A. Background

On June 16, 2004, the Assistant Administrator for Procurement approved a deviation to NFS 1802.101 to designate the Associate Administrator for Exploration Systems as head of the contracting activity in lieu of the Center Director(s) for all contracts that directly support the Exploration Systems Mission Directorate (ESMD). This deviation was approved in support of the Headquarters transformation and the realignments of program management responsibilities between NASA Headquarters and the field centers. This final rule implements that deviation.

B. Regulatory Flexibility Act

This final rule does not constitute a significant revision within the meaning of FAR 1.501 and Public Law 98–577, and publication for public comment is not required. However, NASA will consider comments from small entities concerning the affected NFS Part 1802 in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 610.

C. Paperwork Reduction Act

The Paperwork Reduction Act does not apply because the changes do not impose recordkeeping or information collection requirements which require the approval of the Office of Management and Budget under 44 U.S.C. 3501, et seq.

List of Subjects in 48 CFR Part 1802

Government procurement.

Tom Luedtke,
Assistant Administrator for Procurement.

PART 1802—DEFINITIONS OF WORDS AND TERMS

Accordingly, 48 CFR part 1802 is amended as follows:

1. The authority citation for 48 CFR part 1802 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 2473(c)(1)

2. Amend section 1802.101 by revising the definition of “head of the contracting activity (HCA)” to read as follows:

1802.101 Definition.
    * * * * *

Head of the contracting activity (HCA) means, for field installations, the Director or other head and, for NASA Headquarters, the Assistant Administrator for Management Systems. For International Space Station (ISS) and Space Shuttle Program contracts, the HCA is the Headquarters Deputy Associate Administrator for ISS and Space Shuttle Programs in lieu of the field Center Director(s). For Exploration Systems Mission Directorate (ESMD) contracts, the HCA is the Associate Administrator for ESMD in lieu of the field Center Director(s).

[FR Doc. 05–9953 Filed 5–20–05; 8:45 am]

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

Office of Federal Procurement Policy

48 CFR Part 9903

Cost Accounting Standards Board; Applicability of Cost Accounting Standards Coverage

AGENCY: Cost Accounting Standards Board, Office of Federal Procurement Policy, OMB.

ACTION: Interim rule with request for comment.

SUMMARY: The Cost Accounting Standards Board is revising the criteria applicable to United Kingdom (UK) contractors for filing a Disclosure Statement, Form No. CASB DS–1. This rulemaking is authorized pursuant to section 26 of the Office of Federal Procurement Policy Act. The Board is promulgating this interim rule in order to comply with a specific request by the UK Ministry of Defence to simplify the process for CAS Board disclosure requirements for UK contractors.

DATES: Effective Date: This rule is effective May 23, 2005.

Comment Date: Comments upon this interim rule must be in writing and must be received by July 22, 2005.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be addressed to Dr. Rein Abel, Director of Research, Cost Accounting Standards Board, Office of Federal Procurement Policy, 725 17th Street, NW., Room 9013, Washington, DC 20503.

Comments should be faxed to Rein Abel, at 202–395–5105.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rein Abel, Director of Research, Cost Accounting Standards Board (telephone: 202–395–3254).

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION:

A. Background

Unlike certain other foreign contractors (e.g., German and Canadian), UK contractors currently have to file a regular CAS Board Disclosure Statement (DS–1) in accordance with CAS regulations. The UK Ministry of Defence initially approached the Board with a request to use the corresponding UK form “Questionnaire on Method of Allocation of Costs” (QMAC), in lieu of the DS–1. After a review of the content of the QMAC, the UK and U.S. representatives agreed that it did not have the same scope as the DS–1. Therefore, it was agreed that to cover the gap in the coverage a “Supplemental QMAC” was needed.

The CAS Board has approved a Supplemental QMAC that is acceptable to the UK Ministry of Defence, and the CAS Board has received a request from the UK Ministry of Defence to allow UK contractors to submit their basic QMAC, together with the Supplemental QMAC, in lieu of the DS–1. At its meeting on February 23, 2005, the Board agreed to this change in the CAS requirements so that UK contractors with CAS-covered contracts will be allowed to file the UK QMAC together with its Supplement in lieu of the DS–1 required of U.S. contractors.

The Board believes that an interim rule with request for comment is an appropriate mode for the promulgation of this rule. It is based on a request by the UK Ministry of Defense for a specific action regarding the CAS disclosure statement to be used by the UK defense contractors. The Board believes that its response to this request as incorporated in this rule is straightforward and, in essence, non controversial. Therefore, the Board believes that in this instance the Board’s usual “four step” promulgation process is not necessary or appropriate.

To effect this change, the interim rule includes the following revisions:

1. The deletion of 9903.201–1(b)(12) (all foreign contractors, including UK contractors, are subject to the requirements at 9903.201–1(b)(12));
2. The deletion of 9903.201–1(d); and
3. An amendment to 9903.202–1(e) to add the U.K. to the list of the countries whose contractors may file a disclosure form adopted by an agency of their own Government in lieu of the DS–1.

B. Paperwork Reduction Act

The Paperwork Reduction Act, Public Law 98–511, does not apply to this rulemaking, because this rule imposes no paperwork burden on offerors affected contractors and subcontractors, or members of the public which require the approval of OMB under 44 U.S.C. 3501, et seq.

C. Executive Order 12866 and the Regulatory Flexibility Act

The economic impact of this rule on contractors and subcontractors is expected to be minor. As a result, the Board has determined that this interim rule will not result in the promulgation of a “major rule” under the provisions of Executive Order 12866, and that a
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Fish and Wildlife Service
50 CFR Part 17
RIN 1018–AT65
Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Establishment of an Additional Manatee Protection Area in Lee County, FL
AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.
ACTION: Final rule; correction.
SUMMARY: We, the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), are correcting a typographical error in the final rule promulgated on April 7, 2005, to establish an additional manatee protection area in Lee County, Florida (Pine Island—Estero Bay Manatee Refuge). This correction is not substantive.
DATES: Effective April 4, 2005.
ADDRESSES: The complete file for this rule is available for inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the South Florida Field Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1339 20th Street, Vero Beach, Florida 32960.
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jay Slack or Kalani Cairns (see ADDRESSES section), telephone 772/562-3909; or visit our Web site at http://verobeach.fws.gov.
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On April 7, 2005, we, the Service, promulgated a final rule (70 FR 17864) to establish the Pine Island—Estero Bay Manatee Refuge in Lee County, Florida. Because we made a typographical error in the regulatory text of the rule, we introduced an incorrect coordinate into the description of the Pine Island—Estero Bay Manatee Refuge. We correct this error now. This change is not substantive.
List of Subjects in 50 CFR Part 17
Endangered and threatened species, Exports, Imports, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Transportation.
REGULATION CORRECTION
For reasons set forth in the preamble, we correct 50 CFR part 17 by making the following correcting amendment:
PART 17—[CORRECTED]
1. The authority citation for part 17 continues to read as follows: