

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[I.D. 011000E]

**Incidental Take of Marine Mammals; Bottlenose Dolphins and Spotted Dolphins**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of issuance of letters of authorization.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), as amended, and implementing regulations, notification is hereby given that 1-year letters of authorization to take bottlenose and spotted dolphins incidental to oil and gas structure removal activities were issued on July 2, 1999, to Burlington Resources, and Seneca Resources, both from Houston, TX, and Ocean Energy from Lafayette, Louisiana; on October 4, 1999, to PennzEnergy from Houston, TX; on December 16, 1999, to Forest Oil Corp. from Denver, CO; and on December 23, 1999, to Range Resources Corp. from Houston, TX.

**ADDRESSES:** The application and letters are available for review in the following offices: Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910, and the Southeast Region, NMFS, 9721 Executive Center Drive N, St. Petersburg, FL 33702.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kenneth R. Hollingshead, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, (301) 713-2055 or David Bernhart, Southeast Region (727) 570-5517.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 101(a)(5)(A) of the MMPA (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) directs NMFS to allow, on request, the incidental, but not intentional, taking of small numbers of marine mammals by U.S. citizens who engage in a specified activity (other than commercial fishing) within a specified geographical region, if certain findings are made and regulations are issued. Under the MMPA, the term "taking" means to harass, hunt, capture, or kill or attempt to harass, hunt, capture or kill marine mammals.

Permission may be granted for periods up to 5 years if NMFS finds, after notification and opportunity for public comment, that the taking will have a negligible impact on the species or stock(s) of marine mammals and will not have an unmitigable adverse impact on the availability of the species or

stock(s) for subsistence uses. In addition, NMFS must prescribe regulations that include permissible methods of taking and other means effecting the least practicable adverse impact on the species and its habitat, and on the availability of the species for subsistence uses, paying particular attention to rookeries, mating grounds, and areas of similar significance. The regulations must include requirements pertaining to the monitoring and reporting of such taking. Regulations governing the taking of bottlenose and spotted dolphins incidental to oil and gas structure removal activities in the Gulf of Mexico were published on October 12, 1995 (60 FR 53139), and remain in effect until November 13, 2000.

Issuance of these letters of authorization are based on a finding that the total takings will have a negligible impact on the bottlenose and spotted dolphin stocks of the Gulf of Mexico.

Dated: January 21, 2000.

**Art Jeffers,**

*Deputy Director, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

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**COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION**

RIN 3038-ZA03

**Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Extension of Collection, OMB Control Number 3038-0024, Regulations and Forms Pertaining to the Financial Integrity of the Marketplace**

**AGENCY:** Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) is announcing an opportunity for public comment on the proposed collection of certain information by the agency. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*, Federal agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of an existing collection of information, and to allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments on requirements relating to financial and related reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted on or before March 27, 2000.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments may be mailed to Lawrence B. Patent, Division of Trading and Markets, U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission, 1155 21st Street, NW, Washington, DC 20581.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Lawrence B. Patent, (202) 418-5439; FAX: (202) 418-5536; email: [lpatent@cftc.gov](mailto:lpatent@cftc.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION:** Under the PRA, Federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. "Collection of information" is defined in 44 U.S.C. 3502(3) and 5 CFR 1320.3(c) and includes agency requests or requirements that members of the public submit reports, keep records, or provide information to a third party. Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA, 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A), requires Federal agencies to provide a 60-day notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of an existing collection of information, before submitting the collection to OMB for approval. To comply with this requirement, the CFTC is publishing notice of the proposed collection of information listed below.

With respect to the following collection of information, the CFTC invites comments on:

- Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information will have a practical use;
- The accuracy of the Commission's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

- Ways to enhance the quality, usefulness, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

- Ways to minimize the burden of collection of information on respondents, including through the use of appropriate automated electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology; e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Regulations and Forms Pertaining to the Financial Integrity of the Marketplace Extension, OMB Control Number 3038-0024.

Commission Rules 1.10(a) and (b), 1.12, 1.14, 1.15(a)(1) and (2), 1.16(e) and (f), 1.17(h)(3)(vi), 1.18(b), 1.20(a) and (b), 1.23, 1.25, 1.27, 1.43, 1.36(a) and (b), 1.37 and 1.65 relate to the financial reporting and recordkeeping