

military services to redefine their roles and identify the types of weapons and platforms most effective to future success in regional conflicts.

Concurrent with the rise of regional conflicts has been a trend of significant reductions in national defense spending. The Patuxent River Complex has been affected by the 1991, 1993, and 1995 Base Realignment and Closure Act (BRAC) decisions to relocate Naval Aviation Research, Development, Test and Evaluation (RDT&E) facilities from Warminster, Pennsylvania and Trenton, New Jersey and Naval Air Systems headquarters from Arlington, Virginia to the Complex. (Environmental Impact Statements were prepared in 1993 and 1994 to assess this realignment of these functions; issues addressed in these NEPA documents will be incorporated by reference only in the EIS for the Patuxent River Complex Integrated Management Plan.) These realignments and consolidation of their assets will better position NAWCAD to carry out its mission as the Navy's principal RDT&E, engineering, and fleet support activity for Naval fixed and rotary wing aircraft and associated systems from acquisition through all life cycle phases.

In response to these changes, NAWCAD recognized the need to initiate a strategic planning initiative that included the preparation of an Integrated Management Plan for the NAWCAD-controlled assets in the Patuxent River Complex. The implementation of the plan will enable the Navy to meet its commitment to conserve and protect the unique natural and cultural resources of the Patuxent River Complex and Chesapeake Bay while protecting human health and welfare.

The Integrated Management Plan will provide a framework within which NAWCAD can efficiently and effectively utilize the assets under its control to meet its strategic planning initiatives while complying with applicable local, state, and Federal laws. However, prior to NAWCAD adoption of the Integrated Management Plan, compliance with NEPA is required. The preparation of an EIS will meet these NEPA requirements. The EIS will address a range of alternatives that focus on varying workload levels associated with both RDT&E and military training support activities: (1) Level I Workload Alternative will consist of RDT&E activities at recent levels and an increase in military training support activities for a combined total of approximately 22,000 flight hours per year; (2) Level II Workload Alternative will consist of increases in RDT&E activities and military training support

activities for a combined total of approximately 24,000 flight hours per year; and (3) Level III Workload Alternative will consist of increased RDT&E activities and military training support activities for a combined total of approximately 26,000 flight hours per year. As required by NEPA, the EIS will also consider the No Action Alternative. This alternative would consist of RDT&E activities and military training support activities at existing workload levels.

Topics to be addressed in the EIS will include, but are not limited to, noise, air quality, vegetation and wildlife, water quality, and socioeconomic impacts, including environmental justice. Federal, state, and local agencies, and interested individuals are encouraged to participate in a scoping process to determine the range of issues related to the proposed action.

Five public scoping meetings will be held to receive oral and written comments. Each scoping meeting will provide opportunities for clarification of the draft Integrated Management Plan and alternatives and solicit input from representatives of government agencies and interested individuals. The Navy will set up information stations at these scoping meetings that will describe the Patuxent River Complex, the scope of Integrated Management Plan, and the NEPA EIS process. Each information station will be attended by a Navy presenter who will be available to answer questions from meeting attendees. Comments will be entered into the official record in several ways: written comments sheets available at each meeting; tape recorders located throughout the meeting area; and via a stenographer who will be available to transcribe statements. Written comments will also be accepted via mail or fax. Regardless of the commenting method chosen, all comments will receive the same attention and consideration during EIS preparation.

The five public scoping meetings will be held at the following times and locations: (1) Prince Frederick, Maryland on May 6, 1997 at the Calvert High School from 3:30 pm–5:30pm and 6:30 pm–8:30 pm; (2) Leonardtown, Maryland on May 8, 1997 at the Leonardtown High School from 3:30 pm–5:30 pm and 6:30 pm–8:30 pm; (3) Burgess, Virginia on May 12, 1997 at the Fairfields Baptist Church from 3:00 pm–6:00 pm; Westover, Maryland on May 14, 1997 at the JM Tawes Technical Center from 3:00 pm–6:00 pm; and (5) Cambridge, Maryland on May 15, 1997 at the Christ Episcopal Church from 2:00 pm–5:00 pm and 6:30 pm–8:30 pm. The schedule for the public scoping

meetings will also be available by calling (888) 276–5201.

**ADDRESSES:** The Navy will accept comments at the address below at any time during the environmental impact statement process. To ensure that the Navy has sufficient time to consider public input during preparation of the Draft EIS, scoping comments should be submitted to the address below by June 1, 1997. For further information concerning the preparation of the EIS, or to provide written comment, contact: Cathy A. Partusch, Public Affairs Officer, Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division, Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Maryland, telephone (301) 342–7512, ext. 24; fax (301) 342–7509; Internet: PartuschCA%am5@mr.nawcad.navy.mil.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Additional information concerning this notice may be obtained by contacting Ms. Cathy Partusch at (301) 342–7512.

Dated: March 21, 1997.

**M.A. Waters,**

*LCDR, JAG, USN, Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

[FR Doc. 97–8191 Filed 3–31–97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3810–FF–P

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance; Meeting

**AGENCY:** Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance, Education.

**ACTION:** Notice of upcoming meeting.

**SUMMARY:** This notice sets forth the schedule and proposed agenda of a forthcoming meeting sponsored by the Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance. This notice also describes the functions of the Committee. This document is intended to notify the general public.

