

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[C-508-605]

Certain Industrial Phosphoric Acid From Israel; Extension of Time Limit for Countervailing Duty Administrative Review

AGENCY: Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of Extension of time limit for countervailing duty administrative review.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce is extending the time limit for the final results of the third administrative review of the countervailing duty order on certain industrial phosphoric acid from Israel, covering the period January 1, 1995 through December 31, 1995. This extension is made pursuant to section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended by the Uruguay Round Agreements Act.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 9, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Christopher Cassel or Lorenza Olivas, Office of CVD/AD Enforcement VI, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20230; telephone: (202) 482-2786.

Postponement.

Under the Act, the Department of Commerce (the Department) may extend the deadline for completion of an administrative review if it determines that it is not practicable to complete the review within the statutory time limit of 365 days. The Department finds that it is not practicable to complete the calendar year 1995 administrative review of industrial phosphoric acid from Israel within this time limit.

In accordance with section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended by the Uruguay Round Agreements Act, the Department will extend the time for completion of the final results of this review from January 8, 1998 to no later than March 9, 1998.

Dated: December 19, 1997.

Richard W. Moreland,

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for AD/CVD Enforcement, Group II.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[Docket No. 980105002-8002-01]

RIN 0625-ZA06

[CFDA No.: 11.115]

Cooperative Agreement Program for an American Business Center® in Russia

AGENCY: International Trade Administration, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The International Trade Administration (ITA) is soliciting competitive applications to establish and operate an American Business Center® (ABC®) in Samara, Russia for a three (3) year multi-year award period. ABC® Samara will encourage the export of U.S. goods and services and stimulate trade and investment in Russia. Funds to support the new ABC® award are not currently available. Any award resulting from this announcement is contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds.

ABC® Samara will provide, on a user fee basis, a broad range of business development and facilitation services to United States companies in Russia. Services provided by ABC® Samara will be designed to encourage more U.S. firms to explore opportunities for trade and investment in Russia and to help them conduct business there more effectively. The core services to be provided by the ABC® include: International telephone, fax, and data transmission; temporary office space; space for meetings, small seminars, and small product exhibitions or demonstrations; secretarial support (e.g., word processing, typing, message taking); translator/interpreters; photocopying; market research; counseling on local business conditions; and arranging appointments with Russian business contacts. The Center also will work closely with Russian businesses to help them become more attractive trading partners; identify and report obstacles to trade and investment; and serve as a link between financial institutions, U.S. companies, and Russian enterprises.

In addition to these core services, the ABC® will support U.S. Government activities under the Regional Investment Initiative (RII). This will include providing, at cost, support for the activities of the RII coordinator. Such support may include office space, computers, telecommunications equipment and secretarial and translation services.

DATES: ITA will accept only those applications which are received at the U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 1235, HCHB, no later than 3:00 pm E.S.T. February 9, 1998. Late applications will not be accepted and will not be considered. On January 9, 1998 competitive application kits are available from the Department of Commerce.

ADDRESSES: To obtain a copy of the application kit, please send a written request with a self-addressed mail label to: Russia-NIS Program Office, U.S. & Foreign Commercial Service, Room 1235, HCHB, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, D.C. 20230. Requests for application kits also may be faxed to 202-482-2456. Only one application kit will be provided to each organization requesting it, but the kit may be reproduced by the requester. All forms necessary to submit an application will be included in the application kit. Completed applications should be returned to the same address. Applicants must submit a signed original and two copies of the application and supporting materials. It is anticipated that it will take ten weeks after the deadline for receipt of applications to process applications and make an award.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Applicants wishing further information should contact Ms. E. Vivian Spathopoulos, Deputy Director, Russia-NIS Program Office, U.S. & Foreign Commercial Service, U.S. Department of Commerce, room 1235, HCHB, Washington, D.C. 20230, telephone: (202) 482-2902, or Fax: (202) 482-2456.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Program Authority**

The American Business Center® program is authorized by Title III of the "Freedom for Russia and Emerging Eurasian Democracies and Open Markets Support Act of 1992" or the "FREEDOM Support Act", Public Law 102-511. Funding for the program is provided by the Agency for International Development under Section 632(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended.

Eligible Applicants

United States for-profit firms, non-profit organizations, non-Federal government agencies, industry and trade associations, and educational institutions are eligible to apply. An enterprise which includes or intends to include participation of host country citizens or entities will be considered an eligible applicant only so long as the

applicant is and will remain, throughout the award period, controlled and managed by citizens and/or entities of the United States in all matters.

Funding Guidelines

Since it is anticipated that ITA will be involved in the implementation of the project for which an award is made, the funding instrument for the program will be a cooperative agreement. Examples of ITA involvement include but are not limited to the following: supplemental marketing to promote the ABC®, guidance on eligibility of ABC® clients, and coordination with other U.S. government assistance programs.

