

that the Department sell these materials within a particular period of time. However, Congress anticipated in the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act of 1996 that DOE would sell about \$35 million worth of these materials in fiscal year 1996 and use the proceeds to offset some of the costs of maintaining and improving the gaseous diffusion plants. The Department believes that it will need to sell additional amounts of these materials beginning in 1996 in order to continue financing maintenance and other activities at the gaseous diffusion plants.

Congress imposed three conditions on the sale of material from DOE's inventory in section 3112(d) of the USEC Privatization Act; two of these conditions are relevant to the 21.5 million pounds of inventory material considered in this Environmental Assessment. Before selling materials from DOE's inventory, the Secretary of Energy must make a determination that: (1) the sale will not have an "adverse material impact" on the domestic uranium industry and (2) the Department will receive a price that is at least equal to the fair market value of the materials.

#### Proposed Action

DOE proposes to sell the 21.5 million pounds of surplus material in its inventory and the 14.2 million pounds of material associated with the Russian HEU Agreement that the Department will receive from USEC. All of the 35.7 million pounds are in the form of uranium hexafluoride (UF<sub>6</sub>). DOE proposes to sell these 35.7 million pounds of uranium over six or more years beginning in 1996. The potential buyers are entities that already purchase or manage inventories of uranium for use in commercial applications: USEC, utilities, converters, brokers and uranium producers. Accordingly, the proposed action would not result in new or different uses of uranium.

DOE would comply with sections 3112 (b) and (d) of the USEC Privatization Act in making the sales it is proposing. In 1996, DOE proposes to sell some of the 14.2 million pounds it will receive under the Russian HEU Agreement to the Russian Executive Agent, or the Agent's representative, for use in matched sales pursuant to the Suspension Agreement. The Department would sell, to the extent practical, the remainder of this 14.2 million pounds for end use outside the United States or for overfeeding the gaseous diffusion plants during the period 1997 through 2000. Any remaining material would be sold in 2001 for consumption by

domestic end users beginning in 2002 at a rate not to exceed 3 million pounds per year. As to the 21.5 million pounds from DOE's inventory, the Department proposes to sell the one million pounds of LEU in 1996 in order to obtain the revenue Congress anticipated DOE would receive in the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act of 1996. DOE would sell the remaining 20.3 million pounds of inventory materials during the period 1997 through 2002 in order to continue financing maintenance and other activities at the gaseous diffusion plants. All sales of inventory materials would be contingent on the Secretary making the determinations required by section 3112(d)(2) of the USEC Privatization Act.

The sales proposed and evaluated in this Environmental Assessment would be in addition to sales evaluated in two other NEPA analyses: (1) the Disposition of Surplus Highly Enriched Uranium Final EIS (DOE/EIS-0240, June 1996), and (2) the Environmental Assessment for the Purchase of Russian Low Enriched Uranium Derived from the Dismantlement of Nuclear Weapons in the Countries of the Former Soviet Union (USEC/EA-94001, DOE/EA-0837, January 1994). The Department will analyze the cumulative effects of the sales proposed in this environmental assessment, those proposed in the two other NEPA analyses, and those scheduled under the Russian HEU Agreement and the Suspension Agreement.

#### Alternatives

DOE has identified alternatives to its proposed sale of these materials, and may identify others during the preparation of the EA. All alternatives will be evaluated against the purpose and need for action by the Department, and those that are reasonable and meet the need for action by the Department will be evaluated in the EA.

#### No Action

The Council on Environmental Quality's NEPA regulations require that federal agencies analyze the impacts of not taking the proposed action (the "No Action Alternative"). In this case, the No Action Alternative would be that DOE would continue to store the 35.7 million pounds of uranium at Portsmouth and Paducah rather than selling it.

#### Alternatives that Satisfy the Need for Department Action

Alternatives that are under consideration for evaluation in the EA include:

- (1) Different schedules for the sale of this uranium; and
- (2) Selling amounts other than 21.5 million pounds of inventory material.

#### Preliminary Identification of Potential Environmental Impacts

The Department has tentatively identified the following potential impacts for evaluation in the EA. This list is not intended to be all-inclusive or to predetermine the potential impacts of any of the alternatives.

- (1) Potential health and safety impacts to on-site workers and to the public from storage, handling, and transport of uranium, including accidents;
- (2) Socioeconomic impacts on the uranium industry in the United States;
- (3) Potential cumulative impacts of these and other sales; and
- (4) Considerations of environmental justice.

DOE anticipates that it will issue a draft EA by July 30, 1996, which it will forward for review by affected states, Indian tribes, and other parties who have expressed an interest in the proposed action or requested a copy of the draft for review. The Department will accept comments on the EA for 30 days following issuance of the draft EA. Based on the EA and any comments it receives, DOE will then determine whether it will prepare an environmental impact statement or issue a finding of no significant impact.

Issued in Washington, D.C., this 1st day of July, 1996, for the United States Department of Energy.

