B. Permanent Housing Funding Requirements

The FY 2000 HUD Appropriations Act (Public Law 106–24, approved October 20, 1999) requires that ''not less than 30 percent of these funds shall be used for permanent housing'' (which the FY 2000 Continuum of Care NOFA defines to include Shelter Plus Care renewal projects). The action taken by Congress to fund Shelter Plus Care renewal projects, a significant component of permanent housing funding in previous years, from a source other than the FY 2000 Homeless Assistance Grants appropriation, prevents these projects from counting toward the 30 percent permanent housing requirement contained in the FY 2000 HUD Appropriations Act. As a consequence, HUD will find it necessary, as contemplated in the FY 2000 Continuum of Care program section of the SuperNOFA, to skip over higher scoring non-permanent housing projects in order to reach the 30 percent requirement. However, in order to reduce the impact on existing homeless programs in implementing this statutory requirement, and in keeping with expressed Congressional intent to maintain existing programs and infrastructure for homeless assistance, HUD is amending the FY 2000 Continuum of Care NOFA as follows:

1. Funding for Supportive Housing Program (SHP) Renewal Projects Assigned 40 Need Points.

Section III(A)(2) of the FY 2000 Continuum of Care NOFA reserved for HUD the authority to use FY 2001 funds, if available, to conditionally select for one year of funding lower-rated eligible Supportive Housing Program (SHP) renewal projects that were assigned 40 need points if two criteria were met. The first criterion was that these projects had to be part of Continuum of Care systems ''that would not otherwise receive funding.'' Since the recent Congressional action will result in at least one permanent housing project being funded in many Continua of Care which scored below the projected funding line, these Continua of Care would be made ineligible for renewal funding under this authority. In order to avoid this unintended consequence of the congressional action, the criterion is being amended to read ''that would not otherwise receive funding for these projects'' so that it would apply specifically to these lower rated eligible SHP renewal projects that were assigned 40 need points, thus allowing these renewal projects to be funded under this authority.

2. Skipping Over of Higher Scoring Non-Permanent Housing Projects.

Section V(A)(7) of the FY 2000 Continuum of Care NOFA described the 30 percent permanent housing funding requirement established by Congress for the Continuum of Care competition. This section is being amended to permit HUD to first skip over new non-permanent housing projects when making project selections in order to meet the 30 percent requirement. If the 30 percent requirement has not been met after skipping over the new non-permanent housing projects, then HUD will skip over non-permanent housing renewal projects. In skipping over new non-permanent housing projects, HUD will begin with the lowest rated (eligible) fundable new non-permanent project at the projected funding line and continue up the rating and ranking until the 30 percent requirement is met. If HUD is required to skip over non-permanent housing renewal projects, HUD will proceed in the same way.

Accordingly, in the Super Notice of Funding Availability for Housing, Community Development, and Empowerment Programs and Section 8 Housing Voucher Assistance for Fiscal Year 2000, notice document 00–4123, beginning at 65 FR 9322, in the issue of Friday, February 24, 2000, the following clarifications and corrections are made to the Continuum of Care NOFA, commencing at 9851:

1. On page 9853, the last paragraph starting in the first column is amended to read as follows:

* * * * *

Your local needs analysis process must consider the need to continue funding for projects expiring in calendar year 2001, and you must assign a priority to those projects requesting renewal. HUD will not fund renewals out of order on the priority list except as may be necessary to achieve the new 30 percent overall permanent housing requirement. HUD reserves the authority to use FY 2001 funds, if available, to conditionally select for one year of funding lower-rated eligible SHP renewal projects that are assigned 40 need points in continuum of care systems that: (1) Would not otherwise receive funding for these projects; and (2) have not previously been awarded funds under this authority.

* * * * *

2. On page 9856, the last full paragraph starting in the third column is amended to read as follows:

* * * * *

In accordance with the appropriation for homeless assistance grants in the Fiscal Year 2000 Appropriation Act for HUD (Pub.L. 106–24, approved October 20, 1999; 113 Stat. 1047), HUD will use not less than 30 percent of the total FY 2000 homeless grant assistance appropriation to fund projects that meet the definition of permanent housing. Projects meeting the definition of permanent housing are: (1) New Shelter Plus Care projects; (2) Section 8 SRO projects; and (3) new and renewal projects designated as permanent housing for homeless persons with disabilities under the Supportive Housing Program. Since the FY 2000 homeless grant assistance appropriation is $1.020 billion, not less than $306 million must be awarded to permanent housing projects unless an insufficient number of approvable permanent housing projects is submitted in which case HUD will carry over the amount of the permanent housing funding shortfall to next year's competition. This permanent housing funding requirement may result in higher scoring non-permanent housing projects being skipped over to fund lower scoring permanent housing projects or, within a continuum, higher priority non-permanent housing projects being skipped over to fund lower priority permanent housing projects. HUD will first skip over new non-permanent housing projects when making project selections in order to meet the 30 percent requirement. If the 30 percent requirement has not been met after skipping over the new non-permanent housing projects, then HUD will skip over non-permanent housing renewal projects. In skipping over new non-permanent housing projects, HUD will begin with the lowest rated (eligible) fundable new non-permanent project at the projected funding line and continue up the rating and ranking until the 30 percent requirement is met. If HUD is required to skip over non-permanent housing renewal projects, HUD will proceed in the same way.

