

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE****GENERAL SERVICES  
ADMINISTRATION****NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND  
SPACE ADMINISTRATION**

[OMB Control No. 900-0138]

**Proposed Collection; Comment  
Request Entitled Contract Financing**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of request for comments regarding a revision to an existing OMB clearance.

**SUMMARY:** Under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Secretariat will be submitting to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) a request to review and approve a revision to a currently approved information collection requirement concerning Contract Financing. The clearance currently expires on May 31, 1998.

**DATES:** Comments may be submitted on or before April 27, 1998.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jerry Olson, Federal Acquisition Policy Division, GSA (202) 501-3221.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, should be submitted to: FAR Desk Officer, OMB, Room 10102, NEOB, Washington, DC 20503, and a copy to the General Services Administration, FAR Secretariat, 1800 F Street, NW, Room 4037, Washington, DC 20405. Please cite OMB Control No. 9000-0138, Contract Financing, in all correspondence.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****A. Purpose**

The Federal Acquisition Streamlining Act of 1994, Pub. L. 103-355, provided authorities that streamlined the acquisition process and minimize burdensome government-unique requirements. Sections 2001 and 2051 of the Federal Acquisition Streamlining Act of 1994 substantially changed the statutory authorities for Government financing of contracts. Sections 2001(f) and 2051(e) provide specific authority for Government financing of purchases of commercial items, and sections 2001(b) and 2051(b) substantially revised the authority for Government

financing of purchases of non-commercial items.

Sections 2001(f) and 2051(e) provide specific authority for Government financing of purchases of commercial items. These paragraphs authorize the Government to provide contract financing with certain limitations.

Sections 2001(b) and 2051(b) also amended the authority for Government financing of non-commercial purchases by authorizing financing on the basis of certain classes of measures of performance.

To implement these changes, DOD, NASA, and GSA amended the Federal Acquisition Regulation by revising Subparts 32.0, 32.1, and 32.5; by adding new Subparts 32.2 and 32.10; and by adding new clauses to 52.232.

The coverage enables the Government to provide financing to assist in the performance of contracts for commercial items and provide financing for non-commercial items based on contractor performance.

**B. Annual Reporting Burden**

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 2 hours per request for commercial financing and 2 hours per request for performance-based financing, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

The annual reporting burden for Commercial Financing is estimated as follows: Respondents, 1,000; responses per respondent, 5; total annual responses, 5,000; preparation hours per response, 2; and total response burden hours, 10,000.

The annual reporting burden for Performance-Based Financing is estimated as follows: Respondents, 500; responses per respondent, 12; total annual responses, 6,000; preparation hours per response, 2; and total response burden hours, 12,000.

**Obtaining Copies of Proposals**

Requester may obtain a copy of the justification from the General Services Administration, FAR Secretariat (MVRs), 1800 F Street, NW, Room 4037, Washington, DC 20405, telephone (202) 501-4755. Please cite OMB Control No. 9000-0138, Contract Financing, in all correspondence.

Dated: February 19, 1998.

**Sharon A. Kiser,**  
FAR Secretariat.

[FR Doc. 98-4622 Filed 2-23-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6820-34-P

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE****Office of the Secretary****Strategic Environmental Research and  
Development Program, Scientific  
Advisory Board Action: Notice**

In accordance with Section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (P.L. 92-463), announcement is made of the following Committee meeting:

*Date of Meeting:* March 31, 1998 from 0830 to 1730 and April 1, 1998 from 0800 to 1400.

*Place:* Holiday Inn Arlington at Ballston, 4610 North Fairfax Drive, Arlington, VA.

*Matters to be Considered:* Research and Development proposals and continuing projects requesting Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program funds in excess of \$1M will be reviewed.

This meeting is open to the public. Any interested person may attend, appear before, or file statements with the Scientific Advisory Board at the time and in the manner permitted by the Board.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Amy Levine, SERDP Program Office, 901 North Stuart Street, Suite 303, Arlington, VA or by telephone at (703) 696-2124.

Dated: February 19, 1998.

**L.M. Bynum,**

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison  
Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 98-4631 Filed 2-23-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5000-04-M

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE****Department of the Army****Availability of U.S. Patents for Non-  
Exclusive, Exclusive, or Partially-  
Exclusive Licensing**

**AGENCY:** U.S. Army Research Laboratory, DoD.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with 37 CFR 404.6, announcement is made of the availability of the following U.S. patents for non-exclusive, partially exclusive or exclusive licensing. All of the listed patents have been assigned to the United States of America as represented by the Secretary of the Army, Washington, D.C.

This patent covers a wide variety of technical arts including: A Laminated ceramic Ferroelectric material having a graded dielectric constant.

Under the authority of Section 11(a)(2) of the Federal Technology Transfer Act of 1986 (Public Law 99-502) and Section 207 of Title 35, United States Code, the Department of the

Army as represented by the U.S. Army Research Laboratory wish to license the U.S. patents listed below in a non-exclusive, exclusive or partially exclusive manner to any party interested in manufacturing, using, and/or selling devices or processes covered by these patents.

