

Dated: June 17, 2005

Anna P. Snouffer,

Acting Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 05-12609 Filed 6-23-05; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Center For Scientific Review, Notice of Closed Meetings

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of the following meetings.

The meetings will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel Bioengineering Research Partnerships.

Date: June 20, 2005.

Time: 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892, (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: Syed M. Quadri, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 6210, MSC 7804, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435-1211, quadris@csr.nih.gov.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel Neuroscience SBIRs SEPS.

Date: June 21, 2005.

Time: 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892, (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: Bernard F. Driscoll, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 5184, MSC 7844, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435-1242, driscolb@csr.nih.gov.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing

limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel Infection, Accessory Cells and Immunity Special Emphasis Panel.

Date: June 22, 2005.

Time: 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Holiday Inn Georgetown, 2101 Wisconsin Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20007.

Contact Person: Patrick K. Lai, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 2215, MSC 7812, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 435-1052, laip@csr.nih.gov.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.306, Comparative Medicine; 93.333, Clinical Research, 93.306, 93.333, 93.337, 93.393-93.396, 93.837-93.844, 93.846-93.878, 93.892, 93.893, National Institutes of Health, HHS).

Dated: June 17, 2005

Anna P. Snouffer,

Acting Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 05-12608 Filed 6-23-05; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

[USCG-2005-21609]

Navigation Safety Advisory Council; Vacancies

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Request for applications.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard seeks applications for membership on the Navigation Safety Advisory Council (NAVSAC). NAVSAC provides advice and makes recommendations to the Secretary on matters relating to prevention of collisions, groundings, and rammings.

DATES: Application forms should reach us on or before September 1, 2005.

ADDRESSES: You may request an application form by writing to NAVSAC Application, Commandant (G-MW), Room 1406, U.S. Coast Guard, 2100 Second Street, SW., Washington, DC 20593-0001; by calling 202-267-2384; or by faxing 202-267-4700. Send your original completed and signed application in written form to the above street address. This notice and the application are available on the Internet

at <http://dms.dot.gov> and the application form is also available at <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/g-m/advisory/index.htm>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. John Bobb; Assistant Executive Director of NAVSAC, telephone 202-267-2384, fax 202-267-4700, or e-mail jbobb@comdt.uscg.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Navigation Safety Advisory Council (NAVSAC) is a Federal advisory committee under 5 U.S.C. App. 2. It advises the Secretary on matters relating to prevention of collisions, groundings, and rammings. This includes but is not limited to: Inland and International Rules of the Road, navigation regulations and equipment, routing measures, marine information, diving safety, and aids to navigation systems. This advice also assists the Coast Guard in formulating the position of the United States in advance of meetings of the International Maritime Organization.

NAVSAC meets at least twice a year at Coast Guard Headquarters, Washington, DC, or another location selected by the Coast Guard. It may also meet for extraordinary purposes. Its working groups may meet to consider specific problems as required. We will consider applications for eight positions that are vacant or whose terms will expire in November 2005 as follows: three members who are recognized experts and leaders in organizations having an active interest in Rules of the Road and vessel and port safety; two members with an interest in maritime law (individuals selected for these two categories should reflect a geographical balance); one member who is a federal or state official with responsibility for vessel and port safety; one member from recreational boating; and one member representing professional mariners. To be eligible, applicants should have particular expertise, knowledge, and experience in the Inland and International Rules of the Road, Aids to Navigation, Navigation Safety Equipment, Vessel Traffic Service, Traffic Separation Schemes and Vessel Routing. Each member serves for a term of up to three years. A few members may serve consecutive terms. All members serve at their own expense but receive reimbursement for travel and per diem expenses from the Federal Government.

In support of the policy of the Department of Homeland Security on gender and ethnic diversity, we encourage qualified women and members of minority groups to apply.

Dated: June 17, 2005.

Howard L. Hime,

Acting Director of Standards, Marine Safety,
Security and Environmental Protection.

[FR Doc. 05-12539 Filed 6-23-05; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

[USCG-2005-21610]

Nontank Vessel Oil Response Plans

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notice and Request for
Comments.

SUMMARY: This notice informs the public of issues related to recent legislation requiring owners and operators of nontank vessels to prepare plans for responding to discharges of oil from their vessels. These issues include questions on the size of the population of vessels affected and enforcement of the legislation by the Coast Guard. The notice also discusses Coast Guard's efforts to engage the regulated community at the earliest stages and to encourage early public participation in the process of responding to this new legislation.

