

reasonable costs of damage assessment and restoration activities under CERCLA, OPA, and the NMSA. Within the constraints of these legal provisions and their regulatory applications, the DARP has the discretion to develop indirect cost rates for its component organizations and formulate policies on the recovery of indirect cost rates subject to its requirements.

The DARP's Indirect Cost Effort

In December 1998, the DARP hired the public account firm Rubino & McGeehin, Chartered (R&M), to: (1) Evaluate the cost accounting system and allocation practices; (2) recommend the appropriate indirect cost allocation methodology; and, (3) determine the indirect cost rates for the three organizations that comprise the DARP.

The DARP requested an analysis of its indirect costs for fiscal years (FY) where cost information was considered adequate to conduct such an analysis. Consequently, indirect cost rates were developed for the DAC and GCNR for

FYs 1993 through 1999, and for the RC for FYs 1997 through 1999 (see Table below). The goal was to develop the most appropriate indirect cost rate allocation methodology and rates for each of the DARP component organizations.

R&M concluded that the cost accounting system and allocation practices of the DARP component organizations are consistent with Federal accounting requirements. R&M also determined that the most appropriate indirect allocation method was the Direct Labor Cost Base for all three DARP component organizations. The Direct Labor Cost Base is computed by allocating total indirect cost over the sum of direct labor dollars plus the application of NOAA's leave surcharge and benefits rates to direct labor. The indirect costs rates that R&M computed for each of the three DARP component organizations were further assessed as being fair and equitable. A report on R&M's effort, their assessment of the DARP's cost accounting system and

practice, and their determination respecting the most appropriate indirect cost methodology and rates can be found on the DARP web site at: www.darp.noaa.gov. The report is entitled "Indirect Cost Rates Incurred by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Damage Assessment and Restoration Program."

The DARP's Indirect Cost Policy

The DARP will include the costs of program policy work and techniques and methods development in indirect cost pools of its component organizations, but will monitor these activities annually to control costs. The indirect cost pools also include the cost of general management and administrative support and preparedness for spill response work.

The DARP will apply the revised rates recommended by R&M for the respective fiscal years for each of the DARP component organizations as provided in the following table:

DARP unit	Fiscal years (FY) (in percent)						
	FY93	FY94	FY95	FY96	FY97	FY98	FY99
DAC	226.63	247.83	285.33	306.58	250.08	249.81	161.33
RC	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	139.70	142.82	203.24
GCNR	107.10	107.24	147.05	286.82	173.30	191.12	239.08

N/A—Not applicable. Rates were not calculated for these years.

The revised rates identified in this policy will be applied to all damage assessment and restoration case costs as of October 1, 2000, using the Direct Labor Cost Base allocation methodology. For cases that have settled and for cost claims paid prior to October 1, 2000, the DARP will not re-open any resolved matters for the purpose of applying the revised rates in this policy. For cases not settled and not cost claims not paid prior to October 1, 2000, costs will be recalculated using the revised rates in this policy. The DARP will use the FY 1999 rates for future fiscal years until year-specific rates can be developed.

Dated: December 1, 2000.

Margaret Davidson,

Assistant Administrator for Ocean Services and Coastal Zone Management.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D.113000C]

Endangered Species; Permits

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

ACTION: Receipt of application for an enhancement permit (1273); issuance of permits (1254).

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of the following actions regarding permits for takes of endangered and threatened species for the purposes of scientific research and/or enhancement: NMFS has received a permit application from the North Carolina Aquarium Division (NCAD)(1273); NMFS has issued permit 1254 to Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corporation/Dynergy Danskammer, L.L.C. & Dynergy Roseton, L.L.C. (CHGE/DD & DR) (1254).

DATES: Comments or requests for a public hearing on any of the new applications or modification requests

must be received at the appropriate address or fax number no later than 5 p.m. eastern standard time on January 8, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on any of the new applications or modification requests should be sent to the appropriate office as indicated below. Comments may also be sent via fax to the number indicated for the application or modification request. Comments will not be accepted if submitted via e-mail or the Internet. The applications and related documents are available for review in the indicated office, by appointment:

For permits (1273, 1254), Endangered Species Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD, 20910 301-713-1401.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For permits 1273: Terri Jordan, Silver Spring, MD (ph: 301-713-1401, fax: 301-713-0376, e-mail: Terri.Jordan@noaa.gov).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority

Issuance of permits and permit modifications, as required by the

Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531-1543) (ESA), is based on a finding that such permits/modifications: (1) are applied for in good faith; (2) would not operate to the disadvantage of the listed species which are the subject of the permits; and (3) are consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA. Authority to take listed species is subject to conditions set forth in the permits. Permits and modifications are issued in accordance with and are subject to the ESA and NMFS regulations governing listed fish and wildlife permits (50 CFR parts 222-226).

