State	City/town/county	Source of flooding	Location	#Depth in formal grou *Elevation in formal strength	nd.
				Existing	Modified
		•	Entire shoreline within community Entire shoreline within community Entire shoreline within community	None None None	*990 *1227 *1227

Send comments to Mr. Hubert Smith, Chairman of the Washburn County Board of Supervisors, 10 West 4th Avenue, Shell Lake, Wisconsin 54871.

Maps available for inspection at the Washburn County Zoning Administration, 10 West 4th Avenue, Shell Lake, Wisconsin.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance No. 83.100, "Flood Insurance")

Dated: September 4, 1997.

### Michael J. Armstrong,

Associate Director for Mitigation.
[FR Doc. 97–24207 Filed 9–12–97; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 6718–04–P

### **DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**

48 CFR Parts 204, 212, and 252

[DFARS Case 97-D005]

### Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Central Contractor Registration

**AGENCY:** Department of Defense (DoD). **ACTION:** Proposed rule with request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Director of Defense Procurement is proposing to amend the Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) to require contractor registration in the DoD Central Contractor Registration database prior to award of any contract, basic agreement, basic ordering agreement, or blanket purchase agreement, unless the award results from a solicitation issued on or before March 31, 1998.

**DATES:** Comment date: Comments on the proposed rule should be submitted in writing to the address shown below on or before November 14, 1997 to be considered in the formulation of the final rule.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested parties should submit written comments to: Defense

Acquisition Regulations Council, Attn: Ms. Sandra G. Haberlin, PDUSD (A&T) DP (DAR), IMD 3D139, 3062 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301–3062. Telefax number (703) 602–0350.

E-mail comments submitted over the Internet should be addressed to: dfars@acq.osd.mil

Please cite DFARS Case 97–D005 in all correspondence related to this issue. E-mail correspondence should cite DFARS Case 97–D005 in the subject line

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Sandra G. Haberlin, (703) 602–0131.

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

### A. Background

The President's Executive memorandum, Streamlining Procurement through Electronic Commerce, dated October 26, 1993, directed Federal Government agencies to streamline and simplify procurement through use of electronic commerce. To achieve this goal, the final report, Streamlining Procurement through Electronic Commerce, dated October 13, 1994, was issued to define the Government's electronic commerce architecture and implementation plan. This plan includes centralizing electronic commerce registration; collecting business information, including procurement data, from each contractor into a database at the time of registration; and adopting the Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number as the industry-standard Governmentwide company identifier code.

In addition, the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 (Section 31001 of Public Law 104–134) was enacted on April 26, 1996. Subsection 31001(i) amends 31 U.S.C. 7701 by requiring each contractor doing business with the Government to furnish its taxpayer identification number (TIN). Subsection 31001(x) amends 31 U.S.C. 3332 by requiring, with few exceptions, that payments be made by electronic fund transfer (EFT).

This proposed rule requires contractor registration in a DoD Central Contractor Registration (CCR) database prior to award of a contract, basic agreement, basic ordering agreement, or blanket purchase agreement, unless the award results from a solicitation issued on or before March 31, 1998. The rule requires that contractors register on a one-time basis, and confirm on an annual basis that their CCR registration is accurate and complete. The objectives of this rule are (1) to more efficiently comply with Public Law 104-134 by using a central DoD repository to collect statutorily required TINs and EFT information; (2) to simplify and streamline procurement by presenting "one DoD face to industry," and, thereby, eliminating duplicate requirements and processes; and (3) to increase visibility of vendor sources for specific supplies and services.

The following CCR Application Form illustrates the data that contractors will be required to provide in order to register in the CCR:

BILLING CODE 5000-04-M

### Central Contractor Registration (CCR) Application

Call 1-888-227-2423 for help on filling out the registration form. This form will facilitate registration on-line at our web site at http://www.acq.osd.mil/ec. ALL fields on pages 1 and 2 are required unless otherwise noted. Be sure to keep a copy of the completed form for your records.

