

Dated: January 11, 2006.

Hratch G. Semerjian,

Deputy Director.

[FR Doc. E6-414 Filed 1-13-06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Institute of Standards and Technology

[Docket 051229349-5349-01]

Establishment of a Laboratory Accreditation Program for Radiation Detection Instruments Under National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) publishes this notice to announce that it is establishing an accreditation program for laboratories that perform testing of radiation detection instruments. This program will provide for the accreditation of laboratories that test radiation detection instruments using standards developed by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and the Homeland Security Instrumentation (HSI) and Radiation Protection Instrumentation (RPI) groups.

DATES: Laboratories interested in seeking accreditation that will allow them to be considered for Department of Homeland Security recognition should contact NVLAP immediately.

ADDRESSES: National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program, 100 Bureau Drive/MS 2140, Gaithersburg, MD 20899-2140.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Betty Ann Torres, Senior Program Manager, NVLAP, 100 Bureau Drive/MS2140, Gaithersburg, MD 20899-2140, Phone: (301) 975-8446 or e-mail: betty.torres@nist.gov. Information regarding NVLAP and the accreditation process can be viewed at <http://www.nist.gov/nvlap>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has requested that NIST establish a laboratory accreditation program for laboratories that test radiation detection instruments used in homeland security applications. In response to the request by DHS, National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program (NVLAP) is establishing an accreditation program

for laboratories that test radiation detection instruments.

This notice is issued in accordance with the NVLAP procedures and general requirements, found in title 15, Part 285 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

Technical Requirements for the Accreditation Process

NVLAP accreditation criteria are established in accordance with the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR, title 15, Part 285), NVLAP Procedures and General Requirements. NVLAP is in full conformance with the standards of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), including ISO/IEC 17025.

Accreditation is granted to a laboratory following successful completion of a process, which includes submission of an application and payment of fees by the laboratory, an on-site assessment by technical experts, resolution of any deficiencies identified during the on-site assessment, and participation in proficiency testing. The accreditation is formalized through issuance of a Certificate of Accreditation and Scope of Accreditation.

NVLAP provides an unbiased, third-party evaluation and recognition of competence. NVLAP accreditation signifies that a laboratory has demonstrated that it operates in accordance with NVLAP management and technical requirements pertaining to quality systems; personnel; accommodation and environment; test and calibration methods; equipment; measurement traceability; sampling; handling of test and calibration items; and test and calibration reports.

NVLAP accreditation does not imply any guarantee (certification) of laboratory performance or test/calibration data. NVLAP accreditation is a finding of laboratory competence.

PRA Clearance

This action contains a collection of information requirements subject to review and approval by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995. Collection activities for National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program are currently approved by the OMB under control number 0693-0003. Notwithstanding any other provision of the law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB Control Number.

Executive Order 12866

This action has been determined to be not significant under Executive Order 12866.

Dated: January 10, 2006.

Hratch G. Semerjian,

Deputy Director.

[FR Doc. E6-413 Filed 1-13-06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; StormReady and TsunamiReady/StormReady Application Forms

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before March 20, 2006.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6625, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at dHynek@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Donna Franklin at Donna.Franklin@noaa.gov or 301-713-0090 ext 141.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

StormReady and TsunamiReady are voluntary programs offered to provide guidance and incentive to officials who wish to improve their hazardous weather operations. Applicants will use the StormReady Application form and TsunamiReady/StormReady Application form to apply for initial StormReady or TsunamiReady/StormReady recognition and renewal of that recognition every three years. A typical StormReady community would use this form 3 times every 10 years. The government will use the information collected by application to determine whether a community has

met all of the guidelines to receive StormReady and/or TsunamiReady selection.

II. Method of Collection

Applications will be submitted on paper (faxed or mailed) or electronically.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0648-0419.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: State, local or tribal government (emergency managers).

Estimated Number of Respondents: 75.

Estimated Time Per Response: 1 hour.

Estimated Total Annual Burden

Hours: 75.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$27.75.

