CVD and AD orders on AFBs and TRBs through expedited sunset reviews. (*See* section 753(e) of the Act). Since the Objecting Parties are not considered domestic producers for purposes of this no-interest revocation, Torrington's expression of no interest in the continuation of the order meets the criteria for revocation presented in section 782(h)(2) of the Act and section 355.25(d)(1)(i) of the Department's regulations. (For a further explanation of the Department's analysis, *see* the Memorandum for Susan G. Esserman regarding AFBs from Singapore and Thailand, dated April 15, 1996, which is on file in the public file of the Central Records Unit, Room B–099 of the Department of Commerce). This revocation applies to all shipments of the subject merchandise entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after January 1, 1995.

The Department will instruct the U.S. Customs Service to terminate the suspension of liquidation as of the date of publication of this notice and to liquidate all entries of the subject merchandise entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after January 1, 1995, without regard to countervailing duties. We will also instruct the U.S. Customs Service to refund with interest any estimated countervailing duties collected with respect to those entries.

This notice serves as a reminder to parties subject to administrative protective order (APO) of their responsibility concerning the disposition of proprietary information disclosed under APO in accordance with 19 C.F.R. 355.34(d). Timely written notification of return/destruction of APO materials or conversion to judicial protective order is hereby requested. Failure to comply with the regulations and the terms of an APO is a sanctionable violation.

This changed circumstances review and notice are in accordance with sections 751(b), 751(d) (1) and (3), and 782(h) of the Act (19 U.S.C. §§ 1675(b), 1675(d) (1) & (3), and 1675m(h) (1995)) and 19 C.F.R. §§ 355.22(h) and 355.25(d)(1994).

Dated: April 29, 1996.

Susan G. Esserman,

Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

Appendix A

Scope of the Review

The products covered by this review, ball bearings, mounted or unmounted, and parts thereof, constitute the following as outlined below.

Ball Bearings, Mounted or Unmounted, and Parts Thereof

These products include all antifriction bearings which employ balls as the rolling element. Imports of these products are classifiable under the following categories: antifriction balls; ball bearings with integral shafts; ball bearings (including radial ball bearings) and parts thereof; ball bearings type pillow blocks and parts thereof; ball bearing type flange, take-up, cartridge, and hanger units, and parts thereof; and other bearings (except tapered roller bearings) and parts thereof. Wheel hub units which employ balls as the rolling unit are subject to this review. Finished but unground or semi-ground balls are not included in the scope of this review. Imports of these products are currently classifiable under the following *Harmonized Tariff Schedule* (HTS) item numbers: 8482.10.10, 8482.10.50, 8482.80.00, 8482.91.00, 8482.99.10, 8482.99.35, 8482.99.70, 8483.20.40, 8483.20.80, 8483.30.40, 8483.30.80, 8483.90.20, 8483.90.30, 8483.90.70, 8708.50.50, 8708.60.50, 8708.99.52, 8708.99.55, 8708.99.58, 8708.99.61, 8708.99.64, 8708.99.67, 8708.99.70, 8708.99.73, and 8708.99.80

This review covers all of the subject bearings and parts thereof outlined above with certain limitations. With regard to finished parts (inner race, outer race, cage, rollers, balls, seals, shields, etc.), all such parts are included in the scope of this review. For unfinished parts (inner race, outer race, rollers, balls, etc.), such parts are included if (1) they have been heat treated, or (2) heat treatment is not required to be performed on the part. Thus, the only unfinished parts that are not covered by this review are those where the part will be subject to heat treatment after importation.

[FR Doc. 96–11388 Filed 5–7–96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–DS–P

[C–557–806]

Extruded Rubber Thread From Malaysia; Extension of Time Limit for Countervailing Duty Administrative Review

AGENCY: Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of extension of time limit for countervailing duty administrative review.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce (the Department) is extending the time limit for preliminary and final results of the 1994 administrative review of the countervailing duty order on extruded rubber thread from Malaysia. This extension is made pursuant to the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended by the Uruguay Round Agreements Act (hereinafter, ''the Act'').

