

incidence of disputes and increasing the likelihood that disputes that do arise may be resolved efficiently, effectively, and expeditiously. Techniques used in the process include, but are not limited to, structured unassisted negotiation (e.g., use of interest-based negotiation techniques), joint or collaborative problem-solving, coaching, and the design of an integrated conflict management system.

§ 83.4 Policy.

It is DoD policy that:

(a) The Department of Defense shall foster and advance collaboration and coordination among the DoD Components on the use of ADR and conflict management practices.

(b) Each DoD Component shall establish and implement ADR program(s) to resolve disputes at the earliest possible stage of the dispute and at the lowest possible organizational level. Any dispute, regardless of subject matter, is a potential candidate for ADR.

(c) DoD personnel are encouraged to identify and address underlying conflict in order to prevent and avoid disputes.

(d) All personally identifiable information (PII) collected during the course of the ADR process shall be maintained and protected in accordance with title 32, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part 310.

§ 83.5 Responsibilities.

(a) The General Counsel, Department of Defense (GC, DoD) shall develop policy and provide guidance on the administration of ADR.

(b) The DGC(LC), under the authority, direction, and control of the GC, DoD, shall:

(1) Monitor the implementation of policies and procedures pertaining to the use of ADR and conflict management practices within the Department of Defense.

(2) Establish a data collection and reporting system to evaluate the use of ADR and conflict management practices, as determined necessary, within the Department of Defense.

(3) Provide reports, as determined necessary, to the Secretary of Defense on the use of ADR within the Department of Defense.

(4) Chair the ADR Coordinating Committee.

(5) Ensure that the ADR Coordinating Committee:

(i) Shares information among the DoD Components on ADR and conflict management policies and practices.

(ii) Collaborates, as needed, in the design and implementation of ADR and conflict management practices.

(iii) Collaborates with other programs in the Department of Defense (e.g.,

Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO)) as needed to integrate ADR and conflict management into the normal business practices of the Department of Defense.

(iv) Establishes DoD-wide working groups and takes other steps to coordinate and facilitate ADR and conflict management practices within the Department of Defense.

(6) Ensure that the Associate Director, Center for Alternative Dispute Resolution, Defense Office of Hearings and Appeals:

(i) Provides support to the DGC(LC) in fulfilling the duties under this part.

(ii) Provides facilitation, administrative, and substantive support for the activities of the ADR Coordinating Committee.

(iii) Represents the Department of Defense as a member of the Interagency ADR Working Group Steering Committee.

(iv) Upon request of a DoD Component, provides consulting, education, and referral services for the design, implementation, training, and evaluation of ADR and conflict management practices.

(v) Upon request of a DoD Component, designates and makes available third-party neutrals qualified to conduct ADR and conflict management processes specified by the DGC(LC).

(c) The Director, Washington Headquarters Services (WHS), under the authority, direction, and control of the Director of Administration and Management, shall offer ADR services to WHS serviced customers in accordance with Administrative Instruction 106 (*see <http://www.dtic.mil/whs/directives/corres/pdf/a106p.pdf>*).

(d) The Heads of DoD Components shall:

(1) Appoint a dispute resolution specialist as the term is used in title 5 U.S.C. 571–584 and inform the Associate Director, Center for Alternative Dispute Resolution, of the appointment.

(2) Establish, implement, and operate programs to expand the use of ADR and conflict management practices that are appropriate to their Component and in accordance with public law and DoD policy.

(3) Review and revise, where appropriate, existing ADR and conflict management practices to promote increased awareness and use of ADR and conflict management consistent with DoD policy.

(4) Consistent with accomplishing their assigned missions, actively promote the use of ADR and conflict management practices.

(5) Identify and eliminate barriers to the use of ADR and conflict management practices.

(6) Provide copies of Component ADR policies and implementing procedures to the Associate Director, Center for Alternative Dispute Resolution.

(7) Provide representatives and information to the ADR Coordinating Committee and working groups, as requested.

(8) Provide training to employees involved in implementing and maintaining the Component's ADR policy and program.

(9) Collaborate with other DoD Components and other offices (e.g., Equal Employment Office) as appropriate when designing and implementing ADR and conflict management policies and procedures.

