

to ensure the most efficient and effective use of Federal funds.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This waiver takes effect on April 10, 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Thomas E. Finch, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 3038, Mary E. Switzer Building, Washington, D.C. 20202-2575. Telephone: (202) 205-8292. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: A total of 95 grantees, which were first funded in FY 1991, received their fifth and final year of project support in FY 1995.

The Department had planned to conduct a competition for new five-year awards later this fiscal year in accordance with revised program regulations that would strengthen certain statutory requirements and enhance project accountability. The revised regulations would contain new application content requirements and new selection criteria for evaluating grant applications.

The Department had planned to publish a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) proposing revisions to the existing program regulations in mid-December 1995, but, because of the closure of the Department for a number of weeks in December and early January due to lapsed funding and inclement weather, the Department was unable to meet this schedule. The NPRM was published on January 22, 1996 (60 FR 1672) and provides for a comment period ending March 22, 1996. The Department has now determined that it is unable to publish final regulations in time to have them apply to a competition for new awards in FY 1996.

The program statute (section 621(e)(1)(A) of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended) specifies that a grant may be made for a period of up to five years and may be renewed. The Department has interpreted this authority to mean that it can extend non-competitively PWI grants beyond the five-year project period. The Department has decided to exercise this renewal authority because of the unique circumstances affecting this program this fiscal year and to make continuation awards for an additional year rather than conduct a new competition under the existing program regulations.

The Department has, therefore, determined that to make continuation awards under the circumstances

previously described makes the most programmatic sense and is the most efficient and effective use of Federal funds. However, to do so, the Department must waive the requirement in EDGAR in 34 CFR 75.261(a)(2) that prohibits the extension of project periods that involve the obligation of additional Federal funds.

Waiver of Proposed Rulemaking

In accordance with section 437 of the General Education Provisions Act (20 U.S.C. 1232) and the Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. 553), it is the practice of the Secretary to offer interested parties an opportunity to comment on proposed regulations. However, the Secretary has determined, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B), that public comment is impracticable because of the time constraints discussed in the Supplementary Information section of this notice. Just as there is insufficient time to change the program regulations for purposes of making new awards in fiscal year 1996, there is not enough time to take public comment on waiving the EDGAR requirement prohibiting cost extensions and make the continuation awards.

Regulatory Flexibility Act Certification

The Secretary certifies that this waiver would not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

The small entities that would be affected by this waiver are program grantees currently receiving Federal funds to complete the fifth and final year of the project period. However, the waiver would not have a significant economic impact on these grantees because the waiver would not impose excessive regulatory burdens or require unnecessary Federal supervision. The waiver would impose minimal requirements to ensure the proper expenditure of program funds—requirements that are standard to continuation awards.

Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995

This waiver has been examined under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 and has been found to contain no information collection requirements.

Intergovernmental Review

This program is subject to the requirements of Executive Order 12372 and the regulations in 34 CFR Part 79. The objective of the Executive order is to foster an intergovernmental partnership and a strengthened federalism by relying on processes developed by State and local governments for coordination and

review of proposed Federal financial assistance.

In accordance with the order, this document is intended to provide early notification of the Department's specific plans and actions for this program.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number 84.234 Projects With Industry.)

Dated: March 4, 1996.

Howard R. Moses,

Acting Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

[FR Doc. 96-5593 Filed 3-8-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Availability of the Stockpile Stewardship and Management Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of availability and public hearings.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy (DOE) announces the availability of the Stockpile Stewardship and Management Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS), and the dates and locations for public hearings to receive comments on the Draft PEIS. DOE prepared the Stockpile Stewardship and Management PEIS pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) The Stockpile Stewardship and Management PEIS analyzes the consequences to the environment associated with alternative ways of maintaining the safety and reliability of the nuclear weapons stockpile in the absence of underground nuclear testing.

DATES: The public comment period on the Draft PEIS will extend until May 7, 1996. The dates, times and locations of the public hearings on the Draft PEIS are identified in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on the Draft PEIS, as well as requests for copies of the Draft PEIS or its Summary may be submitted to the Office of Reconfiguration, DP-25, U.S. Department of Energy, P.O. Box 3417, Alexandria, Virginia 22302. Requests for copies may also be made by calling 1-800-776-2765.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For general information on the Department's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process, please contact: Ms. Carol Borgstrom, Director, Office of NEPA Policy and Assistance, EH-42, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Ave., S.W., Washington,

D.C. 20585. Ms. Borgstrom may be contacted by calling (202) 586-4600 or by leaving a message at 1-800-472-2756.