	GENERAL	Information			
DUNS number <sup>1</sup>	Plus Four (if a	pplicable) CAG	E Code for a	ddress below (OPTIONAL) <sup>2</sup>	
US Federal TIN <sup>3</sup>	-	OR	_	_	
<del></del>	oloyer Identification Number (EIN		Social Security Number (SSN)		
Legal Business Name (C	ompany or Individual Name - Must	match TIN)	Doing Busin	ness As (if applicable)	
Street Address					
Street Address					
City	State Zip or Post	al Code	Country	County Name (OPTIONAL)	
Division Name (if applicab	le) /	Division Number (i	f applicable)	.00	
Date Business Started (month/day/year)	Accounting Period Closes (month/day)	Average # of Employees	•	ge Annual Revenue year average)	
(select only one)	☐ Corporation (Indicate where in ☐ Corporation providing medical & ☐ Hospital or extended care facility	& health care servic y exempt from taxa	es	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
Tribal government	our company (At least one must b	e checked)  8(a) Program P	orticinant	☐ Minority owned	
Research Institute	Municipality	Service Location	_	Woman owned	
☐ Sheltered workshop	Emerging Business / Other	☐ Manufacturer	·••	Small Disadvantaged	
Nonprofit Institution	unlisted type	☐ Surplus dealer		Business	
Historically Black	Construction firm	Subgroup		☐ Veteran owned	
College/University	Federal, State, County, or City Facility	Labor Surplus	Area Firm	American Indian owned	
Foreign Supplier		S SERVICES		Limited Liability Company	
List all SIC codes4 that ic	dentify your company's specific in		code must be	e entered; codes are either 4	
or 8 numeric digits):		<i></i>	_,	,	
,,		<b>.</b> ,			
Data Universal Numbering Sy	ystem - Call Dun & Bradstreet at 1-800-333-0	0505 or 1 -703-824-838	3 if unsure.		
Commercial and Government at 1-888-352-9333 if unsure.	Entity Code - If you do not have a CAGE C	ode, one will be assigne	d to you, call Di	LSC-Defense Logistics Service Center	
	ber - Call the IRS at 1-800-829-1040 if unsur			ment to collect and report on any	
	ut of the offeror's relationship with the Gover - Procurement Technical Assistance Center to			al Classification codes. Call 1-703-767-	

Revised 07/16/97

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION FOR CONTRACT PAYMENT EFT - Electronic Funds Transfer (call your Financial Institution for assistance)

		·	American Bank Association (ABA) Routing/Transit ID #				
Account Number			of Account:	☐ Checking☐ Savings			
				← Saviligs			
Lockbox Number (if applicable	):	- — — — — —					
Authorization Date:/ (month	/ (EFT inf n/day/year)	o is valid as of this date. If blank,	defaults to date	of application.)			
ACH (Automated Clearing Hou Minimum of one of the followin	,	al Institution (Note: ACH format will be Cor	porate Trade Ex	change (CTX)			
( ) -		( ) -					
1. Phone Number 2. 1	nt'l phone # (if applicable)	3. Fax Number	4. Email (if	available)			
Registrant's Accounts Receivab	le Point of Contact Informat						
( ) -		( ) -					
1. Phone Number 2. I	nt'l phone # (if applicable)	3. Fax Number (Optional)	4. Email (if	available)			
Street Address	Stata	7in or Postal Coda	Country				
Street Address	State REGISTRATION A	Zip or Postal Code	Country				
Street Address City	REGISTRATION AC	CKNOWLEDGMENT		bmission			
Street Address City	REGISTRATION Action provided is current,	CKNOWLEDGMENT accurate, and complete as of the		bmission.			
Street Address  City  I hereby acknowledge that the inf	REGISTRATION Action provided is current,	CKNOWLEDGMENT accurate, and complete as of the	e date of this su				
Street Address  City  I hereby acknowledge that the inf	REGISTRATION Action provided is current,	CKNOWLEDGMENT accurate, and complete as of the					
Street Address  City  I hereby acknowledge that the inf  Print Name	REGISTRATION Action provided is current,	CKNOWLEDGMENT accurate, and complete as of the	e date of this su / onth/day/year)				
Street Address  City  I hereby acknowledge that the inf  Print Name  I prefer to receive CCR	REGISTRATION Accordance of the contract of the	CKNOWLEDGMENT  accurate, and complete as of the  Date (m	e date of this su / onth/day/year)				
Street Address  City  I hereby acknowledge that the inf  Print Name  I prefer to receive CCR correspondence through:	REGISTRATION Action provided is current,  Telephone Number  Fax, my fax # is:  Email, my email address	CKNOWLEDGMENT  accurate, and complete as of the  Date (m	e date of this su/ conth/day/year)				
Street Address  City  I hereby acknowledge that the inf  Print Name  I prefer to receive CCR  correspondence through: (select only one)	REGISTRATION Action provided is current,  Telephone Number  Fax, my fax # is: Email, my email address Mail, send corresponden	CKNOWLEDGMENT  accurate, and complete as of the  Date (m	e date of this su/ onth/day/year)				
Street Address  Street Address  City  I hereby acknowledge that the inf  Print Name  I prefer to receive CCR correspondence through: (select only one)  Who else (point of contact) can contact to answer questions on	REGISTRATION Action provided is current,  Telephone Number  Fax, my fax # is: Email, my email address Mail, send corresponden	CKNOWLEDGMENT  accurate, and complete as of the  Date (m	e date of this su/ onth/day/year) l on the Page 1				

