

acceptability and applicability of the test method according to their statutory mandates.

### Obtaining the Report

The full report contains 238 pages and includes the results of the independent peer review evaluation and supporting documentation, including the original test method submission and supporting data evaluations conducted by NICEATM.

To receive a copy of the report, please contact NICEATM at PO Box 12233, MD EC-17, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709 (mail), 919-541-3398 (phone), 919-541-0947 (fax), or iccvam@niehs.nih.gov (email). The report will also be available on the ICCVAM/NICEATM website at <http://iccvam.niehs.nih.gov>.

Dated: June 15, 1999.

**Samuel H. Wilson,**

*Deputy Director, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences.*

[FR Doc. 99-15725 Filed 6-18-99; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR-4420-N-03]

RIN 2577-AB89

### Public Housing Agency Plan and Section 8 Certificate and Voucher Merger Announcement of Public Forum

**AGENCY:** Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing, HUD.

**ACTION:** Public forums announcement.

**SUMMARY:** This document announces the (1) exact location of the public forum to be held in Syracuse, New York, on HUD's Public Housing Agency (PHA) Plan interim rule that was published on February 18, 1999, and on HUD's Section 8 certificate and voucher merger interim rule (Section 8 merger) that was published on May 14, 1999, and (2) an additional public forum to be held on both rules in Washington, DC. The statute authorizing these two rules requires that before HUD issues final rules on these subjects, HUD will convene at least two public forums for each rule, and specifically seek recommendations from certain organizations and individuals, as specified in the statute.

**DATES:** June 28, 1999, and July 28, 1999. The exact times for discussion of each rule at these two forums is provided in the Supplementary Information section of this document.

**ADDRESSES:** The June 28, 1999 public forum will be held at Grant Auditorium, E.I. White Hall, College of Law, Syracuse University, Syracuse, New York. The July 28, 1999 public forum will be held at HUD Headquarters, 451 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** This information will be posted on the QHWRA page of HUD's website ([www.hud.gov/pih/legis/titlev.html](http://www.hud.gov/pih/legis/titlev.html)). Information also may be obtained by contacting your local HUD office, or by contacting the Office of Policy, Program and Legislative Initiatives, in the Office of Public and Indian Housing, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 Seventh Street, SW, Room 4116, Washington, DC 20410; telephone (202) 708-0713 (this is not a toll-free number). Persons with hearing or speech impairments may access that number via TTY by calling the Federal Information Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Background

##### PHA Plan Interim Rule

Section 511 of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998 (Pub.L. 105-276, 112 Stat. 2461, approved October 21, 1998) (the 1998 Act) added a new section 5A to the United States Housing Act of 1937 (USHA) (42 U.S.C. 1437 *et seq.*). This new section provides for public housing agencies (PHAs) to develop and submit to HUD two plans—a five-year plan and an annual plan on their goals and objectives and current PHA operations. Section 511 also required HUD to publish, within 120 days of enactment of the statute, an interim rule implementing the requirements of the PHA plans and the submission process. HUD published its interim rule on February 18, 1999 (64 FR 8170) (the PHA Plan rule). The PHA Plan rule provided a 60-day public comment period which closed on April 19, 1999.

Section 511 also requires that before HUD issues its final PHA Plan rule, HUD will seek recommendations on implementation of the PHA plans from organizations representing:

- (1) State or local public housing agencies;
- (2) Residents, including resident management corporations;
- (3) Other appropriate parties.

Section 511 also requires HUD to convene not less than two public forums at which the person or organization making recommendations may express their views concerning the proposed disposition of their recommendations.

Through its February 18, 1999 interim rule, HUD specifically sought recommendations from these categories of organizations (see 64 FR 8170, middle column), and again seeks their recommendations through this document.

### Section 8 Certificate and Voucher Merger Rule

Section 545 of the 1998 Act amended section 8(o) of the USHA to provide for the merger of the Section 8 certificate and voucher programs. HUD's interim rule implementing the merger of these two programs was published on May 14, 1999 (64 FR 26632) (Merger rule). The Merger rule provides for a 60-day public comment period which closes on July 13, 1999. In accordance with section 559 of the 1998 Act, HUD will also hold a minimum of two public forums on this rule.

Section 559 provides that the Secretary of HUD shall issue interim regulations as may be necessary to implement the amendments made by the 1998 Act as these amendments relate to section 8(o) of the USHA. Section 559 also provides that before the publication of final regulations, in addition to public comment invited in connection with the publication of the interim rule, the Secretary shall seek recommendations on the implementation of sections 8(o)(6)(B), 8(o)(7)(B) and 8(o)(10)(D) of the USHA and on the implementation of the renewals of expiring tenant-based assistance from organizations representing:

- (1) State or local public housing agencies;
- (2) Owners and managers of tenant-based housing assisted under section 8 of the USHA;
- (3) Families receiving tenant-based assistance under section 8 of the USHA; and
- (4) Legal services organizations.

Section 559 also requires HUD to hold not less than two public forums at which the individuals and organizations described above may express views concerning the proposed disposition of the recommendations.