Specific information regarding the public hearings, including registration information, can also be obtained by calling 1-800-776-2765, writing to the address above, or electronically via computer as follows: Federal Information Exchange Bulletin Board, InterNet Address: <http://web.fie.com/fedix/doeoor.html>, Modem Toll-Free: 1-800-783-3349, D.C. Metro Modem: 301-258-0953.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In response to the end of the Cold War and changes in the world political situation, the United States is no longer producing new nuclear weapons. Instead, the emphasis of the United States' nuclear weapons program is on reducing the size of the Nation's nuclear stockpile by dismantling existing nuclear weapons. DOE has been directed by the President and Congress to maintain the safety and reliability of the reduced nuclear weapons stockpile in the absence of underground nuclear testing. In order to fulfill that responsibility, DOE has developed the Stockpile Stewardship and Management Program to provide a single, highly integrated technical program for maintaining the continued safety and reliability of the nuclear stockpile. The Stockpile Stewardship and Management PEIS describes and analyzes alternative ways to implement the Stockpile Stewardship and Management Program.

Stockpile stewardship refers to activities associated with the research, design, development, and testing of nuclear weapons, and the assessment and certification of their safety and reliability of the weapons. The stockpile stewardship portion of the PEIS evaluates the potential environmental impacts of three proposed facilities: the National Ignition Facility (NIF), the Contained Firing Facility, and the Atlas

Facility. Four sites are potentially affected by the Stockpile Stewardship alternatives: Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL), Sandia National Laboratories (SNL), and the Nevada Test Site (NTS).

Stockpile management refers to activities associated with the production, maintenance, surveillance, refurbishment, and dismantlement of the nuclear weapons stockpile. The stockpile management portion of the PEIS evaluates the potential environmental impacts of reasonable alternatives for carrying out the stockpile management functions. Alternative sites are assessed for nuclear weapons assembly/disassembly, and for fabrication of plutonium, uranium, high explosives, and nonnuclear components. Eight sites are potentially affected: Savannah River Site (SRS), Oak Ridge Reservation (ORR), Pantex Plant (Pantex), Kansas City Plant (KCP), LANL, LLNL, SNL, and NTS. The PEIS also evaluates the No Action alternative of relying on existing facilities in their current configuration and continuing the missions at current sites to achieve both stockpile stewardship and stockpile management missions.

As of February 9, 1996, the date when the Stockpile Stewardship and Management Draft PEIS was sent to the printer, the Department had identified only one preferred alternative: to construct and operate the NIF at LLNL. Since that date, DOE has identified additional preferred alternatives. The complete list of preferred alternatives is as follows:

Stockpile Stewardship

- Construct and operate the NIF at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, at Livermore CA.
- Construct and operate the Contained Firing Facility at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, at Livermore CA.

- Construct and operate the Atlas Facility at Los Alamos National Laboratory, at Los Alamos NM.

Stockpile Management

- Secondary and Case Component Fabrication—downsize the Y-12 Plant at Oak Ridge Reservation, at Oak Ridge TN.
- Pit Component Fabrication—re-establish pit component fabrication capability at the Los Alamos National Laboratory, at Los Alamos NM.
- Assembly/Disassembly—downsize the Pantex Plant, at Amarillo TX.
- Nonnuclear Component Fabrication—downsize the Kansas City Plant, Kansas City MO.

Ten public hearings to receive comments on the Draft Stockpile Stewardship and Management PEIS will be held. A workshop-type format will be used for each hearing, including: a program overview; interactive discussions; and a summary session. For the four sites which are being considered as alternative locations for both the Stockpile Stewardship and Management Draft PEIS and the Storage and Disposition of Weapons-Usable Fissile Materials Draft PEIS (Nevada Test Site at Las Vegas, NV, Oak Ridge Reservation at Oak Ridge, TN, the Pantex Plant at Amarillo, TX, and Savannah River Site at North Augusta, SC), joint public hearings will be held to receive comments on both documents. The Pantex Site-Wide PEIS is also scheduled to be discussed at the public hearings in Amarillo, TX, and North Augusta, SC. The public hearing to be held in Washington, D.C. will also be a joint hearing. These joint hearings are scheduled to explain the interrelationship between the programs and to facilitate comments by persons interested in the proposals. These public hearings have been scheduled as follows:

Location	Date	Time
Los Alamos, New Mexico, Fuller Lodge, 2132 Central Avenue, Los Alamos, NM 87544	March 26, 1996	1:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m.
	March 26, 1996	6:00 p.m.–10:00 p.m.
	March 28, 1996	6:00 p.m.–10:00 p.m.
Albuquerque, New Mexico, Albuquerque Convention Center, 401 Second Street, N.W., Albuquerque, NM 87102.		
Las Vegas, Nevada, The Sands Expo and Convention Center, 201 East Sands Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89109.	March 28, 1996	6:00 p.m.–11:00 p.m.
Oak Ridge, Tennessee, Garden Plaza Hotel, 215 S. Illinois Avenue, Oak Ridge, TN 37830.	March 29, 1996	8:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.
	April 1, 1996	6:00 p.m.–10:00 p.m.
	(Stockpile Stewardship and Management only)	
	April 2, 1996	8:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
	(Both Programs)	
	April 2, 1996	6:00 p.m.–10:00 p.m.
	(Storage and Disposition only)	
Kansas City, Missouri, Rockhurst College, 1100 Rockhurst Roadway, Kansas City, MO 64110.	April 9, 1996	12:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m.

