

of payors. Accordingly, the Commission finds that now is not the time to adopt a wholly new methodology for space station regulatory fees. Rather, the overarching goals of fair, administrable, and sustainable regulatory fees can equally be achieved by targeted changes to the existing methodology. The Commission observes that the changes in the space industry that led to the creation of the Space Bureau and the Commission's re-examination of space and earth station regulatory fees are still ongoing. Any wholesale departure from the existing methodology at this juncture runs significant the risk of adopting a new fee methodology that still reflects past assumptions about licensing and regulation of space and earth stations. Comments agree that the Commission should not undertake a major overhaul of its space and earth station regulatory fee methodologies in light of the ongoing modernization efforts.

91. Finally, in light of an insufficient record to determine that the creation of additional categories of earth station regulatory fees at this time is either necessary or feasible, the Commission considered but declined to adopt new categories of regulatory fees for earth stations. The majority of comments continue to oppose the creation of additional earth station regulatory fee categories as difficult to administer fairly or efficiently, and having limited utility given the relatively small variation in fees any changes would produce. On the other hand although there are some comments that suggest the possibility of creating a separate fee category for blanket licensed earth stations, the record is not sufficiently developed as to which earth stations would be included in this category since there are many different types of earth stations that can be authorized under blanket licenses, such as earth stations in motion, mobile-satellite service earth stations, and fixed-satellite service VSAT networks. Furthermore, at this time and based on the record, the Commission is not able to attribute with any degree of reasonableness the allocation of FTE burdens to blanket earth stations, either by individual service type or collectively, compared to non-blanket licensed stations.

Federal Communications Commission.

Marlene Dortch,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2025-12579 Filed 7-3-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

48 CFR Chapter 9

RIN 1991-AC17

Department of Energy Acquisition Regulation

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Final rule; technical amendment.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is publishing this technical amendment to reinstate text that was deleted from the Department of Energy Acquisition Regulation (DEAR) in error when the DEAR was revised through a final rule in November 2024, and effective December 13, 2024. The deleted text was adopted through previous rulemakings, and because the text is still applicable to the DEAR, this technical amendment is necessary to ensure the regulation in its entirety is reported in the Code of Federal Regulations. By reinstating this text, the regulation on access to and ownership of records will clearly state which records are considered contractor-owned records.

DATES: The effective date of this technical amendment is July 7, 2025.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mr. Jason Passaro, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Management, Office of Acquisition Management (MA-61), 1000 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20585-0121. Telephone: (240) 364-4062. Email: jason.passaro@hq.doe.gov.

Ms. Ani Esenyan, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of the General Counsel, Forrestal Building (GC-33), 1000 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20585. Telephone: (202) 586-4798. Email: ani.esenyan@hq.doe.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

On November 13, 2024, DOE published a final rule that comprehensively revised its Acquisition Regulation in order to update and streamline the policies, procedures, provisions and clauses that are applicable to DOE's contracts ("November 2024 Final Rule"). 89 FR 89720. The rulemaking updated or eliminated coverage that is obsolete or that unnecessarily duplicates the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) and retained only that coverage which either implements or supplements the FAR for the award and administration of the DOE's contracts. The rule added several new clauses and amended several existing clauses in order to promote more uniform application of

the DOE's contract award and administration policies.

II. Need for Correction

The November 2024 Final Rule in error provided amendatory instructions which resulted in deletion of text from 48 CFR 970.5204-3(b) that was not intended to be removed through the rulemaking. The deleted text, 48 CFR 970.5204-3(b)(2)-(5), was initially adopted in 2005 (70 FR 37016) and amended in 2009 (74 FR 36374) and 2014 (79 FR 56285). Through this technical amendment, DOE is reinstating 48 CFR 970.5204-3(b)(2)-(5) as adopted in the 2014 rulemaking as the November 2024 Final Rule never intended to remove this text from the regulations. Without reinstating this text, the records that are deemed contractor-owned records significantly decrease. It would leave open to interpretation whether these types of records would be Federal records subject to Federal records management requirements, as opposed to contractor-owned records. This technical amendment is necessary to ensure that regulation in its entirety is reported in the Code of Federal Regulations.

III. Procedural Issues and Regulatory Review

Pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act, 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(3)(B), DOE finds that there is good cause not to issue a separate notice to solicit public comment on the change made by this rule. This rule reinstates language that was removed in error. Additionally, the reinstated language was adopted pursuant to notice-and-comment and no changes have been made to the reinstated language in this rule. Therefore, issuing a separate notice to solicit public comment is unnecessary and serves no useful purpose.

As such, this rule is not subject to the 30-day delay in effective date requirement of 5 U.S.C. 553(d) otherwise applicable to rules that make substantive changes.

VI. Approval of the Office of the Secretary

The Secretary of Energy has approved publication of this final rule; technical amendment.

