

scientific information collected and/or evaluated by NMFS, as well as information rendered individually from the Indirect Effects Panel. The panel will include independent scientific experts in veterinary science, physiology, and other stress-related fields. The panel members' assessments will be based on their review of relevant behavioral, ecological, immunological, pathological, and other information with respect to the three depleted dolphin stocks. For this question, the Secretary will also consider the evidence presented by the Ecosystem Panel members regarding possible changes in the carrying capacity and/or the ecosystem structure of the ETP and how it relates to adverse impacts attributable to the fishery on the dolphin stocks as described above.

#### *Nomination Process*

Any individual or organization may submit nominations for either or both of the two expert panels. Nominations should include:

1. The name of the nominee and their contact information;
2. A statement of background;
3. A statement of qualifications; and
4. The submitting person or organization's name and affiliation.

#### *Panel Member Qualifications*

Nominees must have outstanding scientific credentials relevant to the particular panel and be recognized internationally in their fields of expertise. Credentials must include: (1) doctorate degree from an accredited university or equivalent professional experience related to the questions before each panel; (2) established publication record in juried scientific journals related to the questions before each panel; (3) distinguished professional reputation. Nominees may be affiliated with international as well as domestic scientific bodies, academia, natural resource management agencies, or related organizations. Nominees must be available to travel to the expert panel meetings in La Jolla, CA, September 4–6, 2002, and they must be able to spend the necessary time in advance to prepare for the meeting.

To avoid conflicts of interest and ensure an independent panel, nominees must be able to certify and appointees must certify that they will provide their expert advice free from the influence of Government managers, the fishing industry, environmental groups, or any other interested party and that:

1. They have not received in the past 2 years funds in excess of \$20 from any industry or environmental group with a vested interest in any resource for

which NMFS has stewardship responsibilities, and

2. They have not received in the past 2 years funds in excess of \$20 directly from NMFS via a sole-source contract, other than for invitational travel.

#### *Selection Process*

The Secretary will seek advice from professional societies on the qualifications of the nominees. A committee composed of one scientist from the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission, one scientist from the Marine Mammal Commission, one scientist from an independent reviewing agency, and three senior scientists from NMFS, including the Director, NMFS Office of Science and Technology, as the ex-officio chair, will select and rank qualified expert panel candidates, with advice from the professional societies. The Director will provide this committee's recommendations to the Secretary, including a ranked list of eight candidates for each panel. The Secretary will appoint two panels of five members each from the list of recommended candidates.

#### *Format of the Expert Panel Meetings*

Each panel will meet for 3 days. The first day will involve overview presentations by specialists from NMFS, research institutions, fishery management agencies, and others. The second and third days of each panel discussion will entail panel deliberations and individual drafting sessions. Within five days of the expert panel adjournment, each panel member will submit a complete individual assessment report to the Director, NMFS Office of Science and Technology, for use in the ODP. The panel member reports will be made available to the public with the final finding.

#### *Role of Expert Panel Members*

The expert panel members will agree to provide individual written assessments, explicitly addressing the relevant question, to the Secretary to assist in his determination. The panel members will base their assessments on the presentations to the panels, panel member deliberations, the peer-reviewed IDCPA science report, additional information obtained under the IDCP, and other relevant information. The use of independent expert judgment in obtaining guidance on complex and highly technical bodies of information, such as those relevant to the Ecosystem and the Indirect Effects Questions, is consistent with science-based, decision-making processes like that proposed here.

#### *Cost Reimbursement*

Panel members will be paid \$600 per diem. It is anticipated that preparation will require 80 hours and the panel meeting and travel will require another 40–60 hours. In addition, all travel expenses for panel members to attend the meeting will be paid by the federal government at the prevailing government rates.

#### *Deadline for Submission of Nominations*

NMFS is soliciting nominations by June 24, 2002. See **ADDRESSES** above.

Dated: May 3, 2002.

**William W. Fox, Jr.**

*Director, Office of Science and Technology,  
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 02–11635 Filed 5–8–02; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–22–S**

## **DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

### **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

**[I.D. 050102C]**

#### **New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) is scheduling a public meeting of its Research Steering Committee in May, 2002. Recommendations from the committee will be brought to the full Council for formal consideration and action, if appropriate.

**DATES:** The meeting will held on Thursday, May 23, 2002, at 9:30 a.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Sheraton Colonial Hotel, 427 Walnut Street, Wakefield, MA 01880; telephone: (781) 245–9300.

