DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
Coast Guard
[Docket No. USCG–2013–0799]
Cooperative Research and Development Agreement: Next Generation Arctic Navigational Safety Information System

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notice of intent; request for public comments.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is announcing its intent to enter into a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) with Marine Exchange of Alaska (MXAK) to develop, demonstrate, and evaluate, in an operational setting, at least one promising technology approach to the “Next Generation Arctic Maritime Navigational Safety Information System,” which provides important, time-critical, information to mariners, in order that they may better assess and manage their voyage risks, as they transit the remote and hostile waters of the U.S. Arctic Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). While the Coast Guard is currently considering partnering with MXAK, it is soliciting public comment on the possible nature of and participation of other parties in the proposed CRADA. In addition, the Coast Guard also invites other potential non-Federal participants, who have the interest and capability to bring similar contributions to this type of research, to consider submitting proposals for consideration in similar CRADAs.

DATES: Comments and related material on the proposed CRADA must either be submitted to the online docket via http://www.regulations.gov on or before September 26, 2013, or reach the Docket Management Facility by that date.

Synopses of proposals regarding future, similar CRADAs must reach the Docket Management Facility on or before February 24, 2014.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments on this notice identified by docket number USCG–2013–0799 using any one of the following methods:

(2) Fax: 202–493–2251.
(4) Hand delivery: Same as mail address above, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The telephone number is 202–366–9329.

To avoid duplication, please use only one of these four methods. See the “Public Participation and Request for Comments” portion of the SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section below for instructions on submitting comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions on this notice, contact Mr. James E. Fletcher, Project Official, U.S. Coast Guard Research and Development Center, 1 Chelsea Street, New London, CT 06320, telephone 860–271–2659, email James.E.Fletcher@uscg.mil. If you have questions on viewing or submitting material to the docket, call Ms. Barbara Hairston, Program Manager, Docket Operations, telephone 202–366–9826.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:
Public Participation and Request for Comments

We encourage you to submit comments and related material on this notice. All comments received will be posted, without change, to http://www.regulations.gov and will include any personal information you have provided.

Do not submit detailed proposals for future CRADAs to the Docket Management Facility. Potential non-Federal CRADA participants should submit these documents directly to James E. Fletcher, U.S. Coast Guard Research and Development Center, 1 Chelsea Street, New London, CT 06320, email James.E.Fletcher@uscg.mil.

Submitting Comments

If you submit a comment, please include the docket number for this notice (USCG–2013–0799), and provide a reason for each suggestion or recommendation. You may submit your comments and material online via http://www.regulations.gov, or by fax, mail, or hand delivery, but please use only one of these means. If you submit a comment online via http://www.regulations.gov, it will be considered received by the Coast Guard when you successfully transmit the comment. If you fax, hand deliver, or mail your comment, it will be considered as having been received by the Coast Guard when it is received at the Docket Management Facility. We recommend that you include your name and a mailing address, an email address, or a telephone number in the body of your document so that we can contact you if we have questions regarding your submission.

To submit your comment online, go to http://www.regulations.gov and locate this notice by using “USCG–2013–0799” as your search term. Click the “Comment Now” button opposite this notice and follow the instructions to submit your comment. If you submit your comments by mail or hand delivery, submit them in an unbound format, no larger than 8½ by 11 inches, suitable for copying and electronic filing. If you submit comments by mail and would like to know that they reached the Facility, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed postcard or envelope. We will consider all comments and material received during the comment period.

Viewing Comments and Related Material

To view the comments and related material, go to http://www.regulations.gov and locate this notice by using “USCG–2013–0799” as your search term. If you do not have access to the Internet, you may view the docket online by visiting the Docket Management Facility in Room W12–140 on the ground floor of the Department of Transportation West Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. We have an agreement with the Department of Transportation to use the Docket Management Facility.

Privacy Act

Anyone can search the electronic form of comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (signing the comments, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review a Privacy Act, system of records notice regarding our public dockets in the January 17, 2008, issue of the Federal Register (73 FR 3316).

