

### Subpart 1843.70—Undefinitized Contract Actions

#### 1843.7001 Definitions.

*Undefinitized contract action (UCA)* means a unilateral or bilateral contract modification or delivery/task order in which the final price or estimated cost and fee have not been negotiated and mutually agreed to by NASA and the contractor. (Issuance of letter contracts and their modifications are governed by subpart 1816.6.)

#### 1843.7002 Policy.

(a) Undefinitized contract actions may be issued only on an exception basis, and centers must ensure that NASA liabilities and commitments are minimized. When an undefinitized contract action is justified and program requirements can be severed into smaller, discreet efforts, the work authorized by the undefinitized contract action must be limited to the minimum severable effort required to satisfy the urgent program requirements. The remaining requirements may not be initially included in the undefinitized contract action and must be acquired through a separate fully priced and definitized contract action.

(b) The contract file for each UCA shall be documented to justify issuance and shall include a Government estimate for the changed requirements.

[66 FR 53548, Oct. 23, 2001]

#### 1843.7003 Procedures.

(a)(1) Issuance of undefinitized contract actions with a Government estimated cost or price over \$100,000 must be approved in writing by the Center Director.

(2) All other undefinitized contract actions must be approved in writing by the procurement officer.

(3) In emergency situations, approval may be given orally and subsequently confirmed in writing.

(4) The approval authorities in paragraphs (a)(1) and (2) of this section are not delegable.

(b) (1) Undefinitized contract actions exceeding \$100,000 must be issued as bilateral agreements setting forth a ceiling price or "not to exceed" estimated cost figure for the changed contractual

requirements. For fixed price contracts the negotiated price for the changed contract requirements shall not exceed the established ceiling price. In the case of cost type contracts any costs eventually negotiated for the changed requirements in excess of the "not to exceed" estimated cost figure shall be non-fee bearing. The ceiling price or "not to exceed" estimated cost figures shall be separately identified in the UCA instrument from the pricing structure of the basic contract.

(2) The Center Director may waive the ceiling price or "not to exceed" estimated cost figure and bilateral agreement requirements prior to UCA issuance on the basis of urgency. This waiver authority is not delegable. Any waivers shall be documented in the contract file.

(c) The changed contractual requirements set forth in the UCA shall be clearly defined and shall be limited to the minimum effort required to satisfy urgent program requirements while a cost proposal is prepared, analyzed and negotiated.

(d) For undefinitized contract actions with a Government estimate greater than \$1,000,000 and not excepted under subpart 1843.7004, a 180 day funding profile shall be obtained from the contractor prior to execution of the undefinitized contract action.

(e) Undefinitized contract actions with a Government estimated cost or price greater than \$1,000,000 shall include a requirement that the change shall be separately accounted for by the contractor to the degree necessary to provide the contracting officer visibility into actual costs incurred pending definitization. The contracting officer may waive this requirement for individual actions if there is a documented finding that such accounting procedures would not be cost effective. Any such waiver shall not affect existing NASA Form 533 or other financial reporting requirements set forth in the contract.

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#### 1843.7004 Exceptions.

(a) Exceptions to the requirement for Center Director or procurement officer