

individuals associated with the applicant have been convicted of or are presently facing criminal charges such as fraud, theft, perjury or other matters which significantly reflect on the applicant's management honesty or financial integrity.

**Award Termination**—The Departmental Grants Officer may terminate any grant/cooperative agreement in whole or in part at any time before the date of completion whenever it is determined that the award recipient has failed to comply with the conditions of the grant/cooperative agreement. Examples of some of the conditions which can cause termination are failure to meet cost-sharing requirements; unsatisfactory performance of the MBDC work requirements; and reporting inaccurate or inflated claims of client assistance. Such inaccurate or inflated claims may be deemed illegal and punishable by law.

**False Statements**—A false statement on an application for Federal financial assistance 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.

**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."

**Nonprocurement Debarment and Suspension**—Prospective participants (as defined at 15 CFR Part 26, § 26.105) are subject to 15 CFR Part 26, "Nonprocurement Debarment and Suspension" and the related section of the certification form prescribed above applies.

**Drug Free Workplace**—Grantees (as defined at 15 CFR Part 26, § 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.

**Anti-Lobbying**—Persons (as defined at 15 CFR Part 28, § 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," and the lobbying section of the certification form prescribed above applies to applications/bids for grants, cooperative agreements, and contracts for more than \$100,000, and loans and loan guarantees for more than \$150,000 or the single family maximum mortgage limit for affected programs, whichever is greater.

**Anti-Lobbying Disclosures**—Any applicant that 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.

**Lower Tier Certifications**—Recipients shall require applications/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.

**Buy American-Made Equipment or Products**—Applicants are hereby notified that they are encouraged, to the extent feasible, to purchase American-made equipment and products with funding provided under this program in accordance with Congressional intent as set forth in the resolution contained in Public Law 103-121, Sections 606 (a) and (b).

11.800 Minority Business Development Center

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance)

Dated: September 6, 1996.

Frances B. Douglas,

Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer,  
Minority Business Development Agency.

[FR Doc. 96-23336 Filed 9-11-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-21-P

### **Business Development Center Application: State of South Carolina**

**AGENCY:** Minority Business Development Agency, Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with Executive Order 11625 and 15 U.S.C. 1512, the Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) is soliciting competitive applications under its Minority Business Development Center (MBDC) program to operate a Statewide Minority Business Development Center (SMBDC) for approximately a 3-year period, subject to agency priorities, recipient performance and the availability of funds.

The SMBDC will provide business development services to both South Carolina's urban and rural minority

business communities to help establish and maintain viable minority businesses. To this end, MBDA funds organizations to identify and coordinate public and private sector resources on behalf of rural minority individuals and firms; to offer a full range of management and technical assistance to both urban and rural minority entrepreneurs; and to serve as a conduit of information and assistance regarding minority business.

The SMBDC will operate throughout the State of South Carolina. The headquarters of the SMBDC will be located in Columbia, South Carolina. The award number for this SMBDC will be 04-10-97002-01.

**DATES:** The closing date for applications is October 15, 1996. Applications must be received in the MBDA Headquarters' Executive Secretariat on or before October 15, 1996. A pre-application conference to assist all interested applicants will be held on October 2, 1996, at 9:00 a.m., at the following address: U.S. Department of Commerce, Minority Business Development Agency, 401 West Peachtree Street, N.W., Room 1715, Atlanta, Georgia 30308-3516.

**ADDRESSES:** Completed application packages should be submitted to the U.S. Department of Commerce, Minority Business Development Agency, Executive Secretariat, 14th and Constitution Avenue, N.W., room 5073, Washington, D.C. 20230, telephone number (202) 482-3763.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND AN APPLICATION PACKAGE, CONTACT:** Robert Henderson, Regional Director, Atlanta Regional Office, (404) 730-3300. Proper identification is required for entrance into any Federal Building.

### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

Contingent upon the availability of Federal funds, the cost of performance for the first budget period (13 months) from January 1, 1997 to January 31, 1998, is estimated at \$818,277. A 30-day start-up period will be added to the first budget period, making it a 13-month award. The application must include a minimum cost-share of \$122,742, (15%) of the total project cost, through non-Federal contributions. The Federal share, to be in the amount of \$695,535, includes \$17,388 for an annual audit fee. Cost-sharing may be in the form of cash contributions, client fees, in-kind contributions or combinations thereof.