(10) Establish a data collection system to monitor ADR and conflict management practices as determined necessary and in compliance with the information requirement in § 83.6 of this part.

(11) Link the Component's ADR Web site, if one is established, to the ADR Web sites of other DoD Components as well as to the Interagency ADR Working Group Steering Committee Web site at <http://www.adr.gov>.

(12) Use existing Government resources, to the extent possible, to avoid unnecessary expenditure of time and money when designing and implementing dispute resolution and conflict management programs.

(13) Provide sufficient resources, including dedicated personnel resources, as necessary, to fulfill the responsibilities listed in this part.

(14) Ensure the collection, use, and release of PII complies with title 5 U.S.C. 552a as implemented by title 32 CFR part 310.

Dated: March 2, 2011.

Patricia L. Toppings,
OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer,
Department of Defense.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

32 CFR Part 223

[Docket ID: DOD–2010–OS–0108]

RIN 0790–AI64

DoD Unclassified Controlled Nuclear Information (UCNI)

AGENCY: Department of Defense

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: This rule updates policies and responsibilities for controlling Department of Defense (DoD) Unclassified Controlled Nuclear Information (UCNI) in accordance with the provisions of current U.S. Code. This revision streamlines and reflects current practices within the Department of Defense.

DATES: Comments must be received by June 24, 2011.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by docket number and or RIN number and title, by any of the following methods:

- *Federal Rulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

- *Mail:* Federal Docket Management System Office, 1160 Defense Pentagon, OSD Mailroom 3C843, Washington, DC 20301-1160.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the agency name and docket number or Regulatory Information Number (RIN) for this **Federal Register** document. The general policy for comments and other submissions from members of the public is to make these submissions available for public viewing on the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov> as they are received without change, including any personal identifiers or contact information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Linda B. Jones, (757) 229-3866.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Executive Order 12866, "Regulatory Planning and Review" and Executive Order 13563, "Improving Regulation and Regulatory Review"

It has been certified that 32 CFR part 223 does not:

(1) Have an annual effect on the economy of \$100 million or more or adversely affect in a material way the economy; a section of the economy; productivity; competition; jobs; the environment; public health or safety; or State, local, or tribal governments or communities;

(2) Create a serious inconsistency or otherwise interfere with an action taken or planned by another Agency;

(3) Materially alter the budgetary impact of entitlements, grants, user fees, or loan programs, or the rights and obligations of recipients thereof; or

(4) Raise novel legal or policy issues arising out of legal mandates, the President's priorities, or the principles set forth in these Executive Orders.

Section 202, Public Law 104-4, "Unfunded Mandates Reform Act"

It has been certified that 32 CFR part 223 does not contain a Federal mandate that may result in the expenditure by State, local and tribal governments, in aggregate, or by the private sector, of \$100 million or more in any one year.

Public Law 96-354, "Regulatory Flexibility Act" (5 U.S.C. 601)

It has been certified that 32 CFR part 223 is not subject to the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601) because it would not, if promulgated, have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

Public Law 96-511, "Paperwork Reduction Act" (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35)

It has been certified that 32 CFR part 223 does not impose reporting or recordkeeping requirements under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

Executive Order 13132, "Federalism"

It has been certified that 32 CFR part 223 does not have federalism implications, as set forth in Executive Order 13132. This rule does not have substantial direct effects on:

- (1) The States;
- (2) The relationship between the National Government and the States; or
- (3) The distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of Government.

List of Subjects in 32 CFR Part 223

National defense, Nuclear energy, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Security measures.

Accordingly, 32 CFR part 223 is proposed to be revised as follows.

PART 223—DOD UNCLASSIFIED CONTROLLED NUCLEAR INFORMATION (UCNI)

Sec.

223.1 Purpose.

223.2 Applicability.

223.3 Definitions.

223.4 Policy.

223.5 Responsibilities.

223.6 Procedures-identifying and controlling DoD UCNI.

223.7 Procedures-determination of DoD UCNI.

Authority: 10 U.S.C. 128 and 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(3).

§ 223.1 Purpose.