* * * * *

Dated: December 14, 2000.

Cardell Cooper,

Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development.

[FR Doc. 00–32371 Filed 12–19–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4210–29–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight

Solicitation of Public Comments on Systemic Risk

AGENCY: Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight, HUD.

ACTION: Extension of the period for the submission of public comments.

SUMMARY: On October 30, 2000, the Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight (OFHEO) published a notice entitled ''Solicitation of Public Comments on Systemic Risk'' in the **Federal Register** (65 FR 64718). OFHEO sought to examine the nature and magnitude of any risks the Federal National Mortgage Association (Fannie

Mae) and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (Freddie Mac) may pose to the financial system in general and to the U.S. housing finance markets in particular; whether and to what extent Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac contribute to or mitigate systemic risk; and actions that OFHEO and others could take to limit any systemic risk the Enterprises may pose. OFHEO has been requested to extend the comment period. To ensure that the public has ample opportunity to participate in the solicitation, today's notice extends the public comment period from December 29, 2000, through January 29, 2001.

DATES: The comment period is extended until January 29, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to Robert S. Seiler, Jr., Manager of Policy Analysis, Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight, 1700 G. Street, NW., Fourth Floor, Washington, DC 20552. All comments will be posted on the OFHEO web site at *http://www.ofheo.gov*. OFHEO requests that written comments submitted in hard copy also be accompanied by an electronic version in MS Word© or in portable document format (PDF) on 3.5″ disk. Alternatively, comments may also be sent by electronic mail to *sysrisk@ofheo.gov*.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert S. Seiler, Jr., Manager of Policy Analysis, Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight, 1700 G Street, NW., Fourth Floor, Washington, DC 20552, telephone (202) 414–3785 (not a toll free number). The telephone number for the Telecommunications Device for the Deaf is: (800) 877–8339.

Dated: December 14, 2000.

Armando Falcon, Jr.,

Director, Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight.

[FR Doc. 00–32325 Filed 12–19–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4220–01–U

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Letters of Authorization To Take Marine Mammals

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of issuance of a Letter of Authorization to take marine mammals incidental to oil and gas industry activities.

SUMMARY: In accordance with section 101(a)(5)(A) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service implementing regulations [50 CFR 18.72(f)(3)], notice is hereby given that a Letter of Authorization to take polar bears incidental to oil and gas industry exploration activities has been issued to the following companies.

Company	Activity	Date Issued
Phillips Alaska, Inc	Exploration	November 7, 2000.
Phillips Alaska, Inc	Exploration	November 7, 2000.
Phillips Alaska, Inc	Exploration	November 7, 2000.
Phillips Alaska, Inc	Exploration	November 7, 2000.
Phillips Alaska, Inc	Exploration	November 7, 2000.
Phillips Alaska, Inc	Exploration	November 7, 2000.
Phillips Alaska, Inc	Exploration	November 8, 2000.
Phillips Alaska, Inc	Exploration	November 8, 2000.
Phillips Alaska, Inc	Exploration	November 8, 2000.
Phillips Alaska, Inc	Exploration	November 8, 2000.
Phillips Alaska, Inc	Exploration	November 9, 2000.
Phillips Alaska, Inc	Exploration	November 9, 2000.
Phillips Alaska, Inc	Development	November 13, 2000.
Fairweather Geophysical, LLC	Exploration	November 13, 2000.

CONTACT: Mr. John W. Bridges at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Marine Mammals Management Office, 1011 East Tudor Road, Anchorage, Alaska 99503, (808) 362–5148 or (907) 786–3810.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The letters of Authorization were issued in accordance with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Federal Rules and Regulations ''Marine Mammals; Incidental Take During Specified Activities (65 FR 16828; March 30, 2000).''

Dated: November 28, 2000.

David B. Allen,

Regional Director.

[FR Doc. 00–32338 Filed 12–19–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–55–M

DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[NV–910–00–0777XX–241A]

Call for Nominations for Resource Advisory Council

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice of vacancy on Resource Advisory Council and call for nominations.

SUMMARY: The purpose of this notice is to solicit public nominations for the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM's) Northeastern Great Basin Resource Advisory Council (RAC) and Mojave-Southern Great Basin RAC in Nevada, to fill vacancies on those RACs for an individual holding elective office in Nevada. The RAC provides advice and recommendations to BLM's Elko, Ely, Battle Mountain and Las Vegas Field Offices on land use planning and management of the public lands within their geographic areas. Public nominations will be considered for 45 days after the publication date of this notice.

The Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) directs the Secretary of the Interior to involve the public in planning and issues related to management of lands administered by BLM. Section 309 of FLPMA directs the Secretary to select 10 to 15 member citizen-based advisory councils that are established and authorized consistent with the requirements of Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA). As required by the FACA, the interests represented by the individuals appointed to the RAC must be balanced and representative of the various issues concerned with the management of public lands.

These include three categories, one of which is Category three, holders of State, county or local elected office, employees of a State agency responsible