Those individuals requesting a hearing on an application listed in this notice should set out the specific reasons why a hearing on that application would be appropriate (see **ADDRESSES**). The holding of such hearing is at the discretion of the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NOAA. All statements and opinions contained in the permit action summaries are those of the applicant and do not necessarily reflect the views of NMFS.

Species Covered in This Notice

The following species and evolutionarily significant units (ESU's) are covered in this notice:

Sea Turtles

Fish

Shortnose sturgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*).

New Applications Received

Application 1273: The North Carolina Aquarium Division proposes to continue to maintain 17 endangered shortnose sturgeon for the purposes of public education through species enhancement as identified in the Final Recovery Plan for Shortnose Sturgeon.

Permits and Modifications Issued

Permit 1254: Notice was published on June 28, 2000 (65 FR 39869) that Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corporation/ Dynergy Danskammer, L.L.C. & Dynergy Roseton, L.L.C. applied for a scientific research permit (1254). The applicant has requested a scientific research permit to conduct a monitoring study as part of an incidental take permit for the operation of the Roseton and Danskammer Point power plants. The applicant will be collecting larvae, juvenile and adult shortnose sturgeon in various location in the Hudson River between the estuary and River mile 65. Permit 1254 was issued on November 29, 2000, authorizing take of listed species. Permit 1254 expires August 31, 2005.

Dated: December 1, 2000.

Wanda L. Cain,

Chief, Endangered Species Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 00-31232 Filed 12-6-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

Corps of Engineers; Grant of Partially Exclusive License

AGENCY: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DoD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with 37 CFR 404.7(b)(1)(i), announcement is made of a prospective partially exclusive license of U.S. Patent No. 5,202,034 entitled "Apparatus and Method for Removing Water from Aqueous Sludges," issued April 13, 1993.

DATES: Written objections must be filed not later than February 5, 2001.

ADDRESSES: United States Army Corps of Engineers Research and Development Center, Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory, ATTN: CEERD-RV-1 (Ms. Sharon Borland), 72 Lyme Road, Hanover, NH 03755-1290.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Sharon Borland, ATTN: CEERD-RV-1; (603) 646-4735, FAX (603) 646-4448; Internet

Sharon.L.Borland@erdc.usace.army.mil; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Research and Development Center, Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory, 72 Lyme Road, Hanover, NH 03755-1290

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Patent No. 5,202,034 entitled "Apparatus and Method for Removing Water from Aqueous Sludges," issued April 13, 1993. The concrete armor unit was invented by Dr. C. James Martel. The United States of America owns the rights to this technology. The United States of America as represented by the Secretary of the Army intends to grant a partially exclusive license for all fields of use, in the manufacture, use, and sale of the patented technology in the territories and possessions of the U.S.A. and Canada, and in the field of use in the pulp and paper industry globally, to 3131807 Canada, Inc., a consortium comprising two companies: Le Groupe STEICA, Inc. of Sherbrooke, Quebec, and BESTH20, Inc. of La Prairie, Quebec, with principal offices at 170, rue des Pivoines, Le Prairie, Quebec, Canada J5R 5J6. Pursuant to 37 CFR

404.7(b)(1)(i), any interested party may file a written objection to this prospective exclusive license agreement.

Richard L. Frenette,

Counsel.

[FR Doc. 00-31184 Filed 12-6-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-92-M

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: Department of Education.

SUMMARY: The Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer invites comments on the submission for OMB review as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before January 8, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be addressed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Lauren Wittenberg, Acting Desk Officer, Department of Education, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, NW., Room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503 or should be electronically mailed to the internet address *Lauren_Wittenberg@omb.eop.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. 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 Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, publishes that notice containing proposed information collection requests prior to submission of these requests to OMB. 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