

samples from 150 of the 1000 pups already authorized to be taken.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), an initial determination has been made that the activity proposed is categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

Concurrent with the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, NMFS is forwarding copies of this application to the Marine Mammal Commission and its Committee of Scientific Advisors.

Documents may be reviewed in the following locations:

Permits and Documentation Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13130, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301/713-2289);

(File Nos. 594-1467 and 914-1470): Regional Administrator, Southeast Region, NMFS, 9721 Executive Center Drive North, St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432 (813/570-5312);

(File No. 594-1467): Regional Administrator, Northeast Region, NMFS, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930, (978/281-9250); and

(File No. 772#69): Regional Administrator, Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213 (562/980-4001).

Dated: September 8, 1998.

Ann D. Terbush,

Chief, Permits and Documentation Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 98-24622 Filed 9-14-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meeting

"FEDERAL REGISTER" CITATION OF PREVIOUS ANNOUNCEMENT: 63 F.R. 48199. PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED TIME AND DATE OF MEETING: 11:00 a.m., Wednesday, September 30, 1998.

CHANGES IN THE MEETING: The Commodity Futures Trading Commission changed the meeting to discuss enforcement matters to Monday, September 28, 1998 at 3:00 p.m.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Jean A. Webb, 418-5100.

Jean A. Webb,

Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 98-24778 Filed 9-11-98; 10:40 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

Proposed Implementation of the Defense Table of Official Distances (DTOD) for the DoD Freight Movements Program

AGENCY: Military Traffic Management Command, DoD.

ACTION: Notice (request for comments).

SUMMARY: The Military Traffic Management Command (MTMC), as the Department of Defense (DoD) Traffic Manager for surface and surface intermodal traffic management services (DTR Vol 1, Pg 101-113), intends to utilize a new automated distance calculation product known as the Defense Table of Official Distances (DTOD) in the DoD freight program. The DTOD will replace existing distance calculation products used within the DoD, such as the Rand McNally TDM Milemaker System, and the Household Goods Carriers' Mileage Guide. The DTOD will become the DoD standard source for distance information worldwide. Commercially, DTOD is known as PC*MILER by ALK Associates, Inc. The DTOD/PC*MILER will be used by the DoD for all distance calculations, analysis, and for transportation payment/audits. Carriers and third party providers may continue to use other mileage sources for their own business purposes. However, carriers and third party providers participating in the DoD freight program must agree to be bound by the DTOD/PC*MILER distance calculations for payment and audit purposes.

DATES: Comments must be submitted by November 16, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be mailed to: Headquarters, Military Traffic Management Command, ATTN: MTTM-O, Room 108, 5611 Columbia Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041-5050.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Additional information concerning use of the DTOD in the MTMC Freight Movement Program can be obtained by contacting Mr. Ed Dickerson (703) 681-6870 or Ms. Patty Maloney (703) 681-6586. Information regarding DTOD complaint commercial software and other technical information can be provided by contacting ALK Associates, Inc. at 1-800-377-MILE, or on the Internet at www.pcmiler.com.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. The proposed effective date for the use of the DTOD in the DoD freight movement program will be 1 March 1999 and will effect all MTMC sponsored freight traffic programs where

mileage is used for negotiation, analysis and/or payment purposes. All shipments picked up on or after the effective date will be governed by the DTOD.

2. In accordance with the implementation process the following MTMC rules publications will be amended to remove any reference to existing mileage guides or tables and replace them with DTOD with an effective date of 1 March 1999:

(a) Military Traffic Management Command (MTMC) Freight Tariff Rules Publication No. 1A, Page 9, Item 5, Paragraph 2b.

(b) MTMC Freight Tariff Rules Publication No. 10, Page 12, Item 20 Paragraph 1b, 1f, and 1g.

(c) MTMC Guaranteed Traffic Rules Publication No. 50, Page 1-3, Item 15, Paragraph 1c.

(d) MTMC Freight Rules Publication No. 4A, Page 1-7, Item 50, Paragraph 1b.

(e) MTMC Standard Tender Instructions Publications 364A, Page 12, Item 200.

3. Where rates or other services are based on mileage, the distance or mileage computations shall be those provided in the Defense Table of Official Distances (DTOD). Mileage for freight shipments, except certain hazardous materials (HAZMAT), will be based on DTOD shortest distance. Mileage for munition shipments will be based on the DTOD HAZMAT Module and the mileage for overdimensional/overweight shipments will be based on DTOD practical mileage calculation. DTOD and PC*MILER will produce identical distance calculations. Carriers and other parties who seek more information about PC*MILER may contact ALK Associates, Inc. at telephone 1-800-377-MILE, or via internet at www.pcmiler.com.

4. Proposed Implementation Dates: The schedule for use of the DTOD/PC*MILER in distance calculation, payment, pre- and post-payment audits for shipments under the DoD freight movement program will be 1 March 1999.