*Title:* Electronically Graded

Multilayer Ferroelectric Composites.

*Inventors:* Louise C. Sengupta, Eric Ngo, Michelina E. O'Day, Steven Stowell, Robert Lancot, Somnath Sengupta and Thomas V. Hynes.

*Patent Number:* 5,693,429.

*Issued Date:* December 2, 1997.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Ms. Norma Vaught, Technology Transfer Office, AMSRL-CS-TT, U.S. Army Research Laboratory, Adelphi, Maryland 20783-1197, tel: (301) 394-2952; fax: (301) 394-5815, e-mail: nvaught@arl.mil.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** None.

**Gregory D. Showalter,**

*Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

[FR Doc. 98-4672 Filed 2-23-98; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3710-08-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Army

#### **Intent to Prepare a Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) for the Dredged Material Management Plan (DMMP) for the Port of New York and New Jersey**

**AGENCY:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DoD.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent.

**SUMMARY:** The action being taken is the evaluation of the dredged material management alternative-types through the promulgation of a draft PEIS for the Port of New York/New Jersey. The purpose of this PEIS is to use a tiering approach that will address the existing environment and impact of alternative types on a generic level. This approach is being undertaken to continue the process of scoping with the public, prior to the promulgation of individual NEPA review associated with specific sites and their associated alternatives. The PEIS will allow a step by step decision making approach to be used. This will allow highlighting of key issues to aid the decision-making process.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Mr. Robert J. Kurtz, phone (212) 264-2230, Corps of Engineers, New York District, 26 Federal Plaza, New York, NY 10278-0090.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The proposed action is the promulgation of

a draft PEIS to address the existing environment, and the kinds of impacts to be expected for the proposed range of alternative types for the disposal of dredged material associated with sediment removal in Federal and non-Federal channels of the Port of New York/New Jersey. The authority for the draft PEIS is under the existing Operations and Maintenance authority of the New York Harbor Navigation Project in accordance with EC 1165-2-200 (National Harbor Program: Dredged Material Management Plans).

Generic impact analysis will be conducted for the following alternative types: no action alternative, aquatic remediation-category one material, containment islands, nearshore containment, confined aquatic disposal such as existing and new borrow pits, sub-channel pits, land remediation-treated/stabilized material decontamination technologies, beneficial uses such as wetland creation, and contract management.

Scoping has been ongoing and has included eight meetings in a poster session format to inform the public of the process used to create the initial array of options from the alternative types available. The sessions were held from February through April 1997, in New York City, Kingston, and northeast New Jersey.

A draft PEIS is scheduled for circulation at the end of June 1998. A revised outline of the PEIS is scheduled to be sent out early in 1998 after the final revisions have been completed. Public meetings are planned for summer 1998, after the circulation of the draft PEIS. The draft PEIS will provide the next tier of the examination of impacts of the various alternative types from which the options for disposal of dredged material will be drawn.

The second tier of the process is the promulgation of individual NEPA documents for the options chosen by decision-makers. Scoping will continue throughout the process.

**Gregory D. Showalter,**

*Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

[FR Doc. 98-4671 Filed 2-23-98; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3710-06-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers

#### **Intent To Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the East Waterway Channel Deepening Project, Seattle Harbor, Seattle, Washington**

**AGENCY:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Seattle District, DoD.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent.

**SUMMARY:** The Corps of Engineers has been directed by Section 356 of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1996 to (1) study the feasibility of deepening of a 750-foot-wide segment of existing federal channel in the East Waterway (Duwamish River) from Elliott Bay to Terminal 25 to a depth of up to 51 feet, and (2) if feasible, to implement deepening as routine maintenance. Section 356 of WRDA 96 further directs the Corps to coordinate with the Port of Seattle regarding use of Slip 27 as a nearshore confined dredged material disposal site. Plans call for the dredging and disposal of approximately 850,000 cubic yards of sediment from an approximately 112 acre area in East Waterway. Of this total, approximately 253,000 cubic yards are known to be contaminated to the extent that they would not qualify for disposal at the Elliott Bay Puget Sound Dredge Disposal Analysis (PSDDA) open water site. Based on sediment sampling conducted by the Port of Seattle, an additional 200,000 cubic yards may be similarly contaminated. Dredged material suitable for openwater disposal will either be placed at the PSDDA site in Elliott Bay, or at a beneficial use site, should such a need be identified.

A range of alternatives will be examined for placement of the contaminated dredged material, including: (1) a nearshore confined facility, (2) an offshore contained aquatic disposal (CAD) facility, (3) an upland confined disposal facility, and (4) disposal in a solid waste landfill. Key environmental issues in the DEIS will include: (1) impacts on an important juvenile salmon migration and feeding route; (2) potential loss of 12 acres of productive benthic habitat at Slip 27 or Terminal 90/91; (3) impacts on kelp beds and shorebird/waterfowl habitat; (4) dredging and disposal of up to 450,000 cubic yards of contaminated sediments with short-term adverse impacts in the water column at the dredging and disposal site; (4) beneficial impacts in that the dredging would