*Council address:* New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Newburyport, MA 01950.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Paul J. Howard, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council; (978) 465–0492.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On the agenda will be an update and discussion on a pilot program for a New England industry-based survey; a review and discussion of habitat research and data needs and development of a strategy to address those issues related to management needs; development of a

long-range plan for fisheries research; review of comments on efforts by NMFS to expedite and clarify procedures related to their Experimental Fisheries Program.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

### Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Paul J. Howard (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 days prior to the meeting dates.

Dated: May 6, 2002.

**Richard W. Surdi,**

*Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 02-11633 Filed 5-8-02; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Office of the Secretary

#### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

**ACTION:** Notice.

The Department of Defense has submitted to OMB for clearance, the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

**DATES:** Consideration will be given to all comments received by June 10, 2002.

*Title and OMB Number:* Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) Part 216, Types of Contracts, and Related Clauses at 252.216; OMB Number 0704-0259.

*Type of Request:* Extension.  
*Number of Respondents:* 69.  
*Responses per Respondent:* 1.97.  
*Annual Responses:* 136.  
*Average Burden Per Response:* 4.06 hours.

*Annual Burden Hours:* 552.  
*Needs and Uses:* The clauses at DFARS 252.216-7000, 252.216-7001, and 252.216-7003 require contractors with fixed-price economic price adjustment contracts to submit information to the contracting officer

regarding changes in established material prices or wage rates. The contracting officer uses this information to make appropriate adjustments to contract prices.

*Affected Public:* Business or Other For-Profit.

*Frequency:* On Occasion.

*Respondent's Obligation:* Required to Obtain or Retain Benefits.

*OMB Desk Officer:* Ms. Jackie Zeiher. Written comments and recommendations on the proposed information collection should be sent to Ms. Zeiher at the Office of Management and Budget, Desk Officer for DoD, Room 10236, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

*DoD Clearance Officer:* Mr. Robert Cushing.

Written requests for copies of the information collection proposal should be sent to Mr. Cushing, WHS/DIOR, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington, VA 22202-4302.

Dated: May 3, 2002.

**Patricia L. Toppings,**

*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.*

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**BILLING CODE 5001-08-M**

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Office of the Secretary

#### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

**ACTION:** Notice.

The Department of Defense has submitted to OMB for clearance, the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

**DATES:** Consideration will be given to all comments received by June 10, 2002.

*Title, Form Number, and OMB Number:* Continued Health Care Benefit Program (CHCBP) Application; DD Form 2837; OMB Number 0704-0364.

*Type of Request:* Extension.  
*Number of Respondents:* 808.  
*Responses per Respondent:* 1.  
*Annual Responses:* 808.  
*Average Burden per Response:* 15 minutes.

*Annual Burden Hours:* 202.  
*Needs and Uses:* The continuing information collection requirement is necessary for individuals to apply for enrollment in the Continued Health Care Benefit Program (CHCBP). The CHCBP is a program of temporary health care benefit coverage that is made available to eligible individuals who

lose health care under the Military Health System. In order to be eligible for health care coverage under CHCBP, an individual must first enroll using the DD Form 2837.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or Households.

*Frequency:* On Occasion.

*Respondent's Obligation:* Required to obtain or retain benefits.

*OMB Desk Officer:* Ms. Cristal Thomas.

Written comments and recommendations on the proposed information collection should be sent to Ms. Thomas at the Office of the Management and Budget, Desk Officer for DoD Health Affairs, Room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

*DoD Clearance Officer:* Mr. Robert Cushing.

Written requests for copies of the information collection proposal should be sent to Mr. Cushing WHS/DIOR, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington, VA 22202-4302.

Dated: May 3, 2002.

**Patricia L. Toppings,**

*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.*

[FR Doc. 02-11527 Filed 5-8-02; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 5001-08-M**

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Office of the Secretary of Defense

#### Meeting of the DOD Advisory Group on Electron Devices

**AGENCY:** Advisory Group on Electron Devices, Department of Defense.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The DoD Advisory Group on Electron Devices (AGED) announces a closed session meeting.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held at 0900, Wednesday, May 15, 2002.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Palisades Institute for Research Services, 1745 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 500, Arlington, VA 22202.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Eric Carr, AGED Secretariat, 1745 Jefferson Davis Highway, Crystal Square Four, Suite 500, Arlington, Virginia 22202.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The mission of the Advisory Group is to provide advice to the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology, to the Director of Defense Research and Engineering (DDR&E), and through the DDR&E to the Director, Defense Advanced Research Projects