proposed MMPA regulations for testing and training activities contain proposed acoustic criteria and thresholds that would, if adopted, represent changes from the criteria and thresholds currently employed by NMFS in incidental take authorizations and associated biological opinions for Navy military readiness activities. The revised thresholds are based on evaluations of recent scientific studies (see Finnever et al. (2010), Finnever and Schlundt (2010), and Tyack et al. (2011)).

The proposed new criteria and thresholds based on the Finnever and Tyack studies have recently been made available for public comment. (AFTT: 78 FR 7050, January 31, 2013; and HSTT: 78 FR 6978, January 31, 2013), and the public comments are still being evaluated. Until that process is complete, it is not appropriate to apply the new criteria and thresholds in any take authorization or associated biological opinion.

Adaptive Management

The Navy’s adaptive management of the GOA TMAA monitoring program involves close coordination with NMFS to align marine mammal monitoring with the overall objectives of the monitoring plan. Monitoring under the 2011 LOA only represents the two years of a planned five-year effort. At this point, it would be premature to draw detailed conclusions or initiate comprehensive monitoring changes because the analysis of monitoring and other data is not complete. In addition, at the annual adaptive management meeting, NMFS and the Navy took into consideration, among other things, the study by Tyack et al. (2011) evaluating the documented responses of marine mammals to sonar to sonar are available for public comment. (AFTT: 78 FR 7050, January 31, 2013; and HSTT: 78 FR 6978, January 31, 2013), and the public comments are still being evaluated. Until that process is complete, it is not appropriate to apply the new criteria and thresholds in any take authorization or associated biological opinion.

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requirements of section 155 of Public Law 104–164 dated July 21, 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. B. English, DSCA/DBO/CFM, (703) 601–3740.

The following is a copy of a letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Transmittals 13–08 with attached transmittal, policy justification, and Sensitivity of Technology.

Dated: May 20, 2013.

Aaron Siegel, Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

BILLING CODE 5001–06–P

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DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY
201 12TH STREET SOUTH, STE 203
ARLINGTON, VA 22202–5408

The Honorable John A. Boehner Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 13-08, concerning the Department of the Air Force’s proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to Qatar for defense articles and services estimated to cost $110 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a press statement to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

William E. Landay III
Vice Admiral, USN
Director

Enclosures:
1. Transmittal
2. Policy Justification
3. Sensitivity of Technology
4. Regional Balance (Classified Document Provided Under Separate Cover)
Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Qatar

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment*: $45 million
Other ...................................... $65 million

TOTAL ...................................... $110 million

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase: 2 AN/AAQ–24(V) Large Aircraft Infrared Countermeasures (LAIRCM) Systems for B747–800 Aircraft, 11 Small Laser Transmitter Assemblies, 3 System Processors/Repeaters, 14 AN/AAR–54 Missile Warning Sensors, User Data Module Cards and Control Interface Units, Multi-role Electro-Optic End-to-End test set, Card Memory, Smart Cards, and Support Equipment, Consumables, and Flight Test/Certification. Also included are tools and test equipment, support equipment, spare and repair parts, publications and technical documents, personnel training and training equipment, U.S. Government and contractor technical assistance, and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Air Force (QAF)

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: None

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: 14 May 2013

* As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Qatar—AN/AAQ–24(V) Large Aircraft Infrared Countermeasures (LAIRCM) Systems

The Government of Qatar has requested a possible sale of 2 AN/AAQ–24(V) Large Aircraft Infrared Countermeasures (LAIRCM) Systems for B747–800 Aircraft, 11 Small Laser Transmitter Assemblies, 3 System Processors/Repeaters, 14 AN/AAR–54 Missile Warning Sensors, User Data Module Cards and Control Interface Units, Multi-role Electro-Optic End-to-End test set, Card Memory, Smart Cards, and Support Equipment, Consumables, and Flight Test/Certification. Also included are tools and test equipment, support equipment, spare and repair parts, publications and technical documents, personnel training and training equipment, U.S. Government and contractor technical assistance, and other related elements of logistics and program support.

This proposed sale will contribute to the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a friendly country which has been, and continues to be, an important force for political stability and economic progress in the Middle East.

Qatar requests these capabilities to provide for the protection of its head-of-state aircraft fleet. LAIRCM will provide increased protection from missile threats. The proposed purchase of LAIRCM will enhance the safety of Qatar’s political leadership, promoting stability and global engagement of a friendly country.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The prime contractor will be Northrop Grumman Corporation of Rolling Meadows, Illinois. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require U.S. Government or contractor representatives to travel to Qatar for a period of 10 years to provide program and technical support and training.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Defense Acquisition Regulations System

[Docket Number DARS–2013–0013]

Information Collection Requirement; Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Rights in Technical Data and Computer Software

AGENCY: Defense Acquisition Regulations System; Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: Notice and request for comments regarding a proposed extension of an approved information collection requirement.

SUMMARY: In compliance with section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 35), DoD announces the proposed extension of a public information collection requirement and seeks public comment on the provisions thereof. DoD invites comments on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of DoD, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has approved this information collection for use through July 31, 2013. DoD proposes that OMB extend its approval for use for 3 additional years beyond the current expiration date.

DATES: DoD will consider all comments received by July 22, 2013.


Email: dfars@osd.mil Include OMB Control Number 0704–0369 in the subject line of the message.

Fax: (571) 372–6094.