This part:

(a) Assigns responsibilities and prescribes procedures for the implementation of policy in title 10, United States Code (U.S.C.) 128, which is the statutory basis for controlling unclassified information on the physical

protection of DoD special nuclear material (SNM), SNM equipment, and SNM facilities. Such information is referred to as DoD UCNI, to distinguish it from a similar Department of Energy (DOE) program.

(b) Identifies the authority to be used for denying disclosure of DoD UCNI under title 5 U.S.C. 552.

(c) Supplements security classification guidance contained in DoD Instruction 5210.67,¹ DOE classification guide CG-SS-4² and DoD/DOE joint classification guides by establishing procedures for identifying, controlling, and limiting the dissemination of unclassified information on the physical protection of DoD SNM.

§ 223.2 Applicability.

This part applies to:

(a) Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Military Departments, the Office of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Joint Staff, the Combatant Commands, the Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Defense, the Defense Agencies, the DoD Field Activities, and all other organizational entities within the Department of Defense (hereafter referred to collectively as the "DoD Components").

(b) All SNM, regardless of form, whether in reactor cores or other items (including nuclear weapons) under the direct control of the DoD Components.

(c) Nuclear weapons containing SNM that are in DoD custody (hereafter referred to as "nuclear weapons in DoD custody").

(d) Contractors, consultants, and grantees of the Department of Defense.

§ 223.3 Definitions.

These terms and their definitions are for the purposes of this part:

(a) *Atomic Energy Defense Programs.* Activities, equipment, and facilities of the Department of Defense that are capable of the following:

(1) Development, production, testing, sampling, maintenance, repair, modification, assembly, utilization, transportation, or retirement of nuclear weapons or nuclear weapon components.

(2) Production, utilization, or transportation of DoD SNM for military applications.

(3) Safeguarding of activities, equipment, or facilities that support the functions in paragraphs (a)(1) and (a)(2) of this section, including the protection

¹ Copies available on the Internet at <http://www.dtic.mil/whs/directives/cores/pdf/521067p.pdf>.

² Copies available to authorized recipients from the Director of Classification, Department of Energy.

of nuclear weapons, nuclear weapon components, or DoD SNM for military applications at a fixed facility or in transit.

(b) *Document or material.* The physical medium on or in which information is recorded, or a product or substance that contains or reveals information, regardless of its physical form or characteristics.

(c) *DoD UCNI.* Unclassified information on the physical protection of DoD special nuclear material, equipment, and facilities.

(d) *Information.* Any fact or concept, regardless of the physical form or characteristics of the medium on or in which it is recorded, contained, or revealed.

(e) *Reviewing official.* An individual appointed by the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Nuclear, Chemical and Biological Defense Programs who may make a determination that a document or material contains, does not contain, or no longer contains DoD UCNI.

(f) *Safeguards.* An integrated system of physical protection, material accounting, and material control measures designed to deter, prevent, detect, and respond to unauthorized possession, use, or sabotage of DoD SNM, SNM equipment or SNM facilities.

(g) *SNM.* Defined in 42 U.S.C. 2014.

(h) *SNM equipment.* Equipment, systems, or components whose failure or destruction would cause an impact on safeguarding DoD SNM resulting in an unacceptable interruption to a national security program or an unacceptable impact on the health and safety of the public.

(i) *SNM facility.* A DoD facility that performs a function in support of Atomic Energy Defense Programs whose disruption could reasonably be expected to have a significant adverse effect on safeguarding DoD SNM, the health and safety of the public or the common defense and security.

(j) *Unauthorized dissemination.* The intentional or negligent transfer, in any manner and by any person, of information contained in a document or material determined by a reviewing official to contain DoD UCNI, and so marked in accordance with the procedures in § 223.6 of this part, to any person or entity other than an individual or entity authorized access to DoD UCNI in accordance with title 10 U.S.C. 128 and this part.

§ 223.4 Policy.

It is DoD policy that:

(a) Unauthorized dissemination of unclassified information pertaining to security measures, including security

plans, procedures, and equipment, for the physical protection of DoD SNM, equipment, or facilities is prohibited.

(b) Unclassified information shall be protected as DoD UCNI based on a determination that the unauthorized dissemination of such information could reasonably be expected to have a significant adverse effect on the health and safety of the public or the common defense and security by significantly increasing the likelihood of the illegal production of nuclear weapons or the theft, diversion, or sabotage of DoD SNM, SNM equipment, or SNM facilities.

