5122, or send e-mail to BrentJ%EMD%BNG__DPW@benning-emh2.army.mil. Comments and suggestions should be received no later than 30 days following the publication of this notice to be considered in the preparation of the Draft EIS.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions regarding this proposal may be directed to Mr. John Brent at (706) 545–4766.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Since the 1994 scoping effort, the land exchange was separated into two distinct exchanges: (1) A landfill land exchange, and (2) a North-South tract land exchange. On June 26, 1996, Fort Benning conveyed 346 acres from the 3,106 acres to the City for landfill development in exchange for 380 acres of the City's 3,228 acres. An Environmental Assessment was prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, and a Finding of No Significant Impact was published in the ''Columbus Ledger-Enquirer'' on October 25, 1995, for the landfill land exchange.

This NOI pertains only to the proposed North-South tract land exchange, involving the remaining 2,760 acres of Fort Benning land (the North tract) and 2,848 acres of the City land (the South tract). An EIS will be prepared and will include an analysis of the Cumulative environmental impacts from both the North-South tract exchange and the landfill land exchange.

The general study areas for environmental concerns will be the North and South-tracts plus any additional surrounding areas necessary to satisfy the requirements of NEPA, as well as any relevant environmental laws and regulations to include (as a minimum but not necessarily limited to) the following: Endangered Species Act, Migratory Birds Treaty Act, National Historic Preservation Act, Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, Resource Conservation Recovery Act, Environmental Justice Executive Order, etc. The information developed will identify, evaluate, analyze and compare the potential individual and cumulative impacts of the North-South tract land exchange alternatives. The cumulative impact analysis will include an environmental assessment of other recent or reasonably anticipated similar actions in the area of concern, including the landfill land exchange.

Dated: June 3, 1998.

Raymond J. Fatz,

Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army, (Environment, Safety and Occupational Health), OASA (I, L&E).

[FR Doc. 98–15352 Filed 6–9–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710–08–M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

Proposed Implementation of the Defense Table of Official Distances (DTOD) in the DoD Personal Property Program

AGENCY: Military Traffic Management Command, DoD.

ACTION: Notice (Request for Comments).

SUMMARY: The Military Traffic Management Command (MTMC), as Program Director for the Department of Defense (DoD) Personal Property Program, intends to utilize a new automated distance calculation product known as the Defense Table of Official Distances (DTOD) in the DoD personal property program. The DTOD will replace existing distance calculation products used within the DoD such as the Rand McNally TDM Milemaker System, and Household Goods Carriers' Mileage Guide. The DTOD will become the DoD standard source for distance information worldwide. Commercially, DTOD is known as PC*MILER by ALK Associates, Inc. The DTOD/PC*MILER will be used by the DoD for all distance calculations, analysis, and for transportation payments/audits. Carriers and third party providers may continue to use other mileage sources for their own business purposes. However, carriers and third party providers participating in the DoD personal property program must agree to be bound by the DTOD/PC*MILER distance calculations for payment and audit purposes.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before August 10, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be mailed to: Headquarters, Military Traffic Management Command, ATTN: MTOP–T, Room 617, 5611 Columbia Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041–5050.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Additional information concerning the DTOD for MTMC Personal Property Program can be provided by contacting Mr. Alex Moreno (Domestic solicitation) (703) 681–6190 or Ms. Shelia R. Woodson (International solicitation) (703) 681–9383. Information regarding DTOD Compliant Commercial Software and Other Technical Information can be provided by contacting ALK Associates, Inc. at 1 (800) 377–MILE or on the Internet at www.pcmiler.com.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. The proposed effective dates for use of the DTOD in the DoD personal property program will be: (A) 1 April 1999 for the international thru government bill of lading (ITGBL) rate solicitation; and (B) 1 May 1999 for the domestic rate solicitation. All shipments picked up on or after the effective dates will be governed by the DTOD.

2. In accordance with this implementation process, the ITGBL Rate Solicitation, Item 405 (Governing Regulations), paragraph a, will be revised as follows: a. ITGBL shipments made under this solicitation are subject to the terms and conditions of the PPGBL, the rules and regulations contained herein, and the carrier Tender of Service on file with HQMTMC. Where rates or other services are based on mileage, the distance or mileage computations shall be those provided in the Defense Table of Official Distances (DTOD).

3. The Domestic Rate Solicitation, Item 10, (Governing mileage guide), paragraph 1 and 4, will be revised as follows: paragraph 1. Where rates or other services are based on mileage, the distance or mileage computations shall be those provided in the Defense Table of Official Distances (DTOD); paragraph 4 will be deleted.

4. DTOD and PC*MILER will produce identical distance calculations. Carriers and other parties who seek more information about PC*MILER may contact ALK Associates Inc. at telephone 1–800–377–MILE, or via Internet at www.pcmiler.com.

5. Proposed Implementation Dates. The schedule for use of the DTOD/PC*MILER in distance calculations, payment, and post payment audits for shipments under the DoD International Government Bill of Lading Rate Solicitation is 1 April 1999 and for the DoD Domestic Rate Solicitation is 1 May 1999.