Cooperative Research and Development Agreements

promotes the transfer of technology to
the private sector for commercial use as
well as specified research or
development efforts that are consistent
with the mission of the Federal parties
to the CRADA. The Federal party or
parties agree with one or more non-
Federal parties to share research
resources, but the Federal party does not
contribute funding. The Department of
Homeland Security (DHS), as an
executive agency under 5 U.S.C. 105, is
a Federal agency for purposes of 15
U.S.C. 3710(a) and may enter into a
CRADA. The Secretary of DHS
has delegated authority to the Commandant
of the Coast Guard to carry out the
functions vested in the Secretary by
section 2 of the Federal Technology
Transfer Act of 1986, which authorizes
departments and agencies to permit their laboratories to
enter into CRADAs (see DHS Delegation
No. 0160.1, para. 2.B(34)). The
Commandant has delegated authority
in this regard to the Coast Guard’s
Research and Development Center
(R&DC).

CRADAs are not procurement
contracts. Care is taken to ensure that
CRADAs are not used to circumvent the
contracting process. CRADAs have a
specific purpose and should not be
confused with other types of agreements
such as procurement contracts, grants,
and cooperative agreements.

Goal of Proposed CRADA

Under the proposed CRADA, the
R&DC would collaborate with one or
more non-Federal participants.

Together, the R&DC and the non-Federal
participants would define, develop,
demonstrate, and evaluate, in an
operational setting, at least one
promising technology approach to the
“Next Generation Arctic Maritime
Navigational Safety Information
System,” which provides important,
time-critical, information to mariners in
order that they may better assess and
manage their voyage risks as they transit
the remote and hostile waters of the U.S.
Arctic Exclusive Economic Zone.

Increased maritime activity in the
Arctic has raised the potential for
maritime accidents and serious
environmental harm to that region’s
fragile environment, warranting the
need to implement enhanced maritime
safety measures. Presently, the
environmental and safety information
needed by mariners to identify, assess
and mitigate the risks of operating in the
Arctic is not available due to a lack of
infrastructure that exists in other
maritime regions. The proposed CRADA
strives to promote a public-private
analysis and eventual solution to this
problem.

The R&DC, with the non-Federal
participants, will mutually define the
prototype system that will be
developed, installed, utilized, and
evaluated under this CRADA. It is
anticipated that this system will be a
to-be-determined combination of (a) AIS-
Transmit, (b) SATCOM, (c) DSC VHF,
and (d) other components/sub-systems such as the proposed 500 kHz, 47,400
bits/sec. NAVTEX Replacement being
considered by the International
Telecommunications Union and the
IMO’s International NAVTEX
Coordinating Panel. Arctic mariner
navigational information requirements
will drive the design of this prototype
system. Care will be taken to (a)
minimize and define any additional
vessel equipment carriage requirements and (b) define the specific content and
format of the information presented to
the mariner.

Party Contributions

We anticipate that the Coast Guard’s
contributions under the proposed
CRADA will include the following:

(1) Review and comment on non-
Federal participant’s preliminary
functional design of the prototype
system. After discussion and agreement
between the CRADA collaborators, the
R&DC will develop an Interim CRADA
Report, which documents the mutually-
agreed-upon design.

(2) Support the non-Federal
participant in the development of the
AIS-Transmit, SATCOM, and DSC VHF
components of the prototype system. It
is anticipated that this support will
include technology expertise and
authorization to transmit on specific
frequencies for the DSC VHF
components. The R&DC will also
provide the proposed 500 kHz,
NAVTEX Replacement component, if it is
mutually-agreed by the collaborators
to be part of the prototype system.

(3) Support the non-Federal
participant with the installation, testing,
operation, and maintenance of the
prototype system at specific, jointly-
agreed-upon, field locations. The RD&C
will develop the test plan and provide
any test and network monitoring
equipment/capabilities needed, to
ensure that the prototype system is
“Ready for Tech Demo Utilization” and
continues to meet the mutually-agreed-upon performance criteria through the
duration of the Tech Demo.

(4) Support the R&DC in its
monitoring of the performance of the
prototype system during the Tech
Demo. The non-Federal participant will
also support the R&D in the
development of an appropriate CRADA
report, which documents the
prototype system, its performance, and
its utilization by mariners during the
Tech Demo period.

We anticipate that the non-Federal
participant’s contributions under the
proposed CRADA will include the following:

(1) Develop a preliminary functional
design of the prototype system to be
developed and evaluated under this CRADA. The non-Federal participant
will collaborate with the RD&C on the
final prototype system design and the
Interim Report which the RD&C will
develop to document said design.

