

# Notices

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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

#### Klamath Provincial Advisory Committee (PAC)

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Klamath Provincial Advisory Committee will meet on January 8 and 9, 1998 at the Best Western Hilltop Inn California Room 2300 Hilltop Drive, Redding, California. On January 8, the meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. and adjourn at 5:00 p.m. The meeting on January 9 will resume at 8:00 a.m. and adjourn at 2:00 p.m. Agenda items to be covered include: (1) ecological and soci-economic considerations associated with the Northwest Forest Plan (green tree retention vs. thinning); (2) Tribal panel presentation on impacts from the Northwest Forest Plan; (3) subcommittee reports; and (4) public comment periods. All PAC meetings are open to the public. Interested citizens are encouraged to attend.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Connie Hendryx, USDA, Klamath National Forest, at 1312 Fairlane Road, Yreka, California 96097; telephone 530-842-6131, (FTS) 700-467-1309.

Dated: December 9, 1997

**Jan Ford,**

*Acting Forest Supervisor.*

[FR Doc. 97-33002 Filed 12-17-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Natural Resources Conservation Service

#### Bexar-Medina-Atascosa Counties Water Conservation Plan and Environmental Impact Statement, Bexar, Medina, Atascosa Counties, Texas

**AGENCY:** Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of record of decision.

**SUMMARY:** John P. Burt, State Conservationist, responsible Federal Officer for projects administered under the provisions of Public Law 83-566, 16 U.S.C. 1001-1008, in the State of Texas, is hereby providing notification that a Record of Decision to proceed with the Bexar-Medina-Atascosa Counties Water Conservation Plan is available. Single copies of this Record of Decision may be obtained from John P. Burt at the address shown below.

For further information contact John P. Burt, Natural Resources Conservation Service, 101 South Main, Temple, Texas 76501-7682, telephone 254-742-9800.

(This activity is listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance under No. 10.904, Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention, and is subject to the provisions of Executive Order 12372, which requires intergovernmental consultation with state and local officials)

Dated: December 8, 1997.

**John P. Burt,**

*State Conservationist.*

[FR Doc. 97-33082 Filed 12-17-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-16-M

## COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

### Agenda and Notice of Public Meeting of the Arkansas Advisory Committee

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, that a meeting of the Arkansas Advisory Committee to the Commission will convene at 6:00 p.m. and adjourn at 8:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 22, 1998, at the Little Rock Hilton, 925 South University, Little Rock, Arkansas 72204. The purpose of the meeting is to provide orientation for new members, brief the Committee on

Commission activities, and plan future Committee activities.

Persons desiring additional information, or planning a presentation to the Committee, should contact Melvin L. Jenkins, Director of the Central Regional Office, 913-551-1400 (TDD 913-551-1414). Hearing-impaired persons who will attend the meeting and require the services of a sign language interpreter should contact the Regional Office at least ten (10) working days before the scheduled date of the meeting.

The meeting will be conducted pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the Commission.

Dated at Washington, DC, December 10, 1997.

**Carol-Lee Hurley,**

*Chief, Regional Programs Coordination Unit.*  
[FR Doc. 97-33001 Filed 12-17-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6335-01-P

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### International Trade Administration

#### Secretarial Business Development Mission to Turkey

**SUMMARY:** Secretary of Commerce William M. Daley will lead a business development mission to Turkey, one of Eurasia's most significant emerging markets, to promote expanded trade opportunities, advocate for U.S. business interests, advance significant commercial policy objectives, and support the inaugural meeting of the U.S.-Turkey Business Development Council.

This mission to one of the most rapidly growing Big Emerging Markets will advance the Secretary's priorities on behalf of American firms and workers, including: (1) Ensuring participation by U.S. firms in major Turkish projects; (2) reducing/eliminating non-tariff barriers to U.S. exports and investments; (3) securing compliance with trade agreements, especially those related to international arbitration; (4) advocating for acceptable terms for U.S. energy investment projects; and (5) strengthening Turkish government officials and business executives' favorable impression of U.S. technology, business practices and companies.

The Secretary's mission will focus on the energy sector, with particular

emphasis on power equipment and services and will include U.S. companies whose interests range from assessing opportunities in the Turkish market to expanding existing business relationships. The mission will begin in Ankara, the capital of Turkey, for meetings with Government officials, Turkish business representatives and U.S. companies currently active in Turkey. It will continue on to Istanbul. A key focus of the mission will be to explore ways U.S. firms may put their technologies and know-how to work in helping Turkey to execute pending power development projects, which will total billions of dollars. The mission also will seek to capitalize on opportunities in other sectors for mutually-beneficial trade and investment.