6. Background. Currently, several sources for highway distance information are being used to support various DoD transportation programs, such as travel, travel entitlement reimbursement, freight and personal property movements. Moreover, separate products are used to calculate overseas distances. The result is a variance in distance computations produced by different products and a high cost to DoD of licensing and maintaining multiple mileage sources.

a. Until 1996, DoD was required by law to maintain an official mileage table

for payment of travel and transportation allowances, known as the Official Table of Distances. The FY96 Defense Authorization Act deleted this requirement, thus providing the opportunity to use a commercial mileage product. MTMC announced a plan to convert to a new automated mileage standard calculation product in the previous **Federal Register** notice (Vol. 62, No. 218, page 60692) Wednesday, November 12, 1997. In seeking a single integrated source of automated highway distance calculations, the MTMC contracted with Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) to perform a market survey of available products (Phase I) and to provide a product that would support DoD transportation programs (Phase II). SAIC in turn conducted a commercial competition to identify and acquire a commercial-off-the-shelf, point-to-point distance calculation source that would meet all the DoD requirements. PC*MILER was chosen by SAIC to be that source. PC*MILER, developed specifically to serve the trucking industry, will contain Standard Point Location Codes, military locations and other worldwide locations required by DoD. Updates and version control of DTOD and PC*MILER will be consistent with industry practices.

b. In surveying and evaluating vendors and products, SAIC's criteria focused on compatibility with existing and planned automated systems, consistency in calculation, and adaptability to various DoD network applications and transportation program uses. SAIC also compared commercially available distance calculation products to identify viable candidates for the competitive selection process. That comparison resulted in finding a variance of 2.0%+/− amongst the vendors of evaluated products. A copy of this comparison will be provided, upon written request, sent to the point of contract identified above.

c. The DTOD/PC*MILER product will calculate both ''shortest'' and ''practical'' mileage. Currently, the DoD and the household goods carrier industry use ''shortest'' mileage to calculate the distances used for payment purposes. ''Shortest'' routes represent distances and routes that a driver would take to minimize total distance traveled while still following a truck-navigable route. DoD will continue to use the ''shortest'' routes. Carriers and/or other parties who choose to use PC*MILER will have opportunities to provide feedback to ALK Associates, Inc., the provider of DTOD software, regarding routings, database suggestions such as distance differences, road preference suggestions, road reclassifications, new locations, etc. ALK Associates, Inc., will provide all interested parties the capability to license PC*MILER, to ensure the ability to consistently determine the exact mileage that the DoD uses for payments and auditing.

d. It is anticipated that transition to DTOD will have no significant impact on small businesses since those businesses currently use one or more similar distance calculation products. All offerors will be free to establish their rates based on applicable distance information.

e. Interested parties are invited to provide comments concerning the use of the DTOD in the DoD Personal Property Program and the proposed implementation dates to the address provided above. Comments will be accepted for a period of 60 days from the publication date of this notice.

7. Regulatory Flexibility Act. This change is related to public contracts and is designed to standardize distance calculations for line-haul transportation. This change is not considered rule making within the meaning of the Regulatory Flexibility Act, 5 U.S.C. 601–612.

8. Paperwork Reduction Act. The Paperwork Reduction Act, 44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq., does not apply because no information collection requirements or recordskeeping responsibilities are imposed on offerors, contractors, or members of the public.

Gregory D. Showalter,

Army Federal Register, Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 98–15465 Filed 6–9–98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710–08–M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

Protective Exclusive License Announcement

AGENCY: U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command.

AGENCY: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with 37 CFR 404.7(a)(1)(i), announcement is made of prospective exclusive license for U.S. Patent Number 5,665,970.

DATES: Written objections must be filed not later than August 10, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Written objections should be directed to Mr. George B. Tereschuk, Intellectual Property Law Division, U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command, ATTN: AMSEL–LG–L, Fort Monmouth, New Jersey 07703–5010,

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Gorge B. Tereschuk, U.S. Army, Communications-Electronics Command, ATTN: AMSEL–LG–L, Fort Monmouth, New Jersey 07703–5010, Telephone (732) 523–9795, or E-mail: terschu@doim6.monmouth.army.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: U.S. Patent Number 5,665,970, filed on July 3, 1996, entitled, ''Directional Radiation Detector and Imager,'' was issued to Kronenberg et al on September 9, 1997. This U.S. Patent was assigned to the United States of America, as represented by the Secretary of the Army. Accordingly, under the authority of Section 11(a)(2) of the Federal Technology Transfer Act of 1986 (Pub L. 99–502) and Title 35, United States Code, section 207, the Department of the Army, as represented by the Communications-Electronics Command, intends to grant an exclusive license for the above identified U.S. Patent to Canberra Industries, A Division of Packard BioScience.

Pursuant to 37 CFR 404.7(a)(1)(i) any interested party may file written objections to this prospective exclusive license agreement at the above address. Written objections must be filed on or before August 10, 1998.

Gregory D. Showalter

Army Federal Register, Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 98–15464 Filed 6–9–98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP98–572–000]

NorAm Gas Transmission Company; Notice of Application for Abandonment

June 4, 1998.

Take notice that on May 29, 1998, NorAm Gas Transmission Company (NGT), 1111 Louisiana, Houston, Texas 77002 filed an application pursuant to Section 7(b) of the Natural Gas Act and Part 157 of the Commission's Regulations requesting permission and approval to abandon exchange services with Arkansas Oklahoma Gas Company (AOG). The application is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

NGT states that Arkla Energy Resources Company, now NGT, entered into exchange transactions in 1973 and 1979 with AOG. NGT states that the 1973 and 1979 exchange agreements were certificated in Docket No. CP87–458 by Order Issuing Certificate and Authorizing Abandonment issued June 8, 1989 (47 FERC ¶ 61,342). As of July 1, 1990 the 1973 and 1979 exchanges