

media inquiries. Representatives may be contacted at (202) 482-7002.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

In its most recent report on minority media ownership titled "Minority Commercial Broadcast Ownership in the United States," published in August 1998, NTIA found that "financial barriers, increased competition, and higher station prices, are likely to be significant obstacles to new minority entrants to this marketplace." The report also identified increasing media concentration as a factor likely to cause small station owners with less investment capital to exit the industry as they find it more difficult to compete against station group owners. In addition, increased competition from non-minority group owners for syndicated programming, advertising revenues, and station personnel, such as on-air talent and managers, were other challenges some minority station owners described in the 1998 report. NTIA is seeking public comment on whether the trends described in the 1998 report are continuing to affect adversely minority media ownership. NTIA is also requesting suggestions about ways to reverse any such negative trends. Since the 1998 report, multibillion dollar mergers of large radio station groups and unions between cable companies, multimedia conglomerates and telecommunications companies have been announced or consummated. Traditional distinctions between the broadcast, cable and telecommunications industries appear to be disappearing as new technologies, such as digital radio, satellite radio, audio and video streaming over the Internet, and interactive television emerge. Given this, NTIA is also interested in obtaining comments on the viability of these and other new technologies to enhance ownership opportunities for incumbent media owners and new entrants. This topic, and the effect on minority media ownership of media concentration and access to capital will be integral parts of NTIA's roundtable discussion.

Questions for Public Comment

NTIA requests that interested parties submit written comments on any issue of fact, law, or policy that may inform the U.S. Department of Commerce on opportunities for increased minority media ownership. Although the Department specifically seeks information on the questions set forth below, the purpose of these questions is to assist the public. These questions do not, nor should they be construed to,

limit the issues on which the public may submit comments. Comments and reply comments should cite the number of the question(s) addressed. Please provide copies of any studies, research, or other empirical data referenced in the comments.

1. What criteria should the federal government use to define minority ownership of broadcast or other media properties?
2. What changes, if any, have occurred in minority broadcast ownership since passage of the Telecommunications Act of 1996?
3. What legal impediments, if any, exist to minority media ownership?
4. What economic impediments, if any, exist to minority media ownership?
5. What policies or programs, if any, should the federal government implement to promote minority media ownership?
6. What legal or regulatory measures would promote minority media ownership?
7. What media ownership opportunities do new technologies offer to minority entrepreneurs?
8. What policies or programs should the federal government implement to promote opportunities for minority entrepreneurs to own "new media" ventures, such as webcasting firms or Internet portals?

Information collected in response to this **Federal Register** Notice may be included in the 2000 Minority Commercial Broadcast Ownership Report.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: The Minority Media Ownership Roundtable is open to the public on a first-come, first-served basis and is physically accessible to people with disabilities. To facilitate entry into the Department of Commerce building, please have a photo identification available and/or a U.S. Government building pass if applicable. Any member of the public wishing to attend and requiring special services, such as a sign language interpretation or other ancillary aids, should contact Maureen Lewis, Director, Minority Telecommunications Development Program, National Telecommunications and Information Administration at least five (5) working days prior to the Minority Media Ownership Roundtable by telephone at (202) 482-8056, or by electronic mail at <mlewis@ntia.doc.gov.>

Gregory L. Rohde,

Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information.

[FR Doc. 00-16404 Filed 6-28-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-60-P

COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

Proposed Amendments to the Maximum Daily Price Fluctuation Limits for the Chicago Board of Trade's Corn, Corn Yield Insurance (Six Contracts), Oats, Rough Rice, Soybeans, Soybean Meal, Soybean Oil, Wheat, Kilo Gold, 100 Ounce Gold, 1000 Ounce Silver, and 5000 Ounce Silver Futures Contracts; Extension of Comment Period

AGENCY: Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

ACTION: Notice of extension of public comment period for the proposed amendments.

SUMMARY: The Chicago Board of Trade (CBT or Exchange) has proposed amendments to the Exchange's corn, corn yield insurance (six contracts), oats, rough rice, soybeans, soybean meal, soybean oil, wheat, kilo gold, 100 ounce gold, 1000 ounce silver, and 5000 ounce silver futures contracts. On June 8, 2000, the Commission published a request for public comment on the proposed amendments for a 15-day comment period ending on June 23, 2000. The Acting Director of the Division of Economic Analysis (Division), acting pursuant to the authority delegated by Commission Regulation 140.96, has determined that extension of the comment period for an additional thirty (30) days is in the public interest, will assist the Commission in considering the views of interested persons, and is consistent with the purposes of the Commodity Exchange Act.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before July 24, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons should submit their views and comments to Jean A. Webb, Secretary, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 21st Street, NW, 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. Reference should be made to the proposed amendments to the maximum daily price fluctuation limits for the CBT's futures contracts.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Please contact John Bird of the Division of Economic Analysis, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 21st Street NW, Washington, DC 20581, telephone (202) 418-5274. Facsimile number: (202) 418-5527. Electronic mail: jbird@cftc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Acting Director, acting on behalf of the

Commission, has determined to extend the public comment period for the subject notice. The Division believes that an extension of the comment period until July 24, 2000 would permit interested parties to fully evaluate the proposal and to submit comments thereon to the Commission.