(c) Information regarding physical protection of DoD SNM shall be made publicly available to the fullest extent possible by applying the minimum restrictions, consistent with the requirements of title 10 U.S.C. 128, necessary to protect the health and safety of the public or the common defense and security.

(d) This part and part 1017 of title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations shall be used as guidance for handling DOE UCNI that is under DoD control.

(e) This part does not prevent a determination that information previously determined to be DoD UCNI is classified information in accordance with DoD 5200.1-R³ and other applicable standards of classification.

§ 223.5 Responsibilities.

(a) The Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence (USD(I)) shall oversee the DoD program for controlling DoD UCNI and coordinate DoD compliance with the DOE program for controlling DOE UCNI.

(b) The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Nuclear, Chemical and Biological Defense Programs (ASD(NCB)), under the authority, direction, and control of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics, shall:

(1) Identify information regarding nuclear weapons security and the protection of SNM at DoD nuclear reactor facilities as DoD UCNI and protect it from unauthorized dissemination, consistent with the requirements of title 10 U.S.C. 128 and this part.

(2) Advise the USD(I) on implementation of the DoD UCNI program.

(3) Designate a DoD UCNI reviewing official, who shall be authorized to determine that materials or documents contain, do not contain, or no longer contain DoD UCNI.

(c) The Director, Administration and Management shall provide guidance, as needed, to the Heads of the DoD Components regarding title 5 U.S.C. 552, as implemented by title 32, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 286, as it applies to the DoD UCNI program.

(d) The Heads of the DoD Components shall identify DoD UCNI within their Component and protect it from unauthorized dissemination, consistent with the requirements of title 10 U.S.C. 128 and this part.

§ 223.6 Procedures—identifying and controlling DoD UCNI.

(a) *General.* (1) The decision to protect unclassified information as DoD UCNI shall be based on a determination that the unauthorized dissemination of such information could reasonably be expected to have an adverse effect on the health and safety of the public or the common defense and security by increasing significantly the likelihood of the illegal production of nuclear weapons or the theft, diversion, or sabotage of DoD SNM, SNM equipment, SNM facilities or nuclear weapons in DoD custody. This is called the “adverse effects test.”

(2) DoD UCNI shall be identified, controlled, marked, transmitted, and safeguarded in the DoD Components and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), and among DoD contractors, consultants, and grantees. Within NATO, DoD UCNI shall be marked, controlled, and safeguarded as “NATO RESTRICTED” information.

(3) Contracts requiring access to or the preparation of unclassified information that is or could be DoD UCNI shall require compliance with this part and any applicable DoD Component regulations, and shall specify requirements for identifying, marking, handling and safeguarding DoD UCNI.

(b) *Identifying DoD UCNI.* (1) To be designated and protected as DoD UCNI, information must:

(i) Be unclassified.

(ii) Pertain to security measures, including plans, procedures, and equipment, for the physical protection of DoD SNM, SNM equipment, SNM facilities, or nuclear weapons in DoD custody.

(iii) Meet the adverse effects test.

(2) Information about DoD SNM shall be protected as DoD UCNI if it falls within one or more of the categories listed in § 223.7(c) and meets the criteria in paragraph (b)(1) of this section.

(3) DoD personnel, in making a determination to protect unclassified information as DoD UCNI, shall consider the probability of illegal production of nuclear weapons or of

³ Available on the Internet at <http://www.dtic.mil/whs/directives/cores/pdf/520001r.pdf>.

theft, diversion, or sabotage of DoD SNM, SNM equipment, SNM facilities, or nuclear weapons in DoD custody if the information proposed for protection were made available for public disclosure and dissemination. The cognizant official shall consider how the unauthorized disclosure or dissemination of such information could assist a potential adversary in:

(i) Selecting a target for an act of theft, diversion, or sabotage of nuclear weapons in DoD custody, DoD SNM, SNM equipment, or SNM facilities (e.g., relative importance of a facility or the location, form, and quantity of DoD SNM). Information that can be obtained by observation from public areas outside controlled locations should not be considered as DoD UCNI.

