

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Amy Williams, (703) 602-0288. The information collection requirements addressed in this notice are available electronically via the Internet at: <http://www.acq.osd.mil/dp/dars/dfars.html>. Paper copies are available from Ms. Amy Williams, OUSD (AT&L)DP(DAR), IMD 3C132, 3062 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-3062.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title and OMB Number:* Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) Part 247, Transportation, and Related Clauses at DFARS 252.247; OMB Control Number 0704-0245.

*Needs and Uses:* DoD contracting officers use this information to verify that prospective contractors have adequate insurance prior to award of stevedoring contracts; to provide appropriate price adjustments to stevedoring contracts; and to assist the Maritime Administration in monitoring compliance with requirements for use of U.S.-flag vessels in accordance with the Cargo Preference Act of 1904 (10 U.S.C. 2631).

*Affected Public:* Businesses or other for-profit and not-for-profit institutions.

*Annual Burden Hours:* 150,114.

*Number of Respondents:* 60,270.

*Responses Per Respondent:*

Approximately 8.

*Annual Responses:* 465,882.

*Average Burden Per Response:* .32 hours.

*Frequency:* On occasion.

**Summary of Information Collection**

The clause at DFARS 252.247-7000, Hardship Conditions, is prescribed at 247.270-6(a) for use in all solicitations and contracts for acquisition of stevedoring services. Paragraph (a) of the clause requires the contractor to notify the contracting officer of unusual conditions associated with loading or unloading a particular cargo, for potential adjustment of contract labor rates; and to submit any associated request for price adjustment to the contracting officer within 10 working days of the vessel sailing time.

The clause at DFARS 252.247-7001, Price Adjustment, is prescribed at 247.270-6(b) for use in solicitations and contracts when using sealed bidding to acquire stevedoring services. Paragraphs (b) and (c) of the clause require the contractor to notify the contracting officer of certain changes in the wage rates or benefits that apply to its direct labor employees. Paragraph (g) of the clause requires the contractor to include with its final invoice a statement that the contractor has experienced no decreases in rates of pay for labor or has

notified the contracting officer of all such decreases.

The clause at DFARS 252.247-7002, Revision of Prices, is prescribed at 247.270-6(c) for use in solicitations and contracts when using negotiation to acquire stevedoring services. Paragraph (c) of the clause provides that, at any time, either the contracting officer or the contractor may deliver to the other a written demand that the parties negotiate to revise the prices under the contract. Paragraph (d) of the clause requires that, if either party makes such a demand, the contractor must submit relevant data upon which to base negotiations.

The clause at DFARS 252.247-7007, Liability and Insurance, is prescribed at 247.270-6(g) for use in all solicitations and contracts for acquisition of stevedoring services. Paragraph (f) of the clause requires the contractor to furnish the contracting officer with satisfactory evidence of insurance.

The provision at DFARS 252.247-7022, Representation of Extent of Transportation by Sea, is prescribed at 247.573(a) for use in all solicitations except those for direct purchase of ocean transportation services or those with an anticipated value at or below the simplified acquisition threshold. Paragraph (b) of the provision requires the offeror to represent whether or not it anticipates that supplies will be transported by sea in the performance of any contract or subcontract resulting from the solicitation.

The clause at DFARS 252.247-7023, Transportation of Supplies by Sea, is prescribed at 247.573(b) for use in all solicitations and contracts except those for direct purchase of ocean transportation services or those with an anticipated value at or below the simplified acquisition threshold. Paragraph (d) of the clause requires the contractor to submit requests for use of other than U.S.-flag vessels in writing to the contracting officer. Paragraph (e) of the clause requires the contractor to submit one copy of the rated on board vessel operating carrier's ocean bill of lading. Paragraph (f) of the clause requires the contractor to represent, with its final invoice, that: (1) No ocean transportation was used in the performance of the contract; (2) only U.S.-flag vessels were used for all ocean shipments under the contract; (3) the contractor had the written consent of the contracting officer for all non-U.S.-flag ocean transportation; or (4) shipments were made on non-U.S.-flag vessels without the written consent of the contracting officer. Paragraph (h) of the clause requires the contractor to flow down these requirements to

subcontracts that exceed the simplified acquisition threshold and are either noncommercial subcontracts or certain types of commercial subcontracts.

The clause at DFARS 252.247-7024, Notification of Transportation of Supplies by Sea, is prescribed for use at 247.573(c) in all contracts for which the offeror represented, by completion of the provision at 252.247-7022, that it did not anticipate transporting any supplies by sea in performance of the contract. Paragraph (a) of the clause requires the contractor to notify the contracting officer if the contractor learns after award of the contract that supplies will be transported by sea.

**Michele P. Peterson,**

*Executive Editor, Defense Acquisition Regulations Council.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**

**National Defense University**

**Eighth Annual National Security Education Program (NSEP) Institutional Grants Competition**

**AGENCY:** National Defense University, National Security Education Program (NSEP), DoD.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The NSEP announces the opening of its eighth Annual Competition for Grants to U.S. Institutions of Higher Education.

**DATES:** The 2001 NSEP Grants Competition begins on Monday, February 5, 2001. Preliminary five-page proposals are due Monday, April 9, 2001.

**ADDRESSES:** Grants Solicitations (applications and guidelines) will be available and may be downloaded from the NSEP home page (<http://www.ndu.edu/nsep>) beginning Monday, February 5, 2001. As alternate methods, you may obtain copies of the solicitation package by writing to: NSEP, Institutional Grants, Rosslyn PO Box 20010, 1101 Wilson Blvd, Suite 1210, Arlington, VA 22209-2248; by facsimile request (703) 696-5667; or by sending an electronic mail request to: [nsepo@ndu.edu](mailto:nsepo@ndu.edu).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Carol Anne Spreen, Program Officer for Institutional Grants, National Security Education Program, 1101 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 1210, Arlington, Virginia 22209-2248; electronic mail address: [spreenc@ndu.edu](mailto:spreenc@ndu.edu).

