

COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION**Petition of the London Clearing House Limited for Exemption Pursuant to Section 4(c) of the Commodity Exchange Act**

AGENCY: Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

ACTION: Extension of comment period on petition for exemption.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Commodity Futures Trading Commission (Commission) published for comment on July 7, 1998 (63 FR 36657), a petition submitted by the London Clearing House Limited (LCH) requesting an exemption, pursuant to Section 4(c) of the Commodity Exchange Act, in connection with LCH's proposed provision of clearing services for certain swap agreements. Comments on LCH's petition were due by September 8, 1998. In response to a request by the International Swaps and Derivatives Association, Inc., the Commission has determined to extend the comment period for an additional 15 days. The extended deadline for comments on the LCH petition is September 23, 1998. The Commission believes that this extension should give all parties sufficient time to consider and comment upon the LCH petition and will look with disfavor upon any further requests for an extension of the comment period.

Any person interested in submitting comments on the LCH petition should submit them by the specified date to Jean A. Webb, Secretary, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 1155 21st Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20581. In addition, comments may be sent by facsimile transmission to facsimile number (202) 418-5521, or by electronic mail to secretary@cftc.gov.

Copies of the LCH petition are available for inspection at the Office of the Secretariat at the above address. Copies also may be obtained through the Office of the Secretariat at the above address or by telephone at (202) 418-5100 or on the Commission's Internet web site (<http://www.cftc.gov>).

DATES: Comments must be received on or before September 23, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Thomas E. Joseph, Attorney Adviser, Division of Trading and Markets, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 1155 21st Street, NW.,

Washington, DC 20581. Telephone (202) 418-5430.

Issued in Washington, DC on *September 8, 1998* by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

Jean Webb,

Secretary of the Commission.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**Reinstatement of Small Business Set-asides for Certain Acquisitions Under the Small Business Competitiveness Demonstration Program**

AGENCY: Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: Notice of reinstatement of small business set-asides under the Small Business Competitiveness Demonstration Program.

SUMMARY: The Director of Defense Procurement has reinstated the use of small business set-aside procedures for certain non-nuclear ship repair and construction acquisitions conducted by the Departments of the Navy and Army. Included in the reinstatement are solicitations issued under Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) Code 3731 (Service Codes J998 and J999) (Navy only), SIC Code 1791 (Navy only), and SIC Code 1629 (Army only; note, however, that use of small business set-asides in this SIC Code was previously reinstated for the Navy and that reinstatement remains in effect).

EFFECTIVE DATE: September 2, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Michael Sipple, OUSD (A&T), Director of Defense Procurement, Contract Policy and Administration, Room 3C838, 3060 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-3060, telephone (703) 695-8567.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Office of Federal Procurement Policy (OFPP) implemented Title VII of Pub. L. 100-656 (15 U.S.C. 644 note) by issuance of the "Small Business Competitiveness Demonstration Program Test Plan" on August 31, 1989, amended April 16, 1993. The program was further implemented in Subpart 19.10 of the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) and Subpart 219.10 of the Defense FAR Supplement (DFARS).

Under the program, small business set-asides were initially suspended for certain designated industry groups.

Agencies are required by paragraphs III.D.2.a. and IV.A.4. of the OFPP test plan to reinstate the use of small business set-asides whenever the small business awards under any designated industry group falls below 40 percent or whenever small business awards under an individual SIC Code or Service Code within the designated industry group falls below 35 percent. Reinstatement is to be limited to the organizational elements (in the case of DoD, the individual military departments or other components) that failed to meet the small business participation goals.

For the 12 months ending June 1998, DoD awards in the industries shown below fell below the 40 percent (SIC Code 3731 (Service Codes J998 and J999)) or 35 percent (SIC Codes 1629 and 1791) thresholds. Accordingly, pursuant to DFARS 219.1006(b)(2), the Director of Defense Procurement has directed reinstatement of small business set-aside procedures for solicitations that involve the industry categories shown below. The reinstatement applies to solicitations issued by the applicable buying activities on or after September 2, 1998, or as soon thereafter as practicable:

Industry	Applicable to
Non-Nuclear Ship Repair, SIC Code 3731 (Service Codes J998 and J999).	All Navy Activities.
Construction, Major Group 17—SIC Code 1791 only.	All Navy Activities.
Construction Major Group 16—SIC Code 1629 only.	All Army Activities.

Consistent with the OFPP test plan, this reinstatement of set-asides will be periodically reviewed for continuation. The reinstatement of small business set-aside procedures for Construction Major Group 15 for all Army and Navy contracting activities and SIC Code 1629 for all Navy contracting activities remains in effect (memorandum dated June 17, 1998; 63 FR 37096, July 9, 1998). Also, the departmentwide reinstatement of small business set-aside procedures for the designated industry group titled "Architectural and Engineering Services" remains in effect (memorandum dated September 30, 1991).

Michele P. Peterson,

Executive Editor, Defense Acquisition Regulations Council

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