(ii) Planning or committing an act of theft, diversion, or sabotage of nuclear weapons in DoD custody, DoD SNM, SNM equipment, or SNM facilities (e.g., design of security systems; building plans; methods and procedures for transfer, accountability, and handling of DoD SNM; or security plans, procedures, and capabilities).

(iii) Measuring the success of an act of theft, diversion, or sabotage of nuclear weapons in DoD custody, DoD SNM, SNM equipment, or SNM facilities (e.g., actual or hypothetical consequences of the sabotage of specific vital equipment or facilities).

(iv) Illegally producing a nuclear explosive device (e.g., unclassified nuclear weapon design information useful in designing a primitive nuclear device; location of unique DoD SNM needed to fabricate such a device; or location of a nuclear weapon).

(v) Dispersing DoD SNM in the environment (e.g., location, form, and quantity of DoD SNM).

(d) Where questions or disagreements arise on designation or continued protection of information as DoD UCNI, the reviewing official appointed by the ASD(NCB) shall make the final determination. If a determination cannot be made because applicable guidance is unclear or does not exist, the document or material in question shall be referred to the reviewing official for a determination.

(c) *Access to DoD UCNI.* (1) No explicit designation or security clearance is required for access to DoD UCNI; however, a person granted access to DoD UCNI must have a need to know the specific DoD UCNI to which access is granted in the performance of official duties or of DoD-authorized activities.

(2) The individual granting access to DoD UCNI shall notify each person granted such access of applicable regulations, including the physical

protection and access requirements, concerning the protection of DoD UCNI as well as any special dissemination limitations that apply to the specific DoD UCNI to which access is being granted, prior to dissemination of the DoD UCNI to the person.

(3) The requirement to notify persons granted access to DoD UCNI of applicable regulations concerning protection and dissemination of DoD UCNI may be met by attachment of an appropriate cover sheet to the front of each document or material containing DoD UCNI prior to its transmittal to the person granted access.

(d) *Marking DoD UCNI.* (1) An unclassified document with DoD UCNI shall be marked "DoD UNCLASSIFIED CONTROLLED NUCLEAR INFORMATION" at the bottom on the outside of the front cover, if any; on the outside of the back cover, if any; on the first page; and on each individual page containing DoD UCNI.

(2) Within an unclassified document, an individual page containing DoD UCNI shall be marked to show which of its portions contain DoD UCNI. In marking sections, parts, paragraphs, or similar portions, the parenthetical term "(DoD UCNI)" shall be used and placed at the beginning of the applicable portions.

(3) In a classified document, an individual page that has both DoD UCNI and classified information shall be marked at the top and bottom of the page with the highest security classification of information appearing on that page. In marking sections, parts, paragraphs, or similar portions, the parenthetical term "(DoD UCNI)" shall be used and placed at the beginning of those portions containing DoD UCNI. In a classified document, an individual page that has DoD UCNI, but no classified information, shall be marked "UNCLASSIFIED//DoD UNCLASSIFIED CONTROLLED NUCLEAR INFORMATION" at the top and bottom of the page, unless the page is marked with the overall classification of the document. The DoD UCNI marking may be combined with other markings, if all relevant statutory and regulatory citations are included. DoD 5200.1-R provides additional guidance on marking classified documents.

(4) Other material (e.g., electronic media, photographs, films, tapes, or slides) containing DoD UCNI shall be conspicuously marked "DOD UNCLASSIFIED CONTROLLED NUCLEAR INFORMATION," in accordance with paragraphs (d)(1) through (d)(3) of this section, to ensure that a recipient or viewer is aware of the status of the information.

(e) *Dissemination and Transmission.* (1) DoD UCNI may be disseminated among the DoD Components, NATO, and DoD contractors, consultants, and grantees on a need-to-know basis for the conduct of official business for the Department of Defense. Dissemination to NATO or other foreign or international entities requires prior review and approval by the appropriate dissemination entity.

(2) Recipients shall be made aware of the status as DoD UCNI for all such information disseminated to them. Transmission of DoD UCNI shall be by means which preclude unauthorized disclosure or dissemination (e.g., secure phone, encrypted e-mail).