ITA anticipates \$800,000 will be available for a three (3)-year cooperative agreement award during FY 1998. Funds for the cooperative agreement will be dispersed incrementally over the period of time required to complete the scope of work, but not to exceed three years from the date of the award. Applicants will be requested to submit a work-plan and budget which covers a three (3)-year period for a total amount of not more than \$800,000 in Federal funds. Applicants must supply at least twenty-percent (20%) of total project costs, with the Federal portion of total project costs to be no more than eighty-percent (80%). A minimum of one-half (1/2) of the support supplied by the applicant must be in the form of cash. The remaining portion of the applicant's support may consist of cash or in-kind contributions (goods and services contributed by a third-party). Publication of this notice does not constitute an obligation by the Department of Commerce to enter into a cooperative agreement with any responding applicant.

Evaluation Criteria

Consideration for financial assistance under the program will be based on the following evaluation criteria:

- (1) *Quality of Work Plan:* core commercial activities, marketing strategy, management/staffing, cooperation with ITA and outreach programs to Russian firms;
- (2) *Qualifications of Applicant:* financial history, personnel's experience in region and in delivering commercial products/services;
- (3) *Market Knowledge of Locations:* applicant's demonstrated familiarity with the market conditions in the proposed city and/or region;
- (4) *Project Timetable:* ability of applicant to complete major stages in the scope of work quickly, particularly bringing an ABC® into the fully-operational stage;

(5) *U.S. Small Business Utility:* accessibility of services to small firms and reasonableness of fees;

(6) *Cost-Effectiveness:* reasonableness, allowability and allocability of costs.

For purpose of evaluation of the applications, the above criteria will be weighted as follows: Criterion (1) will be worth a maximum of 30 (thirty) percent; criterion (2) will be worth a maximum of 30 (thirty) percent; criterion (3) will be worth a maximum of 20 (twenty) percent; criterion (4) will be worth a maximum of 10 (ten) percent; criterion (5) and (6) will be worth a maximum of 5 (five) percent each.

Selection Procedure

Each application will be evaluated by a panel of at least three independent reviewers qualified to evaluate applications submitted under the program. Applications will be evaluated on a competitive basis in accordance with the evaluation criteria set forth above. This announcement is for applicants to establish and operate an ABC in Samara. An award will be based on highest total accumulated score.

Notifications

All applicants are advised of the following:

- (1) Unsatisfactory performance under prior Federal awards may result in an application not being considered for funding.
- (2) If applicants incur any cost prior to an award being made, they do so solely at their own risk of not being reimbursed by the Federal Government. Notwithstanding any verbal assurance that they may receive, there is no obligation on the part of the Department of Commerce to cover pre-award costs.
- (3) If an application is selected for funding, the Department of Commerce has no obligation to provide any additional future funding in connection with the award. Renewal of an award to increase funding or extend the period of performance is at the total discretion of the Department of Commerce.
- (4) No award of Federal funds shall be made to an applicant who has an outstanding debt until either:
 - a. The delinquent account is paid in full;
 - b. A negotiated repayment schedule is established and at least one payment is received; or
 - c. Other arrangements satisfactory to the Department of Commerce are made.
- (5) All primary applicants must submit a completed Form CD-511, "Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension and other Responsibility Matters; Drug-Free Workplace

Requirements and Lobbying".

Prospective participants (as defined at 15 CFR part 26, section 105) are subject to 15 CFR part 26, "Nonprocurement Debarment and Suspension" and the related section of the certification form prescribed above applies. Grantees (as defined at 15 CFR part 26, section 605) are subject to 15 CFR part 26, subpart F "Government wide Requirement for Drug-Free Workplace (Grants)" and the related section of the certification form prescribed above applies. Persons (as defined at 15 CFR part 28, section 105) are subject to the lobbying provisions of 31 U.S.C. 1352, "Limitation on the use of appropriated funds to influence certain Federal contracting and financial transactions;" and the lobbying section of the certification form prescribed above applies to applications/bids for grants, cooperative agreements, and contracts for more than \$100,000 and loans and loan guarantees for more than \$150,000 or the single family maximum mortgage limit for affected programs, whichever is greater". Any applicant that has paid or will pay for lobbying using any funds must submit an SF-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities," as required under 15 CFR part 28. Appendix B.

(6) Recipients shall require applicants/bidders for subgrants, contracts, subcontracts, or other lower tier covered transactions at any tier under the award to submit, if applicable, a completed Form CD-512, "Certifications Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion-Lower Tier Covered Transaction and Lobbying" and disclosure form, SF-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities." Form CD-512 is intended for the use of recipients and should not be submitted by any tier recipient or sub-recipient should be submitted to the Department of Commerce in accordance with instructions contained in the award document.

(7) A false statement on an application is grounds for denial or termination of funds and grounds for possible punishment by a fine or imprisonment as provided in 18 U.S.C. 1001 and denial or termination of Federal funding.