DATES: Comments and related material must reach the Docket Management Facility on or before September 22, 2005.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments identified by Coast Guard docket number USCG-2005-21610 to the Docket Management Facility at the U.S. Department of Transportation. To avoid duplication, please use only one of the following methods:

(1) Web site: <http://dms.dot.gov>.

(2) Mail: Docket Management Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590-0001.

(3) Fax: 202-493-2251.

(4) Delivery: Room PL-401 on the Plaza level of the Nassif Building, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The telephone number is 202-366-9329.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions on this notice, please contact Lieutenant Eric A. Bauer, Project Manager, Office of Response (G-MOR-2), U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, telephone 202-267-6714. If you have questions on viewing or submitting material to the docket, call Ms. Andrea M. Jenkins, Program

Manager, Docket Operations, telephone 202-366-0271.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background and Purpose

The Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2004 (Pub. L. 108-293) (2004 Act), in section 701, requires owners and operators of nontank vessels to prepare and submit to the Coast Guard plans for responding to a worst case discharge, and to a substantial threat of such a discharge, of oil from their vessels. The 2004 Act also mandates that the Coast Guard issue regulations requiring the submission of the plans. This legislation raises the following questions.

1. *What is the size of the affected vessel population?* One issue raised by the 2004 Act significantly affects the size of the population of vessels subject to the Act. The Act defines a "nontank vessel" as a self-propelled vessel of 400 gross tons as measured under 46 U.S.C. 14302 (the Convention measurement system) or greater, other than a tank vessel, that carries oil of any kind as fuel for main propulsion and that is a vessel of the United States or that operates on the navigable waters of the United States. Accordingly, the Act applies to vessels that are 400 gross tons as measured under 46 U.S.C. 14302 and to vessels that would be 400 gross tons if measured under 46 U.S.C. 14302. The Act does not specify how it applies to vessels which do not have a current measurement under the Convention measurement system (*i.e.*, those vessels measured only under the regulatory measurement system under 46 U.S.C. 14502). It is unclear whether any relationship was intended between a vessel's tonnage and the quantity of oil it is capable of carrying. These are issues that must be addressed during the rulemaking process and on which we particularly welcome your advice.

2. *When will the 2004 Act be enforced by the Coast Guard?* The 2004 Act requires that the response plans be prepared and submitted by August 9, 2005 (*i.e.*, one year after the enactment of the 2004 Act). In addition, the Act requires the President (Coast Guard) to issue regulations requiring the submission of plans. Because of the length of time needed to provide the necessary opportunity for, and consideration of, public comments, final regulations may not be in effect on that date. This raises the question of whether the Coast Guard intends to enforce the Act—specifically the nontank vessel response plan submission requirement—if it does not have regulations in place on August 9, 2005. The Coast Guard will not enforce the

Act until regulations are issued and in effect.

3. *What is the Coast Guard doing in the interim?* On February 4, 2005, we published Navigation and Vessel Information Circular 01-05 (NVIC 01-05) entitled "Interim Guidance for the Development and Review of Response Plans for Nontank Vessels." The NVIC is available at <http://www.uscg.mil/hg/g-m/nvic> or in the docket for this notice (See "Viewing comments and documents" below.). It provides guidance to owners and operators of nontank vessels for preparing and submitting plans to the Coast Guard and is not itself enforceable by the Coast Guard.

NVIC 01-05 describes a voluntary process for submitting response plans and for obtaining interim authorization letters from the Coast Guard. As the issue of vessel population is yet to be resolved, the NVIC explains that the Act does not exempt vessels that have not been measured under the Convention measurement system. These vessels are referred to in the NVIC as those that have not been issued an International Tonnage Certificate (ITC). However, an ITC is not always issued when a vessel is measured under the Convention measurement system; a U.S. Tonnage Certificate may be used instead to reflect tonnage measurement under the Convention measurement system. The Coast Guard considers owners of vessels not measured under the Convention measurement system subject to the Act if there is no question that the vessel would be 400 gross tons if measured under 46 U.S.C. 14302. To be prudent, we would advise owners of vessels not measured under the Convention measurement system that a vessel's tonnage measured under the regulatory measurement system is generally less than that vessel's tonnage measured under the Convention system. Therefore, it is likely that vessels of or near 400 gross register tons when measured under the regulatory measurement system will be subject to the response plan requirements of the Act. Disparities between the two measurement systems and the applicability of the Act to vessels measured under the regulatory measurement system would need to be addressed during the rulemaking process. Although we will not know precisely which vessels must comply with the response plan requirements until rulemaking is complete, vessels not measured under the Convention measurement system, whether they are 400 gross register tons under the regulatory measurement system or not, may ultimately be covered under the