

leveraging of other new fund sources, in-kind provision of faculty, student support, dedicated office or laboratory space.

g. *Facilities and Equipment*: The availability and/or adequacy of the facilities and equipment proposed for the project.

h. *Management*: The ability of the lead institution to manage a complex Center of Excellence in terms of achieving research results when due, managing large and complex budgets and communicating research outcomes, and the adequacy of the proposed management plan to ensure quality research and education programs from researchers at both primary and partner institutions.

i. *Minority Serving Institution Partnerships*: The demonstrated ability and commitment to establish meaningful partnerships with MSIs to develop a quality MSI research and training program, and the quality of the proposed program.

j. *Education*: The adequacy of education plans and supporting materials demonstrating the proposed COE's ability to establish an enduring and comprehensive program of study in disciplines related to the specific research areas cited in this announcement.

k. *Knowledge of Current Research*: Evidence that the applicant is familiar with the research and resources of existing DHS COEs, other DHS S&T, Federal agency or National Laboratory research and development programs, and other relevant university programs and can demonstrate its ability to take advantage of these resources.

l. *Results Transition*: The effectiveness and soundness of a strategy to transition research results to end users and mechanisms to accomplish this transition, and demonstration of a clear and effective plan for transitioning research results for each project or research area ultimately to homeland security mission agencies.

m. *Budget*: Although budget information does not reflect on the application's scientific merit, the evaluation will include the appropriateness and/or adequacy of the proposed budget and its implications for the potential success of the proposed research. Input on requested equipment is of particular interest.

### Summary

This COE will conduct fundamental research into the technological issues, challenges, and policy issues related to (1) dynamic, on-demand data processing and visualization; (2) hypothesis-driven

data analysis; (3) visualization of structured, unstructured, and streaming data; (4) mathematics of discrete and visual analytics; (5) scalable information filtering and dissemination; (6) visualization and simulation of information; (7) mobile and light-weight information analytics and sharing. This COE will create the scientific basis and enduring technologies needed to analyze massive amounts of information from multiple sources to more reliably detect threats to the security of the nation and its infrastructures, and to the health and welfare of its populace. These new technologies will also improve the dissemination of both information and related technologies.

Based on information collected in the evaluation process, DHS designated Purdue University as Visualization Sciences and Education Lead Institution for the DHS Center of Excellence for Command, Control and Interoperability, in partnership with Rutgers University (the Data Sciences Lead Institution) and other affiliates. This team of institutions is uniquely well qualified and located to address data analysis, visualization, cyber security and other related issues. They will become an intrinsic part of the DHS science and technology portfolio, working closely with DHS and other Federal, State, and local governments to solve complex and critical data and visualization science challenges.

**Matthew Clark,**

*Director, University Programs, Science and Technology Directorate, Department of Homeland Security.*

[FR Doc. E9-6450 Filed 3-23-09; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 9110-9F-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

### Coast Guard

[Docket No. USCG-2009-0169]

### Head and Gut Fleet; Guidance for Implementation of the Alternate Compliance and Safety Agreement Program

**AGENCY:** Coast Guard, DHS.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** The Coast Guard announces the availability of guidance for implementation of the Alternate Compliance and Safety Agreement program for "head and gut fleet" vessels. The guidance clarifies various elements contained in the original 2006 policy letter relating to that program, and in a 2006 **Federal Register** notice that announced the availability of that

policy letter. Among these elements is the issuance of a conditional load line exemption for head and gut vessels.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** If you have questions on this notice, call or e-mail M. M. Rosecrans, Chief, Fishing Vessel Safety Division (CG-5433), U.S. Coast Guard; telephone 202-372-1245, e-mail [Michael.M.Rosecrans@uscg.mil](mailto:Michael.M.Rosecrans@uscg.mil).

If you have questions on viewing or submitting material to the docket, call Renee V. Wright, Program Manager, Docket Operations, telephone 202-366-9826.

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Background and Purpose

In the August 22, 2006 **Federal Register** (71 FR 48932), we announced the availability of Coast Guard G-PCV policy letter 06-03, concerning the applicability of vessel classification and load line requirements set by 46 CFR Part 28, Subpart F, and 46 CFR Subchapter E to "head and gut fleet" vessels. The head and gut (H&G) fleet consists of approximately 60 vessels that operate in the Gulf of Alaska and the Bering Sea/Aleutian Island fisheries. Crews on H&G vessels not only catch fish, but also freeze and package the catch for later distribution to foreign and domestic markets. Due to the age of most H&G vessels and the costs associated with compliance, the majority of the H&G fleet cannot comply with classification and load line requirements. The policy announced in 2006 provides a safe and economical alternative: H&G vessel owners may apply for and be granted an exemption from those requirements, so long as they meet Alternate Compliance and Safety Agreement (ACSA) program elements that provide an equivalent level of safety. The ACSA Program was developed in 2006 to process individual requests for exemption letters under 46 CFR 28.60. The Program allows exemptions to the class and Load Line requirements while at the same time creating improved safety requirements for these vessels, thereby avoiding the incentive to operate strictly as uninspected fishing vessels. ACSA vessel owners work with the Coast Guard to develop alternative standards for their vessels, and compliance with those standards is facilitated through voluntary vessel examination by Coast Guard personnel. Guidance for implementation of the ACSA program is available at <http://www.fishsafe.info/acsaguidance>. This guidance document reiterates and clarifies information already provided in the ACSA Program governing guidance of the G-PCV Policy

Letter 06–03, as supplemented by the ACSA Implementation Message issued in 2008, which is attached as Annex 4 at the end of the guidance document.

