

SUMMARY: The Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics) is waiving the limitation of 10 U.S.C. 2534 for certain defense items produced in the United Kingdom (UK). 10 U.S.C. 2534 limits DoD procurement of certain items to sources in the national technology and industrial base. The waiver will permit procurement of enumerated items from sources in the UK, unless otherwise restricted by statute.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This waiver is effective for one year, beginning November 14, 2007.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Barbara Glotfelty, OUSD(AT&L), Office of the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Contract Policy and International Contracting, Room 5E621, 3060 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-3060; telephone 703-697-9351.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Subsection (a) of 10 U.S.C. 2534 provides that the Secretary of Defense may procure the items listed in that subsection only if the manufacturer of the item is part of the national technology and industrial base. Subsection (i) of 10 U.S.C. 2534 authorizes the Secretary of Defense to exercise the waiver authority in subsection (d), on the basis of the applicability of paragraph (2) or (3) of that subsection, only if the waiver is made for a particular item listed in subsection (a) and for a particular foreign country. Subsection (d) authorizes a waiver if the Secretary determines that application of the limitation "would impede the reciprocal procurement of defense items under a memorandum of understanding providing for reciprocal procurement of defense items" and if he determines that "that country does not discriminate against defense items produced in the United States to a greater degree than the United States discriminates against defense items produced in that country." The Secretary of Defense has delegated the waiver authority of 10 U.S.C. 2534(d) to the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics).

DoD has had a Reciprocal Defense Procurement Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the UK since 1975, most recently renewed on December 16, 2004.

The Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics) finds that the UK does not discriminate against defense items produced in the United States to a greater degree than the United States discriminates against defense items produced in the UK, and

also finds that application of the limitation in 10 U.S.C. 2534 against defense items produced in the UK would impede the reciprocal procurement of defense items under the MOU.

Under the authority of 10 U.S.C. 2534, the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics) has determined that application of the limitation of 10 U.S.C. 2534(a) to the procurement of any defense item produced in the UK that is listed below would impede the reciprocal procurement of defense items under the MOU with the UK.

On the basis of the foregoing, the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics) is waiving the limitation in 10 U.S.C. 2534(a) for procurements of any defense item listed below that is produced in the UK. This waiver applies only to the limitations in 10 U.S.C. 2534(a). It does not apply to any other limitation, including section 8015 of the DoD Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2007 (Public Law 109-289). This waiver applies to procurements under solicitations issued during the period from November 14, 2007, to November 13, 2008. Similar waivers have been granted since 1998, most recently in 2006 (71 FR 39076, July 11, 2006). For contracts resulting from solicitations issued prior to August 4, 1998, this waiver applies to procurements of the defense items listed below under—

(1) Subcontracts entered into during the period from November 14, 2007, to November 13, 2008, provided the prime contract is modified to provide the Government adequate consideration such as lower cost or improved performance; and

(2) Options that are exercised during the period from November 14, 2007, to November 13, 2008, if the option prices are adjusted for any reason other than the application of the waiver, and if the contract is modified to provide the Government adequate consideration such as lower cost or improved performance.

List of Items To Which This Waiver Applies

1. Air circuit breakers.
2. Welded shipboard anchor and mooring chain with a diameter of four inches or less.
3. Gyrocompasses.
4. Electronic navigation chart systems.
5. Steering controls.
6. Pumps.
7. Propulsion and machinery control systems.

8. Totally enclosed lifeboats.

Michele P. Peterson,

Editor, Defense Acquisition Regulations System.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Navy

[Docket No. USN-2007-0051]

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps, DoD.

ACTION: Notice.

In compliance with Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the *Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995*, the U.S. Marine Corps announces a proposed new public information collection and seeks public comment on the provisions thereof. 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 of the proposed information collection; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

DATES: Consideration will be given to all comments received by December 31, 2007.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by docket number and title, by any of the following methods:

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- Mail: Federal Docket Management System Office, 1160 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-1160.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the agency name, docket number and title for this **Federal Register** document. The general policy for comments and other submissions from members of the public is to make these submissions available for public viewing on the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov> as they are received without change, including any personal identifiers or contact information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request more information on this

proposed information collection or to obtain a copy of the proposal and associated collection instruments, write to Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps (LFL), 2 Navy Annex, Room 3109, Washington, DC 20380-1775, or contact Captain David Nasse at (703) 695-8302.

Title and OMB Number: Camp Lejeune Notification Registry; OMB Control Number 0703-TBD.

Needs and Uses: The information collection requirement is used to obtain and maintain contact information of people who may have been exposed to contaminated drinking water aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, NC, as well as other parties who are interested in the issue. The information will be used to provide notifications and updated information to such persons regarding possible contamination of the drinking water on Camp Lejeune.