The funding instrument for this project will be a cooperative agreement. Competition is open to individuals, non-profit and for-profit organizations, state and local governments, American

Indian tribes and educational institutions.

Applications will be evaluated on the following criteria: the experience and capabilities of the firm and its staff in addressing the needs of the business community in general and, specifically, the special needs of minority businesses, individuals and organizations (45 points); the resources available to the firm in providing both rural and urban business development services (10 points); the firm's approach (techniques and methodologies) to performing the work requirements included in the application (25 points); and the firm's estimated cost for providing such assistance (20 points). An application must receive at least 70% of the points assigned to each evaluation criteria category to be considered programmatically acceptable and responsive. Those applications determined to be acceptable and responsive will then be evaluated by the Director of MBDA. Final award selections shall be based on the number of points received, the demonstrated responsibility of the applicant, and the determination of those most likely to further the purpose of the MBDC program. Negative audit findings and recommendations and unsatisfactory performance under prior Federal awards may result in an application not being considered for award. The applicant with the highest point score will not necessarily receive the award.

The SMBDC shall be required to contribute at least 15% of the total project cost through non-Federal contributions. To assist in this effort, the SMBDC may charge client fees for management and technical assistance (M&TA) rendered. Fees may range from \$10 to \$60 per hour based on the gross receipts of the client's business.

If an application is selected for funding, DOC has no obligation to provide any additional future funding beyond the initial award. Renewal of an award to increase funding or extend the period of performance is at the total discretion of DOC. Awards under this program shall be subject to all Federal laws, Federal and Departmental regulations, policies and procedures applicable to Federal assistance awards. Quarterly reviews culminating in year-to-date evaluations will be conducted to determine if funding for the project should continue. Continued funding will be at the total discretion of MBDA based on such factors as the SMBDC's performance, the availability of funds and Agency priorities.

Anticipated processing time of this award is 120 days. Executive Order 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of

Federal Programs", is not applicable to this program. The collection of information requirements for this project have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and assigned OMB control number 0640-0006.

**Pre-Award Costs**—Applicants are hereby notified that if they 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 assurance that an applicant may have received, there is no obligation on the part of the Department of Commerce to cover pre-award costs.

**Outstanding Account Receivable**—No award of Federal funds shall be made to an applicant who has an outstanding delinquent Federal debt until either the delinquent account is paid in full, or a repayment schedule is established and at least one payment is received, or other arrangements satisfactory to the Department of Commerce are made.

**Name Check Policy**—All non-profit and for-profit applicants are subject to a name check review process. Name checks are intended to reveal whether 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 which significantly reflect on the applicant's management honesty or financial integrity.

**Award Termination**—The Departmental Grants Officer may terminate any grant/cooperative agreement in whole or in part at any time before the date of completion whenever it is determined that the award recipient has failed to comply with the conditions of the grant/cooperative agreement. Examples of some of the conditions which can cause termination are failure to meet cost-sharing requirements; unsatisfactory performance of the MBDC work requirements; and reporting inaccurate or inflated claims of client assistance. Such inaccurate or inflated claims may be deemed illegal and punishable by law.

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**Buy American-made Equipment or Products**—Applicants are hereby notified that they are encouraged, to the extent feasible, to purchase American-made equipment and products with funding provided under this program in accordance with Congressional intent as set forth in the resolution contained in Public Law 103-121, Sections 606 (a) and (b).

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number: 11.800 Minority Business Development Center)

Dated: September 9, 1996.

Donald L. Powers,

*Federal Register Liaison Officer, Minority Business Development Agency.*

[FR Doc. 96-23400 Filed 9-11-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-21-P

## National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 090396A]

### Incidental Take of Marine Mammals; Bottlenose Dolphins and Spotted Dolphins

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

**ACTION:** Notice of issuance of letters of authorization.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) as amended, and implementing regulations, notification is hereby given that two letters of authorization to take bottlenose and spotted dolphins incidental to oil and gas structure removal activities were issued on August 23 and 30, 1996, respectively, to the Amerada Hess Corporation and The Louisiana Land and Exploration Company, both of Houston, TX.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** These letters of authorization are effective for 1 year from the date of issuance.

