

believe this linkage needs to be the subject of a regulatory promulgation.

The final rule will apply to all large and small entities that do business or are planning to do business with the Government. FedBizOpps is designed to be sufficiently versatile to allow sellers and service providers to access and download information through different commercial electronic means, including web-based technology, bulk data feeds, and electronic mail. This versatility will enable the more than 49,101 small and 19,382 large businesses to have easy access to Government business opportunities over \$25,000.

The rule imposes no reporting, recordkeeping, or other compliance requirements. There are no practical alternatives that will accomplish the objectives of this rule.

Interested parties may obtain a copy of the FRFA from the FAR Secretariat. The FAR Secretariat has submitted a copy of the FRFA to the Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the Small Business Administration.

C. Paperwork Reduction Act

The Paperwork Reduction Act does not apply because the changes to the FAR do not impose 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 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 19, 22, 25, 34, 35, and 36

Government procurement.

Dated: September 24, 2003.

Laura G. Auletta,

Director, Acquisition Policy Division.

Interim Rule Adopted as Final With Changes

■ Accordingly, DoD, GSA, and NASA adopt the interim rules amending 48 CFR parts 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 12, 13, 14, 19, 22, 34, 35, and 36 that were published in the **Federal Register** at 63 FR 48590, October 30, 1998, and 66 FR 27406, May 16, 2001, as a final rule with the following changes:

■ 1. The authority citation for 48 CFR parts 2, 5, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 22, 25, and 35 is revised to read as follows:

Authority: 40 U.S.C. 121(c); 10 U.S.C. chapter 137; and 42 U.S.C. 2473(c).

PART 2—DEFINITIONS OF WORDS AND TERMS

2.101 [Amended]

■ 2. Amend section 2.101 in paragraph (b) by removing the definition “Commerce Business Daily (CBD)”.

PART 5—PUBLICIZING CONTRACT ACTIONS

■ 3. Revise section 5.003 to read as follows:

5.003 Governmentwide point of entry.

For any requirement in the FAR to publish a notice, the contracting officer must transmit the notices to the GPE.

5.101 [Amended]

■ 4. Amend section 5.101 in paragraph (a)(1) by removing “, unless covered by 5.003”; and by removing “5.207(d) and (g)” from the introductory text of paragraph (a)(2) and paragraph (a)(2)(i) (twice) and adding “5.207(c)” in its place.

■ 5. Amend section 5.201 by removing paragraph (b)(2) and redesignating paragraph (b)(3) as (b)(2); and revising newly designated paragraph (b)(2) and paragraph (d) to read as follows:

5.201 General.

* * * * *

(b)(1) * * *

(2) When transmitting notices to FACNET, contracting officers must ensure the notice is forwarded to the GPE.

* * * * *

(d) The GPE may be accessed via the Internet at <http://www.fedbizopps.gov>.

■ 6. Amend section 5.203 by revising the introductory text of paragraph (a); and removing the first and second sentences from paragraph (g) and adding a sentence in its place to read as follows:

5.203 Publicizing and response time.

* * * * *

(a) An agency must transmit a notice of proposed contract action to the GPE (see 5.201). All publicizing and response times are calculated based on the date of publication. The publication date is the date the notice appears on the GPE. The notice must be published at least 15 days before issuance of a solicitation except that, for acquisitions of commercial items, the contracting officer may—

* * * * *

(g) Contracting officers may, unless they have evidence to the contrary, presume the notice was published one day after transmission to the GPE. * * *

* * * * *

5.205 [Amended]

■ 7. Amend section 5.205 by removing the last sentence of paragraph (b), the second and third sentences of paragraph (d)(1), the last sentence of paragraph (e), and the second sentence of paragraph (f).

5.206 [Amended]

■ 8. Amend section 5.206 by removing from the introductory text of paragraph (a) “, the CBD, or both”; and by removing from paragraph (b)(1) “, following the standard CBD format for items 7, 10, 11, and 17 in 5.207(b)(4)”.

■ 9. Revise section 5.207 to read as follows:

5.207 Preparation and transmittal of synopses.

(a) *Content.* Each synopsis transmitted to the GPE must address the following data elements, as applicable:

- (1) Action Code.
- (2) Date.
- (3) Year.
- (4) Government Printing Office (GPO) Billing Account Code.
- (5) Contracting Office Zip Code.
- (6) Classification Code.
- (7) Contracting Office Address.
- (8) Subject.
- (9) Proposed Solicitation Number.
- (10) Opening and Closing Response Date.

(11) Contact Point or Contracting Officer.

(12) Contract Award and Solicitation Number.

(13) Contract Award Dollar Amount.

(14) Contract Line Item Number.

(15) Contract Award Date.

(16) Contractor.

(17) Description.

(18) Place of Contract Performance.

(19) Set-aside Status.

(b) *Transmittal.* Transmissions to the GPE must be in accordance with the interface description available via the Internet at <http://www.fedbizopps.gov>.

(c) *General format for “Description.”* Prepare a clear and concise description of the supplies or services that is not unnecessarily restrictive of competition and will allow a prospective offeror to make an informed business judgment as to whether a copy of the solicitation should be requested including the following, as appropriate:

(1) National Stock Number (NSN) if assigned.

(2) Specification and whether an offeror, its product, or service must meet a qualification requirement in order to be eligible for award, and identification of the office from which additional information about the qualification requirement may be obtained (see subpart 9.2).

(3) Manufacturer, including part number, drawing number, etc.

(4) Size, dimensions, or other form, fit or functional description.

(5) Predominant material of manufacture.

(6) Quantity, including any options for additional quantities.