**DATES:** January 19–21, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** (none).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Applications may be submitted any time after December 15th to Cheryl Bruner, Director of the Office of Business Liaison, or Eric Schwerin at (202) 482–1360, fax (202) 482–4054. All applications must be received by January 7, 1998. Applications received after January 7th will be considered on a space available basis.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

The Mission itinerary will be as follows:

January 18 (Sunday)—Mission arrival and orientation

January 19 (Monday)—Ankara

January 20 (Tuesday)—Ankara with departure for Istanbul

January 21 (Wednesday)—Istanbul—Mission concludes Wednesday evening

**Overall Commercial Setting**

Turkey, with its geographic relationship to Europe, the Middle East and the southern tier of the Newly Independent States, is a natural Big Emerging Market for U.S. business. Over the past decade, Turkey had the highest average GNP growth rate of any OECD country. Its large population, growing private sector, extensive infrastructure and building requirements, and a government commitment to liberalize the economy are expected to propel continued economic expansion into the 21st century.

Increased industrial and urban growth has created an overburdened physical infrastructure, and the continuing stress of rapid urbanization has generated a massive investment requirement to improve living conditions. Increasingly, the Turkish government has encouraged

the local private sector and international investors to construct and operate urgently needed energy, transportation, and environmental infrastructure.

Privatization plans present significant opportunities for U.S. firms. Successive Turkish governments have recognized that privatization generates financial resources, reduces fiscal drain, and improves economic efficiency. Electricity generation, transportation and petroleum refining and distribution are among the sectors offering such opportunities.

**Energy, Power Equipment and Services Commercial Setting**

Recent legislative changes and the formation of a new centrist government may be opening the way for rapid private power development. This situation has led to the following developments which should create a strong equipment and services market in Turkey:

- The Turkish national power company held a tender for five new power plants with 5200 MW of capacity on a Build-Operate basis, at an estimated cost of \$3.75 billion.

- The Turkish power company has tendered the Transfer of Operating Rights (TOR) for eight plants and announced the winning bidders on October 17. Renovation investments in these plants could amount to several hundred million dollars.

- The Turkish distribution monopoly has issued a TOR for 25 local distribution systems, with awards expected shortly.

- Turkish energy officials have informed energy companies that they will tender seven additional new plants in 1998.

These opportunities exist alongside important tender, contract and financing issues which often stand in the way of project realization. It is hoped that the Secretary's mission can assist in the resolution of such problems.

**Goals for the Mission**

Reaffirm U.S. Government commitment and support for Turkey's program of privatization of state enterprises and heighten U.S. private sector participation in Turkey's economic growth.

Increase sales of U.S. energy products and services to Turkey, particularly in the power equipment and services sector, by exposing representatives of qualified U.S. companies in the power equipment and services sector to currently expanding opportunities brought about by the construction of large new power plants, privatization of existing plants and distribution

networks, and renovation and modernization of inefficient and environmentally-damaging plants. Increase sales of other U.S. products and services to Turkey.

Seek resolution of outstanding bilateral commercial issues and advocate U.S. interests regarding specific problems and opportunities in certain key areas: (1) Power generation and energy; (2) economic reforms; and (3) compliance with trade agreements, especially those related to international arbitration.

**Scenario for the Mission**

The Secretary's business development mission will visit the capital of Turkey, Ankara, and conclude in Istanbul. This mission will promote Turkey as a key emerging market that warrants the attention of a wide range of U.S. firms, from ready to export small or medium sized firms to large firms exploring new business opportunities.

Mission recruitment of 8 to 10 enterprises will focus on the energy, power equipment and services sectors. Mission recruitment will also draw on commercial opportunities for goods and services resulting from the privatization plans of the Turkish government and from other opportunities for U.S. firms in Turkey.

In his meetings with officials of the Government of Turkey, the Secretary will work to move our commercial dialogue forward, identifying issues that still impede U.S. companies' ability to do business in Turkey and encouraging steps to remove the obstacles. The timing of the trip to coincide with the inaugural meeting of the U.S.-Turkey Business Development Council will provide an exceptional venue for advancing cooperation between the U.S. and Turkish private sectors.

The program for the mission will include:

Embassy/consulate briefings on the commercial/economic environment  
Meetings with Turkish Government Officials

Meetings with Turkish enterprises and trade associations

Meetings with American business executives based in Turkey

**Company Participation Will Be Determined on the Basis of**

Status as U.S.-owned or U.S.-based company with capacity to deliver relevant equipment or services to Turkey. The goods or services provided must either be produced in the United States or, if not, must be marketed in the name of a U.S. firm and have at least 51% U.S. content in the value of the finished product or service. The

company must not be owned or controlled, indirectly or directly by a foreign government.

Consistency of the company's goals with the scope and desired outcome of the mission as described herein.

Past, present and prospective business in Turkey.

Diversity of company size, type, location, demographics, and traditional under-representation in business.