**DATES:** Monday, April 21, 1997, beginning at 9:00 a.m. and ending at approximately 5:00 p.m. and Tuesday, April 22, beginning at 8:30 a.m. and ending at approximately 2:00 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** Radisson Barcelo Hotel, 2121 P Street, N.W., National A Room, in Washington, D.C. 20037.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Brian K. Fitzgerald, Staff Director, Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance, 1280 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Suite 601, Washington, D.C. 20202–7582 (202) 708–7439.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Advisory Committee on Student

Financial Assistance is established under Section 491 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 as amended by Public Law 100-50 (20 U.S.C. 1098). The Advisory Committee is established to provide advice and counsel to the Congress and the Secretary of Education on student financial aid matters including providing technical expertise with regard to systems of need analysis and application forms, making recommendations that will result in the maintenance of access to postsecondary education for low- and middle-income students, conducting a study of institutional lending in the Stafford Student Loan Program and an in-depth study of student loan simplification. The Advisory Committee fulfills its charge by conducting objective, nonpartisan, and independent analyses of important student aid issues. As a result of passage of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (OBRA) of 1993, Congress assigned the Advisory Committee the major task of evaluating the Ford Federal Direct Loan Program (FDLP) and the Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP). The Committee was directed to report to the Secretary and Congress on not less than an annual basis on the operation of both programs and submit a final report by January 1, 1997. The Committee submitted to Congress its final recommendations on the advisability of fully implementing the FDLP on December 11, 1996. The Advisory Committee has now focused its energies on activities related to reauthorization of the Higher Education Act of 1998.

The Advisory Committee will meet in Washington, D.C. on April 21, 1997, from 9:00 a.m. to approximately 5:00 p.m. and on April 22, from 8:30 a.m. to approximately 2:00 p.m.

The proposed agenda includes (a) presentations and discussion sessions on budget proposals and congressional and other legislative proposals related to reauthorization of the Higher Education Act, in particular, access issues; (b) progress to date on the President's tax proposals; and (c) an update on the Department of Education's reauthorization initiatives including the delivery system; and (d) a planning session on the Committee's agenda for the remainder of fiscal year 1997, and other Committee business. Space is limited and you are encouraged to register early if you plan to attend. You may register through Internet at [ADV\\_COMSFA@ED.gov](mailto:ADV_COMSFA@ED.gov) or [Tracy\\_Deanna\\_Jones@ED.gov](mailto:Tracy_Deanna_Jones@ED.gov). Please include your name, title, affiliation, complete address (including Internet and e-mail—if available), and telephone and fax numbers. If you are unable to

register through Internet, you may mail or fax your registration information to the Advisory Committee staff office at (202) 401-3467. Also, you may contact the Advisory Committee staff at (202) 708-7439. The registration deadline is Tuesday, April 15, 1997.

Records are kept of all Committee proceedings, and are available for public inspection at the Office of the Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance, 1280 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Suite 601, Washington, D.C. from the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., weekdays, except Federal holidays.

Dated: March 27, 1997.

**Brian K. Fitzgerald,**

*Staff Director, Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance.*

[FR Doc. 97-8201 Filed 3-31-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-M

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP97-5-004]

#### Algonquin Gas Transmission Company; Notice of Compliance Filing

March 26, 1997.

Take notice that on March 24, 1997, Algonquin Gas Transmission Company (Algonquin) tendered for filing as part of its FERC Gas Tariff, Fourth Revised Volume No. 1, the following tariff sheets to be effective April 1, 1997:

Sub Original Sheet No. 639A  
Sub Third Revised Sheet No. 650  
Sub First Revised Sheet No. 651  
Sub Original Sheet No. 656A  
Sub Second Revised Sheet No. 659  
Sub First Revised Sheet No. 660  
Sub Second Revised Sheet No. 662  
2 Sub First Revised Sheet No. 714

Algonquin asserts that the purpose of this filing is to comply with the Commission's Order on Compliance Filings and Rehearing, issued March 13, 1997 in Docket Nos. RP97-5-001, RP97-5-002, and RP97-5-003.

Algonquin states that copies of this filing were served on firm customers of Algonquin, interested state commissions, current interruptible customers and all parties on the service list.

Any person desiring to protest this filing should file a protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, DC 20426, in accordance with Section 385.211 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. All such protests must be filed as provided in Section 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. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection in the Public Reference Room.

**Lois D. Cashell,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 97-8150 Filed 3-31-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

[Docket No. RP96-190-000]

#### Colorado Interstate Gas Company; Notice of Informal Settlement Conference

March 26, 1997.

Take notice that an informal settlement conference will be convened in this proceeding on Thursday, April 3, 1997, at 10:00 a.m., at the offices of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, DC, for the purpose of exploring the possible settlement of the above-referenced docket.

Any party, as defined in 18 CFR 385.102(c), or any participant, as defined in 18 CFR 385.102(b), is invited to attend. Persons wishing to become a party must move to intervene and receive intervenor status pursuant to the Commission's regulations, 18 CFR 385.214.

For additional information, contact Lorna J. Hadlock at (202) 208-0737, or Donald Williams at (202) 208-0743.

**Lois D. Cashell,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 97-8148 Filed 3-31-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

[Docket No. OA97-8-000]

#### Consolidated Water Power Company; Notice of Filing

March 26, 1997.

Take notice that on January 31, 1997, Consolidated Water Power Company tendered for filing a Notice of Withdrawal of its open access non-discriminatory transmission service tariff filing.

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, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211 and 18 CFR 385.214). All such motions or protests should be filed on or before April 4, 1997. Protests will be