Acquisition Policy, GSA (202) 501–1758.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Purpose

Incentive contracts are normally used when a firm fixed-price contract is not appropriate and the required supplies or services can be acquired at lower costs, and sometimes with improved delivery or technical performance, by relating the amount of profit or fee payable under the contract to the contractor's performance.

The information required periodically from the contractor—such as cost of work already performed, estimated costs of further performance necessary to complete all work, total contract price for supplies or services accepted by the Government for which final prices have been established, and estimated costs allocable to supplies or services accepted by the Government and for which final prices have not been established—is needed to negotiate the final prices of incentive-related item and services.

The contracting officer evaluates the information received to determine the contractor's performance in meeting the incentive target and the appropriate price revision, if any, for the items or services.

B. Annual Reporting Burden

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average *1* hour per completion, 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 is estimated as follows: Respondents, *3,000;* responses per respondent, *1;* total annual responses, *3,000;* preparation hours per response, *1;* and total response burden hours, *3,000.*

Obtaining Copies of Proposals: Requester may obtain copies of justifications from the General Services Administration, FAR Secretariat (MVRS), Room 4037, Washington, DC 20405, telephone (202) 501–4755. Please cite OMB Control No. 9000–0067, Incentive Contracts, in all correspondence.

Dated: February 8, 1996.

Beverly Fayson,

FAR Secretariat.

[FR Doc. 96–3321 Filed 2–13–96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6820–EP–P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

Corps of Engineers

Notice of Intent To Prepare a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, Corpus Christi Bay to Port Isabel, TX

AGENCY: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DOD.

ACTION: Notice of intent with request for comments.

SUMMARY: This notice provides a summary of the Corps of Engineers ongoing and planned study activities to prepare a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (GIWW)—Corpus Christi Bay to Port Isabel, Texas. The purpose of the study is to develop a long-term plan for the placement of dredged material from continued maintenance dredging of the GIWW. The Corps of Engineers is soliciting public input as to the problems that need to be addressed and other study efforts that may be needed. Additionally, a series of public workshops to solicit input and concerns on this study are planned within the next several months.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have information or questions concerning this notice or the study, or if you wish to be on the mailing list for this study, please contact Mr. Rick Medina at (409) 766–3044 or Mr. Neil McLellan at (409) 766–3963, or you may write to: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, P.O. Box 1229, Galveston, Texas 77553–1229.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Introduction

This notice provides a summary of the ongoing and planned study activities to prepare a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (GIWW)—Corpus Christi Bay to Port Isabel, Texas. The purpose of the study is to develop a long-term plan for the placement of dredged material from continued maintenance dredging of the GIWW. Because of the public interest and concerns related to dredging and dredged material, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has decided to issue this notice and solicit public input regarding the study. This in no way prejudges the significance of new information and circumstances since 1975 nor predetermines the results of the ongoing studies.

Study Background

This section of the GIWW is a 12-foot deep by 125-foot wide channel which extends 117 miles from Corpus Christi Bay to Port Isabel through the Laguna Madre. This reach of the GIWW serves the Ports of Port Mansfield, Harlingen, Port Isabel, and Brownsville, transporting 2 million tons of commerce annually. This vital artery transports over 350 million gallons of gasoline to the Rio Grande Valley. Over 2 million cubic yards of material are dredged annually from this reach at an average annual cost of $1.2 million dollars. Within this reach there are 71 placement areas totaling over 9,000 acres.

The Laguna Madre is one of only three hypesaline lagoons in the world. This shallow, productive estuary produces over 50% of the State's coastal finfish harvest and serves as nursery grounds for the important Gulf shrimp fishery. Seagrasses are a significant resource in the Laguna and cover over 65 percent of the bay bottom. The seagrasses also provide feeding grounds for the largest population of redhead ducks in the world.

Interagency Coordination Team

To address the dredging and placement practices along the GIWW within the Laguna Madre, the Corps of Engineers began efforts in September 1994 to form an Interagency Coordination Team (ICT). Over the next several months, extensive coordination and consultation occurred to obtain the commitment of a broadbased Federal and State agency involvement. The ICT first met in February 1995 and has met nine times as of January 1996. In addition, the ICT has formed a Modelling Task Force which has met three times. The ICT is comprised of found Federal agencies and six State agencies. They include:

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- National Marine Fisheries Service
- Environmental Protection Agency
- Texas General Land Office
- Texas Water Development Board
- Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
- Texas Department of Transportation
- Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission
- Corpus Christi Bay National Estuary Program (Advisory)

Study Process

The study process for developing a long-term dredged material management plan for the Laguna Madre is reflected in the goals established by the ICT.

These goals are, in paraphrase, to (1) identify environmental concerns associated with the GIWW in the Laguna Madre, (2) develop scopes of work needed to address environmental concerns, (3) ensure effective team work among state and federal agencies, and (4) contribute to and expedite completion of the dredged material management plan and environmental study for the GIWW.