(3) Documents containing DoD UCNI shall be marked as prescribed in paragraph (d) of this section. Transmittal documents shall call attention to the presence of DoD UCNI attachments using an appropriate statement in the text or including at the bottom of the transmittal document a statement similar to: "The attached document contains DoD Unclassified Controlled Nuclear Information (DoD UCNI)."

(4) DoD UCNI transmitted outside the Department of Defense requires application of an expanded marking to explain the significance of the DoD UCNI marking. That may be accomplished by adding the transmittal statement "DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE/UNCLASSIFIED CONTROLLED NUCLEAR INFORMATION/EXEMPT FROM MANDATORY DISCLOSURE UNDER U.S.C. 552(b)(3), AS AUTHORIZED BY 10 U.S.C. 128" to the document cover before transfer.

(5) When not commingled with classified information, DoD UCNI may be sent by first-class mail in a single, opaque envelope or wrapping.

(6) DoD UCNI shall not be discussed or transmitted over an unprotected telephone or telecommunications circuit (to include facsimile transmissions) except in case of an emergency.

(7) Each part of electronically transmitted messages containing DoD UCNI shall be marked appropriately. Unclassified messages, including e-mail, with DoD UCNI shall have the abbreviation "DoD UCNI" at the top of the message, before the beginning of the text, and the parenthetical marking "(DoD UCNI)" preceding each portion of text containing DoD UCNI information.

(8) DoD UCNI processed, stored, or produced on stand-alone or networked computer or other information technology systems shall enforce protection from unauthorized disclosure or dissemination, in accordance with

the procedures in paragraph (f) of this section.

(9) A document marked as having DoD UCNI may be reproduced minimally without permission of the originator and consistent with the need to carry out official business.

(f) *Safeguarding DoD UCNI.* (1) During normal working hours, documents determined to contain DoD UCNI shall be safeguarded and controlled by measures designed to reduce the risk of access to DoD UCNI by unauthorized individuals. Particular attention should be paid to areas where DoD UCNI is used or stored if unescorted access by unauthorized individuals is possible.

(2) At the close of business, DoD UCNI material shall be stored so to preclude disclosure. Storage of such material with other unclassified documents in unlocked receptacles (e.g., desks, bookcases) is adequate if Government or Government-contractor internal building security is provided during non-duty hours. When such internal building security is not provided, locked rooms or buildings normally provide adequate after-hours protection. If such protection is not considered adequate, DoD UCNI material shall be stored in locked receptacles (e.g., locked file cabinet, locked desk drawer, safe).

(3) Non-record copies of DoD UCNI materials shall be destroyed by shredding or burning or, if the sensitivity or volume of the information justifies it, in accordance with the procedures specified by DoD 5200.1-R for classified material. Record copies of DoD UCNI documents shall be disposed of in accordance with the DoD Component's record management regulations. DoD UCNI on magnetic storage media shall be disposed of by overwriting to preclude its reconstruction. DoD UCNI in electronic form shall be deleted and also removed from any desktop trash or recycling files.

(4) Unauthorized disclosure of DoD UCNI justifies investigative and administrative actions to determine cause, assess impact, and fix responsibility. The DoD Component that originated the DoD UCNI information shall be informed of its unauthorized disclosure and the outcome of the investigative and administrative actions. Unauthorized disclosure of DoD UCNI material does not constitute a compromise of classified information.

(g) *Retirement of Document or Material.* (1) Any unclassified document or material that is not marked as containing DoD UCNI but that may contain DoD UCNI shall be marked

upon retirement in accordance with the DoD Component's record management regulations.

(2) A document or material marked as containing DoD UCNI is not required to be reviewed upon or subsequent to retirement. Retired documents or materials shall be reviewed in accordance with paragraph (h) of this section upon a request for their release made pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552.

(h) *Requests for Public Release of UCNI.* (1) Pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 128, information that qualifies as DoD UCNI is exempt from mandatory disclosure pursuant to title 5 U.S.C. 552. Requests for the public release of DoD UCNI shall be denied, in accordance with procedures established in title 32 CFR part 286, pursuant to title 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(3), citing title 10 U.S.C. 128 as authority.

(2) Requests for DOE UCNI shall also be denied pursuant to title 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(3), but title 42 U.S.C. 2168 shall be cited, with the concurrence of the DOE, as the basis for invoking the exemption.