EFFECTIVE DATE: May 8, 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Judy Kornfeld or Lorenza Olivas, Office of Countervailing Compliance, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C., 20230; telephone: (202) 482–2786.

POSTPONEMENT: Under the Act, the Department may extend the deadline for completion of an administrative review if it determines that it is not practicable to complete the review within the statutory time limit of 365 days. See Memorandum to the File dated April 27, 1996. The Department finds that it is not practicable to complete the 1994 administrative review of extruded rubber thread from Malaysia within this time limit.

In accordance with section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Act, the Department will extend the time for completion of the preliminary results of this review from a 245-day period to no later than a 365-day period.

Dated: April 30, 1996.

Joseph A. Spetrini,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Compliance.

[FR Doc. 96–11392 Filed 5–7–96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–DS–P

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[Docket No. 950222054–6119–02; I.D. 042296D]

RIN 0648–ZA15

Financial Assistance for Chesapeake Bay Stock Assessments to Encourage Research Projects for Improvement in the Stock Conditions of the Chesapeake Bay Fisheries

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

ACTION: Notice of availability of funds.

SUMMARY: Approximately $540,000 in Fiscal Year (FY) 1996 funds is available through the NOAA/NMFS Chesapeake Bay Office to assist interested state fishery agencies, academic institutions, and other nonprofit organizations relating to cooperative research units in carrying out research projects to provide information for Chesapeake Bay Stock Assessments through cooperative agreements. About $70,000 of the base amount is available to initiate new projects in FY 1996, as described in this announcement, while the balance will be used to fund continuation projects begun in previous years. NMFS issues this notice describing the conditions

under which eligible applications will be accepted and how NMFS will determine which applications will be selected for funding. Funding will be contingent upon availability of funds.

DATES: Applications for funding under this program will be accepted until June 24, 1996 6 p.m. eastern standard time. Applications received after that time will not be considered for funding. No applications will be accepted by facsimile machine submission.

Successful applicants generally will be selected approximately 90 days from the date of publication in the Federal Register of this notice. The earliest date for awards will be approximately 180 days after the date of publication in the Federal Register of this notice.

ADDRESSES: Send applications to: M. Elizabeth Gillelan, Division Chief, NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office, NMFS, 410 Severn Avenue, Suite 107A, Annapolis, MD 21403.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: M. Elizabeth Gillelan, 410/267–5660.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Introduction

A. *Authority*. The Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956, as amended, at 16 U.S.C. 753 (a), authorizes the Secretary of Commerce (Secretary), for the purpose of developing adequate, coordinated, cooperative research and training programs for fish and wildlife resources, to continue to enter into cooperative agreements with colleges and universities, with game and fish departments of the several states, and with nonprofit organizations relating to cooperative research units.

B. *Catalog of Federal Domestic assistance*. The research to be funded is in support of the Chesapeake Bay Studies (CFDA 11.457), under the Chesapeake Bay Stock Assessment Committee (CBSAC).

C. *Program description*. The CBSAC was established in 1985 to plan and review Bay-wide resource assessments, coordinate relevant actions of state and Federal agencies, report on fisheries status and trends, and determine, fund and review research projects. The program implements a Bay-wide plan for the assessment of commercially, recreationally, and selected ecologically important species in the Chesapeake Bay. In 1988, CBSAC developed a Bay-wide Stock Assessment Plan, in response to provisions in the Chesapeake Bay Agreement of 1987. The plan identified that key obstacles to assessing Bay stocks were the lack of consistent, Bay-wide, fishery-dependent and fishery-independent data. Research projects funded since 1988 have focused on developing and improving fishery-independent surveys and catch statistics for key Bay species, such as striped bass, oysters, blue crabs, and alosids. Stock assessment research is essential, given the recent declines in harvest and apparent stock condition for many of the important species of the Chesapeake Bay.

