

EIS No. 990429, Draft EIS, FRC, MT, ID, Cabinet Gorge (No. 2058-014) and Noxon Rapids (No. 2075-014) Hydroelectric Project, Relicensing, MT and ID, Due: January 03, 2000, Contact: Bob Easton (202) 219-2782.

EIS No. 990430, Draft EIS, COE, AZ, Rio de Flag Flood Control Study, Improvement Flood Protection, City of Flagstaff, Coconino County, AZ, Due: January 04, 2000, Contact: David Compas (213) 452-3850.

EIS No. 990431, Draft EIS, FHW, OH, Meigs-124-21.16 Transportation Corridor, Relocating existing OH-124 and US 33, Meigs County, OH, Due: January 10, 2000, Contact: Timothy M. Hill (614) 644-0377.

EIS No. 990432, Final EIS, AFS, CO, Arapahoe Basin Ski Area Master Development Plan, Construction and Operation, COE Section 404 Permit, White River National Forest, Dillon Ranger District, Summit County, CO, Due: December 20, 1999, Contact: Michael Liu (970) 468-5400.

EIS No. 990433, Draft EIS, FTA, CA, Vasona Corridor Light Rail Transit Project, Extension of existing Light Rail Transit (LRT), in portion of the Cities of San Jose, Campbell and Los Gatos, Santa Clara County, CA, Due: January 03, 2000, Contact: Jerome Wiggins (415) 744-3115.

EIS No. 990434, Final EIS, DOE, CA, NM, TX, ID, SC, WA, Surplus Plutonium Disposition (DOE/EIS-0283) for Siting, Construction and Operation of three facilities for Plutonium Disposition, Possible Sites Hanford, Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory, Pantex Plant and Savannah River, CA, ID, NM, SC, TX and WA, Due: December 20, 1999, Contact: G. Bert Stevenson (202) 586-5368.

Dated: November 16, 1999.

William D. Dickerson,

Director, NEPA Compliance Division,

Office of Federal Activities.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[ER-FRL-6248-3]

Environmental Impact Statements and Regulations; Availability of EPA Comments

Availability of EPA comments prepared November 01, 1999 through November 05, 1999 pursuant to the Environmental Review Process (ERP), under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act and Section 102(2)(c) of the National

Environmental Policy Act as amended. Requests for copies of EPA comments can be directed to the Office of Federal Activities at (202) 564-7167.

An explanation of the ratings assigned to draft environmental impact statements (EISs) was published in FR dated April 10, 1999 (63 FR 17856).

Draft EISs

ERP No. D-AFS-J65312-WY—Rating EC2, Squirrel Meadows—Grand Targhee Land Exchange Proposal, Implementation, Targhee National Forest, Teton County, WY.

Summary: EPA has environmental concerns about the lack of analysis on the direct and indirect impacts to wetlands and wildlife habitat from the additional development in proposed alternatives B, C, and D. Because the land exchange and resulting base area development are "connected actions" EPA believe a more detailed environmental analysis is required.

ERP No. D-AFS-K65219-CA—Rating EC2, Eldorado and Tahoe National Forests Land and Resource Management Plan, Standard and Guidelines for the Grazing Allotments, Implementation, CA.

Summary: EPA expressed environmental concerns with the potential resource shortfalls that might prevent monitoring and restoration activities as well as a lack of mandatory reductions in AUMs, elimination of grazing on specific allotments, or the triggering of additional protections when monitoring goals are not achieved.

ERP No. D-AFS-L65332-OR—Rating LO, Ashland Creek Watershed Protection Project, Proposal to Manage Vegetation, Rogue River National Forest, Ashland Ranger District, City of Ashland, Jackson County, OR.

Summary: EPA Region 10 used a screening tool to conduct a limited review of this action. Based upon the screen, EPA does not foresee having any environmental objections to the proposed project.

ERP No. D-FAA-A52169-00—Rating LO, Programmatic EIS—Commercial Launch Vehicles, Implementation, Issuing a Launch License.

Summary: EPA had no objection to the proposed action, although some text clarification suggestion were provided.

