

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**Antitrust Division****Notice Pursuant to the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993—Microcontaminant Reduction Venture**

Notice is hereby given that, on August 29, 2005, pursuant to Section 6(a) of the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993, 15 U.S.C. 4301 *et seq.* ("the Act"), Microcontaminant Reduction Venture ("MRV") has filed written notifications simultaneously with the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission disclosing changes in its membership. The notifications were filed for the purpose of extending the Act's provisions limiting the recovery of antitrust plaintiffs to actual damages under specified circumstances. Specifically, one of the parties to MRV, Vulcan Materials Company, Birmingham, AL, has ceased manufacturing pentachlorophenol, and MRV has terminated.

On June 13, 2001, MRV filed its original notification pursuant to section 6(a) of the Act. The Department of Justice published a notice in the **Federal Register** pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act on July 19, 2001 (66 FR 37709).

The last notification was filed with the Department on June 8, 2005. A notice was published in the **Federal Register** pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act on July 7, 2005 (70 FR 39338).

Dorothy B. Fountain,

Deputy Director of Operations Antitrust Division.

[FR Doc. 05-18946 Filed 9-21-05; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**Antitrust Division****Notice Pursuant to the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993—Southwest Research Institute: Cooperative Research Group on High Efficiency Durable Gasoline Engine**

Notice is hereby given that, on August 10, 2005, pursuant to section 6(a) of the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993, 15 U.S.C. 4301 *et seq.* ("the Act"), Southwest Research Institute: Cooperative Research Group on High Efficiency Durable Gasoline Engine ("HEDGE") has filed written notifications simultaneously with the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission disclosing changes in its membership. The notifications were

filed for the purpose of extending the Act's provisions limiting the recovery of antitrust plaintiffs to actual damages under specified circumstances.

Specifically, Ford Motor Company, Dearborn, MI; Nissan Motor Co., Ltd., Kasagawa, JAPAN; Renault s.a.s., Société par Actions Simplifiée, Boulogne-Billancourt, FRANCE; and Valeo Systemes de Controle Moteur, Cedex, FRANCE have been added as parties to this venture.

No other changes have been made in either the membership or planned activity of the group research project. Membership in this group research project remains open, and HEDGE intends to file additional written notification disclosing all changes in membership.

On June 10, 2005, HEDGE filed its original notification pursuant to Section 6(a) of the Act. The Department of Justice published a notice in the **Federal Register** pursuant to section 6(b) of the Act on July 7, 2005 (70 FR 39339).

Dorothy B. Fountain,

Deputy Director of Operations Antitrust Division.

[FR Doc. 05-18945 Filed 9-21-05; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**Drug Enforcement Administration****Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comments Requested**

ACTION: 60-Day Emergency Notice of Information Collection Under Review: Application for Procurement Quota for Controlled Substances.

The Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), has submitted the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with emergency review procedures of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. OMB approval has been requested by September 30, 2005. The proposed information collection is published to obtain comments from the public and affected agencies. If granted, the emergency approval is only valid for 180 days. Comments should be directed to the Office of Management and Budget, Office of Information and Regulation Affairs, Attention: Department of Justice Desk Officer, Washington, DC 20503. Comments are encouraged and will be accepted for 60 days until November 21, 2005.

During the first 60 days of this same review period, a regular review of this information collection is also being undertaken. All comments and suggestions, or questions regarding additional information, to include obtaining a copy of the proposed information collection instrument with instructions, should be directed to Patricia M. Good, Chief, Office of Diversion Control, Drug Enforcement Administration, Washington, DC 20537.

Written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed collection of information are encouraged. Your comments should address one or more of the following four points:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- Evaluate the accuracy of the agencies estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, *e.g.*, permitting electronic submission of responses.

Overview of this information:

(1) *Type of information collection:* Revision of a Currently Approved Collection.

(2) *The title of the form/collection:* Application for procurement quota for controlled substances.

(3) *The agency form number, if any, and the applicable component of the department sponsoring the collection:* Form Number: DEA Form 250. Office of Diversion Control, Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice.

(4) *Affected public who will be asked or required to respond, as well as a brief abstract:* Primary: Business or other for-profit. Other: none. Title 21 U.S.C. 826 and 21 CFR 1303.12, require that U.S. companies who desire to use any basic class of controlled substances listed in Schedule I or II for purposes of manufacturing during the next calendar year shall apply on DEA Form 250 for procurement quota for such class.

(5) *An estimate of the total number of respondents and the amount of time estimated for an average respondent to*

respond: It is estimated that 255 persons submit 1,106 completed DEA Forms 250, at 1 hour per form, for an annual burden of 1,106 hours. It is estimated that 25 companies submit information pertaining to new drug applications or abbreviated new drug applications, at 2 hours per response, for an annual burden of 50 hours.

(6) *An estimate of the total public burden (in hours) associated with the collection*: It is estimated that the total annual burden associated with this information collection is 1,156 hours.

