

later than the closing date of the comment period. Please note that comments will not be accepted by email or other electronic media.

Concurrent with the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, NMFS is forwarding copies of this application to the Marine Mammal Commission and its Committee of Scientific Advisors.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject permits are requested under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), the Regulations Governing the Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals (50 CFR part 216), the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered fish and wildlife (50 CFR 222.23), and the Fur Seal Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1151 *et seq.*).

The National Marine Mammal Laboratory seeks to conduct aerial surveys of large and small cetaceans in the waters off the coasts of Alaska, Washington, Oregon, and California. During the course of these surveys, some pinniped species may also be inadvertently harassed.

The Southwest Fisheries Science Center seeks to conduct photographic aerial surveys of pinniped rookeries and/or haulouts in California, Oregon, Washington, and Alaska. These surveys will assess pinniped populations and determine distribution, length frequencies, breeding densities, nearest neighbor distances, and population indices.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), an initial determination has been made that the activities proposed are categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

Dated: January 8, 1988.

Ann D. Terbush,

*Chief, Permits and Documentation Division,
Office of Protected Resources, National
Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 98-1049 Filed 1-14-98; 8:45 am]

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CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

[CPSC Docket No. 98-1]

Black & Decker Corporation, et al.; Prehearing Conference

AGENCY: Consumer Product Safety Commission.

ACTION: Notice of first prehearing conference.

DATES: This notice announces a prehearing conference to be held in the matter of The Black & Decker Corporation, et al. on January 29, 1998, at 10:00 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The prehearing conference will be in hearing room 420 of the East-West Towers Building, 4330 East-West Highway, Bethesda, Maryland 20814.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For additional information contact Sadye E. Dunn, Secretary, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, Washington, D.C.; telephone (301) 504-0500; telefax (301) 504-0127.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This public notice is issued pursuant to 16 CFR 1025.21(b) of the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission's Rules of Practice for Adjudicative Proceedings to inform the public that a prehearing conference will be held in an administrative proceeding under Section 15 of the Consumer Product Safety Act (CPSA) captioned CPSC Docket No. 98-1, In the Matter of The Black & Decker Corporation; and Charles E. Fenton, Barbara B. Lucas, and Thomas M. Schoewe, Directors, Black & Decker (U.S.) Inc.; and Black & Decker (U.S.) Inc. The Presiding Officer in the proceeding is United States Administrative Law Judge William B. Moran. The Presiding Officer has determined that, for good and sufficient cause, the time period for holding this first prehearing conference had to be extended to the date announced above, which date is beyond the fifty (50) day period referenced in 16 CFR 1025.21(a).

The public is referred to the Code of Regulations citation listed above for identification of the issues to be raised at the conference and is advised that the date, time and place of the hearing also will be established at the conference.

Substantively, the issue being litigated in this proceeding is described by the Presiding Officer as whether the Black and Decker Spacemaker Toaster, Model T1000, Type 1, ("Spacemaker Toaster") presents a fire hazard as a consequence of an allegedly defective electronic timer; whether the allegedly defective timer constitutes a design defect under 15 U.S.C. 2064; whether the allegedly defective timer creates a substantial risk of injury to consumers within the meaning of Section 15(a)(2), (c) and (d) of the CPSA, 15 U.S.C. 2064(a)(2), (c) and (d); and whether, consequently, the Spacemaker Toaster presents a substantial product hazard, as described in sections 15(a)(2), (c) and (d) of the CPSA, 15 U.S.C. 2064(a)(2), (c)

and (d). Should the allegations be proven, Complaint Counsel for the Office of Compliance of the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission seeks a finding that the product presents a substantial product hazard and that public notification be made pursuant to section 15(c) of the CPSA and that other appropriate relief be directed, as set forth in the Complaint.

Dated: January 12, 1998.

Sadye E. Dunn,

Consumer Product Safety Commission.

[FR Doc. 98-1076 Filed 1-14-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

[OMB Control Number 0704-0225]

Notice and Request for Comments Regarding an Information Collection Requirement

AGENCY: Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: Notice and request for comments regarding a proposed extension of an approved information collection requirement.

SUMMARY: In compliance with Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13), DoD announces the proposed extension of a public information collection requirement and seeks public comment on the provisions thereof. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. This information collection requirement is currently approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for use through June 30, 1998. DoD proposes that OMB extend its approval for use through June 30, 2001.

DATES: Consideration will be given to all comments received by March 16, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed information collection requirement should be sent to: Defense Acquisition Regulations Council, Attn: Ms. Melissa D. Rider, PDUSD (A&T) DP (DAR), IMD 3D139, 3062 Defense Pentagon,