BIS is also seeking comments on potential cost savings to private entities from shifting control of specific commercial items from USML to the CCL. To the extent possible, please quantify the cost of compliance with USML control of commercial items, to include the time saved, the reduction in paperwork, and any other cost savings for a particular change.

Richard E. Ashooh,
Assistant Secretary for Export Administration.

[FR Doc. 2016–02496 Filed 2–9–18; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3510–33–P

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
22 CFR Part 121

[Public Notice 9980; Docket Number DOS–2017–0017]

RIN 1400–AE46

Notice of Inquiry; Request for Comments Regarding Review of United States Munitions List Categories V, X, and XI

AGENCY: Department of State.

ACTION: Notice of Inquiry; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of State requests comments from the public to inform its review of the controls implemented in recent revisions to Categories V, X, and XI of the United States Munitions List (USML). The Department periodically reviews USML categories to ensure that they are clear, do not inadvertently control items in normal commercial use, account for technological developments, and properly implement the national security and foreign policy objectives of the United States.

DATES: The Department will accept comments on the Notice of Inquiry up to April 13, 2018.

ADDRESSES: You may send comments, identified by docket number DOS–2017–0017, by any of the following methods:

• Email: DDTCPublicComments@state.gov. Include docket number DOS–2017 in the subject line with, “Request for Comments Regarding Review of USML Categories V, X and XI.”
• Internet: At www.regulations.gov. Follow the instructions for sending comments using docket number, DOS–2017–0017.

Comments submitted through www.regulations.gov will be visible to other members of the public; the Department will publish all comments on the Directorate of Defense Trade Controls website (www.pmddtc.state.gov). Therefore, commenters are cautioned not to include proprietary or other sensitive information in their comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Engda Wubneh, Office of Defense Trade Controls Policy, Department of State, telephone (202) 663–2816; email wubnehem@state.gov. ATTN: Request for Comments Regarding Review of USML Categories V, X and XI.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

List Review

On December 10, 2010, the Department provided notice to the public of its intent to revise the USML to create a “positive list” that describes controlled items using, to the extent possible, objective criteria rather than broad, open-ended, subjective, catch-all, or design intent-based criteria (see 75 FR 76935). This meant revising USML categories so that, with some exceptions, the descriptions of defense articles that continued to warrant control under the USML did not use catch-all phrases to control unspecified items. With limited exceptions, the defense articles that warranted control under the USML were those that provided the United States with a critical military or intelligence advantage. All other items were to become subject to the Export Administration Regulations. Since that time, the Department has published final rules setting forth revisions for 18 USML categories, each of which have been reorganized into a uniform and more positive list structure.

The advantage of revising the USML into a more positive list is that its controls can be tailored to satisfy the national security and foreign policy objectives of the U.S. government by maintaining control over those defense articles that provide a critical military or intelligence advantage, or otherwise warrant control under the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR), without inadvertently controlling items in normal commercial use. This approach, however, requires that the lists be regularly revised and updated to account for technological developments, practical application issues identified by exporters and reexporters, and changes in the military and commercial applications of items affected by the list.

This Notice of Inquiry is the third in a series of solicitations requesting feedback on revised USML categories. Previous Notices of Inquiry requested comments on Categories VIII and XIX (see 80 FR 11314) and Categories VI, VII, XIII, and XX (see 80 FR 61138). As indicated above, the subjects of this Notice of Inquiry are Categories V and X, which was most recently revised on January 2, 2014 (see 79 FR 34), and Category XI, which was most recently revised on July 1, 2014 (see 79 FR 37536). Additionally, the Department determined that it is in the interest of the security of the United States to temporarily revise USML Category XI paragraph (b), pursuant to the provisions of 22 CFR 126.2, while a long-term solution is developed. A recent final rule extends the July 2, 2015 modification (80 FR 78130) to August 30, 2018 to allow the U.S. government to review USML Category XI in full and publish proposed and final rules. As with previous inquiries, the Department seeks comment from the public on the condition and efficacy of these categories.

