each state and territory coastal nonpoint program. The Proposed Findings Documents, Environmental Assessments, and Findings of No Significant Impact prepared for the coastal nonpoint programs submitted by Alabama, Alaska, California, Connecticut, Hawaii, Louisiana, and Washington were made available for public comment in the **Federal Register.** Public comments were received and responses prepared on the Alabama, Alaska, California, Connecticut, Hawaii, and Louisiana programs.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) NOAA has also prepared a Record of Decision on each program. The requirements of 40 CFR Parts 1500–1508 (Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations to implement the National Environmental Policy Act) apply to the preparation of a Record of Decision. Specifically, 40 CFR section 1505.2 requires an agency to prepare a concise public record of decision at the time of its decision on the action proposed in an environmental impact statement. The Record of Decision shall: (1) state what the decision was; (2) identify all alternatives considered, specifying the alternative considered to be environmentally preferable; and (3) state whether all practicable means to avoid or minimize environmental harm from the alternative selected have been adopted.

In March 1996, NOAA published a programmatic environmental impact statement (PEIS) that assessed the environmental impacts associated with the approval of state and territory coastal nonpoint programs. The PEIS forms the basis for the environmental assessments NOAA has prepared for each state and territorial coastal nonpoint program submitted to NOAA and EPA for approval. In the PEIS, NOAA determined that the approval and conditional approval of coastal nonpoint in any significant adverse environmental impacts and that these programs will not result actions will have an overall beneficial effect on the environment. Because the PEIS served only as a ''framework for decision'' on individual state and territorial coastal nonpoint programs, and no actual decision was made following its publication, NOAA has prepared a NEPA Record of Decision on each individual state and territorial program submitted for review.

Copies of the Findings Documents, Responses to Comments, and Records of Decision may be obtained upon request from: Joseph A. Uravitch, Chief, Coastal Programs Division (N/ORM3), Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, NOS, NOAA, 1305 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland, 20910, tel. (301) 713–3155, x195.

(Federal Domestic Assistance Catalog 11.419 Coastal Zone Management Program Administration)

Dated: July 6, 1998.

Captain Evelyn J. Fields,

Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator for Ocean Services and Coastal Zone Management, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Robert H. Wayland, III,

Director, Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds, Environmental Protection Agency.

[FR Doc. 98–18202 Filed 7–8–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–12–M

COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

Notice of Meeting

The next meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts is scheduled for 23 July 1998 at 10:00 AM in the Commission's offices at the National Building Museum (Pension Building), Suite 312, Judiciary Square, 441 F Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001. The meeting will focus on a variety of projects affecting the appearance of the city.

Inquiries regarding the agenda and requests to submit written or oral statements should be addressed to Charles H. Atherton, Secretary, Commission of Fine Arts, at the above address or call 202–504–2200. Individuals requiring sign language interpretation for the hearing impaired should contact the Secretary at least 10 days before the meeting date.

Dated in Washington, D.C. 29 June 1998.

Charles H. Atherton,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98–18262 Filed 7–8–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6330–01–M

COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Amendment to Quota and Visa Requirements to Increase the Exemption for Properly Marked Commercial Sample Shipments From Various Countries

July 6, 1998.

AGENCY: Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA).

ACTION: Issuing a directive to the Commissioner of Customs increasing the exemption for properly marked commercial sample shipments.

EFFECTIVE DATE: September 1, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brian F. Fennessy, International Trade Specialist, Office of Textiles and Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482–3400.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: Section 204 of the Agricultural Act of 1956, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1854); Executive Order 11651 of March 3, 1972, as amended.

Currently, shipments of properly marked commercial samples valued at U.S.$250 or less do not require a visa for entry into the United States and are not charged to applicable quotas. The Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements has reviewed the dollar limitation and has decided to increase the exemption from U.S.$250 to U.S.$800 for properly marked commercial sample shipments exported on or after September 1, 1998.

In addition to other requirements, U.S. Customs guidelines require that each imported sample must be indelibly marked ''SAMPLE'' in large letters in specific locations depending on the imported article.

In the letter published below, the Chairman of CITA directs the Commissioner of Customs to amend existing visa requirements.

Troy H. Cribb,

Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements

July 6, 1998.

Commissioner of Customs,
Department of the Treasury, Washington, DC 20229.

Dear Commissioner: This directive amends, but does not cancel, all directives issued to you which establish textile and apparel export visa requirements.

The Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements has decided to increase the dollar limitation for properly marked commercial sample shipments from U.S.$250 to U.S.$800. Effective on September 1, 1998, for products exported on or after September 1, 1998, shipments of properly marked commercial samples valued at U.S.$800 or less do not require a visa for entry into the United States and shall not be charged to applicable quotas.