ERP No. D-FHW-J40151-WY—Rating EC2, Wyoming Forest Highway 23 Project, Louis Lake Road also known as Forest Development Road 300, Improvements from Bruce's Parking Lot to Worthen Meadow Road, Funding, NPDES Permits and COE Section 404 Permit, Shoshone National Forest, Fremont County, WY.

Summary: EPA expressed environmental concerns regarding the analysis of cumulative/indirect impacts and the range of alternatives. EPA requested that mitigation be included to reduce erosion and sedimentation of adjacent water and also requested additional information on alternatives for the existing roadway and potential cumulative effects to wildlife in the Forest.

ERP No. D-FRC-L05220-WA—Rating EC2, Warm Creek (No. 10865) and Clearwater Creek (No. 11485) Hydroelectric Project, Issuance of License for the Construction and Operation, Located in the Middle Fork Nooksack River (MFNR) Basin, WA.

Summary: EPA expressed concerns over the purpose and need for the projects, given their very small size; potential impacts to salmonids in the event of access above the Middle Fork Nooksack River diversion dam, which is downstream from the projects; and a lack of a true cost benefit analysis.

ERP No. DS-FHW-G50008-00—Rating EC2, Great River Bridge, Construction, US 65 in Arkansas to MS-8 in Mississippi, Funding, COE Section 404 Permit and US Coast Guard Bridge Permit, Desha and Arkansas Counties, AR and Bolivar County, MS.

Summary: EPA expressed environmental concerns regarding wetland and wildlife habitat impacts and the mitigation of these impacts. EPA requested that additional information be provided on these issues in the next document.

Final EISs

ERP No. F-AFS-L60106-ID, Long Prong Project, Timber Harvesting, Road Construction and Reconstruction, Boise National Forest, Cascade Ranger District, Valley County, ID.

Summary: No formal comment letter sent to the lead agency.

ERP No. F-AFS-L65290-ID, North Lochsa Face Landscape and Watershed Assessment Project, Implementation, Clearwater National Forest, Lochsa Ranger District, Idaho County, ID.

Summary: No formal comment letter was sent to the preparing agency.

ERP No. F-AFS-L65303-WA, I-90 Land Exchange between Forest Service and Plum Creek, within the Vicinity of the Wenatchee, Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie and Gifford Pinchot National Forests, Kittitas, King, Pierce, Lewis, Cowlitz and Skamania Counties, WA.

Summary: EPA expressed lack of objections.

ERP No. F-COE-L32010-OR, Columbia and Lower Willamette River Federal Navigation Channel,

Improvement Channel Deepening, OR and WA.

Summary: EPA's previous concerns have been addressed, therefore EPA has no objection to the proposed action.

ERP No. F-FHW-F40375-IL, IL-315 Federal Aid Primary (FAP) (Illinois-336) Transportation Project, Construction from FAP 315, IL 336 (Southeast of Carthage) to US 136 (Just West of Macomb), Funding, COE 404 Permit and NPDES Permit, Hancock and McDonough Counties, IL.

Summary: EPA's previously expressed concerns for documentation of wetlands avoidance/minimization and identification of a satisfactory conceptual wetlands compensation plan have been resolved. Therefore, EPA has no objections to the action as proposed.

ERP No. F-FHW-F40381-MN, Phalen Boulevard Project, Construction of a new 4.3 Kilometer Roadway, from I35E to Johnson Parkway, Funding, in the City of St. Paul, Ramsey County, MN.

Summary: Final EIS provided adequate information and analysis to address EPA's previous environmental concerns, therefore, EPA has no objection to the proposed action.

ERP No. F-NOA-B91026-ME, Atlantic Herring (*Clupea harengus harengus*) Fishery Management Plan (FWP), Management Measures, Exclusive Ecosystem Zone (EEZ), Gulf of Maine, George Bank, ME.

Summary: EPA had no objections to the project.

ERP No. F-NOA-B91027-00, Spiny Dogfish (*Squalus acanthras*) Fishery Management Plan, Implementation, Northwest Atlantic Ocean, Labrador to Florida.

Summary: EPA had no objection to the project and offered general comments with respect to ghost fishing and the characterization of ocean disposal issues.