If additional information is required contact: Brenda E. Dyer, Department Clearance Officer, United States Department of Justice, Justice Management Division, Policy and Planning Staff, Patrick Henry Building, Suite 1600, 601 D Street NW., Washington, DC 20530, or by e-mail at brenda.e.dyer@usdoj.gov.

Dated: September 16, 2005.

Brenda E. Dyer,

Department Clearance Officer, Department of Justice.

[FR Doc. 05-18903 Filed 9-21-05; 8:45 am]

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NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Notice of Intent To Prepare a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement for the National Science Foundation To Address Potential Impacts on the Marine Environment Related to the Use of Seismic Sources in Support of NSF-Funded Research by U.S. Academic Scientists.

AGENCY: National Science Foundation.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as implemented by the Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR parts 1500-1508), the National Science Foundation (NSF) announces its intent to prepare a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OES) to evaluate the potential environmental impacts associated with the use of seismic sources in support of NSF-funded research by U.S. academic scientists. The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), a part of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, is being invited to be a cooperating agency in the preparation of the Programmatic EIS/OES.

Publication of this notice begins the official scoping process that will help

identify alternatives and determine the scope of environmental issues to be addressed in the Programmatic EIS/OEIS. This notice requests public participation in the scoping process and provides information on how to participate.

ADDRESSES AND DATES: Public-scoping meetings will be held at the following dates, times, and locations:

1. Wednesday, October 5, 2005, 1-5 p.m., Silver Spring Metro Center Building 4, Science Center, 1301 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD;
2. Thursday, October 6, 2005, 5-9 p.m., J. Erick Jonhohn Center of the National Academy of Sciences, Carriage House, 314 Quissett Avenue, Woods Hole, MA;
3. Wednesday, October 12, 2005, 5-9 p.m., Room C126, 1000 Discovery Drive, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX;
4. Friday, October 14, 2005, 5-9 p.m., Egan Civic and Convention Center, 555 West Fifth Avenue, Anchorage, AK;
5. Monday, October 17, 2005, 5-9 p.m., 100 Vaughn Hall, Discovery Way, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, La Jolla, CA; and
6. Wednesday, October 19, 2005, 5-9 p.m., Ala Moana Hotel, 410 Atkinson Drive, Honolulu, HI.

Written comments will be accepted at these meetings as well as during the scoping period, and can be mailed to NSF by October 28, 2005 (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Written statements and questions regarding the scoping process should be mailed to Dr. Alexander Shor, Program Director, Oceanographic Instrumentation and Technical Services, Division of Ocean Sciences, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 725, Arlington, VA 22230; voice (703) 292-8583 or e-mail at OCE-EIS@nsf.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In the last 2 years, NSF has prepared 16 environmental assessments (EAs) on the impact of seismic noise on endangered species and marine mammals during planned marine research projects concerning the geology and geophysics of the seafloor. The EAs were prepared for various worldwide, academic research cruises that required the use of various marine seismic sources. These EAs were intended to address regulations and public concern over anthropogenic noise in the marine environment and its possible, negative impacts on marine life. They were prepared to address U.S. laws and regulations, including NEPA; the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972

(MMPA); the endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA); and Executive Order (EO) 12114 (1979), *Environmental Effects Abroad of Major Federal Actions*. In some cases they have also been used as background information to address foreign regulations, especially where research has been carried out entirely or partially within territorial waters or Exclusive Economic Zone waters surrounding a foreign nation.

In each case, the NSF EA and a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) has been used as the basis for consultation with NMFS Office of Protected Resources (OPR) under Section 7(a)(2) of the ESA, and in each case for which an action is finalized, NMFS OPR has issued a Biological Opinion and a related Incidental Take Statement authorizing the proposed project to be undertaken, and indicating any mitigation measures needed to reduce impacts on endangered species. In parallel with this effort, a separate application has been submitted for each cruise to apply for an Incidental Harassment Authorization (IHA) under the MMPA from NMFS OPR, and an IHA has also been issued by NMFS for each of the projects. Increasingly over the past 2 years, public comments have expressed concern that by evaluating individual projects in isolation, the cumulative impacts of NSF-funded seismic activities on the marine environment are not being adequately addressed. NSF and NMFS OPR personnel have examined this concern and have concluded that a Programmatic EIS/OEIS could provide both the holistic view of cumulative impacts, as well as provide the principal technical and environmental foundation to form the basis of evaluating environmental impacts of most NSF-funded seismic efforts.

The Programmatic EIS/OEIS will take a view of the planned program as a whole and thereby assemble and analyze the broadest range of direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts associated with the entire program rather than assessing individual cruises separately. This approach will also address possible concerns that NSF is analyzing their research program in segments, rather than holistically where the true cumulative impacts of the entire program can be identified. Further, the parent Programmatic EIS/OEIS will provide a broad analytical backdrop within which NSF, using tiered documents, will be able to analyze cruise-specific issues relevant for analysis and decision. Additionally, it will streamline the preparation of subsequent environmental documents for the individual cruises and also