Revised 07/16/97 Form EZ Page 2 of 2

Instructions for Completion of the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) Application

DoD plans to include the following rules in the CCR registration instructions for contractors when filling out the CCR Application form:

- 1. EFT Remittance Address. For each CCR registration, contractors shall provide only one EFT remittance address. Contractors requiring multiple EFT remittance addresses must establish a separate CCR registration record for each unique EFT remittance address. Contractors may use the same EFT remittance address in more than one CCR registration record.
- 2. TINS. For each CCR registration, Contractors shall provide only one TIN. Contractors with multiple TINs shall establish a separate CCR registration record for each unique TIN. Contractors may use the same TIN in more than one CCR registration record.
- 3. Commercial and Government Entity (CAGE) Code. Each CCR record must have a unique CAGE code; therefore, contractors requiring multiple CAGE codes for the same address will have to annotate the address with a unique attribute. For example, instead of the address: A Company, 1 A Road, Any town, contractors may provide the following addresses for multiple CAGE codes:
- CAGE code 1: A Company, 1 A Road, Remit 1, Any town
- CAGE code 2: A Company, 1 A Road, Remit 2, Any town
- CAGE code 3: A Company, 1 A Road, Remit 3, Any town
  - 4. DUNS and DUNS+4.
  - A. Definitions.
- (1) "Parent business concern" means a business entity with controlling (more than 50 percent) ownership in another business entity.
- (2) "Subsidiary" means a business entity with more than 50 percent of its voting stock owned by another business entity.
  - B. DUNS+4 implementation rules.
- (1) A parent business concern must use a DUNS, not a DUNS+4 number, to register in the CCR database.
- (2) A parent business concern may identify each subsidiary with either a unique DUNS number or a unique DUNS+4 number, if the subsidiary plans to register in the CCR database separately from the parent business concern and from other subsidiaries.
- (3) Only a parent business concern may identify a DUNS+4 for its subsidiaries.
- (4) When a parent business concern's registration becomes inactive—

a. The subsidiary's registration, if the subsidiary used a DUNS+4 number to register, becomes inactive; and

b. The DoD registration activity will send a notification to each DUNS+4 identified subsidiary, in addition to the parent business concern, that provides the reasons for deactivation and provides a designated point of contact at the parent business concern.

(5) If a subsidiary registers separately from its parent, the parent business concern will be asked if it wants a single corporate-wide or subsidiary-unique trading partner identification number (unique pass code) generated by each subsidiary's registration.

(End of instructions)

The Department of Defense is also examining alternative ways of obtaining and updating contractor data. In the near term, it may become possible for DoD to use comparable data developed by private sector sources to meet its data needs, and DoD will explore these alternatives throughly.

### B. Regulatory Flexibility Act

This proposed rule may have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities within the meaning of the Regulatory Flexibility Act, 5 U.S.C. 601, et seq. An Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis (IRFA) has been prepared and is summarized as follows:

This rule proposes to amend the Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) to require contractor registration in a Central Contractor Registration (CCR) database prior to the award of a contract, basic agreement, basic ordering agreement, or blanket purchase agreement, unless the award results from a solicitation issued on or before March 31, 1998. Subsequent to the initial registration, this rule will require contractors to confirm on an annual basis that their CCR registration is accurate and complete. The objectives of this rule are (1) to more efficiently comply with the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 (Pub. L. 104–134) by using a central repository to collect statutorily required contractors' taxpayer identification numbers (TINs) and electronic funds transfer (EFT) information; (2) to simplify and streamline the procurement process by presenting "one DoD face to industry," and, thereby, eliminating redundant requirements and processes; and (3) to increase visibility of vendor sources for specific supplies and services. Currently, contractors must submit certain business information, including their TIN and DUNS numbers, in