**ADDRESSES:** The applications and letters are available for review in the following offices: Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910 and the Southeast Region, NMFS, 9721 Executive Center Drive N, St. Petersburg, FL 33702.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kenneth R. Hollingshead, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, (301) 713-2055 or Charles Oravetz, Southeast Region (813) 570-5312.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 101(a)(5)(A) of the MMPA (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) directs NMFS to allow, on request, the incidental, but not intentional, taking of small numbers of marine mammals by U.S. citizens who engage in a specified activity (other than commercial fishing) within a specified geographical region, if certain findings are made and regulations are issued. Under the MMPA, the term "taking" means to harass, hunt, capture or kill or to attempt to harass, hunt, capture or kill marine mammals.

Permission may be granted for periods up to 5 years if NMFS finds, after notification and opportunity for public comment, that the taking will have a

negligible impact on the species or stock(s) of marine mammals and will not have an unmitigable adverse impact on the availability of the species or stock(s) for subsistence uses. In addition, NMFS must prescribe regulations that include permissible methods of taking and other means effecting the least practicable adverse impact on the species and its habitat, and on the availability of the species for subsistence uses, paying particular attention to rookeries, mating grounds and areas of similar significance. The regulations must include requirements pertaining to the monitoring and reporting of such taking. Regulations governing the taking of bottlenose and spotted dolphins incidental to oil and gas structure removal activities in the Gulf of Mexico were published on October 12, 1995 (60 FR 53139), and remain in effect until November 13, 2000.

### Summary of Request

NMFS received requests for letters of authorization on August 21, 1996, from the Amerada Hess Corporation, and August 28, 1996, from The Louisiana Land and Exploration Company. These letters requested a take by harassment of a small number of bottlenose and spotted dolphins incidental to the described activity. Issuance of these letters of authorization is based on a finding that the total takings will have a negligible impact on the bottlenose and spotted dolphin stocks of the Gulf of Mexico.

Dated: September 6, 1996.

Rennie S. Holt,

*Acting Director, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 96-23403 Filed 9-11-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

[I.D. 090696A]

### Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Team Meeting

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

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The first meeting of the Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Team (TRT) will be held to address bycatch of large baleen whales, specifically the northern right whale (*Eubalaena glacialis*) and the humpback whale (*Megaptera novaeangliae*) in the following fisheries: The Gulf of Maine/ U.S. mid-Atlantic lobster trap/pot fishery, the mid-Atlantic coastal gillnet

fishery, the southeastern U.S. Atlantic shark gillnet fishery, and the Gulf of Maine sink-gillnet fishery. The bycatch of minke whales (*Balaenoptera acutorostrata*), fin whales (*Balaenoptera physalus*), and other large whales in these fisheries will also be discussed.

**DATES:** The first meeting of the team will be held on September 16-17, 1996 from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at Tara's Ferncroft Conference Resort, 50 Ferncroft Road, Danvers, MA, 01923, (508) 777-2500.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Kathy Wang, Southeast Regional Office, NMFS, (813) 570-5312, or Dr. Sal Testaverde, Northeast Regional Office, NMFS, (508) 281-9368, or Michael Payne, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, (301) 713-2322.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On August 6, 1996, NMFS published notice of the establishment of the Atlantic Large Whale TRT (61 FR 40819). Section 118(f) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) requires NMFS to establish a TRT to prepare a draft Take Reduction Plan designed to assist in the recovery or prevent the depletion of each strategic marine mammal stock that interacts with certain fisheries.

NMFS has scheduled the first meeting (see **DATES** and **ADDRESSES**). The TRT will be facilitated by Abby Dilley, The Keystone Center, Washington, DC. The TRT will hold at least four meetings to develop a TRP focusing on reducing bycatch in these fisheries.

TRTs are not subject to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 App. U.S.C.). This meeting is open to the public and is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Kathy Wang at (813) 570-5312 by September 12, 1996.

Dated: September 6, 1996.

Rennie S. Holt,

*Acting Director, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 96-23252 Filed 9-6-96; 3:01 pm]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

[I.D. 090496A]

### Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Pacific Fishery Management Council's Groundfish