

*Alternate I* (Jun 2014). As prescribed in 23.705(c)(2), substitute the following paragraph (b) for paragraph (b) of the basic clause:

(b) Under this contract, the Contractor shall deliver, furnish for Government use, or furnish for Contractor use at a Federally controlled facility, only televisions that, at the time of submission of proposals and at the time of award, were EPEAT® silver-registered or gold-registered.

■ 13. Revise section 52.223–16 to read as follows:

**52.223–16 Acquisition of EPEAT-Registered Personal Computer Products.**

As prescribed in 23.705(d)(1), insert the following clause:

**Acquisition of Epeat®-Registered Personal Computer Products (Jun 2014)**

(a) *Definitions.* As used in this clause—

*Computer* means a device that performs logical operations and processes data. Computers are composed of, at a minimum:

(1) A central processing unit (CPU) to perform operations;

(2) User input devices such as a keyboard, mouse, digitizer, or game controller; and

(3) A computer display screen to output information. Computers include both stationary and portable units, including desktop computers, integrated desktop computers, notebook computers, thin clients, and workstations. Although computers must be capable of using input devices and computer displays, as noted in (2) and (3) above, computer systems do not need to include these devices on shipment to meet this definition. This definition does not include server computers, gaming consoles, mobile telephones, portable hand-held calculators, portable digital assistants (PDAs), MP3 players, or any other mobile computing device with displays less than 4 inches, measured diagonally.

*Computer display* means a display screen and its associated electronics encased in a single housing or within the computer housing (e.g., notebook or integrated desktop computer) that is capable of displaying output information from a computer via one or more inputs such as a VGA, DVI, USB, DisplayPort, and/or IEEE 1394–2008™, Standard for High Performance Serial Bus. Examples of computer display technologies are the cathode-ray tube (CRT) and liquid crystal display (LCD).

*Desktop computer* means a computer where the main unit is intended to be located in a permanent location, often on a desk or on the floor. Desktops are

not designed for portability and utilize an external computer display, keyboard, and mouse. Desktops are designed for a broad range of home and office applications.

*Integrated desktop computer* means a desktop system in which the computer and computer display function as a single unit that receives its AC power through a single cable. Integrated desktop computers come in one of two possible forms:

(1) A system where the computer display and computer are physically combined into a single unit; or

(2) A system packaged as a single system where the computer display is separate but is connected to the main chassis by a DC power cord and both the computer and computer display are powered from a single power supply. As a subset of desktop computers, integrated desktop computers are typically designed to provide similar functionality as desktop systems.

*Notebook computer* means a computer designed specifically for portability and to be operated for extended periods of time either with or without a direct connection to an AC power source. Notebooks must utilize an integrated computer display and be capable of operation off of an integrated battery or other portable power source. In addition, most notebooks use an external power supply and have an integrated keyboard and pointing device. Notebook computers are typically designed to provide similar functionality to desktops, including operation of software similar in functionality to that used in desktops. Docking stations are considered accessories for notebook computers, not notebook computers. Tablet PCs, which may use touch-sensitive screens along with, or instead of, other input devices, are considered notebook computers.

*Personal computer product* means a computer, computer display, desktop computer, integrated desktop computer, or notebook computer.

(b) Under this contract, the Contractor shall deliver, furnish for Government use, or furnish for Contractor use at a Federally controlled facility, only personal computer products that, at the time of submission of proposals and at the time of award, were EPEAT® bronze-registered or higher.

(c) For information about EPEAT, see [www.epa.gov/epeat](http://www.epa.gov/epeat).

(End of clause)

*Alternate I* (Jun 2014). As prescribed in 23.705(d)(2), substitute the following paragraph (b) for paragraph (b) of the basic clause:

(b) Under this contract, the Contractor shall deliver, furnish for Government

use, or furnish for Contractor use at a Federally controlled facility, only personal computer products that, at the time of submission of proposals and at the time of award, were EPEAT® silver-registered or gold-registered.

[FR Doc. 2014–14376 Filed 6–23–14; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6820-EP-P

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

### NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

#### 48 CFR Part 19

[FAC 2005–75; FAR Case 2013–010; Item II; Docket 2013–0010, Sequence 1]

RIN 9000–AM59

#### Federal Acquisition Regulation; Contracting With Women-Owned Small Business Concerns

**AGENCY:** Department of Defense (DoD), General Services Administration (GSA), and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** DoD, GSA, and NASA have adopted as final, without change, an interim rule amending the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) to remove the dollar limitation for set-asides to economically disadvantaged women-owned small business concerns and to women-owned small business concerns eligible under the Women-Owned Small Business Program.

**DATES:** *Effective Date:* June 24, 2014.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Karlos Morgan, Procurement Analyst, at 202–501–2364, for clarification of content. For information pertaining to status or publication schedules, contact the Regulatory Secretariat at 202–501–4755. Please cite FAC 2005–75, FAR Case 2013–010.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Background

DoD, GSA, and NASA published an interim rule in the **Federal Register** at 78 FR 37692 on June 21, 2013, to implement section 1697 of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 (Pub. L. 112–239), which amended section 8(m) of the Small Business Act, (15 U.S.C. 637(m)). Section 1697 of the NDAA for FY 2013 amended section 8(m) by removing the dollar limitation for set-asides to economically disadvantaged women-owned small business (EDWOSB)

concerns, and eligible women-owned small business (WOSB) concerns (see 13 CFR 127.200–13 and 127.305 for eligibility and certification requirements), in industries determined by the Small Business Administration (SBA) to be underrepresented or substantially underrepresented by small business concerns owned and controlled by women, with respect to Federal procurement.