Location	Date	Time
Livermore, California, LLNL Research Drive Training Center, 2140 Research Drive, Livermore, CA 94550.	April 9, 1996 April 11, 1996	6:00 p.m.–10:00 p.m. 12:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m.
Washington, D.C., Forrestal Bldg., Rm. 1E–245, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, D.C. 20585.	April 11, 1996 April 18, 1996	6:00 p.m.–10:00 p.m. 9:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
Amarillo, Texas, Radisson Inn Airport, 7909 I–40 East, at Lakeside, Amarillo, TX 79102 ...	April 22, 1996 April 23, 1996 (An evening meeting may be held April 23, 1996 if there is sufficient interest)	6:00 p.m.–11:00 p.m. 8:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m.
Santa Fe, New Mexico, High Mesa Inn, 3347 Cerrillos Road, Santa Fe, NM 87505	April 25, 1996	6:00 p.m.–10:00 p.m.
North Augusta, SC, North Augusta Community Center, 101 Brookside Drive, North Augusta, SC 29841.	April 30, 1996	8:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.
	April 30, 1996	6:00 p.m.–11:00 p.m.

Details regarding the format and procedures for the public hearings will be published locally. Hearing times will be extended, as appropriate, to accommodate public interest.

The public comment period will extend until May 7, 1996. Written or oral comments on the Draft EIS are invited from the general public, other government agencies, and all other interested parties. Comments received or postmarked by May, 7, 1996, whether written or oral, submitted directly to the Department, or presented during a public hearing, will be given equal consideration in preparation of the Final EIS. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practicable. DOE will use the comments received to help prepare the Final version of the EIS. A Final PEIS for Stockpile Stewardship and Management is expected to be completed by July 1996. A Record of Decision would be completed no sooner than 30 days after the Final PEIS is issued.

Signed in Washington, D.C. this 6th day of March, 1996.

Eldon W. Joersz,

Major General, USAF, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary For Military Application, Defense Programs.

[FR Doc. 96–5699 Filed 3–8–96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450–01–P

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP96–153–000]

ANR Pipeline Company; Notice of request for Suspension of FERC Gas Tariff Requirement

March 5, 1996.

Take notice that on February 29, 1996, ANR Pipeline Company (ANR) filed, pursuant to Rule 207 of the Rules of Practice and Procedure of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 18 CFR 385.207, a request for suspension of its

tariff provisions regarding the filing of the annual redetermination of the monthly charge for services provided to High Island Offshore System (HIOS) under ANR's Rate Schedule X–64.

ANR states that HIOS gave ANR notice of its intent to terminate its existing service agreement with ANR effective May 22, 1995, and that on February 28, 1996, ANR and HIOS entered into an agreement in principle for new rates and charges for the service provided under Rate Schedule X–64 which agreement eliminates the need to determine annually the rate through the end of calendar year 2000. Thereafter, unless the parties agree otherwise, the annual redetermination requirement may be reactivated. Accordingly, ANR requests that the tariff provision which requires an annual rate redetermination filing by ANR be suspended.

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest said filing should file a motion to intervene or protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426 in accordance with Rules 214 and 211 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.214 or 385.211). All such motions or protests should be filed on or before March 12, 1996. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make Protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party must file a motion to intervene. Copies of this application are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96–5623 Filed 3–8–96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717–01–M

[Docket No. RP96–161–000]

ANR Pipeline Company; Notice of Proposed Changes in FERC Gas Tariff

March 5, 1996.

Take notice that on February 29, 1996, ANR Pipeline Company (ANR) tendered for filing as part of its FERC Gas Tariff, Second Revised Volume No. 1, the following revised tariff sheet, proposed to become effective March 1, 1996:

Sixteenth Revised Sheet No. 18

ANR states that the above-referenced tariff sheet is being filed to implement an annual true-up of the recovery of its Above-Market Dakota Costs, as required by its recovery tariff mechanism. ANR advises that the filing proposes a negative reservation surcharge adjustment of (\$0.076) applicable to its currently effective, firm service Rate Schedules. ANR states that this negative surcharge is proposed to return to ANR's customers, over the twelve month period of March 1, 1996 to February 28, 1997, the \$3.4 million of above-market Dakota cost overcollections, inclusive of interest, which is reflected in the true-up filing.

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest this filing should file a motion to intervene or protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, in accordance with 18 CFR 385.214 and 385.211 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. All such motions or protests must be filed as provided in Sections 154.210 of the Commission's Regulations. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party must file a motion to intervene. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public