response to solicitations. In addition, current regulations require contractors to provide EFT information in compliance with contract terms and conditions. Under current regulations, contractors are required to submit duplicate information to various contracting and payment offices. Under the proposed rule, contractors are required to provide certain business information, including their TINs and EFT information, only once into a common DoD data source. DoD will use this common CCR data source to more efficiently meet the requirements of the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 (Section 31001 of Public Law 104-134). The proposed rule applies to large and small businesses that are awarded DoD contracts, basic agreements, basic ordering agreements, or blanket purchase agreements, unless the award results from a solicitation issued on or before March 31, 1998. This policy applies to all types of awards with the following exceptions: (a) Purchases made with a Governmentwide commercial purchase card; (b) awards made to foreign vendors for work performed outside the United States; (c) classified contracts or purchases; (d) contracts that are awarded by deployed contracting officers in the course of military operations or contracts awarded by contracting officers in the conduct of emergency operations; and (e) purchases to support unusual or compelling needs. To date, no supporting data has been collected; therefore, there is no available estimate of the number of small businesses that will be subject to the rule. Based on DD 350 data, approximately, 23,413 small businesses were awarded contracts of \$25,000 or more in fiscal year 1996. It is estimated that a majority of them will be subject to the rule. Information is not available to identify the additional number of small businesses that were awarded contracts of less than \$25,000, or were awarded basic agreements, basic ordering agreements, or blanket purchase agreements. All small entities will be subject to the rule unless their contract or agreement falls within one of the five exceptions. Administrative or financial personnel who have general knowledge of the contractor's business, including the contractor's bank account and financial agent, are able to register by providing the pertinent information into the CCR database. The one significant alternative that was considered was to exclude small entities from the requirements of this rule. It was concluded that this alternative would not minimize the economic impact on small entities. Existing

regulations require contractors to submit, with each offer or as a term of each contract, the same information. The proposed rule eliminates these redundant requirements, and their resulting administrative burdens. Therefore, this alternative was rejected.

A copy of the IRFA may be obtained from the address specified herein. Comments are invited from small businesses and other interested parties. Comments from small entities concerning the affected DFARS subparts also will be considered in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 610. Such comments should be submitted separately and should cite DFARS Case 97–D005.

### C. Paperwork Reduction Act

The Paperwork Reduction act (44 U.S.C. 3501, et seq.) applies, because the proposed rule contains information collection requirements. On June 25, 1997, the Department of Defense, Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition & Technology) Deputy Under secretary of Defense (Logistics/Electronic Commerce Integration Organization) published a notice and request for comments on the proposed collection for CCR in the **Federal Register** (62 FR 34230).

### List of Subjects in 48 CFR Parts 204, 212, and 252

Government procurement.

#### Michele P. Peterson

Executive Editor, Defense Acquisition Regulations Council.

Therefore, 48 CFR Parts 204, 212, and 252 are proposed to be amended as follows:

1. The authority citation for 48 CFR Parts 204, 212, and 252 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 41 U.S.C. 421 and 48 CFR Chapter 1.

### PART 204—ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

2. Subpart 204.73 is added to read as follows:

### Subpart 204.73—Central Contractor Registration

Sec.

204.7300 Scope.

204.7301 Definitions.

204.7302 Policy.

204.7303 Procedures.

204.7304 Contract clause.

### Subpart 204.73—Central Contractor Registration

### 204.7300 Scope.

This subpart prescribes policies and procedures for requiring contractor registration in the DoD Central Contractor Registration (CCR) database to comply with the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 (31 U.S.C. 3332; 31 U.S.C. 7701), and to increase visibility of vendor sources for specific supplies and services, and their geographical locations.

#### 204.7301 Definitions.

"Central Contractor Registration (CCR) database," "Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number," "Data Universal Numbering System+4 (DUNS+4) number," and "Registered in the CCR database" are defined in the clause at 252.204–700X Required Central Contractor Registration.

