

Notices

Federal Register

Vol. 61, No. 107

Monday, June 3, 1996

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Environmental Impact Statement for the Stibnite Mine Expansion Gold Mining Project on the Krassel Ranger District of the Payette National Forest, Valley County, ID

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Revised notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY: The USDA Forest Service will prepare a revised draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) and final environmental impact statement (FEIS) for a modified proposal submitted by Stibnite Mine Inc. (SMI). The proposal is to expand SMI's existing open-pit gold mining operation located in Valley County, near Yellow Pine, Idaho. The expansion would be located adjacent to private lands, in the Krassel Ranger District of the Payette National Forest.

The Forest Service published a Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS for the proposed Stibnite Mine Expansion in the Federal Register April 21, 1992 (Vol. 57, No. 77, p. 14558-14559). That notice is hereby revised to show the following proposal changes: (1) mine four new pits instead of six, (2) backfill waste into pits instead of creating two exterior waste dumps.

The EIS will focus on: (1) Construction of four new mine pits in the Midnight Creek drainage, (2) partial backfilling each pit with waste rock, and (3) construction of haul road to connect the new pits with existing haul road in the West End area. The modified proposal will be called the Stibnite Mine Expansion Project.

The agency will accept written comments and suggestions on the scope of the analysis. Comments already submitted to the Payette National Forest on the 1994 DEIS or related scoping will be considered in the 1996 analysis.

DATES: Comments concerning the scope of the analysis must be received by July 1, 1996, to ensure timely consideration.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments and suggestions related to the scope of the analysis to: Stibnite Expansion EIS, Payette National Forest, P.O. Box 1026, McCall, Idaho, 83638.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Direct questions about the proposed action and DEIS to Fred Dauber, Krassel District Ranger, Krassel District Office, P.O. Box 1026, McCall, Idaho, telephone (208) 634-0600.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: SMI currently operates a gold mine in the project area. In May of 1981, an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was prepared which analyzed the existing mining operations. In 1992 SMI proposed an expansion of five new pits. A DEIS was prepared since the proposed project exceeded the scope of the 1981 EIS. The Forest Service released the DEIS in November 1994 for public review. Because of concerns raised by the public and federal agencies, the Forest Service withdrew the DEIS in February, 1995. Early this year SMI modified their expansion proposal, and the Forest Service began work to revise the 1994 DEIS.

The new proposal would involve construction of four new mine pits and associated haul road located adjacent to the now-active West End mine area. Stibnite Mine Inc. would continue to use their existing heap leach facility and other ancillary facilities which were previously approved. SMI has recently upgraded their processing facility to comply with the State of Idaho, Rules Governing Ore Processing by Cyanidation.

The DEIS will consider a range of alternatives, including the no-action alternative. Other alternatives will be developed or modified to address issues and to mitigate impacts. Agencies and the public have expressed preliminary concerns regarding effects on: surface and ground water, fisheries and wildlife, biodiversity, vegetation, soils, wetlands, public safety and transportation, air quality, recreation and visual resources, socioeconomic and social impacts, and cultural resources.

The Forest Service will further expand and/or clarify issues based upon public input provided during this, and the previous, scoping processes. All

interested and affected members of the public may participate in the scoping process. This process will include:

1. Identification or modification of new or additional issues.
2. Identification of issues to be analyzed in depth.
3. Exploring additional alternatives.
4. Identifying potential environmental effects of the proposed action and alternatives (i.e., direct, indirect, and cumulative effects and connected actions).

If requested, the Forest Service may make a copy of all comments provided in response to this Notice available to the public. This will include names, addresses, and any other personal information provided with the comments.

David Alexander, Forest Supervisor, Payette National Forest, McCall, Idaho, is the responsible official for this action. The DEIS is expected to be available for public review in December of 1996.

The comment period on the draft environmental impact statement will be 45 days from the date the Environmental Protection Agency publishes the notice of availability in the Federal Register.

The Forest Service believes, at this early stage, it is important to give reviewers notice of several court rulings related to public participation in the environmental review process. First, reviewers of draft environmental impact statements must structure their participation in the environmental review of the proposal so that it is meaningful and alerts an agency to the reviewer's position and contentions.

Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corp. v. NRDC, 435 U.S. 519, 553 (1978). Also, environmental objections that could be raised at the draft environmental impact statement stage but that are not raised until after completion of the final environmental impact statement may be waived or dismissed by the courts. *City of Angoon v. Hodel*, 803 F.2d 1016, 1022 (9th Cir. 1986), and *Wisconsin Heritages, Inc. v. Harris*, 490 F. Supp. 1334, 1338 (E.D. Wis. 1980). Because of these court rulings, it is very important that those interested in this proposed action participate by the close of the comment period so that substantive comments and objections are made available to the Forest Service at a time when it can meaningfully consider them and respond to them in the final environmental impact statement.