II. Areas of Special Emphasis

A. Proposals should exhibit familiarity with related work that is completed or ongoing. Where appropriate, proposals should be multidisciplinary. Coordinated efforts involving multiple eligible applicants or persons are encouraged. Eligible women and minority-owned and operated non-profit organizations are encouraged to apply.

Consideration for funding will be given to applications that address the following stock assessment research and management priority for the Chesapeake Bay:

Design and development of a method to age blue crabs in Chesapeake Bay.

This will be a pilot project to examine the feasibility of using the metabolic products called lipofuscins as a basis to establish the chronological age of blue crab. In the pilot year of this study it is envisioned that the following will be accomplished:

I. conduct a comprehensive background literature review on this area of study and its applications;

II. establish protocols for extraction and measurement of lipofuscins;

III. apply these techniques in an experiment that demonstrates the relationship between lipofuscin content and chronological age.

The chemical characteristics of lipofuscins and their accumulation rates are a function of tissue type and metabolic rate; therefore, the experimental group will be reared under a range of temperature, salinity, and dietary conditions that encompass those encountered by blue crabs in Chesapeake Bay.

Should the experiment prove unsuccessful in demonstrating the utility of the method in blue crab age determination, the final report will include a complete description of the above three items. Also, the results will include an explanation of why the technique is assumed to have failed. Otherwise, given the demonstrated utility of this technique, the project report will provide the following specific deliverables, for each sex, where appropriate:

1) overall long-term study design goals, objectives, and anticipated project costs.

2) laboratory rearing methods and procedures.

3) tissue extraction protocol.

4) Definition of the measurement technique for quantifying lipofuscin content.

5) field sampling protocol for the collection of larval blue crab used in rearing experiments and adult animals throughout the size range.

6) analytical methods for defining the relationship between lipofuscin content and age for the range of rearing conditons.

7) sensitivity analysis of the aging methods in terms of its detection limit.

8) description of methods for modelling blue crab growth which incorporate the principal determinants of lipofuscin production; (i.e., temperature, salinity, dietary factors and time).

9) definition of the functional form(s) of the growth model(s) which will be used to estimate chronological age given size, sex and date of capture.

B. Applications addressing the priorities should build upon, or take into account, any related past or current work.

III. How to Apply

A. *Eligible Applicants*. Applications for cooperative agreements under the Chesapeake Bay Studies Program may be submitted, in accordance with the procedures set forth in this notice, by any state game and fish department, college or university, or other nonprofit organizations relating to cooperative research units. Other Federal agencies or institutions are not eligible to receive Federal assistance under this notice.

DOC/NOAA/NMFS employees, including full-time, part-time, and intermittent personnel (or their spouses or blood relatives who are members of their immediate households) are not eligible to submit an application under this solicitation or aid in the preparation of an application, except to provide information on program goals, funding priorities, application procedures, and completion of application forms. Since this is a competitive program, assistance will not be provided in conceptualizing, developing, or structuring proposals.

Eligible applicants outside the Chesapeake Bay region may submit proposals, as long as their objectives support the technical and management priorities of the Chesapeake Bay, as defined in section II.A. above. All solicited proposals received by the closing date will be considered by NMFS.

B. *Duration and terms of funding.* Under this solicitation, NMFS will fund Chesapeake Bay Stock Assessment

Research Projects for 1 year cooperative agreements. The cooperative agreement has been determined as the appropriate funding instrument because of the substantial involvement of NMFS in:

1. Developing program research priorities.
2. Evaluating the performance of the program for effectiveness in meeting regional goals for Chesapeake Bay stock assessments.
3. Monitoring the progress of each funded project.
4. Holding periodic workshops with investigators.
5. Working with recipients in preparation of annual reports summarizing current accomplishments of the Chesapeake Bay Stock Assessment Committee.

