 48 CFR Part 236**

Government procurement.

**Michele P. Peterson,**  
*Executive Editor, Defense Acquisition Regulations Council.*

Therefore, 48 CFR part 236 is proposed to be amended as follows:

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

**PART 236—CONSTRUCTION AND ARCHITECT-ENGINEER CONTRACTS**

2. Section 236.602-2 is revised to read as follows:

**§ 236.602-2 Evaluation boards**

(a) Preselection boards may be used to identify to the selection board the qualified firms that have a reasonable chance of being considered as most highly qualified by the selection board.

3. Section 236-4 is revised to read as follows:

**§ 236.602-4 Selection authority.**

(a) The selection authority shall be at a level appropriate for the dollar value and nature of the proposed contract.

(c) A finding that some of the firms on the selection report are unqualified does not preclude approval of the report, provided that a minimum of three most highly qualified firms remains. The reasons for finding a firm or firms unqualified must be recorded.

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**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

**50 CFR Part 679**

[I.D. 072297A]

RIN: 0648-AJ71

**Amendment 49 to the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish Fishery of the Gulf of Alaska**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of an amendment to a fishery management plan; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) has submitted Amendment 49 to the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska for Secretarial review. Amendment 49 would require all vessels fishing for groundfish in the Gulf of Alaska (GOA) to retain all