Memorandum

To: Assistant Secretaries
   Bureau Heads

From: Scott J. Cameron
   Acting Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget

Subject: “Designated UAS” under Secretary’s Order 3379

This memorandum provides implementation guidance on the definition of “Designated UAS” as it is used in Secretary’s Order (SO) 3379.

The term “Designated UAS” means any UAS that:

   (i) is manufactured in whole or in part by a covered foreign entity;
   (ii) uses printed circuit boards, flight controller modules, sensors, radios, cameras, or gimbals manufactured in whole or in part by a covered foreign entity; or
   (iii) contains hardware and software necessary for collecting, storing, and transmitting photographs, videos, location information, flight paths, or any other data collected by the drones that is traceable in whole or in part to a covered foreign entity.

The term "covered foreign entity" means any foreign country that is engaged in conduct determined to pose a national security risk to the United States or its allies, any political party, subsidiary, or affiliate of such a foreign country, or any corporation, subsidiary of a corporation, or other entity that is subject to influence or control from the government of such a foreign country. In addition to the above, “Covered foreign entity” also includes the People’s Republic of China (PRC), any political party, subsidiary, or affiliate of the PRC, and any corporation, subsidiary of a corporation, or other entity that is subject to influence or control from the PRC. Entities identified as a “covered foreign entity” may be expanded, in consultation with relevant federal agencies as appropriate, and identified in updated guidance.

Additionally, SO 3379 limits Department funds from being expended for Designated UAS. This includes the use of funds for the procurement, repair, or service of Designated UAS by employees, contractors, or other recipients of federal funds for the furtherance of the Department’s mission, subject to existing agreements with non-DOI entities that have already been executed.

Please contact Lisa Branum, the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public Safety, Resource Protection and Emergency Services, at Lisa_Branum@ios.doi.gov or 202-208-5673 if you have any questions regarding this memorandum.

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