Study Status

To address these goals, the ICT has identified a problem list of concerns in the Laguna Madre associated with dredging and dredged material placement. Some of these concerns include:

- Impacts on the benthic community
- Effects of turbidity
- Impacts on seagrass populations
- Effects on circulation and hydrodynamics
- Effects on fishery productivity
- Contaminant concerns
- Viability of alternate placement areas
- Potential for beneficial uses of dredged material

The ICT has developed and approved several scopes of work to perform the necessary scientific studies to address these concerns. A variety of expertise is being utilized. The approved studies, the contractors, date of study initiation, and the estimated costs are shown below.

- Environmental Monitoring of Dredging and Processes in the Lower Laguna Madre. Texas A&M University, Conrad Blucher Institute—August 1994—$300,000
- Environmental Monitoring of Dredging and Processes in the Vicinity of Baffin Bay. Texas A&M University, Conrad Blucher Institute—October 1994—$328,769
- Hydrographic Characterization and Bottom Characterization, Laguna Madre, Texas. U.S. Army Waterways Experiment Station—February 1995—$586,550
- Temporal and Spatial Effects of Open Water Dredge Material Disposal on Habitat Utilization by Fishery Species in Laguna Madre, Texas. National Marine Fisheries Service—July 1995—$581,800
- Review of Available Water and Sediment Quality Data in the Laguna Madre. Espey, Huston, and Associates—July 1995—$22,722

Several other studies are currently under consideration by the ICT. The anticipated contractor and estimated costs include:

- Extension of the Monitoring in the Lower Laguna Madre. Texas A&M University, Conrad Blucher Institute—$190,000
- Extension of the Monitoring in the Upper Laguna Madre. Texas A&M University, Conrad Blucher Institute—$140,000
- Sediment Characteristics, History, and Recent Transport, Laguna Madre, Texas. University of Texas, Bureau of Economic Geology—$310,000
- Laguna Madre Fluid Mud Survey. U.S. Army Waterways Experiment Station—$125,000
- Laguna Madre Open Water Dredged Material Disposal Study. U.S. Army Waterways Experiment Station—$165,000
- Predictive Model of Seagrass Impact. Texas A&M University, University of Texas Marine Science Institute, and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department—$400,000
- Hydrodynamic Circulation of the Upper and Lower Laguna Madre. Contractor and cost are as yet undetermined

The total cost of both approved and proposed studies is approximately $3,150,000, not including the Hydrodynamic Model.

Schedule

The efforts to date are considered to be the first year of a four-year effort. The ICT has tentatively established this time frame to complete the studies, develop the long-term management plan, and prepare a supplemental Environmental Impact Statement. Should the study results indicate, and the ICT agree, that the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process as described above should be modified, a separate notice will be published describing how the Corps will achieve NEPA compliance. In the interim, maintenance dredging of the GIWW will continue only when necessary, although changes to the placement plan will be made as study results warrant.

Public Participation

The ICT is soliciting public input as to the problems that need to be addressed and other study efforts that may be needed. Every effort will be made to address concerns identified. Additionally, a series of public workshops to solicit input and concerns on this study are planned within the next several months.

Dated: February 6, 1996.

Robert B. Gatlin,

Colonel, Corps of Engineers District Engineer.

[FR Doc. 96–3276 Filed 2–13–96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710–92–M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

[Case No. DH–005]

Energy Conservation Program for Consumer Products: Granting of the Application for Interim Waiver and Publishing of the Petition for Waiver of Superior Fireplace Company From the DOE Vented Home Heating Equipment Test Procedure

AGENCY: Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Today's notice grants an Interim Waiver to Superior Fireplace Company (Superior) from the existing Department of Energy (DOE or Department) test procedure regarding pilot light energy consumption and weighted average steady-state efficiency for its manually controlled vented heaters, models GI–3821, DSH–36T, DVH–33R, DVH–33T, DVA–33R, and DVA–33T.

Today's notice also publishes a ''Petition for Waiver'' from Superior. Superior's Petition for Waiver requests DOE to grant relief from the DOE vented home heating equipment test procedure relating to the use of pilot light energy consumption in calculating the Annual Fuel Utilization Efficiency (AFUE) and the calculation of weighted average steady state efficiency of its models GI–3821, DSH–36T, DVH–33R, DVH–33T, DVA–33R, and DVA–33T vented heaters. Superior seeks to delete the required pilot light measurement (Q_p) in the calculation of AFUE when the pilot is off, and to test at a minimum fuel input rate of two-thirds instead of the specified ±5 percent of 50 percent of the maximum fuel input rate in the calculation of AFUE. The Department is soliciting comments, data, and information respecting the Petition for Waiver.

DATES: DOE will accept comments, data, and information not later than March 15, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and statements shall be sent to: Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Case No. DH–005, Mail Stop EE–43, Room 1J–018, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, D.C. 20585–0121, (202) 586–7140.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: William W. Hui, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Mail Station EE–431,