Request for Comments

The Department requests public comment on USML Categories V, X and XI. General comments on other aspects of the ITAR, to include other categories of the USML, are outside of the scope of this inquiry. In order to contribute effectively to the USML review process, all commenters are encouraged to provide comments that are responsive specifically to the prompts set forth below. The Department requests comment on the following topics, as they relate to Categories V, X and XI:

1. Emerging and new technologies that are appropriately controlled by one of the referenced categories, but which are not currently described in subject categories or not described with sufficient clarity.

2. Defense articles that are described in subject categories, but which have entered into normal commercial use since the most recent revisions to the category at issue. For such comments, be sure to include documentation to support claims that defense articles have entered into normal commercial use.

3. Defense articles for which commercial use is proposed, intended, or anticipated in the next 5 years.

4. Drafting or other technical issues in the text of all of the referenced categories.

5. Comments regarding USML Category XI paragraph (b) modification.

6. Potential cost savings to private entities from shifting control of specific commercial items from USML to the Export Administration Regulations. To the extent possible, please quantify the cost of compliance with USML control
of commercial items, to include the time saved, the reduction in paperwork, and any other cost savings for a particular change.

The Department will review all comments from the public. If a rulemaking is warranted based on the comments received, the Department will respond to comments received in a proposed rulemaking in the Federal Register.


[FR Doc. 2018–02495 Filed 2–9–18; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4710–25–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 55

[http://www.epa.gov/dockets/commenting-epa-dockets/Publicly available docket materials are available at http://www.regulations.gov or at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, EPA New England Regional Office, Office of Ecosystem Protection, Air Permitting, Toxics, and Indoor Programs Unit, 5 Post Office Square—Suite 100, Boston, MA. EPA requests that if at all possible, you contact the contact listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section to schedule your inspection. The Regional Office’s official hours of business are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., excluding legal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Eric Wortman, Office of Ecosystem Protection, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, EPA New England Regional Office, 5 Post Office Square (Mail Code OEP05–2), Boston, MA 02109, (617) 918–1624, wortman.eric@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Throughout this document whenever “we,” “us,” or “our” is used, we mean EPA.

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I. Background and Purpose

On September 4, 1992, the EPA promulgated 40 CFR part 55,1 which established requirements to control air pollution from OCS sources in order to attain and maintain federal and state ambient air quality standards and to comply with the provisions of part C of title I of the CAA. The regulations at 40 CFR part 55 apply to all OCS sources offshore of the states except those located in the Gulf of Mexico west of 87.5 degrees longitude. Section 328 of the CAA requires that for such sources located within 25 miles of a state’s seaward boundary, the requirements shall be the same as would be applicable if the sources were located in the COA. Because the OCS requirements are based on onshore requirements, and onshore requirements may change, section 328(a)(1) requires that the EPA update the OCS requirements as necessary to maintain consistency with onshore requirements.

Pursuant to 40 CFR 55.12, consistency reviews will occur (1) at least annually; (2) upon receipt of a Notice of Intent (NOI) under 40 CFR 55.4; or (3) when a state or local agency submits a rule to the EPA to be considered for incorporation by reference in 40 CFR part 55. This proposed action is being taken in response to the submittal of a NOI on December 11, 2017 by Vineyard Wind, LLC. Public comments received in writing within 30 days of publication of this document will be considered by the EPA before publishing a final rule.

Section 328(a) of the CAA requires that the EPA establish requirements to control air pollution from OCS sources located within 25 miles of States’ seaward boundaries that are the same as onshore requirements. To comply with this statutory mandate, the EPA must incorporate applicable onshore rules into 40 CFR part 55 as they exist onshore. This limits the EPA’s flexibility in deciding which requirements will be incorporated into 40 CFR part 55 and prevents the EPA from making substantive changes to the requirements it incorporates. As a result, the EPA may be incorporating rules into 40 CFR part 55 that do not conform to all of the EPA’s state implementation plan (SIP) guidance or certain requirements of the CAA. Consistency updates may result in the inclusion of state or local rules or regulations into 40 CFR part 55, even

1 The reader may refer to the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, December 5, 1991 (56 FR 63774), and the preamble to the final rule promulgated September 4, 1992 (57 FR 40792) for further background and information on the OCS regulations.