Project dates should be scheduled to begin no later than 1 October 1996. Cooperative agreements are approved on an annual basis but may be considered eligible for continuation beyond the first project and budget period subject to the approved scope of work, satisfactory progress, and availability of funds, and at the total discretion of NMFS. However, there are no assurances for such continuation. Publication of this notice does not obligate NOAA to award any specific cooperative agreement or to obligate any part of the entire amount of funds available.

C. *Cost Sharing.* Applications must reflect the total budget necessary to accomplish the project, including contributions and/or donations. Cost sharing is not required under the Chesapeake Bay Stock Assessment Research Program. However, cost sharing is encouraged to enhance the value of a project, and in case of a tie in considering proposals for funding, cost sharing may affect the final decision. The appropriateness of all cost sharing will be determined on the basis of guidance provided in applicable Federal cost principles. If an applicant chooses to share costs, and if that application is selected for funding, the applicant will be bound by the percentage of cost sharing reflected in the award documents.

The non-Federal share may include funds received from private sources or from state or local governments or the value of in-kind contributions. Federal funds may not be used to meet the non-Federal share of matching funds, except as provided by Federal statute. In-kind contributions are noncash contributions provided by the applicant or non-Federal third parties. In-kind contributions may be in the form of, but are not limited to, personal services rendered in carrying out functions related to the project, and permission to use real or personal property owned by others (for which consideration is not required) in carrying out the project. To support the budget, the applicant must describe briefly the basis for estimating the value of the non-Federal funds derived from in-kind contributions.

The total cost of a project begins on the effective date of a cooperative agreement between the applicant and the Grants Officer and ends on the date specified in the award. Accordingly, the time expended and costs incurred in either the development of a project or the financial assistance application, or in any subsequent discussions or negotiations prior to the award, are neither reimbursable nor recognizable as part of the recipient's cost share.

D. *Format.*

1. Applications for project funding must be complete. Applicants must identify the specific research priority. For applications containing more than one project, each project component must be identified individually using the format specified in this section. If an application is not in response to the priority, it should be so stated. Applicants should not assume prior knowledge on the part of NMFS as to the relative merits of the project described in the application. Applications are not to be bound in any manner and should be one-sided. All incomplete applications will be returned to the applicant. Applicants must submit one signed original and two copies of the complete application. Required forms are provided in a NOAA Application Kit which applicants may obtain from the NOAA Grants Management Division or the NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office (see **ADDRESSES**).

2. Applications must be submitted in the following format:

a. *Cover sheet*: An applicant must use OMB Standard Form 424 (revised 4–92) as the cover sheet for each project.

b. *Project description*: Each project must be completely and accurately described. Each project description may be up to 15 pages in length. If an application is awarded, NMFS will make all portions of the project description available to the public for review; therefore, NMFS cannot guarantee the confidentiality of any information submitted as part of any project, nor will NMFS accept for consideration any project requesting confidentiality of any part of the project.

Each project must be described as follows:

(1) *Identification of problem(s)*: Describe the specific problem to be addressed (see section II above).

(2) *Project objectives*: This is one of the most important parts of the Project Proposal. Use the following guidelines for stating the objective of the project.

(a) Keep it simple and easily understandable.

(b) Be as specific and quantitative as possible.

(c) Specify the ''what and when;'' avoid the ''how and why.''

(d) Keep it attainable within the time, money, and human resources available.

(e) Use action verbs that are accomplishment oriented.

(3) *Need for Government financial assistance*: Demonstrate the need for assistance. Any appropriate database to substantiate or reinforce the need for the project should be included. Explain why other funding sources cannot fund all the proposed work. List all other sources of funding that are or have been sought for the project.

(4) *Benefits or results expected*: Identify and document the results or benefits to be derived from the proposed activities.

