The objective is to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the acquisition process, while allowing the acquisition workforce the flexibility to innovate. The transformed DFARS will contain only requirements of law, DoDwide policies, delegations of FAR authorities, deviations from FAR requirements, and policies/procedures that have a significant effect beyond the internal operating procedures of DoD or a significant cost or administrative impact on contractors or offerors. Additional information on the DFARS Transformation initiative is available at http://www.acq.osd.mil/dp/dars/ transf.htm.

This proposed rule is a result of the DFARS Transformation initiative. The rule deletes DFARS Subpart 235.70, Research and Development Streamlined Contracting Procedures. This subpart contains procedures for acquiring research and development using a standard solicitation and contract format and the capabilities of the World Wide Web. These procedures have become obsolete, due to further advances in technology since their creation.

This rule was not subject to Office of Management and Budget review under Executive Order 12866, dated September 30, 1993.

B. Regulatory Flexibility Act

DoD does not expect this rule to have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities within the meaning of the Regulatory Flexibility Act, 5 U.S.C. 601, et seq., because the rule deletes text that is obsolete and no longer in use. Therefore, DoD has not performed an initial regulatory flexibility analysis. DoD invites comments from small businesses and other interested parties. DoD also will consider comments from small entities concerning the affected DFARS subpart in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 610. Such comments should be submitted separately and should cite DFARS Case 2003-D058.

C. Paperwork Reduction Act

The Paperwork Reduction Act does not apply because the rule does not impose any information collection requirements that 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 235

Government procurement.

Michele P. Peterson,

Executive Editor, Defense Acquisition Regulations Council.

Therefore, DoD proposes to amend 48 CFR Part 235 as follows:

1. The authority citation for 48 CFR Part 235 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 41 U.S.C. 421 and 48 CFR Chapter 1.

PART 235—RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CONTRACTING

Subpart 235.70—[Removed]

2. Subpart 235.70 is removed.

[FR Doc. 04–3695 Filed 2–20–04; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 5001–08–P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

48 CFR Parts 235 and 252 [DFARS Case 2003–D067]

Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Research and Development Contracting

AGENCY: Department of Defense (DoD). **ACTION:** Proposed rule with request for comments.

SUMMARY: DoD is proposing to amend the Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) to update text pertaining to research and development contracting. This proposed rule is a result of a transformation initiative undertaken by DoD to dramatically change the purpose and content of the DFARS.

DATES: Comments on the proposed rule should be submitted in writing to the address shown below on or before April 23, 2004, to be considered in the formation of the final rule.

ADDRESSES: Respondents may submit comments via the Internet at http://emissary.acq.osd.mil/dar/dfars.nsf/pubcomm. As an alternative, respondents may e-mail comments to: dfars@osd.mil. Please cite DFARS Case 2003–D067 in the subject line of e-mailed comments.

Respondents that cannot submit comments using either of the above methods may submit comments to: Defense Acquisition Regulations Council, Attn: Ms. Teresa Brooks, OUSD(AT&L)DPAP(DAR), IMD 3C132, 3062 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301–3062; facsimile (703) 602–0350. Please cite DFARS Case 2003–D067.

At the end of the comment period, interested parties may view public

comments on the Internet at http://emissary.acq.osd.mil/dar/dfars.nsf.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Teresa Brooks, (703) 602–0326.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Background

DFARS Transformation is a major DoD initiative to dramatically change the purpose and content of the DFARS. The objective is to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the acquisition process, while allowing the acquisition workforce the flexibility to innovate. The transformed DFARS will contain only requirements of law, DoDwide policies, delegations of FAR authorities, deviations from FAR requirements, and policies/procedures that have a significant effect beyond the internal operating procedures of DoD or a significant cost or administrative impact on contractors or offerors. Additional information on the DFARS Transformation initiative is available at http://www.acq.osd.mil/dp/dars/ transf.htm.

This proposed rule is a result of the DFARS Transformation initiative. The proposed changes include—

- Updating of a statutory reference at DFARS 235.006–70.
- Deletion of unnecessary text at DFARS 235.007 and 235.015.
- Deletion of text at DFARS 235.010 regarding DoD maintenance of scientific and technical reports. Text on this subject will be relocated to the new DFARS companion resource, Procedures, Guidance, and Information (PGI). A proposed rule describing the purpose and structure of PGI is published elsewhere in this issue of the Federal Register under DFARS Case 2003–D090, Procedures, Guidance, and Information.
- Updating of administrative information at DFARS 235.017–1 and 252.235–7011.

Although no change is proposed to DFARS 235.015–70, Special use allowance for research facilities acquired by educational institutions, DoD also is seeking comment on the currency and use of this text.

This rule was not subject to Office of Management and Budget review under Executive Order 12866, dated September 30, 1993.

B. Regulatory Flexibility Act

DoD does not expect this rule to have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities within the meaning of the Regulatory Flexibility Act, 5 U.S.C. 601, et seq., because DFARS changes are limited to updating of administrative information or deletion of text that is unnecessary or addresses procedural matters. Therefore, DoD has not performed an initial regulatory flexibility analysis. DoD invites comments from small businesses and other interested parties. DoD also will consider comments from small entities concerning the affected DFARS subparts in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 610. Such comments should be submitted separately and should cite DFARS Case 2003–D067.