Shipments entered or withdrawn from warehouse according to this directive which are not properly marked shall be subject to applicable quota and visa requirements.

The Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements has determined that this action falls within the foreign affairs exception to the rulemaking provisions of 5 U.S.C. 553(a)(1).

Sincerely,

Troy H. Cribb,

Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

[FR Doc. 98–18234 Filed 7–8–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–DR–F

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Reinstatement of Small Business Set-Asides for Certain Acquisitions Under the Small Business Competitiveness Demonstration Program

AGENCY: Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: Notice of reinstatement of small business set-asides under the Small Business Competitiveness Demonstration Program.

SUMMARY: The Director of Defense Procurement has reinstated the use of small business set-aside procedures for certain construction acquisitions issued by the Departments of the Army and Navy. Included in the reinstatement are solicitations issued under Standard Industrial Category Major Group 15 and Standard Industrial Category Code 1629 (Navy only).

EFFECTIVE DATE: June 17, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Michael Sipple, OUSD (A&T), Director of Defense Procurement, Contract Policy Administration, Room 3C838, 3060 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301–3060, telephone (703) 695–8567.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Office of Federal Procurement Policy (OFPP) implemented Title VII of Pub. L. 100–656 (15 U.S.C. 644 note) by issuance of the ''Small Business Competitiveness Demonstration Program Test Plan'' on August 31, 1989, amended April 16, 1993. The program was further implemented in Subpart 19.10 of the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) and Subpart 219.10 of the Defense FAR Supplement (DFARS).

Under the program, small business set-asides were initially suspended for certain designated industry groups (DIGs). Agencies are required by paragraphs III.D.2.a and IV.A.4. of the OFPP test plan to reinstate the use of small business set-asides whenever the small business awards under any designated industry group falls below 40 percent or whenever small business awards under an Individual Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) Code within the designated industry group falls below 35 percent. Reinstatement is to be limited to the organizational elements (in the case of DoD, the individual military departments or other components) that failed to meet the small business participation goals.

For the 12 months ending March 1998, DoD awards in the industries shown below fell below the 40 percent (SIC Major Group 15) or 35 percent (SIC Code 1629) thresholds. Accordingly, pursuant to DFARS 219.1006(b)(2), the Director of Defense Procurement has directed reinstatement of small business set aside procedures for solicitations that involve the industry categories shown below. The reinstatement applies to solicitations issued by the applicable buying activities on or after June 17, 1998, or as soon thereafter as practicable:

Industry	Applicable to
Construction:.	
Major Group 15 (including SIC 1521, 1522, 1531, 1541, and 1542)	All Army and Navy Activities.
Major Group 16—SIC, Code 1629 only	All Navy Activities.

Consistent with the OFPP test plan, this reinstatement of set-asides will be periodically reviewed for continuation. Small business set-asides were reinstated DoD-wide for the DIG titled ''Architectural and Engineering Services,'' by memorandum of September 30, 1991. That reinstatement remains in effect.

Michele P. Peterson,

Executive Editor, Defense Acquisition Regulations Council.

[FR Doc. 98–18097 Filed 7–8–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5000–04–M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

[Docket Nos. EA–105–A–CN, EA–168–A and EA–187]

Applications To Export Electric Energy; NorAm Energy Services, PG&E Energy, Merchant Energy Group

AGENCY: Office of Fossil Energy, DOE.

ACTION: Notice of applications.

SUMMARY: NorAm Energy Services, Inc. (NES) has applied for renewal of its authority to transmit electric energy from the United States to Canada pursuant to section 202(e) of the Federal Power Act. PG&E Energy Trading-Power, L.P. (PG&E) has applied to amend its authorization to export electric energy to Canada by adding additional transmission facilities, and Merchant Energy Group of the Americas, Inc. (MEGA) has applied for authority to transmit electric energy to Canada.

DATES: Comments, protests or requests to intervene must be submitted on or before August 10, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Comments, protests or requests to intervene should be addressed as follows: Office of Coal & Power Im/Ex (FE–27), Office of Fossil Energy, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20585–0350 (FAX 202–287–5736).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ellen Russell (Program Office) 202–586–9624 or Michael Skinker (Program Attorney) 202–586–6667.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Exports of electricity from the United States to a foreign country are regulated and require authorization under section 202(e) of the Federal Power Act (FPA) (16 U.S.C. 824a(e)).

The Office of Fossil Energy (FE) of the Department of Energy (DOE) has received applications from the following companies for authorization to export electric energy to Canada:

Applicant	Application date	Docket No.
NorAm Energy Services Inc	6/18/98	EA–105–A–CN
PG&E Energy Trading-Power, L.P	6/23/98	EA–168–A
Merchant Energy Group of the Americas, Inc	6/25/98	EA–187