(2) Provide the AIS-Transmit,
SATCOM, and DSC VHF components of
the prototype system. The non-Federal
participant will support the R&D with
the development of the proposed 500
kHz, NAVTEX Replacement, if it is
mutually-agreed-upon to be part of the
prototype system. It is anticipated that
this support will include technical
guidance/assistance with any
integration with other components of
the prototype system, particularly at the
planned field installation sites.

(3) Install, test, operate, and maintain
the prototype system at specific,
mutually-agreed-upon, field locations.
The non-Federal participant will
provide site space, power, security, and
back-haul communications capability
for all system components, including
the 500 kHz NAVTEX Replacement, if it is
mutually-agreed-upon to be part of the
prototype system. The non-Federal
participant will support the R&DC in
test plans/system/components and
conduct of the test plan to ensure that
the prototype system is “Ready for Tech
Demo Utilization” and continues to
meet the mutually-agreed-upon
performance criteria through the
duration of the Tech Demo.

(4) Support the R&DC in its
monitoring of the performance of the
prototype system during the Tech
Demo. The non-Federal participant will
also support the R&D in the
development of an appropriate CRADA
report, which documents the
prototype system, its performance, and
its utilization by mariners during the Tech
Demo period.

Selection Criteria

The Coast Guard reserves the right to
select for CRADA participants all, some,
or none of the proposals in response to
this notice. The Coast Guard will
provide no funding for reimbursement
of proposal development costs.

Proposals (or any other material)
submitted in response to this notice
will not be returned. Proposals
submitted are expected to be unclassified and have no
more than four single-sided pages
DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Federal Emergency Management Agency

[Docket ID FEMA--2013--0002; Internal Agency Docket No. FEMA--B–1335]

Changes in Flood Hazard Determinations

AGENCY: Federal Emergency Management Agency, DHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice lists communities where the addition or modification of Base Flood Elevations (BFEs), base flood depths, Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) boundaries or zone designations, or the regulatory floodway (hereinafter referred to as flood hazard determinations), as shown on the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs), and where applicable, in the supporting Flood Insurance Study (FIS) reports, prepared by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for each community, is appropriate because of new scientific or technical data. The FIRMs, and where applicable, portions of the FIS report, have been revised to reflect these flood hazard determinations through issuance of a Letter of Map Revision (LOMR), in accordance with FEMA regulations. The LOMR will be used by insurance agents and others to calculate appropriate flood insurance premium rates for new buildings and the contents of those buildings. For rating purposes, the currently effective community number is shown in the table below and must be used for all new policies and renewals.

DATES: These flood hazard determinations will become effective on the dates listed in the table below and revise the FIRMs and FIS report in effect prior to this determination for the listed communities. From the date of the second publication of notification of these changes in a newspaper of local circulation, any person has ninety (90) days in which to request through the Chief Executive Officer of the community as listed in the table below. Submit comments and/or appeals to the Chief Executive Officer of the community as listed in the table below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Luis Rodriguez, Chief, Engineering Management Branch, Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration, FEMA, 500 C Street SW., Washington, DC 20472, (202) 646–4064, or (email) Luis.Rodriguez3@fema.dhs.gov; or visit the FEMA Map Information eXchange (FMIX) online at www.floodmaps.fema.gov/fhmxmain.html.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The specific flood hazard determinations are not described for each community in this notice. However, the online location and local community map repository address where the flood hazard determination information is available for inspection is provided.

Any request for reconsideration of flood hazard determinations must be submitted to the Chief Executive Officer of the community as listed in the table below.

The modifications are made pursuant to section 201 of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973, 42 U.S.C. 4105, and are in accordance with the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, 42 U.S.C. 4001 et seq., and with 44 CFR part 65.

The FIRMs and FIS report are the basis of the floodplain management measures that the community is required either to adopt or to show evidence of having in effect in order to qualify or remain qualified for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

These flood hazard determinations, together with the floodplain management criteria required by 44 CFR 60.3, are the minimum that are required. They should not be construed to mean that the community must change any existing ordinances that are more stringent in their floodplain management requirements. The community may at any time enact stricter requirements of its own or pursuant to policies established by other Federal, State, or regional entities. The flood hazard determinations are in accordance with 44 CFR 65.4.

The affected communities are listed in the following table. Flood hazard determination information for each community is available for inspection at both the online location and the respective community map repository address listed in the table below. Additionally, the current effective FIRMs and FIS report for each community are accessible online through the FEMA Map Service Center at www.mscc.fema.gov for comparison.

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