C. Paperwork Reduction Act

The Paperwork Reduction Act does not apply because the rule does not impose any information collection requirements that require the approval of the Office of Management and Budget under 44 U.S.C. 3501, et seq.

List of Subjects in 48 CFR Parts 235 and 252

Government procurement.

Michele P. Peterson,

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Therefore, DoD proposes to amend 48 CFR Parts 235 and 252 as follows:

1. The authority citation for 48 CFR Parts 235 and 252 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 41 U.S.C. 421 and 48 CFR Chapter 1.

PART 235—RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CONTRACTING

235.006-70 [Amended]

2. Section 235.006–70 is amended in the introductory text by removing "10 U.S.C. 2525(d)" and adding in its place "10 U.S.C. 2521(d)".

235.007 [Removed]

- 3. Section 235.007 is removed.
- 4. Section 235.010 is revised to read as follows:

235.010 Scientific and technical reports.

(b) For DoD, the Defense Technical Information Center is responsible for collecting all scientific and technical reports. For access to these reports, follow the procedures at PGI 235.010(b).

235.015 [Removed]

5. Section 235.015 is removed.

235.017-1 [Amended]

6. Section 235.017–1 is amended in paragraph (c)(4) by revising the first parenthetical to read "(C3I Laboratory operated by the Institute for Defense Analysis, Lincoln Laboratory operated by Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Software Engineering Institute operated by Carnegie Mellon)".

PART 252—SOLICITATION PROVISIONS AND CONTRACT CLAUSES

7. Section 252.235–7011 is revised to read as follows:

252.235-7011 Final Scientific or Technical Report.

As prescribed in 235.071(d), use the following clause:

Final Scientific or Technical Report (XXX 2004)

The Contractor shall—

(a) Submit two copies of the approved scientific or technical report delivered under this contract to the Defense Technical Information Center, Attn: DTIC-O, 8725 John J. Kingman Road, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060–6218;

(b) Include a completed Standard Form 298, Report Documentation Page, with each copy of the report; and

(c) For submission of reports in other than paper copy, contact the Defense Technical Information Center or follow the instructions at http://www.dtic.mil.

(End of Clause)

[FR Doc. 04–3696 Filed 2–20–04; 8:45 am]

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

48 CFR Parts 251 and 252

[DFARS Case 2003-D045]

Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Contractor Use of Government Supply Sources

AGENCY: Department of Defense (DoD). **ACTION:** Proposed rule with request for comments.

SUMMARY: DoD is proposing to amend the Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) to update text pertaining to contractor use of Government supply sources. This proposed rule is a result of a transformation initiative undertaken by DoD to dramatically change the purpose and content of the DFARS.

DATES: Comments on the proposed rule should be submitted in writing to the address shown below on or before April 23, 2004, to be considered in the formation of the final rule.

ADDRESSES: Respondents may submit comments via the Internet at http://emissary.acq.osd.mil/dar/dfars.nsf/pubcomm. As an alternative, respondents may e-mail comments to: dfars@osd.mil. Please cite DFARS Case 2003-D045 in the subject line of e-mailed comments.

Respondents that cannot submit comments using either of the above

methods may submit comments to: Defense Acquisition Regulations Council, Attn: Ms. Teresa Brooks, OUSD(AT&L)DPAP(DAR), IMD 3C132, 3062 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301–3062; facsimile (703) 602–0350. Please cite DFARS Case 2003–D045.

At the end of the comment period, interested parties may view public comments on the Internet at http://emissary.acq.osd.mil/dar/dfars.nsf.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Teresa Brooks, (703) 602–0326. SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Background

DFARS Transformation is a major DoD initiative to dramatically change the purpose and content of the DFARS. The objective is to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the acquisition process, while allowing the acquisition workforce the flexibility to innovate. The transformed DFARS will contain only requirements of law, DoDwide policies, delegations of FAR authorities, deviations from FAR requirements, and policies/procedures that have a significant effect beyond the internal operating procedures of DoD or a significant cost or administrative impact on contractors or offerors. Additional information on the DFARS Transformation initiative is available at http://www.acq.osd.mil/dp/dars/ transf.htm.

This proposed rule is a result of the DFARS Transformation initiative. The

proposed changes include-

- Deletion of text at DFARS 251.102 containing procedures for authorizing a contractor to use Government supply sources. Text on this subject will be relocated to the new DFARS companion resource, Procedures, Guidance, and Information (PGI). A proposed rule describing the purpose and structure of PGI is published elsewhere in this issue of the Federal Register under DFARS Case 2003–D090, Procedures, Guidance, and Information.
- Deletion of text at DFARS 251.105 regarding contractor payment for purchases from Government supply sources. This subject is addressed in the clause at DFARS 252.251–7000 as amended by this rule.

This rule was not subject to Office of Management and Budget review under Executive Order 12866, dated September 30, 1993.

B. Regulatory Flexibility Act

DoD does not expect this rule to have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities within the meaning of the Regulatory Flexibility Act, 5 U.S.C. 601, *et seq.*,