List of Subjects in 48 CFR Part 970

Accounting, Classified information, Drug abuse, Government procurement, Insurance, Labor, Minority businesses, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Small businesses, Surety bonds, Taxes, Whistleblowing, Women.

Signing Authority

This document of the Department of Energy was signed on June 30, 2025, by William J. Quigley, Deputy Associate Administrator, Partnership and Acquisition Services, National Nuclear Security Administration, pursuant to delegated authority from the Administrator, National Nuclear Security Administration, and Janella Davis, Acting Director, Office of Acquisition Management, Department of Energy, pursuant to delegated authority from the Secretary of Energy. These documents with the original signature and date are maintained by DOE/NNSA. For administrative purposes only, and in compliance with requirements of the Office of the Federal Register, the undersigned DOE Federal Register Liaison Officer has been authorized to sign and submit the document in electronic format for publication, as an official document of the Department of Energy. This administrative process in no way alters the legal effect of this document upon publication in the **Federal Register**.

Signed in Washington, DC, on July 2, 2025.
Treena V. Garrett,
Federal Register Liaison Officer, U.S.
Department of Energy.

For the reasons set forth in the preamble, DOE amends part 970 of chapter 9 of title 48 of the Code of Federal Regulations, as set forth below:

PART 970—DOE MANAGEMENT AND OPERATING CONTRACTS

■ 1. The authority citation for part 970 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 2201; 2282a; 2282b; 2282c; 42 U.S.C. 7101 *et seq.*; 50 U.S.C. 2401 *et seq.*

■ 2. Amend section 970.5204–3 by revising paragraph (b) of the clause to read as follows:

§ 970.5204–3 Access to and ownership of records.

* * * * *

(b) *Contractor-owned records.* The following records are considered the property of the contractor and are not within the scope of paragraph (a) of this clause.

(1) Employment-related records (such as worker's compensation files; employee relations records, records on salary and employee benefits; drug testing records, labor negotiation records; records on ethics, employee concerns; records generated during the course of responding to allegations of research misconduct; records generated during other employee related investigations conducted under an

expectation of confidentiality; employee assistance program records; and personnel and medical/health-related records and similar files), and non-employee patient medical/health-related records, except those records described by the contract as being operated and maintained by the Contractor in Privacy Act system of records.

(2) Confidential contractor financial information, internal corporate governance records and correspondence between the contractor and other segments of the contractor located away from the DOE facility (*i.e.*, the contractor's corporate headquarters);

(3) Records relating to any procurement action by the contractor, except for records that under 48 CFR 970.5232–3 are described as the property of the Government; and

(4) Legal records, including legal opinions, litigation files, and documents covered by the attorney-client and attorney work product privileges; and

(5) The following categories of records maintained pursuant to the technology transfer clause of this contract:

(i) Executed license agreements, including exhibits or appendices containing information on royalties, royalty rates, other financial information, or commercialization plans, and all related documents, notes and correspondence.

(ii) The contractor's protected Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) information and appendices to a CRADA that contain licensing terms and conditions, or royalty or royalty rate information.

(iii) Patent, copyright, mask work, and trademark application files and related contractor invention disclosures, documents and correspondence, where the contractor has elected rights or has permission to assert rights and has not relinquished such rights or turned such rights over to the Government.

* * * * *

[FR Doc. 2025–12557 Filed 7–3–25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Parts 300 and 679

[Docket No. 250630–0116]

RIN 0648–BN18

Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Halibut Recreational Quota Entity Program Fee Collection

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This final rule authorizes fee collection for the Recreational Quota Entity (RQE) Program. A charter halibut stamp (stamp) is required under this final rule for every charter vessel angler, 18 years of age or older, for each charter vessel fishing trip in a given calendar day, or each calendar day during a charter vessel fishing trip that spans multiple days, who intends to catch and retain halibut on a charter vessel in International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) regulatory areas 2C in Southeast Alaska and 3A in South Central Alaska. Persons who hold charter halibut permits (CHPs) must purchase electronic stamps from NMFS. Charter vessel guides are required to validate a stamp for each adult charter vessel angler intending to catch and retain halibut on a charter vessel fishing trip. This final rule is necessary to promote stability and economic viability in the charter halibut fishery and is intended to promote the goals and objectives of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act), the Northern Pacific Halibut Act of 1982 (Halibut Act), and other applicable laws.

DATES: This rule is effective on January 1, 2026.

ADDRESSES:

Electronic copies of the Regulatory Impact Review (RIR) and the Categorical Exclusion (CE) prepared for this action are available at: <https://www.regulations.gov> or from the NMFS Alaska Region website.

Written comments regarding the burden-hour estimates or other aspects of the collection-of-information requirements contained in this final rule may be submitted to NMFS at the Alaska Region website and at: <https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain>. Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under