(3) The reviewing official designated by the ASD(NCB) shall review any retired DoD UCNI document or material upon a request for its release made pursuant to title 5 U.S.C. 552.

§ 223.7 Procedures-determination of DoD UCNI.

(a) *Use of the Guidelines.* (1) The guidelines in this section are the basis for determining what unclassified information regarding the physical protection of DoD SNM, SNM equipment, SNM facilities, or nuclear weapons in DoD custody in a given technical or programmatic subject area are to be designated as DoD UCNI.

(2) The decision to protect unclassified information as DoD UCNI shall be based on a determination that the unauthorized dissemination of such information could reasonably be expected to have an adverse effect on the health and safety of the public or the common defense and security by significantly increasing the likelihood of the illegal production of nuclear weapons or the theft, diversion, or sabotage of SNM, SNM equipment, SNM facilities, or nuclear weapons in DoD custody.

(b) *General Guidance.* (1) Unclassified information relating to the physical protection of DoD SNM, SNM equipment, SNM facilities, or nuclear weapons in DoD custody is to be protected from public disclosure to prevent the adverse effects identified in paragraph (a)(1) of this section. Public availability of information that would

not result in such adverse effects is not to be restricted.

(2) In controlling DoD SNM information, only the minimum restrictions needed to protect the health and safety of the public or the common defense and security shall be applied to prohibit the disclosure and dissemination of DoD UCNI.

(3) Any material that has been, or is, widely and irretrievably disseminated in the public domain and whose dissemination was not, or is not, under Government control is exempt from control under these guidelines. However, the fact that information is in the public domain is not a sufficient basis for determining that similar or updated Government-owned and -controlled information in another document or other material is not, or is no longer, DoD UCNI; case-by-case determinations are required.

(c) *Topical Guidance.* DoD Components shall consider the elements of information discussed in this section during the preparation of unclassified information that addresses the physical protection of DoD SNM or nuclear weapons in DoD custody to determine if it qualifies for control as DoD UCNI.

(1) *Vulnerability Assessments.* (i) General vulnerabilities that could be associated with specific DoD SNM, SNM equipment, SNM facility locations, or DoD nuclear weapons storage facilities.

(ii) The fact that DoD SNM or nuclear weapons facility security-related projects or upgrades are planned or in progress, if not observable from a public area.

(iii) Identification and description of security system components intended to mitigate the consequences of an accident or act of sabotage at a DoD SNM or nuclear weapons facility.

(2) *Material Control and Accountability.* (i) Total quantity or categories of DoD SNM at a facility.

(ii) Control and accountability plans or procedures.

(iii) Receipts that, cumulatively, would reveal quantities and categories of DoD SNM of potential interest to an adversary.

(iv) Measured discards, decay losses, or losses due to fission and transmutation for a reporting period.

(v) Frequency and schedule of DoD SNM inventories.

(3) *Facility Description.* (i) Maps, conceptual design, and construction drawings of a DoD SNM or nuclear weapons facility showing construction characteristics of building(s) and associated electrical systems, barriers, and back-up power systems not observable from a public area.

(ii) Maps, plans, photographs, or drawings of man-made or natural features in a DoD SNM facility or nuclear weapons not observable from a public area; i.e., tunnels, storm or waste sewers, water intake and discharge conduits, or other features having the potential for concealing surreptitious movement.

(iii) Communications and computer network configurations and capabilities.

(4) *Intrusion Detection and Security Alarm Systems.* (i) Information on the layout or design of security and alarm systems at a specific DoD SNM or nuclear weapons facility, if the information is not observable from a public area.

(ii) The fact that a particular system make or model has been installed at a specific DoD SNM or nuclear weapons facility, if the information is not observable from a public area.

(iii) Performance characteristics of installed systems.

(5) *Keys, Locks, Combinations, and Tamper-Indicating Devices.* (i) Types and models of keys, locks, and combinations of locks used in DoD SNM or nuclear weapons facilities and during shipment.

(ii) Method of application of tamper-indicating devices.

(iii) Vulnerability information available from unclassified vendor specifications.

(6) *Threat Response Capability and Procedures.* (i) Information about arrangements with local, State, and Federal law enforcement agencies of potential interest to an adversary.

