

CHEMICAL SAFETY AND HAZARD INVESTIGATION BOARD

Sunshine Act Meeting; Notice

The United States Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board announces that it will convene a Public Meeting beginning at 10:00 a.m. local time on January 10, 2000 at the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (3rd floor), 625 Indiana Avenue, NW, Washington, DC. Topics to be discussed at the meeting will include:

1. Resignation of the Board Chairperson.
2. Interim Board Governance.
3. Proposed Federal Regulations regarding CSB Quorum, Voting Procedures and compliance with the Government Under the Sunshine Act.
4. Review and Adoption of CSB Mission Statement.
5. Major CSB Initiatives for remainder of FY 2000.
6. Review and Discussion of FY 2001 Budget Proposal.

The meeting will be open to the public. The Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board is a secure federal building requiring photo identification for public admission. For more information, please contact the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board's Office of External Relations, (202)-261-7600, or visit our website at: www.csb.gov.

Christopher W. Warner,
General Counsel.

[FR Doc. 00-2381 Filed 1-31-00; 11:57 am]

BILLING CODE 6350-01-U

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 010600B]

Incidental Take of Marine Mammals; Taking of Ringed Seals Incidental to On-ice Seismic Activities

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 with implementing regulations, notification is hereby given that letters of authorization to take ringed and bearded seals incidental to on-ice seismic operations in the Beaufort Sea off Alaska was issued on January 28, 2000,

to Western Geophysical and Kuupik/Fairweather Geophysical, both of Anchorage, AK.

DATES: These letters of authorization are effective from January 28, 2000, through May 31, 2000.

ADDRESSES: The applications and letters are available for review in the following offices: Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910, and Western Alaska Field Office, NMFS, 701 C Street, Anchorage, AK 99513.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kenneth R. Hollingshead, NMFS, (301) 713-2055, ext 128 or Brad Smith, Western Alaska Field Office, NMFS, (907) 271-5006.

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 by NMFS and regulations are issued. Under the MMPA, the term "taking" means to harass, hunt, capture, or kill or to 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 ringed and bearded seals incidental to on-ice seismic surveys were published on February 2, 1998 (63 FR 5277), and remain in effect until December 31, 2002.

Summary of Request

NMFS received requests for letters of authorization on September 23, and October 14, 1999, from Western Geophysical, and on October 15, 1999 from Kuupik/Fairweather. These letters request a take by harassment of a small number of ringed seals incidental to

conducting vibroseis surveys in the Beaufort Sea off Alaska.

Issuance of these letters of authorization are based on findings that the total takings by this activity will have a negligible impact on the ringed seal stocks of the Western Beaufort Sea and that the applicants have met the requirements contained in the implementing regulations, including monitoring and reporting requirements.

Dated: January 28, 2000.

Donald R. Knowles,

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

[FR Doc. 00-2274 Filed 2-1-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 120999G]

National Plan for the Reduction of Incidental Catch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries

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

ACTION: Notice of extension of public comment period.

SUMMARY: A draft National Plan of Action for the Reduction of Incidental Catch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries (NPOA-Seabirds) was released for public comment on December 27, 1999, through a **Federal Register** notice. The public comment period listed in the previous notice expired on January 18, 2000. This notice extends this public comment period to February 7, 2000.

DATES: Written comments to the draft NPOA-Seabirds should be received no later than February 7, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Comments on the NPOA-Seabirds should be sent to David Kerstetter, NOAA - Fisheries/SF4, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910, or by fax to 301-713-2313. Comments will not be accepted via e-mail or internet.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David Kerstetter, (301) 713-2276, ext. 107, or fax 301-713-2313.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The United States, through a collaborative effort with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, is developing a NPOA-Seabirds pursuant to the endorsement of the International Plan of Action for the Reduction of Incidental Catch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries by the Food and Agriculture Organization of

the United Nations Committee on Fisheries (COFI) Meeting in February 1999. The United States has committed itself to completing the NPOA-Seabirds and reporting to COFI no later than 2001.

A previous **Federal Register** notice dated December 29, 1999 (64 FR 73017) provided notice of the availability of a draft NPOA-Seabirds and stated that public comment on this draft would be accepted until January 18, 2000. This notice extends the period of public comment to February 7, 2000.

Dated: January 27, 2000.

