

Weekly Report for June 20, 2014

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS

DoD Publishes Semiannual Agenda of Regulatory Documents

The Department of Defense (DoD) published the semiannual agenda of regulatory documents, including those that are procurement-related, for public information and comments under Executive Order 12866 "Regulatory Planning and Review", <u>79 Fed.</u> <u>Reg. 114</u>. This agenda incorporates the objective and criteria, when applicable, of the regulatory reform program under the Executive Order and other regulatory guidance. It contains DoD issuances initiated by DoD components that may have economic and environmental impact on state, local, or tribal interests under the criteria of Executive Order 12866. Although most DoD issuances listed in the agenda are of limited public impact, their nature may be of public interest and, therefore, are published to provide notice of rulemaking and an opportunity for public participation in the internal DoD rulemaking process. Members of the public may submit comments on individual proposed and interim final rulemakings at <u>www.regulations.gov</u> during the comment period that follows publication in the Federal Register.

DoD, GSA, and NASA Publishes Semiannual Regulatory Agenda

The Department of Defense (DoD), General Services Administration (GSA), and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) issued a semiannual regulatory agenda, <u>79 Fed. Reg. 114</u>. This agenda provides summary descriptions of regulations being developed by the Civilian Agency Acquisition Council and the Defense Acquisition Regulations Council in compliance with Executive Order 12866 "Regulatory Planning and Review". This agenda is being published to allow interested persons an opportunity to participate in the rulemaking process.

DOL Issues Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to Implement Executive Order 13658, Establishing a Minimum Wage for Contractors

The Department of Labor, Wage and Hour Division, issued a notice of proposed rulemaking to implement Executive Order 13658, Establishing a Minimum Wage for Contractors, which was signed by President Barack Obama on February 12, 2014, <u>79</u> <u>Fed. Reg. 116</u>. Executive Order 13658 states that the Federal Government's procurement interests in economy and efficiency are promoted when the Federal Government contracts with sources that adequately compensate their workers. The

Executive Order therefore seeks to increase efficiency and cost savings in the work performed by parties that contract with the Federal Government by raising the hourly minimum wage paid by those contractors to workers performing on covered Federal contracts to: \$10.10 per hour, beginning January 1, 2015; and beginning January 1, 2016, and annually thereafter, an amount determined by the Secretary of Labor. The Executive Order directs the Secretary to issue regulations by October 1, 2014, to the extent permitted by law and consistent with the requirements of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act to implement the Order's requirements. This proposed rule therefore establishes standards and procedures for implementing and enforcing the minimum wage protections of Executive Order 13658. As required by the Order and to the extent practicable, the proposed rule incorporates existing definitions, procedures, remedies, and enforcement processes under the Fair Labor Standards Act, the Service Contract Act, and the Davis-Bacon Act. Comments are due July 17, 2014.

Pentagon Ranks Top Suppliers to Spark Competition Among Contractors

The Defense Department's acquisition chief on Friday, June 13, 2014, released a ranking of the top 30 supplier units within the contracting industry as part of a continuing effort to improve the government's largest procurement operations by curbing costs and professionalizing the workforce. Sean Stackley, Assistant Navy Secretary for Research, Development and Acquisition Industry, said "industry best practices include recognizing the best suppliers, which gives them an incentive to sustain superior performance." The selections were made through a process designed to be "fair and objective and understood by the public and Congress, as well as easy to manage," Stackley said. His team began by picking the top 30 contracting companies, which captures 85 percent of the acquisition "spend," and then broke them into 80 business units, before ranking the top 30 units in nine companies that "stand out." The goal of making the list public is to provide "an important incentive for the corporate business units to talk to each other rather than have us dictate," Stackley said. <u>Pentagon Ranks Top Suppliers to Spark Competition Among Contractors</u>.

SMALL BUSINESS

SBA Publishes Semiannual Regulatory Agenda

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) issued a semiannual regulatory agenda, <u>79 Fed. Reg. 114</u>. This Regulatory Agenda is a semiannual summary of all current and projected rulemakings and completed actions of the SBA. The SBA expects that this summary information will enable the public to be more aware of, and effectively participate in, SBA's regulatory activity. SBA invites the public to submit comments on any aspect of this Agenda.

Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled

The Following Notice Was Issued:

<u>79 Fed. Reg. 33911</u>, June 13, 2014, proposing to add products (Bag, Disposable, Polyethylene, Feminine Hygiene, Pink; Dispenser, Stainless Steel, Feminine Hygiene Disposal Bags; Staples, Standard, Full Strip; Jacket, Tanker, USMC, Pewter Gray) to the Procurement List. The additions will be effective July 14, 2014.

<u>79 Fed. Reg. 33911</u>, June 13, 2014, proposing to add products (Toner Cartridge, Remanufactured, Lexmark; Calcium, Lime, and Rust Remover) and services (Warehouse & Supply Support Service, Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center Atlantic One Innovation Dr., Building 3147, North Charleston, SC; Grounds Maintenance Service, Mission and Installation Contracting Command, 1792 12th Street, Fort Riley, KS; Assembly, Kitting, Warehousing, Distribution, and Fulfillment Service, National Park Service, Interpretation and Education Division, 1849 C Street NW., Washington, DC), and delete a product (Winter Blue Dress Uniform Shirt) from the Procurement List. Comments on the proposed additions and deletions are due July 14, 2014.