implement the Department of the Interior final rule regarding helium contracts that was published in the **Federal Register** at 63 FR 66760, December 3, 1998. The final rule—

- Changes the definitions;
- Eliminates the requirement for certain contractors and subcontractors to submit helium forecasts; and
- Establishes the requirement that contractors and subcontractors under contracts with a major helium requirement must report purchases of helium from Federal helium suppliers.

Item VI—HUBZone Program Applicability (FAR Case 2001–003)

The HUBZone Act of 1997 expanded the applicability of the HUBZONE Program to all agencies covered by the FAR after September 30, 2000, and is currently reflected in the FAR. This rule amends the FAR to simplify the existing language at FAR Parts 12, 19, and 52.

Item VII—Application of Labor Clauses (FAR Case 1999–612)

This final rule affects all contracting officers who use the FAR. The rule—

- Moves the Prohibition of Segregated Facilities clause from the list at paragraph (b), to the list at paragraph (a), of the clause at 52.213–4 and clarifies the existing requirements of 41 CFR 60–1.8, promulgated by the Department of Labor under E.O. 11246. The Prohibition of Segregated Facilities clause must be included in contracts whenever the Equal Opportunity clause (FAR 52.222–26) is included.
- Moves the Equal Opportunity clause from the list at paragraph (b), to the list at paragraph (a), of the clause at 52.213–4 because the clause must be included in almost all contracts, even those under \$10,000, in accordance with the requirements at FAR 22.802(a)(1) and 22.807(b). Even though included, the clause is inapplicable unless the aggregate value of contracts and subcontracts awarded to the contractor exceeds \$10,000 in a year.
- Makes other revisions to the clause at FAR 52.222–26, Equal Opportunity, to include a definition of "United States" and incorporate the exception for work performed outside the United States.

Item VIII—Technical Amendments

These amendments update sections and make editorial changes at FAR 1.404, 5.207, 6.302–5, 9.104–3, 31.101, 52.219–19, and 52.219–20.

Dated: March 6, 2002.

Al Matera,

Director, Acquisition Policy Division.

Federal Acquisition Circular

Federal Acquisition Circular (FAC) 2001–06 is issued under the authority of the Secretary of Defense, the Administrator of General Services, and the Administrator for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

Unless otherwise specified, all Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) and other directive material contained in FAC 2001–06 are effective April 4, 2002.

Dated: March 4, 2002.

Deidre A. Lee,

Director, Defense Procurement.

Dated: March 4, 2002.

David A. Drabkin,

Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration.

Dated: March 1, 2002.

Tom Luedtke,

Assistant Administrator for Procurement, National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

[FR Doc. 02–5819 Filed 3–19–02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6820-EP-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

48 CFR Parts 1 and 53

[FAC 2001-06; FAR Case 2000-012; Item

RIN 9000-AJ31

Federal Acquisition Regulation; Commercial Items—Standard Form 1449

AGENCIES: Department of Defense (DoD), General Services Administration (GSA), and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Civilian Agency
Acquisition Council and the Defense
Acquisition Regulations Council
(Councils) have agreed on a final rule
amending the Federal Acquisition
Regulation (FAR) to update Standard
Form 1449, Solicitation/Contract/Order
for Commercial Items.

DATES: Effective Date: April 4, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The FAR Secretariat, Room 4035, GS Building, Washington, DC 20405, (202) 501–4755, for information pertaining to

status or publication schedules. For clarification of content, contact Ms. Victoria Moss, Procurement Analyst, at (202) 501–4764. Please cite FAC 2001–06, FAR case 2000–012.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Background

Standard Form 1449, Solicitation/ Contract/Order for Commercial Items, is prescribed by the FAR for the acquisition of commercial items. This final rule makes several minor revisions to the form, including the addition of a block to indicate that the acquisition is a HUBZone set-aside, the substitution of a NAICS code for the SIC code, the notation that award is made only on the offeror's items specifically listed in block 29, and the addition of several blocks in the area of the form used as a receiving report by the Government. None of the changes involve blocks that are completed by the public.

This is not a significant regulatory action, and therefore, was not subject to review under Section 6(b) of Executive Order 12866, Regulatory Planning and Review, dated September 30, 1993. This rule is not a major rule under 5 U.S.C.

B. Regulatory Flexibility Act

This final rule does not constitute a significant FAR revision within the meaning of FAR 1.501 and Public Law 98–577, and publication for public comments is not required. However, the Councils will consider comments from small entities concerning the affected FAR parts 1 and 52 in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 610. Interested parties must submit such comments separately and should cite 5 U.S.C. 601, et seq. (FAC 2001–06, FAR case 2000–012), in correspondence.

C. Paperwork Reduction Act

The Paperwork Reduction Act does not apply because these changes to the FAR do not impose additional information collection requirements to the paperwork burden previously approved under OMB Control Number 9000–0136. The previous edition of the form indicated that the public reporting burden related to the form had been cleared under OMB No. 9000-0136. That statement has been removed from this edition because OMB Clearance 9000-0136 covers information collections unique to commercial item acquisition. It does not cover the information required by this form. This form is primarily completed by the Government. The contractor/offeror fills in only its name, address, and proposed prices. Those pieces of information do not require clearance in the FAR under

the Paperwork Reduction Act. Office of Management and Budget Number 9000-0136 remains valid for the other information collection requirements related to the acquisition of commercial items

List of Subjects in 48 CFR Parts 1 and 53

Government procurement.

Dated: March 6, 2002.

Al Matera,

Director, Acquisition Policy Division.

Therefore, DoD, GSA, and NASA amend 48 CFR parts 1 and 53 as set forth below:

1. The authority citation for 48 CFR parts 1 and 53 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 40 U.S.C. 486(c); 10 U.S.C. chapter 137; and 42 U.S.C. 2473(c).

PART 1—FEDERAL ACQUISITION REGULATIONS SYSTEM

1.106 [Amended]

2. Amend section 1.106 in the table by removing the FAR segment "SF 1449" and its corresponding OMB Control Number "9000–0136".

PART 53—FORMS

53.212 [Amended]

3. Amend section 53.212 by removing "($OCT\ 1995$)" and adding "(Rev. 4/02)" in its place.

53.213 [Amended]

- 4. Amend section 53.213 in paragraph (a) and the introductory text of paragraph (f) by removing "(10/95 Ed.)" and adding "(Rev. 4/02)" in its place.
- 5. Revise section 53.301–1449 to read as follows.

53.301-1449 Solicitation/Contract/Order for Commercial Items.

BILLING CODE 6820-EP-P

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AUTHORIZED FOR LOCAL REPRODUCTION PREVIOUS EDITION IS NOT USABLE

STANDARD FORM 1449 (REV. 4/2002) Prescribed by GSA - FAR (48 CFR) 53.212

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