(5) *Project statement of work*: The Statement of Work is the scientific or technical action plan of activities that are to be accomplished during each budget period of the project. This description must include the specific methodologies, by project job activity, proposed for accomplishing the proposal's objective(s). If the work described in this section does not contain sufficient detail to allow for proper technical evaluation, NMFS will not consider the application for funding and will return it to the applicant.

Investigators submitting proposals in response to this announcement are strongly encouraged to develop inter-institutional, inter-disciplinary research teams in the form of single, integrated proposals or as individual proposals that are clearly linked together. Such collaborative efforts will be factored into the final funding decision.

Each Statement of Work must include the following information:

(a) The applicant's name.

(b) The inclusive dates of the budget period covered under the Statement of Work.

(c) The title of the proposal.

(d) The scientific or technical objectives and procedures that are to be accomplished during the budget period. Devise a detailed set of objectives and procedures to answer who, what, how, when, and where. The procedures must be of sufficient detail to enable competent workers to be able to follow them and to complete scheduled activities.

(e) Location of the work.

(f) A list of all project personnel and their responsibilities.

(g) A milestone table that summarizes the procedures (from item

III.D.2.b.(5)(d)) that are to be attained in each month covered by the Statement of Work.

(6) *Participation by persons or groups other than the applicant*: Describe the level of participation required in the project(s) by NOAA or other government and non-government entities. Specific NOAA employees should not be named in the initial proposal.

(7) *Federal, state and local government activities*: List any programs (Federal, state, or local government or activities, including Sea Grant, state Coastal Zone Management Programs, NOAA Oyster Disease Research Program, the state/Federal Chesapeake Bay Program, etc.) this project would affect and describe the relationship between the project and those plans or activities.

(8) *Project management*: Describe how the project will be organized and managed. Include resumes of principal investigators. List all persons directly employed by the applicant who will be involved with the project. If a consultant and/or subcontractor is selected prior to application submission, include the name and qualifications of the consultant and/or subcontractor and the process used for selection.

(9) *Monitoring of project performance*: Identify who will participate in monitoring the project.

(10) *Project impacts*: . Describe how these products or services will be made available to the fisheries and management communities.

(11) *Evaluation of project*: The applicant is required to provide an evaluation of project accomplishments at the end of each budget period and in the final report. The application must describe the methodology or procedures to be followed to determine technical feasibility, or to quantify the results of the project in promoting increased production, product quality and safety, management effectiveness, or other measurable factors.

(12) *Total project costs*: Total project cost is the amount of funds required to accomplish what is proposed in the Statement of Work, and includes contributions and donations. All costs must be shown in a detailed budget. A standard budget form (SF–424A) is available from the offices listed (see **ADDRESSES**). NMFS will not consider fees or profits as allowable costs for grantees. Additional cost detail may be required prior to a final analysis of overall cost allowability, allocability, and reasonableness. The date, period covered, and findings for the most recent financial audit performed, as well as the name of the audit firm, the contact person, and phone number and address, must be also provided.

c. *Supporting documentation*: Provide any required documents and any additional information necessary or useful to the description of the project. The amount of information will depend on the type of project proposed, but should be no more than 20 pages. The applicant should present any information that would emphasize the value of the project in terms of the significance of the problems addressed. Without such information, the merits of the project may not be fully understood, or the value of the project may be underestimated. The absence of adequate supporting documentation may cause reviewers to question assertions made in describing the project and may result in lower ranking of the project. Information presented in this section should be clearly referenced in the project description.

IV. Evaluation Criteria and Selection Procedures

A. *Initial evaluation of applications*. Applications will be reviewed by NOAA to assure that they meet all requirements of this announcement, including eligibility and relevance to the Chesapeake Bay Stock Assessment Research Program.

