DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

Availability of Novel Dendrimer Technologies for Exclusive, Partially Exclusive or Non-Exclusive Licenses

AGENCY: U.S. Army Research Laboratory, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Army announces the general availability of exclusive, partially exclusive or non-exclusive licenses relative to novel dendrimer based technologies as described in U.S. Patent applications ''One-Pot Synthesis of Functional Dendrigrafts and their Block Copolymers with Simple Initiating Systems'' (09/356802 filed 7/19/98) and ''Methods of using Nanomanipulation for Enhancing Bio-Assay Performance'' (09/448403 filed 11/22/99). Licenses shall comply with 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael D. Rausa, U.S. Army Research Laboratory, Office of Research and Technology Applications, ATTN: AMSRL–CS–TT/Bldg. 459, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland 21005–5425, Telephone: (410) 278–5028.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: None.

Luz D. Ortiz,

Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.

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BILLING CODE 3710–08–M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers

Intent to Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Morro Bay Estuary Feasibility Study, Morro Bay California

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

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The Los Angeles District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will prepare a DEIS to support the Morro Bay Estuary Feasibility Study, Morro Bay, California. The Study Area is the Morro Bay Estuary, which is located on the central coast of California within the City of Morro Bay, California. The Bay is approximately four miles long and one and three quarters miles at its maximum width. The central portion of the bay encompasses the delta of Chorro and Los Osos Creeks.

Morro Bay Estuary and associated wetlands provide valuable habitat for aquatic wildlife and are an important refuge for migratory birds and marine animals. Morro Bay is one of 28 estuaries in the Environmental Protection Agency's National Estuary Program.

The predominant problem that threatens the Morro Bay Estuary ecosystem is excessive sedimentation during periods of stormwater flows from Los Osos and Chorro Creeks. This results in significant increases in the volume of sediment deposited within the Bay. Deposition results in loss of wetlands as large-scale sedimentation promotes swift progression from marine to degraded salt marsh habitat. The Feasibility Study will focus on addressing the problems and needs caused by sediment deposition in the Morro Bay area. The DEIS will analyze the potential impacts (beneficial and adverse) on the environment for a range of alternatives, including the recommended plan.

The Los Angeles District, the Morro Bay national Estuary Program, and the County of San Luis Obispo will cooperate in conducting this Feasibility Study.

ADDRESSES: District Engineer, U.S. Army corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District, ATTN: CESPL–PD–RQ (R. Farve), P.O. Box 532711, Los Angeles, California 90053–2325.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Rey Farve, Environmental Coordinator, telephone (213)–452–3864, or Mr. Tony Risko, Chief, Coastal Studies Group, telephone (213)–452–3833.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. Authorization

This Feasibility Study was authorized by U.S. House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure Resolution dated 7 May 1997 which states, in part: ''Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, that the Secretary of the Army is requested to review the report of the Chief of Engineers on Morro Bay Harbor, San Luis Obispo County, California published as House Document 103–33, 103rd Congress, 1st Session, and other pertinent reports to determine whether modifications of the recommendations contained therein are advisable at the present time in the interest of environmental protection and restoration and related purposes within the Morro Bay Estuary in Morro Bay, California.''

2. Background

Morro Bay Estuary is located on the central coast of California within the City of Morro Bay, California. The Morro Bay Estuary joined the Environmental Protection Agency's National Estuary Program in July 1995. The Bay contains the most significant wetland system on California's south central coast. It serves a critical environmental function on the Pacific coast and serves national and international interests, in that the Estuary supports several federally listed threatened or endangered species, many species of migratory birds protected by international treaties, and provides a protected harbor of offshore marine fisheries.

There are many known and potential threats to this nationally significant estuary. Sediment threatened to shorten the life of this open water resource by as much as ten-fold. Other water quality concerns include excessive levels of bacteria, nutrients, and heavy metals. Water diversion, urban and agricultural runoff, and increasing impervious surfaces threaten the long-term health of the Bay.

The predominant problem that threatens the Morro Bay Estuary ecosystem is excessive sedimentation during periods of stormwater flows from Lost Osos and Chorro Creeks. This results in significant increases in the volume of sediment deposited within the Bay. Deposition results in loss of wetlands as large-scale sedimentation promotes swift progression from marine to degraded salt marsh habitat.

The non-federal sponsor of the Feasibility Study is the County of San Luis Obispo.

3. Alternatives

The Feasibility Study will focus on addressing the problems and needs caused by sediment deposition in the Morro Bay area. In general, alternative plans will focus on reducing the uncontrolled sediment deposition within the backbay, and associated restoration of the ecosystem. Alternative plans will also consider improving tidal circulation and tidal flushing. Other measures to restore desired environmental conditions and habitat for federal threatened and endangered species will be formulated and addressed during coordination efforts with the general public and other resource agencies. Environmentally sensitive dredging methods will be explored, and alternate sites and uses for dredged material will be considered.

The primary undesirable impacts of concern from any of the alternatives will