Pursuant to this statutory change and in conformance with the Small Business Administration's (SBA's) revised regulations at 13 CFR 127.503(a)(2) and 127.503(b)(2) (see SBA's interim final rule published in the **Federal Register** at 78 FR 26504 on May 7, 2013), an interim FAR rule was published in the **Federal Register** at 78 FR 37692 on June 21, 2013, removing the dollar limitations for set-asides to EDWOSB concerns or WOSB concerns eligible under the WOSB Program. The interim rule allows contracting officers to set aside acquisitions for competition restricted to EDWOSB concerns or WOSB concerns eligible under the WOSB Program at any dollar level above the micro-purchase threshold, provided the other requirements for a set-aside under the WOSB Program are met.

## II. Discussion and Analysis

The comment period for the FAR interim rule closed on August 20, 2013. No public comments were received; therefore DoD, GSA, and NASA are finalizing the interim rule without change.

## III. Executive Orders 12866 and 13563

Executive Orders (E.O.s) 12866 and 13563 direct agencies to assess all costs and benefits of available regulatory alternatives and, if regulation is necessary, to select regulatory approaches that maximize net benefits (including potential economic, environmental, public health and safety effects, distributive impacts, and equity). E.O. 13563 emphasizes the importance of quantifying both costs and benefits, of reducing costs, of harmonizing rules, and of promoting flexibility. This is not a significant regulatory action and, therefore, was not subject to review under section 6(b) of E.O. 12866, Regulatory Planning and Review, dated September 30, 1993. This rule is not a major rule under 5 U.S.C. 804.

## IV. Regulatory Flexibility Act

DoD, GSA, and NASA have prepared a Final Regulatory Flexibility Analysis (FRFA) consistent with the Regulatory Flexibility Act, 5 U.S.C. 601, *et seq.* The FRFA is summarized as follows:

The objective of this final rule is to finalize the changes set forth in section 1697 of the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2013. Section 1697 eliminated the statutory limitations (thresholds) at section 8(m) of the Small Business Act, (15 U.S.C. 637(m)), for set-asides to economically disadvantaged women-owned small business (EDWOSB) concerns and to women-owned small business (WOSB) concerns eligible under the WOSB Program in industries that are underrepresented or substantially underrepresented by WOSB concerns. This final rule follows an interim rule that was published in the **Federal Register** at 78 FR 37692 on June 21, 2013, which removed the set-aside limitations set forth at FAR 19.1505(b)(2) and (c)(2), in keeping with the statutory change and SBA's revised regulations.

There were no comments received in response to the interim rule by its closing date of August 20, 2013. Therefore, the changes made in the interim rule will be adopted as final, without change, allowing contracting officers to set aside acquisitions for competition restricted to EDWOSB concerns or WOSB concerns eligible under the WOSB Program at any dollar level above the micro-purchase threshold, provided the other requirements for a set-aside under the WOSB Program are met.

Analysis of the Federal Procurement Data System from April 1, 2011 (the implementation date of the WOSB Program) through January 1, 2013, revealed that there were approximately 26,712 WOSB concerns, including 131 EDWOSB concerns and 388 WOSB concerns eligible under the WOSB Program, that received obligated funds from Federal contract awards, task or delivery orders, and modifications to existing contracts. This final rule may have a significant positive economic impact on EDWOSB concerns competing for contracting opportunities in industries determined by SBA to be underrepresented by WOSB concerns and may positively affect WOSB concerns eligible under the WOSB Program competing in industries determined by SBA to be substantially underrepresented by WOSB concerns, since removing the dollar threshold for set-asides under the WOSB Program will provide greater access to Federal contracting opportunities. However, this rule may have a negative effect on firms that are women-owned but are not WOSB Program participants and small businesses that are not owned by women because those firms may now be excluded from competition on some acquisitions that previously could not be set aside for EDWOSB concerns or WOSB concerns eligible under the WOSB Program due to the dollar thresholds and now will be set aside.

This final rule does not impose new recordkeeping or reporting requirements. The rule does not duplicate, overlap, or conflict with any other Federal rules. There are no alternatives to the rule that would accomplish the stated objectives of the statute.

Interested parties may obtain a copy of the FRFA from the Regulatory Secretariat. The Regulatory Secretariat

has submitted a copy of the FRFA to the Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the Small Business Administration.

## V. Paperwork Reduction Act

The final rule does not contain any information collection requirements that require the approval of the Office of Management and Budget under the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. chapter 35).

## List of Subjects in 48 CFR Part 19

Government procurement.

Dated: June 13, 2014.

William Clark,

*Acting Director, Office of Government-Wide Acquisition Policy, Office of Acquisition Policy, Office of Government-Wide Policy.*

## Interim Rule Adopted as Final Without Change

■ Accordingly, the interim rule amending 48 CFR part 19 which was published in the **Federal Register** at 78 FR 37692 on June 21, 2013, is adopted as a final rule without change.

[FR Doc. 2014–14381 Filed 6–23–14; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

### NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

## 48 CFR Part 31

[FAC 2005–75; FAR Case 2014–012; Item III; Docket 2014–0012, Sequence 1]

RIN 9000–AM75

### Federal Acquisition Regulation; Limitation on Allowable Government Contractor Compensation Costs

**AGENCY:** Department of Defense (DoD), General Services Administration (GSA), and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

**ACTION:** Interim rule.

**SUMMARY:** DoD, GSA, and NASA are issuing an interim rule amending the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) to implement section 702 of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013. In accordance with section 702, the interim rule revises the allowable cost limit relative to the compensation of contractor and subcontractor employees. Also, in accordance with section 702, this interim rule implements the possible exception to this allowable cost limit for scientists, engineers, or other specialists upon an agency determination that such