

B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

C. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received From Members, Participants, or Others

Written comments on the proposed rule change were neither solicited nor received.

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

Within 35 days of the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** or within such longer period (i) as the Commission may designate up to 90 days of such date if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding or (ii) as to which the self-regulatory organization consents, the Commission will:

- (A) By order approve such proposed rule change, or
- (B) Institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be disapproved.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposal is consistent with the Act. Persons making written submissions should file six copies thereof with the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20549. Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for inspection and copying in the Commission's Public Reference Room. Copies of such filing will also be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the PCX. All submissions should refer to File No. SR-PCX-98-54 and should be submitted by December 10, 1998.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.⁷

Margaret H. McFarland,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-30892 Filed 11-18-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-M

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Federal Assistance To Provide Financial Counseling and Other Technical Assistance to Women

AGENCY: Small Business Administration.

ACTION: Program Announcement No. OWBO-99-012.

SUMMARY: The Small Business Administration (SBA) plans to issue program announcement No. OWBO-99-012 to invite applications from private, not-for-profit organizations to conduct Women's Business Center projects. The authorizing legislation is the Small Business Act, Section 29, 15 U.S.C. Section 656, *as amended* by Pubic Law 105-277, 111 Stat. 2592. SBA Headquarters must receive applications/proposals by the date and time that will be specified in the program announcement. SBA will select successful applicants by a competitive process. The successful applicants will receive an award to provide long term training and counseling to women who want to start or expand businesses. Service and assistance areas must include financial, management, marketing and government procurement/certification assistance. Applicants must include a plan to target women who are socially and economically disadvantaged. The applicant may propose specialized services that will assist women who are veterans, disabled, rural, home-based, etc. SBA will require award recipients to provide services locally and on the Internet via the SBA-funded Online Women's Business Center, www.onlinewbc.org. Each applicant must submit a five-year plan that describes proposed fund-raising, training and technical assistance activities. A center may receive financial assistance up to five years, however, the award will be issued annually to conduct a 12-month project. Award recipients must provide non-Federal matching funds as follows: one non-Federal dollar for each two Federal dollars in years 1 and 2; one non-Federal dollar for each Federal dollar in years 3 and 4; and 2 non-Federal dollars for each Federal dollar in year 5. Up to one-half of the non-Federal matching funds may be in the form of in-kind contributions.

DATES: SBA will mail program announcements to interested parties

between late November and early December 1998. The approximate opening date will be late November 1998 and the approximate closing date will be late January 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sally Murrell, (202) 205-6673 or Mina Wales (202) 205-6621.

Sherrye P. Henry,

Assistant Administrator, SBA/Office of Women's Business Ownership.

[FR Doc. 98-30910 Filed 11-18-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8025-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice # 2929]

U.S. Advisory Panel to the U.S. Section of the North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission (Committee Renewal)

The Department of State has renewed the Charter of the U.S. Advisory Panel to the U.S. Section of the North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission (NPAFC) for another two years, effective September 3, 1998.

The NPAFC is a venue for consultation and coordination of cooperative high seas fishery enforcement among Convention parties.

The NPAFC was established by the Convention for the Conservation of Anadromous Stocks in the North Pacific Ocean, signed on February 12 by Canada, Japan, the Russian Federation, and the United States, and entered into force on February 16, 1993. The U.S. Advisory Panel will continue to work with the U.S. Section to promote the conservation of anadromous fish stocks, particularly salmon, throughout their migratory range in the North Pacific Ocean, as well as ecologically related species.

The U.S. Section of the Commission is composed of three Commissioners who are appointed by the President. Each Commissioner is appointed for a term not to exceed four years, but is eligible for reappointment. The Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of Commerce, may designate alternate commissioners. The Advisory Panel to the U.S. Section is composed of 14 members appointed by the Secretary in consultation with the Secretary of Commerce, and serve for a term not to exceed 4 years, and may not serve more than two consecutive terms.

The Advisory Panel will continue to follow the procedures prescribed by the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA). Meetings will continue to be open to the public unless a determination is made in accordance with Section 10 of the FACA, 5 U.S.C.

⁷ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

Secs. 552b(c) (1) and (4), that a meeting or a portion of the meeting should be closed to the public. Notice of each meeting will continue to be provided for publication in the **Federal Register** as far in advance as possible prior to the meeting.

For further information on the renewal of the Advisory Panel, please contact Bernard Link, International Relations Officer in the Office of Marine Conservation in the Department of State, (202) 647-2335.

Dated: October 7, 1998.

Bernard E. Link,

International Relations Officer.