Dated: January 11, 2001.

**Patricia L. Toppings,**

*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.*

[FR Doc. 01-3036 Filed 2-5-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001-10-M

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**

**Interim Payment Requests**

**AGENCY:** Department of Defense (DoD).

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Office of the Director of Defense Procurement, in conjunction with the National Contract Management Association, is sponsoring a public meeting to discuss issues and impacts related to a proposed requirement that contractors relate billed costs in interim payment requests under cost-reimbursement contracts to specific contract line items. The Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) has proposed this requirement as a part of their Concept of Operations for the DoD's new payment systems, the DFAS Corporate Database and the Defense Procurement Payment System. Currently, unless the contract specifies otherwise, contractors need not identify specific contract line items being billed in interim payment requests. Typically, when not identified, DFAS prorates the billed costs against all contract line items.

The Director of Defense Procurement would like to hear the views of interested parties on what they believe to be the key issues and impacts pertaining to this proposed new requirement and any potential alternatives. In particular, we are interested in the views of specialists in the areas of cost accounting, billing, and the supporting computer systems.

**DATES:** The public meeting will be conducted at the address shown below on February 22, 2001, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., local time.

**ADDRESSES:** The public meeting will be conducted at the National Contract Management Association, 1912 Woodford Road, Vienna, VA 22182.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Bob Bembem, Office of Cost, Pricing, and Finance, by telephone at (703) 693-0196; by FAX at (703) 693-9616; or by e-mail at [robert.bembem@osd.mil](mailto:robert.bembem@osd.mil).

**Michele P. Peterson,**

*Executive Editor, Defense Acquisition Regulations Council.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

**Energy Information Administration**

**Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request**

**AGENCY:** Energy Information Administration (EIA), Department of Energy (DOE).

**ACTION:** Agency information collection activities: Proposed collection; comment request.

**SUMMARY:** The EIA is soliciting comments on the proposed new surveys, EIA-911A-C (Supplement), "Biweekly Surveys to Assess Effects of Interruptions of Natural Gas Supplies in the Northeast United States."

**DATES:** Comments must be filed on or before April 9, 2001. If you anticipate difficulty in submitting comments within that period, contact the person listed below as soon as possible.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments to William Trapmann, (EI-44), ATTN: Form EIA-911, Forrestal Building, U.S. Department of Energy, Washington, DC 20585. Alternatively, Mr. Trapmann may be reached by telephone at 202-586-6408, by FAX at 202-586-4420 or by e-mail at [william.trapmann@eia.doe.gov](mailto:william.trapmann@eia.doe.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or a copy of the forms and instructions should be directed to Mr. Trapmann at the address listed above.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

- I. Background
- II. Current Actions
- III. Request for Comments

**I. Background**

The Federal Energy Administration Act of 1974 (FEA Act) (Pub. L. 93-275, 15 U.S.C. 761 *et seq.*) and the DOE Organization Act (Pub. L. 95-91, 42 U.S.C. 7101 *et seq.*) require the EIA to carry out a centralized, comprehensive, and unified energy information program. This program collects, evaluates, assembles, analyzes, and disseminates information on energy resource reserves, production, demand, technology, and related economic and statistical information. To carry out this program, section 13(b) of the FEA Act (15 U.S.C. 772(b)) states that "All persons owning or operating facilities or business premises who are engaged in any phase of energy supply or major energy consumption shall make available to the (Administrator) such information and periodic reports, records, documents, and other data,

relating to the purposes of this Act,  
\* \* \*

Under the authorities granted, EIA conducts mandatory surveys of companies involved in energy supply and consumption. EIA's current surveys of energy suppliers include monthly surveys of petroleum product resellers and retailers, electric power supply and marketing companies, and natural gas supply companies. Collecting information from all types of energy supply companies provides EIA with information used to accurately estimate energy prices and quantities. Users of EIA's information include analysts in Federal, State, and local governments, as well as analysts in energy trade associations, energy companies, the media, consultants, and other private organizations.

The EIA, as part of its effort to comply with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13, 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), provides the general public and other Federal agencies with opportunities to comment on collections of energy information conducted by or in conjunction with the EIA. Any comments received help the EIA to prepare data requests that maximize the utility of the information collected, and to assess the impact of collection requirements on the public. Also, the EIA will later seek approval by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) of the collections under section 3507(a) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

In order to assess the interactions of the natural gas and distillate energy markets in the Northeast during the winter 2000/2001 heating season and to answer questions on the effects that "fuel-switching" customers (i.e., those that switch between natural gas and distillate) have on demand and market prices, EIA needs to collect information that is currently not available. An emergency clearance request was submitted to OMB on December 26, 2000, requesting OMB approval by January 3, 2001, to use the following three surveys to obtain biweekly data for the seven-week period, January 1, 2001, through April 8, 2001. OMB approved this request on January 8, 2001. In order for EIA to analyze data for the entire winter 2000/2001 heating season, EIA needs similar data for the October through December 2000 period.

- Form EIA-911A (Supplement), "Biweekly Gas Supplier Survey" EIA will collect information on a biweekly basis from a sample of natural gas suppliers in the Northeast regarding deliveries and interruptions of service for the October through December 2000 period. For each two-week period, data