ERP No. F-NPS-K61123-CA, Backcountry and Wilderness Management Plan, General Management Plan Amendment, Joshua Tree National Park, Riverside and San Bernardino Counties, CA.

Summary: No formal comment letter was sent to the preparing agency.

ERP No. F-NPS-L61160-AK, Lower Sheenjek River Wild/Scenic River Study, Designation or Non-Designation for Inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic River System, Tributary of the Porcupine River, Yukon Flats National Wildlife Refuge, AK.

Summary: No formal comment letter sent to the preparing agency.

Dated: November 16, 1999.

William D. Dickerson,

Director, NEPA Compliance Division, Office of Federal Activities.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6479-1]

Science Advisory Board; Notification of Public Advisory Committee Meeting

Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Public Law 92-463, notice is hereby given that the Environmental Models Subcommittee (EMS) of the Science Advisory Board's (SAB) Executive Committee, will meet Monday and Tuesday December 13 and 14, 1999 in the Environmental Research Center (ERC) Classroom No. 2, Highway 54 & Alexander Drive, at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27711. The meeting will begin at 9:00 am on December 13 and adjourn no later than 5:00 pm on December 14th (Eastern Time). This meeting is open to the public, however, seating is limited and available on a first come basis. Documents that are the subject of SAB reviews are normally available from the originating U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) office and are not available from the SAB Office. Public drafts of SAB reports are available to the Agency and the public from the SAB office. Details on availability are noted below.

Purpose

The purpose of this meeting is to: (a) Conduct an advisory on the Agency's Total Risk Integrated Methodology (TRIM) as part of a continuing review of this modeling system which is being developed by the Office of Air and Radiation (OAR), Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards (OAQPS) to support the Agency's regulatory decision making for air pollutants; (b) receive an update and briefing on the workplan for implementation of activities of the Council for Regulatory Environmental Modeling (CREM); and (c) conduct planning for the Fiscal Year 2000 activities of the Environmental Models Subcommittee (EMS) of the Science Advisory Board (SAB), such as a possible future review of the MINTEQA2 model.

SAB Advisory on TRIM

The Agency's OAR is developing TRIM which is intended to support the Agency's regulatory decision making for

air pollutants. The intent in creating TRIM with a flexible framework using open architecture is that it will provide the Agency with essential multi-media, multi-pathway air pollutant modeling capabilities in the short term, as well as allow the Agency to take advantage of future advances made over the longer term modeling and monitoring research. The basic charge questions the Agency is raising to the SAB's EMS deal with the overall TRIM system, as well as the three individual modules. The charge questions on the overall TRIM system deal with the TRIM's current design, modular approach, and open architecture, as well as the scientific reasonableness of plans for addressing uncertainty and variability. Questions are being asked by the Agency to the SAB's EMS regarding improvements in the ability of TRIM.FaTE to incorporate outputs from external models, to model chemical transformation and metals, and to incorporate seasonal processes. An additional question is focused on issues associated with the incorporation of both horizontal and vertical atmospheric dispersion and diffusion algorithms, as well as what alternate methods might be recommended to incorporate these algorithms. The SAB's EMS will also be asked to critique an evaluation plan for TRIM.FaTE. In addition, questions are being raised with regard to the adequacy of the TRIM.Expo proposed conceptual design and specific algorithms chosen in the modeling framework, as well as the adequacy of the conceptual plan for the TRIM.Risk module.

The SAB's EMS will also be updated on the activities and work plan for implementation of the Committee for Environmental Regulatory Modeling (CREM).

For Further Information

Copies of the review documents and any background materials for the review are *not available* from the SAB. The TRIM review documents are available from the program office by contacting Dr. Deirdre Murphy by telephone at (919) 541-0729; by fax at (919) 541-0237, or by E-mail at <murphy.deirdre@epa.gov>. The documents that are being provided to the SAB's EMS include the following: (1) TRIM Status Report, (2) TRIM.FaTE Technical Support Document, Vol. I, (3) TRIM.FaTE Technical Support Document, Vol. II, and (4) TRIM.EXPO Technical Support Document. The CREM update will be available to the Subcommittee as well as to members of the public at the meeting. You may call, fax or E-mail the program office for information regarding the status of