

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE****Office of the Secretary****32 CFR Part 3****Transactions Other Than Contracts, Grants, or Cooperative Agreements for Prototype Projects**

**AGENCY:** Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense (DoD).

**ACTION:** Proposed rule; public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Director of Defense Procurement is sponsoring a public meeting to discuss the proposed rule on conditions for appropriate use and audit policy for transactions for prototype projects published in the **Federal Register** at 66 FR 58422 on November 21, 2001.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on March 27, 2002 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the National Contract Management Association (NCMA), which is located at 1912 Woodford Road, Vienna, Virginia 22182. Directions to NCMA are available at <http://www.acq.osd.mil/dp/dsps/ot/pr.htm>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** David Capitano, Office of Cost, Pricing, and Finance, by telephone at 703-602-4245, by FAX at 703-602-0350, or by e-mail at [david.capitano@osd.mil](mailto:david.capitano@osd.mil).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Director of Defense Procurement would like to hear the views of interested parties on what they believe to be the key issues pertaining to the proposed rule on Transactions Other Than Contracts, Grants, or Cooperative Agreements for Prototype Projects published in the **Federal Register** at 66 FR 58422 on November 21, 2001. A listing of some of the possible issues for discussion, as well as copies of the written public comments submitted in response to the November 21, 2001 proposed rule, are available at <http://www.acq.osd.mil/dp/dsps/ot/pr.htm>.

Dated: February 27, 2002.

**L.M. Bynum,**

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

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**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION****Coast Guard****33 CFR Part 151**

[USCG-2001-10486]

RIN 2115-AG21

**Standards for Living Organisms in Ship's Ballast Water Discharged in U.S. Waters**

**AGENCY:** Coast Guard, DOT.

**ACTION:** Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Coast Guard seeks comments on the development of a ballast water treatment goal, and an interim ballast water treatment standard. The Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 and the National Invasive Species Act of 1996 require the Coast Guard to regulate ballast water management practices to prevent the discharge of shipborne ballast water from releasing harmful nonindigenous species into U.S. waters of the Great Lakes, and to issue voluntary guidelines to prevent the introduction of such species through ballast water operations in other waters of the U.S. These Acts further provide that the Coast Guard must assess compliance with the voluntary guidelines and if compliance is inadequate must issue regulations that make the guidelines mandatory. These guidelines and regulations must be based on open ocean ballast water exchange and/or environmentally sound alternatives that the Coast Guard determines to be at least as "effective" as ballast water exchange in preventing and controlling infestations of aquatic nuisance species (ANS). The Coast Guard will use the public's comments to help define a ballast water treatment goal and standard, both of which are essential parts of determining whether alternative ballast water management methods are environmentally sound and at least as effective as open ocean ballast water exchange (BWE) in preventing and controlling infestations of ANS.

**DATES:** Comments and related material must reach the Coast Guard on or before June 3, 2002.

**ADDRESSES:** To make sure that your comments and related material are not entered more than once in the docket, please submit them by only one of the following means:

(1) By mail to the Docket Management Facility (USCG-2001-10486), U.S. Department of Transportation, room PL-401, 400 Seventh Street SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001.

(2) By delivery to room PL-401 on the Plaza level of the Nassif Building, 400 Seventh Street SW., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The telephone number is 202-366-9329.

(3) By fax to the Docket Management Facility at 202-493-2251.

(4) Electronically through the Web Site for the Docket Management System at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

The Docket Management Facility maintains the public docket for this rulemaking. Comments and material received from the public, as well as documents mentioned in this preamble as being available in the docket, will become part of this docket and will be available for inspection or copying at room PL-401 on the Plaza level of the Nassif Building, 400 Seventh Street SW., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. You may also find this docket on the Internet at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** If you have questions about this notice, call Dr. Richard Everett, Project Manager, Office of Operating and Environmental Standards (G-MSO), Coast Guard, telephone 202-267-0214. If you have questions on viewing or submitting material to the docket, call Dorothy Beard, Chief, Dockets, Department of Transportation, telephone 202-366-5149.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****Other NISA Rulemaking to Date**

This rulemaking follows the publication of the Final Rule (USCG-1998-3423) on November 21, 2001 (66 FR 58381), for the Implementation of the National Invasive Species Act of 1996, that finalizes regulations for the Great Lakes ecosystems and voluntary ballast water management guidelines for all other waters of the United States, including reporting for nearly all vessels entering waters of the United States. Both rules follow the publication of the notice and request for comments for Potential Approaches To Setting Ballast Water Treatment Standards (USCG-2001-8737) on May 1, 2001, notice and request for comments on Approval for Experimental Shipboard Installations of Ballast Water Treatment Systems (USCG-2001-9267) on May 22, 2001, and the publication of notice of meetings; request for comments on The Ballast Water Management Program (USCG-2001-10062) on July 11, 2001.

**Request for Comments**

The Coast Guard encourages interested persons to participate in this