



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Washington, D.C. 20240

October 3, 1997

Department of the Interior Acquisition Policy Release (DIAPR) 98-1

Subject: **FEDERAL ACQUISITION REGULATION (FAR) PART 15**

1. **Purpose:** The purpose of this DIAPR is to provide implementation instructions for Federal Acquisition Circular (FAC) 97-2, regarding the revision of FAR Part 15, Contracting by Negotiation.

2. **Effective Date:** October 10, 1997

3. **Expiration Date:** This guidance will remain in effect until January 1, 1998.

4. **Background and Explanation of Changes:**

FAC 97-2 permits agencies to delay implementation of the new FAR Part 15 until January 1, 1998. The Department of the Interior has determined that it will take advantage of this grace period in order to permit sufficient time for contracting officers to be trained in the new procedures. Therefore, all solicitations issued between October 10, 1997, and January 1, 1998, will be subject to FAR Part 15, and the related provisions and clauses, as they stood before FAC 97-2 was issued.

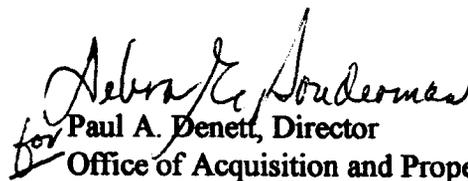
Bureau Procurement Chiefs (BPCs) are authorized, on a case-by-case basis, to permit contracting officers to use the new procedures prior to January 1, 1998, provided that:

- a. appropriate training (such as the Federal Acquisition Institute class or equivalent) has been completed; and
- b. the permission is granted in writing, with a copy furnished to the Office of Acquisition and Property Management.

Negotiation procedures shall be chosen on an "all or none" basis. That is, either the old procedures and clauses or the new procedures and clauses will be used in their entirety. Using a combination of new and old procedures and/or clauses is not permitted.

5. **Action Required:**

Do not file or use the procedures, provisions or clauses contained in FAC 97-2 until January 1, 1998, unless otherwise authorized by the BPCs. Retain the looseleaf pages for filing and use after January 1, 1998.


for Paul A. Denett, Director
Office of Acquisition and Property Management