B. *Consultation with experts in the field of stock assessment research*. For applications meeting the requirements of this solicitation, NMFS will conduct a technical evaluation of each project prior to any other review. This review normally will involve experts from non-NOAA as well as NOAA organizations. All comments submitted to NMFS will be taken into consideration in the technical evaluation of projects. Technical evaluators will submit independent reviews to NMFS. Reviewers will be asked to comment on the following evaluation criteria:

1. Problem description and conceptual approach for resolution, especially the applicant's comprehension of the problem(s), familiarity with related work that is completed or ongoing, and the overall concept proposed to resolve the problem(s) (30 points).

2. Soundness of project design/technical approach, especially whether the applicant provided sufficient information to technically evaluate the project and, if so, the strengths and weaknesses of the technical design proposed for problem resolution (35 points).

3. Project management and experience and qualifications of personnel, including organization and management of the project, and the personnel experience and qualifications (15 points).

4. Justification and allocation of the budget in terms of the work to be performed (20 points).

C. *Review Panel*. NMFS will convene a review panel consisting of at least three regionally recognized experts in the scientific and management aspects of stock assessment research who will conduct reviews as follows:

1. Evaluate technical reviews.

2. Provide independent review based on the same criteria as the technical review.

3. Discuss all review comments as a panel.

4. Provide individual panelist scores and suggestions for modifications (i.e., budget, personnel, technical approach, etc.).

D. *Funding decision*. 1. Applications will be ranked by NMFS into two groups—Recommended and Not Recommended. As previously stated in section III C., collaborative proposals and applications which propose a cost share are strongly encouraged, and therefore will be given added weight in the selection process. Numeric ranking will be the major consideration for deciding which of the ''recommended'' proposals will be selected for funding.

2. After projects have been ranked for funding, the Chief of the NOAA/NMFS Chesapeake Bay Office, in consultation with the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NOAA, will determine the project to be recommended for funding based upon the technical evaluations, panel review, and the evaluation factors and, determine the amount of funds available for the program. The exact amount of funds awarded to the project will be determined in preaward negotiations between the applicant, the Grants Office, and the NOAA/NMFS Chesapeake Bay Office staff.

V. Administrative Requirements

A. *Obligations of the applicant*. 1. *Deliverables*—In addition to quarterly status and budget reports, and at the time of submission of the final report of results of funded projects, recipients must submit a four- to five-page summary of project work and results that will be compiled in a report of Chesapeake Bay Stock Assessment Research Program results.

2. *Periodic workshops*—Investigators will be expected to attend one or two workshops with other Stock Assessment Research Program researchers to encourage interdisciplinary dialogue and forge synthesis of results.

3. *Primary applicant certifications*—All primary applicants must submit a completed Form CD–511,

''Certifications Regarding Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; Drug-Free Workplace Requirements and Lobbying,'' and the following explanations are hereby provided:

a. *Nonprocurement debarment and suspension*—Prospective participants (as defined at 15 CFR 26.105) are subject to 15 CFR part 26, ''Nonprocurement Debarment and Suspension,'' and the related section of the certification form prescribed above applies.

b. *Drug-free workplace*—Grantees (as defined at 15 CFR 26.605) are subject to 15 CFR part 26, subpart F, ''Governmentwide Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace (Grants),'' and the related section of the certification form prescribed above applies.

c. *Anti-lobbying*—Persons (as defined at 15 CFR 28.105) are subject to the lobbying provisions of 31 U.S.C. 1352, ''Limitation on use of appropriated funds to influence certain Federal contracting and financial transactions.''

d. *Anti-lobbying disclosure*—Any applicant who has paid or will pay for lobbying using any funds must submit an SF-LLL, ''Disclosure of Lobbying Activities,'' as required under 15 CFR part 28, appendix B.

4. *Lower tier certifications*—Recipients shall require applicants/bidders for subgrants, contracts, subcontracts, or other lower tier covered transactions at any tier under the award to submit, if applicable, a completed Form CD–512, ''Certifications Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion-Lower Tier Covered Transactions and Lobbying'' and disclosure form SF-LLL, ''Disclosure of Lobbying Activities.'' Form CD–512 is intended for the use of recipients and should not be transmitted to DOC. SF-LLL submitted by any tier recipient or subrecipient should be submitted to DOC in accordance with the instructions contained in the award document.