#### 204.7302 Policy.

After March 31, 1998, prospective contractors must be registered in the CCR database, prior to award to a contract, basic agreement, basic ordering agreement, or blanket purchase agreement, unless the award results from a solicitation issued on or before March 31, 1998. This policy applies to all types of awards except the following:

- (a) Purchases made with a Governmentwide commercial purchase card;
- (b) Awards made to foreign vendors for work performed outside the United States:
- (c) Classified contracts or purchases (see FAR 4.401);
- (d) Contracts awarded by deployed contracting officers in the course of military operation, including, but not limited to, contingency operations as defined in 10 U.S.C. 101(a)(13), or contracts awarded by contracting officers in the conduct of emergency operations, such as responses to natural disasters or national or civil emergencies; and
- (e) Purchases to support unusual or compelling needs of the type described in FAR 6.302–2.

### 204.7303 Procedures.

- (a)(1) Except as provided in 204.7302, the contracting officer shall require each offeror to provide a DUNS or, if applicable, a DUNS+4 number, with its verbal or written offer, regardless of the dollar amount of the offer.
- (2) Prior to making an award of any contract, basic agreement, basic ordering agreement, or blanket purchase agreement after March 31, 1998, unless the award results from a solicitation issued on or before March 31, 1998, the contracting officer shall verify that the prospective awardee is registered in the CCR database (but see 204.7303(b)). The contracting officer may verify registration using the DUNS number or, if applicable, the DUNS+4 number, by calling 1–888–xxx–xxxx, via the

Internet at http://ccr.edi.disa.mil/ccr/cgi-bin/status.pl, or as otherwise provided by agency procedures.

(3) Verification of registration is not required for orders or calls.

- (4) After March 31, 1998, as part of the annual review of basic agreement, basic ordering agreement, and blanket purchase agreements, contracting officers shall modify these agreements to incorporate the clause at 252.204–700X, Required Central Contractor Registration.
- (b) If the contracting officer determines that a prospective awardee is not registered in the CCR database, the contracting officer shall—
- (1) If the needs of the requiring activity allow for a delay, proceed to award after the contractor is registered.
- (2) If the needs of the requiring activity do not allow for a delay, proceed to award to the next otherwise successful registered offeror, provided that written approval is obtained at one level above the contracting officer.
- (c) Agencies shall protect against improper disclosure of contractor CCR information.

#### 204.7304 Contract clause.

Except as provided in 204.7302, use the clause at 252.204–700X, Required Central Contractor Registration, in—

- (a) Solicitation issued after March 31, 1998;
- (b) Contracts resulting from solicitations issued after March 31, 1998; and
- (c) Basic agreements, basic ordering agreements, and blanket purchase agreements issued after March 31, 1998, unless they resulted from solicitations issued on or before March 31, 1998.

### PART 212—ACQUISITION OF COMMERCIAL ITEMS

3. Section 212.301 is amended by adding paragraph (f)(iv) to read as follows:

# 212.301 Solicitation provisions and contract clauses for the acquisition of commercial items.

(f) \* \* \*

(iv) Use the clause at 252.204–700X, Required Central Contractor Registration, as prescribed in 204.7304.

### PART 252—SOLICITATION PROVISIONS AND CONTRACT CLAUSES

4. Section 252.204–700X is added to read as follows:

### 252.204–700X Required Central Contractor Registration.

As prescribed in 204.7304, use the following clause:

### REQUIRED CENTRAL CONTRACTOR REGISTRATION (XXX 19XX)

#### (a) Definitions.

Central Contractor Registration (CCR) database means the primary DoD repository for contractor information required for the conduct of business with DoD.

Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number means the 9-digit number assigned by Dun and Bradstreet Information Services to identify unique business entities.

Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS)+4 number means the DUNS number assigned by Dun and Bradstreet plus a 4-digit suffix that may be assigned by a parent (controlling) business concern. This 4-digit suffix may be assigned at the discretion of the parent business concern for such purposes as identifying subunits or affiliates of the parent business concern.

Registered in the CCR database means that all mandatory information, including the DUNS number or the DUNS+4 number, if applicable, and the corresponding Commercial and Government Entity (CAGE) code, is in the CCR database; the DUNS number and the CAGE code have been validated; and all edits have been successfully completed. To remain registered in the CCR database after the initial registration, the Contractor is required to confirm on an annual basis that its CCR registration is still accurate and complete.