[FR Doc. 98-30972 Filed 11-18-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-09-M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Coast Guard

[USCG-1998-4765]

Intent To Prepare a Programmatic Environmental Assessment for the Coast Guard "Optimize Training Infrastructure" Initiative

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of intent; notice of meetings and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard announces its intent to prepare a Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) on its "Optimize Training Infrastructure" (OTI) Initiative. The PEA will be prepared in accordance with Coast Guard procedures and policies (COMDTINST M16475.1C) and section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 as implemented by the Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR parts 1500-1508). The OTI Initiative will provide answers to questions about how the Coast Guard training infrastructure (instruction methods, training personnel, and facilities) can best meet current and future performance needs in a financially constrained environment. In 1997, the Coast Guard evaluated their training programs and infrastructure in the preliminary phases of OTI Initiative and recommended that several options for realigning training facilities be considered. This may result in transfer of training activities from one training center to other centers. Four training centers may be directly affected by the action: Training Center (TRACEN) Petaluma, California; TRACEN Cape May, New Jersey; Reserve Training Center (RTC) Yorktown, Virginia; and Aviation Technical Training Center

(ATTC) Elizabeth City, North Carolina. Under the different alternatives, some installations would be expanded, some would be downsized, and one or two could be closed. The PEA will analyze the potential environmental and socioeconomic effects of the OTI Initiative, any alternatives developed during the scoping process, and a "no action" alternative. A preferred alternative will be identified in the PEA. This notice begins the public scoping process to gather public input on issues and concerns to be analyzed and addressed in the PEA. To assist in gathering public comments, three public scoping meetings will be held.

DATES: The meeting dates are—

1. December 7, 1998, from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., Cape May, NJ.
2. December 8, 1998, from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., Yorktown, VA.
3. December 10, 1998, from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., Petaluma, CA.

A public open house will be held before each scoping meeting from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Written comments must reach the Docket Management Facility on or before December 24, 1998.

ADDRESSES: The meeting locations are—

1. Cape May—Grand Hotel, Ocean Front and Philadelphia, Cape May, NJ;
2. Yorktown—County Library, 8500 George Washington Highway, Yorktown, VA; and
3. Petaluma—Petaluma Community Center, 320 North McDowell Blvd, Petaluma, CA.

You may mail your comments to the Docket Management Facility, (USCG-1998-4765), U.S. Department of Transportation, room PL-401, 400 Seventh Street SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001, or deliver them to room PL-401, on the Plaza level of the Nassif Building at the same address between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The telephone number is 202-366-9329.

The Docket Management Facility maintains the public docket for this notice. Comments and documents referred to in this notice, will become part of this docket and will be available for inspection or copying at room PL-401 on the Plaza level of the Nassif Building at the same address between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. You may also access this docket on the Internet at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For questions on this notice, the NEPA process, and NEPA documents, contact Ms. Susan Boyle, Environmental Branch Chief of the Coast Guard Maintenance and Logistics Command Pacific;

telephone: 510-437-3973; e-mail: CoastGuard@ttsfo.com. For questions on the OTI Initiative, Contact LCDR Keith Curran, Reserve and Training Directorate, Coast Guard Headquarters; telephone: 202-267-2429; e-mail: CoastGuard@ttsfo.com. For questions on viewing or submitting material to the docket, contact Ms. Dorothy Walker, Chief, Dockets, Department of Transportation; telephone: 202-366-9329.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Request for Comments

The Coast Guard encourages interested persons to participate by submitting written data, views, or arguments. Persons submitting comments should include their names and addresses, identify this notice (USCG-1998-4765) and give the reason for each comment. Please submit all comments and attachments in an unbound format, no larger than 8½ by 11 inches, suitable for copying and electronic filing to the Docket Management Facility at the address under **ADDRESSES**. Persons wanting acknowledgment of receipt of comments should enclose stamped, self-addressed postcards or envelopes.

Discussion

The purpose of this notice is twofold: (1) to announce the Coast Guard's intent to prepare a PEA and (2) to begin the process of gathering the public's comments on this action to assist the Coast Guard in developing the PEA.

In 1997, preliminary phases of the OTI Initiative sought to validate training infrastructure requirements and identify alternative actions. Phase 1 validated existing training courses, determined likely future needs, and identified alternative ways to deliver instruction. Phase 2 measured infrastructure use, determined infrastructure needs for training requirements, and identified ways to gain savings or spread the cost of overhead. Emphasis was on right sizing the capital plant while preserving necessary flexibility.

A number of options are being considered to accomplish this. Depending upon the option selected, training functions would be transferred from one facility to another, functions of a facility increased or decreased, or one or more facilities closed. The following alternatives were recommended for more in depth analysis:

1. Close either Training Center Cape May or Training Center Petaluma and consolidate training functions at the remaining training centers.
2. Close both Training Center Cape May and Training Center Petaluma and