Through its May 14, 1999 interim rule, HUD specifically sought rulemaking recommendations from these categories of organizations (see 64 FR 26635, middle column), and again seeks their recommendations through this document.

### Public Forum Dates and Locations

June 28, 1999 Public Forum. The June 28, 1999 public forum in Syracuse, New York, will be HUD's third public forum on the PHA Plan rule, and its second

public forum on the Merger rule. (HUD's public forum announcement, published on April 27, 1999, provided the dates and locations of the earlier public forums (see 64 FR 22550).)

The public forum on the PHA Plan rule will be held from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm.

The public forum for the Merger rule will be held from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

Both public forums will be held at Grant Auditorium, E.I. White Hall, College of Law, Syracuse University, Syracuse, New York.

July 28, 1999 Public Forum. The July 28, 1999 public forum in Washington, DC, will be HUD's fourth public forum on the PHA Plan rule, and its third public forum on the Merger rule. On this date, the discussion of the Merger rule will precede the discussion of the PHA Plan rule.

The public forum for the Merger rule will be held from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm.

The public forum on the PHA Plan rule will be held from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

Both public forums will be held at HUD Headquarters, 451 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC.

#### *Discussions at Public Forums*

So that the discussions at the public forums can be productive, recommendations from the categories of organizations specified in the statute need to be submitted in as far in advance of the forum date as possible to: the Regulations Division, Office of General Counsel, Room 10276, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC 20410.

Communications should include the following reference: "PHA Plan rule (FR-4420); Public Forum" or "Section 8 Merger rule (FR-4428); Public Forum."

Dated: June 15, 1999.

**Harold Lucas,**

*Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing.*

[FR Doc. 99-15628 Filed 6-18-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4210-33-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Office of the Assistant Secretary— Policy, Management and Budget

[FA-108-2810-00-24-IE]

### Notice of Intent To Establish the Joint Fire Science Program Stakeholder Advisory Group and Call for Non- Federal Nominations

**AGENCY:** Department of the Interior;  
Office of the Assistant Secretary For  
Policy Management and Budget.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent to establish the Joint Fire Science Program Stakeholder Advisory Group; Public call for nominations.

**SUMMARY:** This notice is published in accordance with section 9(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) of 1972 (5 U.S.C. App.). Notice is hereby given that the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture intend to establish the Joint Fire Science Program Stakeholder Advisory Group to provide advice concerning priorities and approaches for research and implementation of research findings for the management of wildland fuels on lands administered by the Department of the Interior, through the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Department of Agriculture, through the Forest Service (FS).

**DATES:** Nominations should be submitted to the address listed below no later than July 21, 1999.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Bob Clark, Joint Fire Science Program Manager, National Interagency Fire Center, 3833 S. Development Ave., Boise, Idaho 83705, (208) 387-5349. Internet: b1clark@nifc.blm.gov.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Stakeholder Advisory Group will consist of 30 members, 15 Federal and 15 nonfederal. This call for nominations will establish the nonfederal membership on the Group. Group membership will be balanced in terms of categories of interest represented.

Any individual or organization may nominate one or more persons to serve on the Joint Fire Science Program Stakeholder Advisory Group. Individuals may also nominate themselves for Group membership. All nomination letters should include the name, address, profession, relevant biographic data, and reference sources for each nominee, and should be sent to the above address. Letters of support should be from interests or groups that nominees claim to represent. This material will be used to evaluate nominees in terms of their expertise and qualifications for advising the Secretaries on matters pertaining to research into wildland fuels problems and implementation of strategies and solutions for managing the increasing fuel loadings on federally administered wildlands.

Nominations may be made for the following categories of interest:

Wildland fire management  
Wildland fuels management  
Air quality management

Public lands management  
Forest ecology  
Rangeland ecology  
Hydrology  
Conservation  
Social science  
Computer science and modeling  
Tribal government  
Public-at-large

The specific category that the nominee will represent should be identified in the letter of nomination.

Agency administrators will nominate Federal representatives, including: Four (4) members from the FS, and one member each from the Bureau of Land Management, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Park Service, the U.S. Geological Survey, the Department of Energy, the Department of Defense, the Environmental Protection Agency, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Each Stakeholder Advisory Group Member will be appointed to serve a 2-year term.

Members will serve without salary, but non-federal members will be reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses at current rates for Government employees.

The Group will meet at least once annually. Additional meetings may be called in connection with special needs for advice. The Department of the Interior's Senior Policy Advisor, Office of Managing Risk and Public Safety, will be the Designated Federal Officer who will call meetings of the Group.

Dated: June 11, 1999.

**John Berry,**

*Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget.*

[FR Doc. 99-15655 Filed 6-18-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-84-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

### Endangered and Threatened Species Permit Applications

**ACTION:** Notice of receipt of applications.

**SUMMARY:** The following applicants have applied for a permit to conduct certain activities with endangered species. This notice is provided pursuant to section 10(a) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531, *et seq.*).