Bruce C. Morehead,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. 00-2194 Filed 2-1-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Technology Administration

National Medal of Technology Nomination Evaluation Committee (NMTNEC)

AGENCY: Technology Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of Recruitment for Additional Members for NMTNEC.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, Technology Administration (TA), requests nominations of individuals for appointment to the National Medal of Technology Nomination Evaluation Committee (NMTNEC). The Committee provides advice to the Secretary on the implementation of Public Law 96-480 (15 U.S.C. 3711) under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. app. 2. Public Law 105-309; 15 U.S.C. 3711, Section 10, approved by the 105th Congress in 1998, added the National Technology Medal for Environmental Technology. The terms of several current members have expired and the period of nominations will identify their replacement.

DATES: Please submit nominations on or before February 17, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Submit nominations to the National Medal of Technology Program Office, Technology Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW, Room 4226, Washington, DC 20230. Materials may be faxed to 202-501-8153.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stanley Dapkunas, Acting Director, 202-482-5572.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Medal of Technology was

rechartered on December 8, 1999 for a period of two years to provide advice to the Secretary on the implementation of Public Law 96-480 (15 U.S.C. 3711) under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. app. 2. The National Medal of Technology Nomination Evaluation Committee (NMTNEC) serves as an advisory body to the Under Secretary of Technology in his capacity as Chair of the Steering committee, which reports directory to the Secretary of Commerce. Members are responsible for reviewing nominations and making recommendations for the nation's highest honor for technological innovation, awarded annually by the President of the United States. Members of the NMTNEC have an understanding of, and experience in, developing and utilizing technological innovation and/or they are familiar with the education, training, employment and management of technological human resources.

Under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, membership in a committee constituted under the Act must be balanced. To achieve balance, the Department is seeking additional nominations of candidates from small, medium-sized, and large businesses or with special expertise in the following subsectors of the technology enterprise;

- (1) Infrastructure & Transportation/Telecommunications;
- (2) Biomedical/Pharmaceutical/Health;
- (3) Human Resources/Education; and
- (4) Other (including manufacturing, process, environmental technology, transportation).

Typically, committee members are present or former Chief Executive Officers or other senior leaders of corporations; presidents or distinguished faculty of universities; or senior executives of non-profit organizations. They offer stature by virtue of their positions and also possess first-hand knowledge of the forces driving future directions for their industries or fields of expertise. The Committee as a whole is balanced in representing geographical, professional, and diversity interests. Nominees must be U.S. citizens, must be able to fully participate in meetings pertaining to the review and selection of finalists for the National Medal of Technology, and must uphold the confidential nature of an independent peer review and competitive selection process.

The Department of Commerce is committed to equal opportunity in the workplace and seeks a broad-based and diverse NMTNEC membership.

Dated: January 27, 2000.

Gary Bachula,

Acting Under Secretary of Commerce for Technology.

[FR Doc. 00-2127 Filed 2-1-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-18-M

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meeting

AGENCY: U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission.

"FEDERAL REGISTER" CITATION OF PREVIOUS ANNOUNCEMENT: Vol. 65, No. 13, Thursday, January 20, 2000, page 3208.

PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED TIME AND DATE OF MEETING: 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, January 26, 2000.

CHANGES IN MEETING: The closed Commission briefing on the Compliance Status Report was not held due to the agency closing because of a weather emergency. The meeting has been rescheduled for Thursday, February 3, 2000 at 10:00 a.m.

For a recorded message containing the latest agenda information, call (301) 504-0709.

CONTACT PERSON FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Sadye E. Dunn, Office of the Secretary, 4330 East West Highway, Bethesda, MD 20207, (301) 504-0800.

Dated: January 31, 2000.

Sadye E. Dunn,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-2437 Filed 1-31-00; 3:03 pm]

BILLING CODE 6355-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

Conference Meeting of the Overseas Dependents' Schools National Advisory Panel (NAP) on the Education of Dependents with Disabilities

AGENCY: Department of Defense Education Activity.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Public Law 92-463, notice is hereby given that a meeting of the NAP is scheduled to be held April 18-20, 2000, from 8 am to 4 pm. The meeting will be open to the public and will be held at the Department of Defense Education Activity, 4040 North Fairfax Drive, Room 904, Arlington, Virginia 22203-1635. The purposes of the meeting are to: (1) Review the proposed revision of Department of Defense Instruction