- (b)(1) By submission of an offer, the offeror acknowledges the requirement that a prospective awardee must be registered in the CCR database prior to award, during performance, and through final payment of any contract resulting from this solicitation except for awards to foreign vendors for work to be performed outside the United States.
- (2) The offeror shall provide its DUNS or, if applicable, its DUNS+4 number with its offer, which will be used by the Contracting Officer to verify that the offeror is registered in the CCR database.
- (3) Lack of registration in the CCR database will make an offeror ineligible for award.
- (4) Since initial registration in the CCR database may take up to 30 days, offerors that are not registered should consider applying for registration immediately upon receipt of this solicitation.
- (c) The Contractor is responsible for the accuracy and completeness of the data within the CCR, and for any liability resulting from the Government's reliance on inaccurate or incomplete data. To remain registered in the CCR database after the initial registration, the Contractor is required to confirm on an annual basis that its information in the CCR database is accurate and complete.
- (d) Offerors and contractors may obtain information on registration and annual confirmation requirements by calling 1–888–xxx–xxxx or via the Internet at http://ccr.edi.disa.mil.

(End of clause)

[FR Doc. 97–24387 Filed 9–12–97; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 5000–04–M

#### **DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**

#### 48 CFR Part 215

[DFARS Case 97-D025]

Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Weighted Guidelines—Federally Funded Research and Development Centers

**AGENCY:** Department of Defense (DoD). **ACTION:** Proposed rule with request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Director of Defense Procurement is proposing to amend the Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) to exempt Federally Funded Research and Development Centers from the weighted guidelines method for establishing profit and fee objectives.

**DATES:** Comment date: Comments on the proposed rule should be submitted in writing to the address shown below on or before November 14, 1997 to be considered in the formulation of the final rule.

ADDRESSES: Interested parties should submit written comments to: Defense Acquisition Regulations Council, Attn: Ms. Amy Williams, PDUSD (A&T) DP (DAR), IMD 3D139, 3062 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301–3062. Telefax number (703) 602–0350.

E-mail comments submitted over the Internet should be addressed to: dfars@acq.osd.mil

Please cite DFARS Case 97–D025 in all correspondence related to this issue. E-mail correspondence should cite DFARS Case 97–D025 in the subject line

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Amy Williams, (703) 602–0131.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

### A. Background

This proposed rule amends DFARS Subpart 215.9 to exempt Federally **Funded Research and Development** Centers (FFRDCs) from the weighted guidelines method for establishing profit and fee objectives. The fee for an FFRDC is based on assessment of need and, therefore, should not be subject to the structured, risk-based approach embodied in the weighted guidelines method of profit/fee computation. The proposed rule instead requires contracting officers to establish fee objectives for FFRDCs in accordance with FFRDC fee policies in the DoD FFRDC Management Plan.

#### **B. Regulatory Flexibility Act**

The proposed rule is not expected to have a significant economic impact on

a substantial number of small entities within the meaning of the Regulatory Flexibility Act, 5 U.S.C. 601, et seq., because the rule applies only to contract actions with Federally Funded Research and Development Centers. The rule is not applicable to small businesses. An initial regulatory flexibility analysis has therefore not been prepared. Comments are invited from small businesses and other interested parties. Comments from small entities concerning the affected DFARS subpart also will be considered in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 610. Such comments should be submitted separately and should cite DFARS Case 97–D025 in correspondence.

### C. Paperwork Reduction Act

The Paperwork Reduction Act does not apply because the proposed rule does not impose any information collection requirements that require the approval of the Office of Management and Budget under 44 U.S.C. 3501, et seq.

### List of Subjects in 48 CFR Part 215

Government procurement.

#### Michele P. Peterson,

Executive Editor, Defense Acquisition Regulations Council.

Therefore, 48 CFR Part 215 is proposed to be amended as follows:

1. The authority citation for 48 CFR Part 215 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 41 U.S.C. 421 and 48 CFR Chapter 1.

### PART 215—CONTRACTING BY NEGOTIATION

2. Section 215.902 is amended by revising the introductory text to read as follows:

### 215.902 Policy.

Departments and agencies shall use a structured approach for developing a prenegotiation profit or fee objective (profit objective) on any negotiated contract action that requires cost analysis, except on cost-plus-award-fee contracts (see 215.974) or contracts with Federally Funded Research and Development Centers (FFRDCs) (see 215.975). There are three structured approaches—

3. Section 215.903 is amended by revising paragraphs (b)(1) and (b)(2) to read as follows:

### 215.903 Contracting officer responsibilities.

(b) The contracting officer—

(1) Shall use the weighted guidelines method (see 215.971), unless—