

range of 4.8 to 4.9 will be deliverable at a price differential equal to the average of the rice differences quoted on the sixth business day prior to the day of delivery by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) for such cotton in designated spot markets. If the USDA does not quote price differences for this range of micronaire readings, the futures price differential for cotton having the indicated micronaire levels will be zero. In support of this proposal, the Exchange states that, "the purpose of the change is to improve the contract by discounting less desirable, high micronaire cotton in delivery."

The Exchange is proposing to amend the current strength requirement for deliverable cotton of 22 grams per tex. Under the proposal, the minimum strength requirement will be raised to 25 grams per tex. According to the Exchange, "the purpose of the change is to improve the contract by eliminating certain low-strength cotton from delivery."

The Exchange also is seeking to establish a discount for the delivery of "old crop" cotton. The proposed discount would be in addition to the futures contract's existing age-based discounts. Under the proposal, "old crop" cotton delivered on or after January 1 of the next marketing season that follows the marketing season in which the cotton was grown will be assessed a discount of 2 cents per pound per "old crop" crop year. For example, cotton grown in the 2000 crop year will be deliverable at par until December 31, 2001. If such "old crop" cotton is delivered on January 1, 2002, it would be subject to a discount of 2 cents per pound and, if it was delivered on January 1, 2003, this same cotton would be subject to a discount of 4 cents per pound. The discount for delivery of the same cotton would increase by two cents per pound for each subsequent year (i.e., six cents per lb. in 2004, eight cents per lb. in 2005, etc.) elapsed since the marketing season in which the cotton was grown. The Exchange states that the proposal will "improve the contract by adding to the cost of delivering older cotton."

Finally, the Exchange is clarifying its requirement that the Warehouse Bale Tag Coupon accompanying each sample of tendered cotton shall be "an *official* Warehouse Bale Tag Coupon *issued by the warehouse*" (emphasis added).

The Exchange intends to implement the proposed amendments upon Commission approval for all existing cotton No. 2 futures contract months that have no open interest at the time of

approval and for all newly listed cotton No. 2 futures contracts.

The Commission is requesting comments on the proposed amendments.

Copies of the proposed amendments will be available for inspection at the Office of the Secretariat, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 21st Street NW., Washington, DC 20581. Copies of the proposed amendments can be obtained through the Office of the Secretariat by mail at the above address, by phone at (202) 418-5100, or via the Internet at [secretary@cftc.gov](mailto:secretary@cftc.gov).

Other materials submitted by the Exchange in support of the proposal may be available upon request pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and the Commission's regulations thereunder (17 CFR part 145 (2000)), except to the extent they are entitled to confidential treatment as set forth in 17 CFR 145.5 and 145.9. Requests for copies of such materials should be made to the FOI, Privacy and Sunshine Act Compliance Staff of the Office of Secretariat at the Commission's headquarters in accordance with 17 CFR 145.7 and 145.8.

Any person interested in submitting written data, views, or arguments on the proposed amendments, or with respect to other materials submitted by the Exchange, should send such comments to Jean A. Webb, Secretary, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 21st Street NW., Washington, DC 20581 by the specified date.

Issued in Washington, DC, on March 14, 2001.

**Richard Shilts,**  
*Acting Director.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Air Force

#### Federal Advisory Committee for the End-to-End Review of the U.S. Nuclear Command and Control System

**AGENCY:** Department of the Air Force, DoD.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to Public Law 92-463, notice is hereby given of a forthcoming meeting of the Federal Advisory Committee for the End-to-End Review of the U.S. Nuclear Command and Control System (NCCS). The purpose of the meeting is to begin conduct of a comprehensive and

independent review of the NCCS positive measures to assure authorized use of nuclear weapons when directed by the President while assuring against unauthorized or inadvertent use. This meeting will be closed to the public.

**DATES:** April 5, 2001.

**ADDRESSES:** Pentagon, Room 3D912.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. William L. Jones, U.S. Nuclear Command and Control System Support Staff (NCCS), Skyline 3, 5201 Leesburg Pike, Suite 500, Falls Church, Virginia 22041, (703) 681-8681.

**Janet A. Long,**

*Air Force Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

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**BILLING CODE 5001-05-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Navy

#### Meeting of the Ocean Research Advisory Panel

**AGENCY:** Department of the Navy, DOD.

**ACTION:** Notice of open meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Ocean Research Advisory Panel (ORAP) will meet to discuss National Oceanographic Partnership Program (NOPP) activities. All sessions of the meeting will remain open to the public.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on Thursday, April 26, 2001, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. In order to maintain the meeting time schedule, members of the public will be limited in their time to speak to the Panel. Members of the public should submit their comments one week in advance of the meeting to the meeting Point of Contact.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at The Doubletree Hotel Park Terrace, Consulate Room, 1515 Rhode Island Avenue, NW., Washington, DC.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Steven E. Ramberg, Office of Naval Research, 800 North Quincy Street, Arlington, Virginia 22217-5660, telephone number: (703) 696-4358.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This notice of open meeting is provided in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App. 2). The purpose of this meeting is to discuss NOPP activities. The meeting will include discussions on ocean observations, current and future NOPP activities, and other current issues in the ocean sciences community.