5. Background. Currently, several sources for highway distance information are being used to support various DoD transportation programs, such as travel, travel entitlement reimbursement, freight and personal property movements. Moreover, separate products are used to calculate overseas distances. The result is a variance in distance computation produced by different products and a high cost to DoD of licensing and maintaining multiple mileage sources.

a. Until 1996, DoD was required by law to maintain an official mileage table for payment of travel and transportation allowances, known as the Official Table

of Distances. The FY96 Defense Authorization Act deleted this requirement, thus providing the opportunity to use a commercial mileage product. MTMC announced a plan to convert to a new automated mileage standard calculation product in a previous **Federal Register** notice (Vol 62, No 218, Page 60692) Wednesday, 12 November 1997. In seeking a single integrated source of automation highway distance calculations, the MTMC contracted with Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) to perform a market survey of available products (Phase I) and to provide a product that would support DoD transportation programs (Phase II). SAIC, in turn, conducted a commercial competition to identify and acquire commercial-off-the-shelf, point to point distance calculation source that would meet all the DoD requirements. PC*MILER was chosen by SAIC to be that source. PC*MILER, developed specifically to serve the trucking industry, will contain Standard Point Location Codes, military locations and other worldwide locations required by DoD. Updates and version control of DTOD and PC*MILER will be consistent with industry practices.

b. In surveying and evaluating vendors and products, SAIC's criteria considered compatibility with existing and planned automated systems, consistency in calculation, and adaptability to various DoD network applications and transportation programs used. SAIC also compared commercially available distance calculation products to identify viable candidates for the competitive selection process. Following vendor selection, a comparison of the 100 highest volume shipping routes resulted in finding an average variance of 2.0% (+/-) amongst the vendors of evaluated products. Upon written request a copy of this comparison will be provided.

c. The DTOD/PC*MILER product will calculate both "shortest" and "practical" mileage. Currently, the DoD and the general freight carrier industry use "shortest" mileage to calculate the distance used for payment purpose. "Shortest" routes represent distances and routes that a driver would take to minimize total distance traveled while still following a truck-navigable route. DoD will continue to use the "shortest" routes for freight shipments, the HAZMAT module for munitions and radioactive yellow II/III shipments, and practical mileage for overdimensional/overweight shipments.

d. Carriers and/or other parties who choose to use PC*MILER will have opportunities to provide feedback to

ALK Associates, Inc., the provider of DTOD software, regarding routings, database suggestions such as distance differences, road preference suggestions, road reclassification, new locations, etc. ALK Associates, Inc., will provide all interested parties the capability to license PC*MILER, to ensure the ability to consistently determine the exact mileage that the DoD uses for payment and auditing.

e. Interested parties are invited to provide comments concerning the use of the DTOD in the DoD Freight Movement Program and the proposed implementation dates to the address above. Comments will be accepted for a period of 60 days from the publication date of this notice.

6. Regulatory Flexibility Act. This change in acquisition policy is related to public contracts and is designed to standardize distance calculations for line-haul transportation. This change is not considered rule making within the meaning of the Regulatory Flexibility Act, 5 U.S.C. 601-612.

7. Paperwork Reduction Act. The Paperwork Reduction Act, 44 U.S.C. 3051 *et seq.*, does not apply because no information collection requirement or recordkeeping responsibilities are imposed on offerors, contractors, or members of the public.

Gregory D. Showalter,

Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 98-24728 Filed 9-14-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-08-M

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests

AGENCY: Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests.

SUMMARY: The Acting Deputy Chief Information Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, invites comments on the proposed information collection requests as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: An emergency review has been requested in accordance with the Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 3507 (j)), since public harm is reasonably likely to result if normal clearance procedures are followed. Approval by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has been requested by October 31, 1998. A regular clearance process is also beginning. Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before November 16, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Written comments regarding the emergency review should

be addressed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Danny Werfel, Desk Officer: Department of Education, Office of Management and Budget; 725 17th Street, NW., Room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503. Requests for copies of the proposed information collection request should be addressed to Patrick J. Sherrill, Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, SW, Room 5624, Regional Office Building 3, Washington, DC 20202-4651, or should be electronically mailed to the internet address PatSherrill@ed.gov, or should be faxed to 202-708-9346.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Patrick J. Sherrill (202) 708-8196.

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that the Director of OMB provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The Acting Deputy Chief Information Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, publishes this notice containing proposed information collection requests at the beginning of the Departmental review of the information collection. Each proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, e.g., new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) Title; (3) Summary of the collection; (4) Description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) Respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) Reporting and/or Recordkeeping burden. ED invites public comment at the address specified above. Copies of the requests are available from Patrick J. Sherrill at the address specified above.

The Department of Education is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will this information be processed and used