Ray A. Hunter,

*Deputy Director, Office of Nuclear Energy, Science and Technology.*

[FR Doc. 96-17432 Filed 7-8-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

#### Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board, Pantex Plant; Meeting

**AGENCY:** Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Notice of Open Meeting.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Public Law 92-463, 86 Stat. 770) notice is hereby given of the following Advisory Committee meeting: Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB), Pantex Plant.

**DATE AND TIME:** Tuesday, July 23, 1996: 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** Carson County Square House Museum, 5th and Elsie, Panhandle, Texas.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Tom Williams, Program Manager,

Department of Energy, Amarillo Area Office, P.O. Box 30030, Amarillo, TX 79120, (806)477-3121.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** *Purpose of the Committee:* The Board provides input to the Department of Energy on Environmental Management strategic decisions that impact future use, risk management, economic development, and budget prioritization activities.

**Tentative Agenda:**

- 10:00 am Welcome—Agenda Review—Approval of Minutes
- 10:15 am Co-Chairs' Comments
- 10:45 am Subcommittee Reports
  - Community Outreach
  - Budget and Finance
  - Nominations
  - Program and Training
  - Policy and Personnel
- 11:15 am Updates
  - Occurrence Reports—DOE
  - Gerald Johnson Update
  - Pantex Fatality Update, Paul Sowa
- 12:00 pm Lunch
- 12:30 pm Presentation
- 1:30 pm Task Force Reports
  - Site-wide Environmental Impact Statement
  - Environmental Restoration
- 2:00 pm Adjourn

**Public Participation:** The meeting is open to the public. Written statements may be filed with the Committee either before or after the meeting. Written comments will be accepted at the address above for 15 days after the date of the meeting. Individuals who wish to make oral statements pertaining to agenda items should contact Tom Williams' office at the address or telephone number listed above.

Requests must be received 5 days prior to the meeting and reasonable provision will be made to include the presentation in the agenda. The Designated Federal Official is empowered to conduct the meeting in a fashion that will facilitate the orderly conduct of business. Each individual wishing to make public comment will be provided a maximum of 5 minutes to present their comments.

**Minutes:** The minutes of this meeting will be available for public review and copying at the Pantex Public Reading Rooms located at the Amarillo College

Lynn Library and Learning Center, 2201 South Washington, Amarillo, TX phone (806) 371-5400. Hours of operation are from 7:45 am to 10:00 pm, Monday through Thursday; 7:45 am to 5:00 pm on Friday; 8:30 am to 12:00 noon on Saturday; and 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm on Sunday, except for Federal holidays. Additionally, there is a Public Reading Room located at the Carson County Public Library, 401 Main Street, Panhandle, TX phone (806) 537-3742. Hours of operation are from 9:00 am to 7:00 pm on Monday; 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, Tuesday through Friday; and closed Saturday and Sunday as well as Federal Holidays. Minutes will also be available by writing or calling Tom Williams at the address or telephone number listed above.

Issued at Washington, DC on July 3, 1996.

Rachel M. Samuel,

*Acting Deputy Advisory Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 96-17433 Filed 7-08-96; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6450-01-P**

## Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

### Information Collection Submitted for Review and Request for Comments (FERC-598)

July 2, 1996.

**AGENCY:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice of submission for review by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the requirements of Section 3507 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13), the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) is submitting a collection of information listed in this notice to OMB for review under the provisions of the Act.

**DATES:** Comments regarding this collection of information are best assured of having their full effect if received within 30 days of this notification.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of the collection of information can be obtained from and written comments may be submitted to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Attn: Michael P. Miller, Information Services Division, ED-12.4, 888 First Street N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426. Comments should also be addressed to: Desk Officer, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Washington, D.C. 20503.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Michael P. Miller may be reached by telephone at (202) 208-1415, by fax at (202) 273-0873, and by e-mail at mmiller@ferc.fed.us.

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Abstract

The information collected under the requirements of FERC-598 "Determinations for Entities Seeking Exempt Wholesale Generator Status" OMB No. 1902-0166) is used by the Commission to implement the statutory provisions of Section 711 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (EPAct), Public Law 102-46 which amended the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 (PUHCA) to create a category of power producers. Section 2(a)(11)(B) define an EWG as an entity engaged directly, or indirectly through one or more affiliates in the business exclusively of owning and/or operating all or part of one or more eligible facilities, and selling electric energy at wholesale. The Commission implements these filing requirements in the code of Federal Regulations (CFR) under 18 CFR Part 365.

#### Action

The Commission is requesting a three-year extension of the current expiration date, with no changes to the existing collection of data. The Commission did not receive any comments in response to the public notice published in the Federal Register, April 12, 1996 (61 FR, 16904-05).

#### Burden Statement

Public reporting burden for this collection is estimated as

No. of respondents annually	No. of responses per respondent	Average burden hours per response	Total annual burden hours
(1)	(2)	(3)	(1)×(2)×(3)
280 .....	1	6 hours	1,680 hours.