

- (3) Specifies a qualified bidder that is not the permit owner of the required groundfish reduction permit;
- (4) Specifies a qualified bidder that is not the holder of record of any required fee-share reduction permit(s) or other reduction permit(s);
- (5) Specifies a qualified bidder that is not the owner of record of the required reduction vessel;
- (6) Fails to include an element the groundfish program requires;
- (7) Attempts to revise, alter, or negotiate any provision of the bidding document or of the bidding package;
- (8) Is late; or
- (9) Is otherwise not responsive to the bidding package and consistent with applicable law.

VII. Other Program Rules:

All bid scorings, rankings, rejections, and acceptances shall constitute final agency action at the time NMFS acts.

Once you deliver your bid to NMFS, your bid is irrevocable. You may not alter, rescind, or substitute any aspect of your bid and your bid will remain in effect until the bid expiration date.

If an industry referendum approves the industry fee system, the United States will tender reduction payment by requesting written payment instructions from you. The United States shall, thereafter, disburse reduction payments equal to the bid amounts specified in each bid once you have certified your compliance with your contractual duties and obligations.

You must hold, own, or retain all of your reduction fishing interest, as included or specified in your bid, and remain fully and legally entitled to offer the same until:

- (1) The bid expires;
- (2) NMFS notifies you that NMFS rejects the bid;
- (3) NMFS notifies you that a reduction contract does not exist; or
- (4) NMFS tenders reduction payment and you comply with your reduction contract obligations.

You are directed to review the documents included in the bidding package, including this Invitation to Bid and the bidding document entitled "Fishing Capacity Reduction Bid and