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: January 10, 2006.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. E6-371 Filed 1-13-06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Notice of Availability of Record of Decision and Final Findings on Approvability for the Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management's Review of Amendments to the Alaska Coastal Management Program Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

AGENCY: Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric

Administration (NOAA), Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management.

ACTION: Notice of availability of Record of Decision and Final Findings of Approvability for Amendment to the Alaska Coastal Management Program.

SUMMARY: NOAA's Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management (OCRM) announces availability of the Record of Decision (ROD) and Final Findings of Approvability (Findings) for OCRM's Review of Amendments to the Alaska Coastal Management Program (ACMP) final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). On June 2, 2005, OCRM received the State of Alaska's request to incorporate Executive Order 106, House Bills 191, 69, 86, Senate Bill 102, revisions to statute AS 46, and new implementing regulations at 11 AAC 110, 11 AAC 112, and 11 AAC 114 as an amendment to the ACMP. The new implementing regulations replace the existing consistency review procedure regulations previously found at 6 AAC 50, the statewide standards previously found at 6 AAC 80, and the district program guidelines previously found at 6 AAC 85 as the enforceable policies of the ACMP. The final EIS was released to the public for 30 days after the publication of a Notice of Availability in the **Federal Register** on November 25, 2005 (79 FR 71139). The ROD documents the selection of Alternative 1 (the NOAA preferred alternative) in the final EIS. The Findings make a final determination that the ACMP, as amended by the June 2, 2005, ACMP Amendment Document, still constitutes an approvable program and that procedural requirements of the CZMA and its implementing regulations have been met. The ROD and Findings were signed by the Deputy Assistant Administrator, National Ocean Service (NOS) on December 29, 2005. Federal consistency applies to the revised ACMP enforceable policies as of December 29, 2005.

ADDRESSES: A copy of the ROD and the Findings may be obtained from Helen Bass, Environmental Protection Specialist, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, OCRM/CPD, N/ORM3, Station 11207, 1305 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910, or at Helen.Bass@noaa.gov, (301) 713-3155, extension 175 (telephone) and 301-713-4367 (FAX). The documents are also available on OCRM's Web site at <http://coastalmanagement.noaa.gov/pcd/up.html>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bill Millhouser, Pacific Regional Team

Leader, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, OCRM/CPD, N/ORM3, Station 11204, 1305 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910, or Bill.Millhouser@noaa.gov, (301) 713-3155, extension 189, (telephone), 301-713-4367 (FAX).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The following is a summary of the ROD and the Findings. On June 2, 2005, Alaska formally submitted to NOAA a request to amend the ACMP.

The amendment included the above-referenced laws and new implementing regulations, which replace the existing consistency review procedure regulations previously found at 6 AAC 50, the statewide standards previously found at 6 AAC 80, and the district program guidelines previously found at 6 AAC 85. The Rod selects final EIS Alternative 1, Approve Alaska's Request for Amendment of the ACMP. OCRM arrived at this decision while taking environmental, economic, and agency statutory mission considerations into account, as discussed in greater detail in the ROD and Section 10 of the final EIS. The Findings provide an analysis of how the ACMP, as amended, meets the requirements of the CZMA at 15 CFR part 923, including uses subject to management, special management areas, boundaries, authorities and organization, and coordination, public involvement, and national interest.

The following factors weighed most heavily in OCRM's decision: (1) Continued ACMP approvability as amended by the proposed program change; and (2) impacts to coastal resources and communities associated with the continued existence of the ACMP. OCRM approved the ACMP amendment because OCRM believes Alternative 1 meets the program change requirements of the CZMA, and will be the best opportunity for continued comprehensive protection of Alaska's coastal resources. OCRM did not select either Alternative 2 (Failure to Approve Alaska's Request for Amendment of the ACMP) or Alternative 3 (Deny Alaska's Request for Amendment of the ACMP) because both ultimately would have resulted in the repeal and termination of the ACMP. Termination of the ACMP would potentially lead to adverse physical and socio-economic impacts to coastal resources and communities associated with (1) lack of Federal consistency requirements available only through participation in the national coastal management program; (2) loss of funding for implementation of the ACMP; and (3) loss of Alaska's comprehensive coastal management program which allows for district