B. *Other requirements.* 1. *Federal policies and procedures*—Recipients and subrecipients are subject to all Federal laws and Federal and DOC policies, regulations, and procedures applicable to Federal financial assistance awards.

2. *Indirect cost rates*—The total dollar amount of the indirect costs proposed in an application under this program must not exceed the current indirect cost rate negotiated and approved by a cognizant Federal agency. NOAA's acceptance of negotiated rates is subject to total indirect costs not to exceed 100% of total direct costs. This language is pursuant to the NOAA Grants and Cooperative Agreements Policy Manual, Chapter 3(B)(2).

3. *Past performance*—Unsatisfactory performance under prior Federal awards may result in an application not being considered for funding. In addition, any recipient and/or researcher who is past due for submitting acceptable progress reports on any previous project funded under this program may be ineligible to be considered for new awards until the delinquent reports are received, reviewed and deemed acceptable by NMFS.

4. *Financial management certifications/preaward accounting survey*—Successful applicants, at the discretion of the NOAA Grants Officer, may be required to have their financial management systems certified by an independent public accountant as being in compliance with Federal standards specified in the applicable OMB Circulars prior to execution of the award. Any first-time applicant for Federal grant funds may be subject to a preaward accounting survey by the DOC prior to execution of the award.

5. *Delinquent Federal debts*—No award of Federal funds shall be made to an applicant who has an outstanding delinquent Federal debt until either:

a. The delinquent account is paid in full;

b. A negotiated repayment schedule is established and at least one payment is received; or

c. Other arrangements satisfactory to DOC are made.

6. *Name checks*—Potential recipients may be required to submit an ''Identification-Application for Funding Assistance'' (Form CD–346), which is used to ascertain background information on key individuals associated with the potential recipient. All non-profit and for-profit applicants are subject to a name check review process. Name checks are intended to reveal if any key individuals associated with the applicant have been convicted of, or are presently facing, criminal charges such as fraud, theft, perjury, or other matters that significantly reflect on the applicant's management honesty or financial integrity. Applicants will also be subject to credit check reviews.

7. *False statements*—A false statement on the application is grounds for denial or termination of funds and grounds for possible punishment by a fine or imprisonment as provided in 18 U.S.C. 1001.

8. *Preaward activities*—If applicants incur any costs prior to an award being made, they do so solely at their own risk of not being reimbursed by the Government. Notwithstanding any verbal or written assurance that may have been received, there is no obligation on the part of DOC to cover preaward costs.

9. *Purchase of American-made equipment and products*—Applicants are hereby notified that they are encouraged, to the greatest extent practicable, to purchase American-made equipment and products with funding provided under this program.

10. *Other*—If an application is selected for funding, DOC has no obligation to provide any additional funding in connection with that award. Renewal of an award to increase funding or extend the period of performance is at the total discretion of DOC.

Cooperative agreements awarded pursuant to pertinent statutes shall be in accordance with the Fisheries Research Plan (comprehensive program of fisheries research) in effect on the date of the award.

Classification

This action has been determined to be not significant for purposes of E.O. 12866.

Applications under this program are subject to Executive Order 12372, ''Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs.''

Prior notice and an opportunity for public comment are not required by the Administrative Procedure Act or any other law for this notice concerning grants, benefits, and contracts. Therefore, a regulatory flexibility analysis is not required for purposes of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall a person be subject to, a penalty for failure to comply with a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number.

This notice contains collections of information subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act, which have been approved by OMB under OMB control numbers 0348–0043, 0348–0044, and 0605–0001.

Dated: May 1, 1996.

Gary Matlock,

Program Management Officer, National Marine Fisheries Service

[FR Doc. 96–11401 Filed 5–7–96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–F