To assist the Forest Service in identifying and considering issues and concerns on the proposed action, comments on the draft environmental impact statement or the merits of the alternatives formulated and discussed in the statement. Reviewers may wish to refer to the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act at 40 CFR 1503.3 in addressing these points.

The FEIS is scheduled to be completed and available to the public by early 1997. The responsible official will document the decision and the reasons supporting it in a Record of Decision. That decision will be subject to appeal pursuant to 36 CFR 215.

Dated: May 16, 1996.

David F. Alexander,
Forest Supervisor, Payette National Forest.
[FR Doc. 96-13760 Filed 5-31-96; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

BLACKSTONE RIVER VALLEY NATIONAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR COMMISSION

Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor Commission; Notice of Meeting

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Section 552b of Title 5, United States Code, that a meeting of the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor Commission will be held on Thursday, June 27, 1996.

The Commission was established pursuant to Public Law 99-647. The purpose of the Commission is to assist federal, state and local authorities in the development and implementation of an integrated resource management plan for those lands and waters within the Corridor.

The meeting will convene at 7:00 pm at the Corridor Office, One Depot Square, Woonsocket, RI for the following reasons:

1. Strategic Planning follow-up
2. Legislative Update
3. Commission Business

It is anticipated that about twenty people will be able to attend the session in addition to the Commission members.

Interested persons may make oral or written presentations to the Commission or file written statements. Such requests should be made prior to the meeting to: Susan K. Moore, Executive Director, Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor Commission, One Depot Square, Woonsocket, RI 02895, Tel.: (401) 762-0250

Further information concerning this meeting may be obtained from Susan K. Moore, Executive Director of the Commission at the aforementioned address.

Susan K. Moore,
Executive Director BRVNHCC.
[FR Doc. 96-13827 Filed 5-31-96; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4310-70-P

BROADCASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Sunshine Act Meeting

DATE AND TIME: June 10, 1996; 8:30 a.m.

PLACE: RFE/RL, Inc., Vinohradska 1, Fifth Floor Conference Room, 110 00 Prague 1, Czech Republic.

CLOSED MEETING: The members of the Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG) will meet in closed session to address internal procedural, budgetary, and personnel issues, as well as sensitive foreign policy issues relating to potential options in the U.S. international broadcasting field. This

meeting is closed because if open it likely would either disclose matters that would be properly classified to be kept secret in the interest of foreign policy under the appropriate executive order (5 U.S.C. 552b.(c)(1)) or would disclose information the premature disclosure of which would be likely to significantly frustrate implementation of a proposed agency action. (5 U.S.C. 552b.(c)(9)(B)) In addition, part of the discussion will relate solely to the internal personnel issues of the BBG or the International Broadcasting Bureau. (5 U.S.C. 552b.(c)(2) and (6)) The BBG meeting will be followed by a closed meeting of the Board of Directors of the RFE/RL, Inc., a nonprofit private corporation.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Persons interested in obtaining more information should contact Barbara Floyd at (202) 401-3736.

Dated: May 30, 1996.
David W. Burke,
Chairman.
[FR Doc. 96-13919 Filed 5-30-96; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 6155-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Economic Development Administration

Notice of Petitions by Producing Firms for Determination of Eligibility To Apply for Trade Adjustment Assistance

AGENCY: Economic Development Administration (EDA), Commerce.

ACTION: To give firms an opportunity to comment.

Petitions have been accepted for filing on the dates indicated from the firms listed below.

LIST OF PETITION ACTION BY TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE FOR PERIOD 04/17/96-05/20/96

Firm name	Address	Date petition accepted	Product
Rand Machine Products, Inc	P.O. Box 72, Falconer NY 14733.	04/15/96	Metal Parts Of Bombs and Shock Absorbers for Railcars.
Lee Brass Company	Golden Springs Road, Anniston AL 36202.	04/24/96	Brass—Cast and Machined Plumbing Fittings and Cast, Machined and Assembled Water Meters.
Seal-Pac Professional Services, Inc.	6201 Bay Way Drive, Baytown TX 78520.	04/26/96	Gaskets (Marine, Industrial and Chemical), Joints (Packing and Chemical), and Mechanical Seals.
Wendell Textiles, Inc	8803 Kelso Drive, Baltimore MD 21221.	04/29/96	Fusible, Non-Woven Interlining.
F&M Hat Company, Inc	103 Walnut Street, Denver PA 17517.	04/30/96	Wool Hat Bodies, Finished Wool Hats and Finished Straw Hats.
Black River Plastics, Inc.	2600—20th Street, Port Huron MI 48060.	04/30/96	Thermal Injected Molded Plastic Products, Interior Lens, Door Panel Substrates and Window Insulators.
Miller Sports, Inc	136 Haki Street, Tabor SD 57063.	05/07/96	Gold Bags.
Russell William Ltd	1710 Midway Road, Odenton MD 21113.	05/02/96	Display Units.