Issued in Washington, DC, on June 22, 2000.

John R. Mielke,

Acting Director.

[FR Doc. 00-16411 Filed 6-28-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Air Force

Performance Review Boards List of 2000 Members

Below is a list of individuals who are eligible to serve on the Performance Review Boards for the Department of the Air Force in accordance with the Air Force Senior Executive Appraisal and Awards System.

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Air Force Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 00-16453 Filed 6-28-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001-05-U

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

Availability for Non-Explosive, Exclusive, or Partially Exclusive Licensing of U.S. Patent Application Concerning a Novel HIV Suppressor Factor Derived From Scrub Typhus

AGENCY: U.S. Army Medical Research and Material Command, Department of the Army, DoD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with 37 CFR 404.6, announcement is made of the availability for licensing of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/377,743 entitled "Novel HIV Suppressor Factor Derived from Scrub Typhus," filed August 20, 1999. This patent has been assigned to the United States Government as represented by the Secretary of the Army.

ADDRESSES: Commander, U.S. Army Medical Research and Material Command, ATTN: Command Judge Advocate, MCMR-JA, 504 Scott Street, Fort Detrick, Frederick, Maryland 21702-5012.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Elizabeth Arwine, Patent Attorney, (301) 619-2065 or telefax (301) 619-5034.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The invention takes advantage of the anti-HIV effects of an inhibitory factor produced during scrub typhus infection. It is the object of the invention to provide a method of inducing an immunogenic response to human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), in particular to HIV-1. It is a further object of the invention to provide a suppressor factor derived from scrub typhus infection in the form of purified sera, plasma, or immunoglobulin which is suitable for administration to patents at risk for, or infected with, HIV either alone or in combination with other agents. It is a particular object of the invention to provide an isolated suppressor factor from sera or plasma taken from patients with scrub typhus which has anti-HIV activity. It is also a further object in the invention to provide peptides from inhibitory strains of scrub typhus, which peptides function as antigens and can be used to produce antibodies effective for the prophylaxis and treatment of HIV infection.

Gregory D. Showalter,

Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 00-16402 Filed 6-28-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers

Announcement of Public Hearing on a Draft Environmental Impact Statement/ Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) for the Upper Newport Bay Ecosystem Restoration Project, Orange County, California

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

ACTION: Notice (Announcement of Public Hearing Date).

SUMMARY: The Draft EIS/EIR will be released for public review on or about June 30, 2000. The Environmental Protection Agency plans to publish a Notice of Availability of the Draft EIS/EIR in the **Federal Register** on or about June 30, 2000. The public review of the Draft EIS/EIR ends on August 14, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District, Ecosystem Planning Section, P.O. Box 532711, Los Angeles, CA 90053-2325.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Larry Smith, Technical Manager, phone (213) 452-3846.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. Background

The purpose of the Upper Newport Bay Ecosystem Restoration Project is to develop a long-term management plan to control sediment deposition in the Upper Bay to preserve the health of Upper Newport Bay's habitats. Sediment will continue to deposit in the Bay no matter what control measures are implemented in the watershed. Therefore, one of the most important components of this project is to develop a plan to control sediments by designing one or two in-bay basins in which the bulk of the sediment will settle. In addition to developing a plan for sediment control, the Upper Newport Bay Restoration project includes several other measures to improve habitat quality in the Upper Bay.

2. Proposed Action

The proposed project would involve deepening and expanding the existing sediment basins. Additional ecosystem restoration measures would be included to enhance the overall habitat value of Upper Newport Bay.

3. Alternatives

The EIS/EIR evaluates four alternatives carried forward for detailed environmental analysis. In general, the major differences among alternatives are the basin and channel depths. During the Preliminary Engineering Design (PED) phase, modifications to further reduce the loss of intertidal mudflat habitat will be investigated.

No Action: No dredging would occur within the Upper Bay ecological reserve.

Recommended Plan: The recommended plan includes the expansion and deepening of the Unit I/ III basin and the Unit II basin to -20 feet (-6 m) MSL, with an approach channel between the two basins dredged to -14 feet (-4.2 m) MSL; a 100-foot wide approach channel below the Unit II