Specifically, the guidance document provides new details with respect to the exemption of H&G vessels from the load line requirements, which is contained in the ACSA Implementation Message. Because H&G vessels engage in catching fish, they meet the definition of “fishing vessel” under the International Convention on Load Lines, 1966, and are not subject to international load line requirements. In accordance with 46 U.S.C. 5108(a)(1), a vessel entitled to an exemption under an international agreement may also be granted an exemption under U.S. law. Therefore, a District Commander may exempt an owner’s H&G vessel from domestic voyage load line requirements, pursuant to 46 CFR 42.03–30, upon verification by the Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection that the vessel is fully enrolled and in compliance with the elements of the ACSA program. This exemption may be granted at the same time the vessel is granted an exemption from classification requirements, pursuant to 46 CFR 28.60, and noted in the same exemption letter in lieu of a separate load line exemption certificate.

Dated: March 18, 2009.

**Rear Admiral James A. Watson,**

*Director of Prevention Policy.*

[FR Doc. E9–6422 Filed 3–23–09; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910–15–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

### Coast Guard

[USCG–2009–0178]

#### National Offshore Safety Advisory Committee; Meeting

**AGENCY:** Coast Guard, DHS.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The National Offshore Safety Advisory Committee (NOSAC) will meet, in Corpus Christi, TX, to discuss various issues relating to offshore safety and security. The meeting will be open to the public.

**DATES:** NOSAC will meet on Thursday, April 23, 2009, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. This meeting may close early if all business is finished. Written material and requests to make oral presentations should reach the Coast Guard on or before April 9, 2009. Requests to have a copy of your material distributed to each member of the committee should

reach the Coast Guard on or before April 9, 2009.

**ADDRESSES:** NOSAC will meet in the “Corpus A” room of the Omni Corpus Christi Hotel, 900 North Shoreline Blvd., Corpus Christi, Texas. Send written material and requests to make oral presentations to Commander P. W. Clark, Designated Federal Officer (DFO), Commandant (CG–5222), U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, 2100 Second Street SW., Washington, DC 20593–0001. This notice is available on our Online docket, USCG–2009–0178, at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Commander P. W. Clark, Designated Federal Officer of NOSAC, or Mr. Jim Magill, Assistant Designated Federal Officer, telephone 202–372–1414, fax 202–372–1926.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notice of this meeting is given under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. (Pub. L. 92–463).

#### Agenda of Meeting

The agenda for the April 23, 2009, committee meeting includes the following:

(1) Report on issues concerning the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the International Organization for Standardization.

(2) Revision of 46 CFR, Subchapter V, Subpart B—Commercial Diving Operations.

(3) MARPOL Annex II Implementation and IMO Resolution A.673 for Offshore Supply Vessels (OSVs).

(4) Employment of Foreign Workers on the OCS.

(5) Evacuation of Injured Workers from Remote Drilling and Production Facilities.

(6) Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC) impact on offshore facilities.

(7) Industry information on current costs and operations on OCS activities.

#### Procedural

The meeting is open to the public. Please note that the meeting may close early if all business is finished. At the Chair’s discretion, members of the public may make oral presentations during the meeting. If you would like to make an oral presentation at the meeting, please notify the Designated Federal Officer no later than April 9, 2009. Written material for distribution at the meeting should reach the Coast Guard no later than April 9, 2009. If you would like a copy of your material distributed to each member of the committee in advance of the meeting,

please submit 25 copies to the Designated Federal Officer no later than April 9, 2009.

#### Information on Services for Individuals With Disabilities

For information on facilities or services for individuals with disabilities or to request special assistance at the meeting, contact the DFO as soon as possible.

Dated: March 16, 2009.

**J.G. Lantz,**

*Director of Commercial Regulations and Standards.*

[FR Doc. E9–6418 Filed 3–23–09; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910–15–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[AA–8103–5 AK–964–1410–KC–P]

#### Alaska Native Claims Selection

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of decision approving lands for conveyance.

**SUMMARY:** As required by 43 CFR 2650.7(d), notice is hereby given that an appealable decision approving the surface and subsurface estates in certain lands for conveyance pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act will be issued to Doyon, Limited. The lands are in the vicinity of Anvik, Alaska, and are located in:

#### Seward Meridian, Alaska

T. 31 N., R. 57 W.,

Sec. 19.

Containing 440.18 acres.

T. 28 N., R. 58 W.,

Secs. 5, 8, and 17;

Secs. 20 and 29;

Secs. 30, 31, and 32.

Containing 4,207.24 acres.

Aggregating 4,647.42 acres.

Notice of the decision will also be published four times in the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner.

**DATES:** The time limits for filing an appeal are:

1. Any party claiming a property interest which is adversely affected by the decision shall have until April 23, 2009 to file an appeal.

2. Parties receiving service of the decision by certified mail shall have 30 days from the date of receipt to file an appeal.

Parties who do not file an appeal in accordance with the requirements of 43 CFR Part 4, Subpart E, shall be deemed to have waived their rights.