An applicant's partisan political activities (including political contributions) are irrelevant to the selection process.

#### Other Trip Objectives and Events

In addition to the mission scenario described above, Secretary Daley will also support the inaugural meeting in Ankara of the U.S.-Turkey Business Development Council in order to establish an improved bilateral business and government cooperation for expanding commercial, trade and investment relations. The Secretary will seek to accomplish several commercial policy objectives in bilateral government to government meetings with Turkish officials in Ankara and with the press and private sector in Istanbul. Our bilateral policy agenda includes addressing IPR issues, investment barriers to U.S. companies, insuring compliance with international arbitration agreements, regulatory issues related to the privatization of telecommunications companies, Caspian pipeline construction and supply issues, and investment policies related to "Build-Operate" and "Build, Operate Transfer."

Dated: December 12, 1997.

**Catherine Vial,**

*Acting Director, Energy Division/OEIM/BI/TD.*

[FR Doc. 97-32966 Filed 12-17-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DR-P

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### International Trade Administration

#### Notice of Opportunity to Apply to Serve on the Board

**AGENCY:** International Trade Administration, Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of Opportunity to Apply to Serve on the Board of the United States-India Commercial Alliance.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Commerce is currently seeking applications for three individuals to serve on the U.S. section of the Board of the United States-India Commercial Alliance (USICA). On January 16, 1995, Ronald

H. Brown, U.S. Secretary of Commerce, and Pranab Mukherjee, India's Minister of Commerce, signed terms of reference creating USICA. On October 17, 1996, Michael Kantor, U.S. Secretary of Commerce, and B.B. Ramaiah, India's Minister of Commerce, signed an agreement extending USICA for two years, until January 15, 1999. The purpose of USICA is to facilitate the further development of commercial relations, trade, and investment between U.S. and Indian private sector businesses. USICA is administered and its activities are coordinated by a Board composed of an equal number of private sector representatives from the United States and India. U.S. and Indian Board members are selected by the U.S. Secretary of Commerce and Indian Minister of Commerce, respectively. The work of the USICA, which includes trade missions, conferences, and roundtables bringing together business persons from the United States and India, currently is focused on four economic sectors: information technology, transportation and infrastructure, food processing and packaging ("agribusiness"), and power. Individual Board members generally concentrate their efforts on one of these sectors.

**Further Information:** Private sector representatives will be appointed to the Board for a two year term, or until January 15, 1999, if USICA is not extended beyond its current expiration date. Applications are now being sought for private sector members to serve for a term beginning February 9, 1998. Private sector members will serve at the discretion of the Secretary. They are expected to participate fully in defining the agenda for USICA and in implementing its work program. It is expected that private sector individuals chosen for the USICA Board will attend at least 75% of USICA meetings which will be held in the U.S. and India.

Private sector Board members are fully responsible for travel, living and personal expenses associated with their participation in USICA. The private sector Board members will serve in a representative capacity presenting the views and interests of the particular business sector in which they operate; private sector Board members are not special government employees.

USICA works on issues of common interest to encourage bilateral trade and investment, including, but not limited to, the following:

—Implementing trade/business development and promotion programs including trade missions, conferences,

exhibits, seminars and other events, and

—Adopting sectoral or project oriented approaches to expand business opportunities and discussing concerns relating to expanding commercial opportunities

**Selection:** There are ten positions on the U.S. side of the USICA Board, of which three are currently vacant. This notice is seeking applications for those three positions.

**Eligibility requirements.** Applicants must be:

- A U.S. citizen residing in the United States or a permanent United States resident;
- A CEO or other top management level employee of a U.S. company or organization involved in commercial activities between the United States and India;
- A member of a leading business association; and
- Not a registered foreign agent under the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938 (FARA).

In reviewing eligible applicants, the Commerce Department will consider:

- The applicant's expertise in one of the following business sectors in which USICA is active: transportation and infrastructure, and food processing and packaging (agribusiness);
- Readiness to initiate and be responsible for USICA activities in the business sectors in which USICA is active;
- Ability to contribute in light of overall Board composition (for example, to ensure balance in representation of industry sectors);
- Diversity of company size, type, location, demographics or additional under-representation in business.

To be considered for membership, please provide the following: name and title of the individual requesting consideration; name and address of the company or organization sponsoring each individual; company's product or service line; size of the company; export experience and major markets; a brief statement of why each candidate should be considered for membership on the USICA Board; the particular segment of the business community each candidate would represent; a personal resume; and a statement that the applicant is not a registered foreign agent under FARA.

**Deadline:** In order to receive full consideration, requests must be received no later than: January 20, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Please send your requests for consideration to Richard D. Harding, Director, Office of South Asia and Oceania, U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 2308, 14th St. and Constitution