United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, DC 20240

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Department of the Interior Acquisition Policy Release (DIAPR) 2013-03

Subject: **Class Deviation from the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 13.5, Test Program for Certain Commercial Items**

References: Memorandum for Civilian Agencies Other than NASA, Class Deviation from the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 13.5, Test Program for Certain Commercial Items, dated January 14, 2013

1. Purpose:

This DIAPR issues a class deviation from FAR 13.5, changing the date of expiration for the Test Program in FAR 13.500(d) to January 1, 2015.

2. Effective Date: Upon signature.

3. Expiration Date: This DIAPR will remain in effect until the change is made in the FAR.

4. Background and Explanation:

The Test Program for Certain Commercial Items, which authorizes use of simplified procedures for the acquisition of commercial item supplies and services in amounts greater than the simplified acquisition threshold but not exceeding $6.5 million ($12 million for acquisitions described in FAR 13.500(e); i.e., acquisitions for commercial items that are to be used in support of a contingency operation or to facilitate the defense against or recovery from nuclear, biological, chemical, or radiological attack), had expired on January 1, 2012. Section 822 of the National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2013, Public Law 112-239, extended the authority for the Test Program until January 1, 2015. An expedited FAR case has been initiated and is being processed to change the date of expiration for the program. A class deviation is being issued to change the Test Program expiration date in FAR 13.500(d) to January 1, 2015, while the regulatory process makes a change to the FAR to comply with the Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2013.

5. Action Required:

In accordance with FAR 1.404, I hereby authorize a class deviation from FAR 13.5, Test Program for Certain Commercial Items, to change the expiration date in FAR 13.500(d) to January 1, 2015. Bureaus must ensure all contracting activities are notified about the extension of the Test Program through January 1, 2015, which provides contracting officers the flexibility to use simplified acquisition procedures authorized by the Test Program and achieve greater savings.

Please disseminate this DIAPR within your bureau. It will also be available on the web at http://www.doi.gov/pam/diapr.html. Questions may be directed to Scott Curit, Senior Procurement Analyst, at 202-513-0719 or Scott_Curit@ios.doi.gov.

Debra E. Sonderman

Debra E. Sonderman, Director
Office of Acquisition and Property Management