(ii) Information in "non-hostile" contingency plans of potential value to an adversary to defeat a security measure, e.g., fire, safety, nuclear accident, radiological release, or other administrative plans.

(iii) Required response time of security forces.

(7) *Physical Security Evaluations.* (i) Method of evaluating physical security measures not observable from public areas.

(ii) Procedures for inspecting and testing communications and security systems.

(8) *In-Transit Security.* (i) Fact that a shipment is going to take place.

(ii) Specific means of protecting shipments.

(iii) Number and size of packages.

(iv) Mobile operating and communications procedures that an adversary could exploit.

(v) Information on mode, routing, protection, communications, and operations that must be shared with law enforcement or other civil agencies, but not visible to the public.

(vi) Description and specifications of transport vehicle compartments or security systems not visible to the public.

(9) *Information on Nuclear Weapon Stockpile and Storage Requirements, Nuclear Weapon Destruction and Disablement Systems, and Nuclear Weapon Physical Characteristics.* Refer to DOE CG-SS-4 for guidance about the physical protection of information on nuclear weapon stockpile and storage requirements, nuclear weapon destruction and disablement systems, and nuclear weapon physical characteristics that may, under certain circumstances, be unclassified. Such information meeting the adverse effects test shall be protected as DoD UCN.

Dated: March 25, 2011.

Patricia L. Toppings,

*OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer,
Department of Defense.*

[FR Doc. 2011-9751 Filed 4-22-11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001-06-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

37 CFR Chapter I

[Docket No.: PTO-P-2011-0018]

Streamlined Patent Reexamination Proceedings; Notice of Public Meeting

AGENCY: United States Patent and Trademark Office, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting; request for comments.

SUMMARY: This document announces a public meeting to solicit public opinions on a number of changes being considered by the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) to streamline the procedures governing *ex parte* and *inter partes* reexamination proceedings. These changes are intended to achieve faster, more efficient resolution of the substantial new question of patentability (SNQ) for which reexamination is ordered. The proposed changes in this document are divided into three categories: changes to both *ex parte* and *inter partes* reexaminations, changes specific to *ex parte* reexamination, and changes specific to *inter partes* reexamination. After soliciting public opinions regarding this document, the USPTO may seek to adopt one or more of the proposed changes or a modified version thereof, or other changes suggested by the public, through a rule making or through internal operational changes as appropriate.

DATES: The public meeting will be held on June 1, 2011, beginning at 1:30 p.m.

Persons interested in attending the meeting must register by 5 p.m., Eastern Standard Time (EST), on May 25, 2011.

Written comments must be submitted by June 29, 2011.

ADDRESSES: The public meeting will be held at the USPTO, in the South Auditorium of Madison West, 600 Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

Written comments should be sent by electronic mail message over the Internet addressed to *reexamimprovementcomments@uspto.gov*. Comments may also be submitted by mail addressed to: Mail Stop Comments-Patents, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, marked to the attention of Kenneth M. Schor. Although comments may be submitted by mail, submission via e-mail to the above address is preferable.

The written comments will be available for public inspection at the Office of the Commissioner for Patents, located in Madison East, Tenth Floor, 600 Dulany Street, Alexandria, Virginia, and will be available via the USPTO Internet Web site (address: <http://www.uspto.gov>). Because comments will be made available for public inspection, information that is not desired to be made public, such as an address or phone number, should not be included.

For Registration to Give a Presentation at the Meeting: If you wish to make an oral presentation at the meeting, you must register by sending an e-mail to *reexamimprovementcomments@uspto.gov*, by 5 p.m. EST, on May 11, 2011. See the registration information provided below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kenneth M. Schor, Office of Patent Legal Administration, Office of the Associate Commissioner for Patent Examination Policy, by telephone at 571-272-7710, or by mail addressed to: Mail Stop Comments-Patents, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Inquiries regarding the current reexamination practice may be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration, by telephone at (571) 272-7703, or by electronic mail at *PatentPractice@uspto.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This document announces a public meeting to solicit public opinions on a number of changes being considered by the USPTO to streamline the procedures governing *ex parte* and *inter partes* reexamination proceedings. These changes are intended to achieve faster, more efficient resolution of the SNQ for which reexamination is ordered.