Affected Public: U.S. Service Members (active, reserve, retired, and separated), military dependents, Federal government employees, and civilian personnel who were/are stationed, live(d), or were/are employed aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, NC and may have been exposed to contaminated drinking water. Additionally, any person interested in the Camp Lejeune contaminated drinking water issue may also enter their contact information in the system.

Annual Burden Hours: 100.

Number of Respondents: 1000.

Responses per Respondent: 1.

Average Burden per Response: 6 Minutes.

Frequency: On occasion.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Summary of Information Collection

The Camp Lejeune Notification Registry contains contact information of people who may have been exposed to contaminated drinking water aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, NC, as well as other parties who are interested in the issue. The information will be used to provide notifications and updated information to such persons regarding possible contamination of the drinking water on Camp Lejeune.

Dated: October 22, 2007.

Patricia L. Toppings,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Navy

Public Hearings for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement for the Shock Trial of the MESA VERDE (LPD 19)

AGENCY: Department of the Navy, DoD.
ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) and regulations implemented by the Council on Environmental Quality (40 C.F.R. Parts 1500-1508), and Presidential Executive Order 12114, Environmental Effects Abroad of Major Federal Actions, the Department of the Navy (Navy) has prepared and filed with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency a Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS) on October 19, 2007. This EIS/OEIS evaluates the environmental effects for the shock trial of the MESA VERDE (LPD 19) at a site offshore of either Norfolk, Virginia; Mayport, Florida; or Pensacola, Florida. A Notice of Intent for this DEIS/OEIS was published in the **Federal Register** on March 12, 2004. The Navy will conduct three public hearings to receive oral and written comments on the Draft EIS/OEIS. Federal, State, and local agencies and interested individuals are invited to be present or represented at the public hearings. This notice announces the dates and locations of the public hearings for this Draft EIS/OEIS.

DATES AND ADDRESSES: Public hearings have been scheduled as follows:

1. Tuesday, November 27, 2007, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., Kirn Memorial Main Library, 301 East City Hall Avenue, Norfolk, VA.
2. Wednesday, November 28, 2007, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., Pensacola Junior College, Hagler Auditorium, 1000 College Boulevard, Pensacola, FL.
3. Thursday, November 29, 2007, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., Fletcher High School, 700 Seagate Avenue, Neptune Beach, FL.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Don Shaver at 202-781-4864 during normal business hours Monday through Friday.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The MESA VERDE (LPD 19) is the third ship in the new SAN ANTONIO (LPD 17) Class of nine planned amphibious transport dock ships being acquired by the Navy to meet Marine Air-Ground Task Force lift requirements. The Draft EIS/OEIS evaluates the environmental

consequences of conducting a proposed shock trial of the MESA VERDE at an offshore location. The ship would be subjected to a series of up to four 4,536 kilogram (kg) (10,000 pound [lb]) explosive charge detonations in the spring/summer of 2008.

The Draft EIS/OEIS identifies and evaluates the potential environmental impacts of three alternative locations for conducting an at-sea shock trial offshore of Naval Station Norfolk, Virginia; Naval Station Mayport, Florida; or Naval Air Station Pensacola, Florida. These alternatives are compared with respect to project purpose and need, operational criteria, and environmental impacts.

The Notice of Intent (NOI) published for this EIS/OEIS in the **Federal Register** on 12 March 2004 identified the alternative location of offshore Pascagoula, in addition to the "no action" alternative, for analysis in this EIS/OEIS. The Base Realignment and Closure Act of 2005 (BRAC) identified Naval Station Pascagoula for closure. After the 2005 BRAC recommendation, the DON revisited the operational requirements for the Draft EIS/OEIS and identified offshore off Pensacola, Florida as an additional alternative shock trial location, removing the offshore Pascagoula alternative location from further study.

Navy has identified the preferred alternative of conducting the shock trial offshore of Mayport, Florida. This alternative would meet the project purpose and need, satisfy operational requirements, and potentially minimize environmental impacts.

The "no action" alternative does not meet the purpose and need because it would prevent the Navy from adequately assessing the survivability of this ship Class. The ship must undergo a shock trial because, although computer modeling and component testing have been undertaken, an at-sea shock trial would provide the best means to assess the shock response of the entire manned ship and the interaction of the ship's systems and components.

Environmental impacts that may occur from the proposed action include minor or temporary impacts to the physical and biological environments and existing human uses of the area. Additionally, there is a risk of impacts to marine mammals and sea turtles, which varies between proposed shock trial locations and seasons. However, protective measures will be established to minimize risk to marine mammals and sea turtles. The NMFS is concurrently evaluating Navy's request for a Letter of Authorization for the Incidental Take of Marine Mammals in