(8) All recipients and sub-recipients are subject to all applicable Federal laws and Federal Department of Commerce policies, regulations, and procedures applicable to Federal assistance awards. For-profit organizations shall be subject to OMB Circular A-110 and 15 CFR 29a.

(9) All non-profit and for-profit applicants are subject to a name check review process. Name checks are intended to reveal if any key individuals

associated with the applicant have been convicted of or are presently facing criminal charges such as fraud, theft, perjury, or other matters which significantly reflect on the applicant's management honesty or financial integrity.

(10) Recipients are subject to the Fly America Act (49 USC sec. 1517 as implemented by 41 CFR sec. 301-3.6).

(11) Executive Order 12372 "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs" does not apply to this program.

(12) Paperwork Reduction Act does apply to this program. This document involves collections of information subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act, which have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget under OMB Control Numbers 0348-0043, 0348-0044, 0348-0040, 0348-0046, and 0605-0001. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person is required to respond to nor shall a person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act unless that collection of information displays a current valid OMB control number.

(13) The total dollar amount of the indirect costs proposed in an application under this program must not exceed the indirect cost rate negotiated and approved by a cognizant Federal agency prior to the proposed effective date of the award or 100 percent of the total proposed direct costs dollar amount in the application, whichever is less.

Dated: January 6, 1998.

E. Vivian Spathopoulos,

Deputy Director, US&FCS/Russia-NIS Program Office.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Environmental Protection Agency

Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program: Proposed Findings Document, Environmental Assessment, and Finding of No Significant Impact

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, and the Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Notice of availability of Proposed Findings Document, Environmental Assessment, and Finding

of No Significant Impact on Approval of Coastal Nonprofit Pollution Control Programs for California.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of the availability of the Proposed Findings Document, Environmental Assessment (EA), and Finding of No Significant Impact for California. Coastal states and territories were required to submit their coastal nonprofit programs to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for approval in July 1995. The Findings document was prepared by NOAA and EPA to provide the rationale for the agencies' decision to approve the state coastal nonprofit pollution control program. Section 6217 of the Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments (CZARA), 16 U.S.C. 1455b, requires states and territories with coastal zone management programs that have received approval under section 306 of the Coastal Zone Management Act to develop and implement coastal nonpoint pollution control programs. The EA was prepared by NOAA, pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), 42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*, to assess the environmental impacts associated with the approval of the coastal nonpoint pollution control program submitted to NOAA and EPA by California.

NOAA and EPA have proposed to approve, with conditions, the coastal nonpoint pollution control program submitted by California. The requirements of 40 CFR Parts 1500-1508 (Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations to implement the National Environmental Policy Act) apply to the preparation of the Environmental Assessment. Specifically, 40 CFR section 1506.6 requires agencies to provide public notice of the availability of environmental documents. This notice is part of NOAA's action to comply with this requirement.

Introduction

Nonpoint source pollution, pollution caused by a wide range of activities including agriculture, mining, urban development and forestry, is a major cause of water quality impairment nationally and in California. To address these problems, the State of California, along with various federal and local agencies, private non-profit groups and landowners are involved in many efforts to reduce and prevent nonpoint source pollution. California's CZARA submittal, an important part of these efforts, is a good start to describing a program to address the challenging and

critical problems associated with nonpoint source pollution. However, the proposed findings for the California submittal conclude that the program as currently submitted to EPA and NOAA is not adequate to protect California's water quality. In particular, EPA and NOAA are asking the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and the California Coastal Commission (CCC) to more fully identify the activities that will be undertaken to ensure widespread implementation of management measures for the major nonpoint sources in the State, while providing for evaluation, feedback, public review and program adjustments as necessary. California has agreed to expand upon the California submittal documents prepared to date to more adequately address the requirements of CZARA and advance the success of the nonpoint source program.

Background: Description of California's Nonpoint Source Program

The SWRCB and the nine Regional Water Quality Control Boards (RWQCBs) have primary responsibility in California for the protection of water quality. As such, in 1988 the SWRCB adopted the California Nonpoint Source (NPS) Management Plan that outlined a 3-tiered approach for addressing polluted runoff: (1) Voluntary implementation of Best Management Practices (BMPs), (2) regulatory-based encouragement of BMPs, and (3) effluent limitations. In addition to the SWRCB and the RWQCBs, California's program recognizes that other federal, state, local and private entities have key responsibilities for addressing the problems caused by nonpoint sources, such as the Board of Forestry, Department of Pesticides, California Department of Transportation, Natural Resource Conservation Service, and local governments. Preparation of the State's NPS Management Plan was in response to Clean Water Act Section 319, enacted by Congress in 1987. CWA Section 319 required states to develop an assessment report detailing the extent of nonpoint source pollution and a management program specifying nonpoint source controls, in order to be eligible for federal funding. As a result, California received an annual federal funding allocation in 1997 of \$5.3 million to carry out its nonpoint source program.

California's Response to Section 6217 of CZARA

CZARA requirements resulted in the expansion of the partnership for addressing nonpoint source pollution to include the California Coastal