

SUMMARY: In accordance with 37 CFR 404.6, announcement is made of the availability for licensing of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/454,721 entitled "Live Attenuated Venezuelan Equine Encephalitis" filed December 7, 1999. Foreign rights are also available (PCT/US99/29041). This patent has been assigned to the United States Government as represented by the Secretary of the Army.

ADDRESSES: Commander, U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command, ATTN: Command Judge Advocate, MCMR-JA, 504 Scott Street, Fort Detrick, Frederick, Maryland 21702-5034.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For patent issues, Ms. Elizabeth Arwine, Patent Attorney, (301) 619-7808. For licensing issues, Dr. Paul Mele, Office of Research & Technology Assessment, (301) 619-6664. Both at telefax (301) 619-5034.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: A live attenuated Venezuelan equine encephalitis virus (VEE) is described which comprises a viral gene rearrangement. This rearranged attenuated virus is useful as vaccine for protection against infection with VEE. Methods of preparing the virus and methods of using the virus are described.

Elizabeth Arwine,
Patent Attorney.

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BILLING CODE 3710-08-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers

Intent to Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) as Part of a Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, Permit Application Evaluation for the Proposed South Lawrence Trafficway/K-10 Highway Extension Project, in and near the City of Lawrence, in Douglas County, Kansas

AGENCY: U.S. Corps of Engineers, DOD.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The Kansas City District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) intends to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to address social, economic, and environmental impacts of the proposed South Lawrence Trafficway/K-10 Highway Extension Project located in Douglas County Kansas. The Corps is evaluating a permit application or the proposed work under the authority of Section 404

of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1344). The EIS will be used as a basis for the permit decision and to ensure compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The permit applicant is the Kansas Department of Transportation.

ADDRESSES: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District, Operations Division, Regulatory Branch, OD-R, 700 Federal Building, 601 E. 12th Street, Kansas City, Missouri, 64106-2896.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Robert J. Smith, Regulatory Project Manager, (816) 983-3635 or mail to: robert.j.smith@usace.army.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District will serve as the lead Federal agency and prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) on the proposed South Lawrence Trafficway/K-10 Highway Extension Project located in Douglas County, Kansas. The proposed highway project would extend from a western terminus at an interchange with U.S. 59 (Iowa Street), to an eastern terminus a new interchange with existing K-10, for an approximate distance of six miles. The Corps will be evaluating a permit application for the work under the authority of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1344). The EIS will be used as a basis for the permit decision and to ensure compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The permit applicant is the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT). A similar project proposed by Douglas County, Kansas, commonly known as the South Lawrence Trafficway, where the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) was the lead Federal agency, had an EIS and supplemental EIS prepared and evaluated over approximately a ten-year period. The Final Supplemental EIS resulted in the No Build alternative being selected in the Record of Decision (ROD), dated July 5, 2000. The FHWA is not involved in the new proposed project. The new proposed project will involve KDOT as the sole applicant. Additional alternatives and a revised project purpose and need, will be part of the project.

2. The Corps study will evaluate the "No Action" alternative as well as a system traffic management alternative and various alignments under the highway construction alternative. Alternative alignments currently identified under the highway construction alternative included: (1) 31st Street, (2) 32nd Street, (3) 35th Street, (4) 38th Street and, (5) 42nd

Street. All of the alignments under the highway construction alternative would involve the placement of fill material in the waters of the United States and would therefore require prior authorization, by the Corps, under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. In addition, all but one of these alignments could potentially affect the Haskell Indian Nations University and/or the Baker Wetlands.

3. Scoping Process.

a. A formal public scoping meeting will be held for the project in Lawrence, Kansas on August 30, 2001. The exact time and location of the scoping meeting will be announced when the details are finalized. Additional information meetings and workshops have and will continue be held in the study area to engage the local and regional community in the decision-making process, to obtain public input and to keep the public informed. Coordination meetings will be held as needed with affect/concerned local, State, Tribal, and Federal government entities. These meetings and workshops, as well as any meetings which were previously held regarding this project, will serve as the collective scoping process for preparation of the DEIS. Draft documents forthcoming from the study will be distributed by the Corps to Federal, Tribal, State and local governments/agencies as well as interested members of the general public for review and comment. Public notices, meeting announcements and NEPA/Section 04 decision documents will also be available on the Kansas City District's Regulatory homepage at <http://www.nwk.usace.army.mil/regulatory/regulatory.htm>.

b. The DEIS will analyze the potential social, economic, and environmental impacts to the project are resulting from the proposed highway transportation project. Specifically, the following significant issues will be analyzed in depth in the DEIS: impacts to the aquatic ecosystem; impacts to cultural resources; Native American and Tribal interests; impact to fish and wildlife resources; impacts to flood control and floodplain values; impacts to transportation systems, impacts to recreation; environmental justice; secondary and cumulative impacts; and socioeconomic.

c. Environmental consultation and review will be conducted in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as per regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality (Code of Federal Regulations parts 40 CFR 1500-1508), and other applicable laws, regulations, and guidelines.

4. It is anticipated that the DEIS will be made available for public review in January of 2002.

Luz D. Ortiz,

Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 01-19759 Filed 8-6-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-KN-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers

Intent To Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Mississippi River-Gulf Outlet (MR-GO), Louisiana, Reevaluation Study

AGENCY: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The Mississippi River-Gulf Outlet (MR-GO) is a deep-draft navigation channel built to provide the tidewater dock facilities of the Port of New Orleans, Louisiana, with direct access to the Gulf of Mexico. Construction of the channel began in 1958 and an interim channel was opened in 1963. The channel was completed to authorized dimensions of 36 feet deep by 500 feet wide in 1968. The channel is currently used by container and bulk cargo ships, as well as other deep-draft vessels that utilize the docks along the Inner Harbor Navigation Canal and MR-GO in New Orleans. Many shallow-draft vessels also use the channel. The Corps of Engineers is evaluating modifications to the MR-GO project, with a focus on alternatives that would reduce channel dimensions. Improvements and relocations planned and currently occurring in the Port of New Orleans may reduce the need for the deep draft channel. Some environmental groups and segments of the public want the MR-GO closed or reduced in size for environmental reasons and to lessen the risk of flooding from hurricane storm surge.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Questions concerning the EIS should be addressed to Mr. Richard Boe at (504) 862-1505. Mr. Boe may also be reached at FAX number (504) 682-2572 or by E-mail at richard.e.boe@mvn02.usace.army.mil. Mr. Boe's address is U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, PM-RS, P.O. Box 60267, New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. *Authority.* The MR-GO was authorized by the River and Harbor Act of 1956 (P.L. 84-455). The USACE has

the authority to conduct reevaluation studies of authorized projects if a significant period of time has elapsed or conditions have changed significantly since a feasibility study was completed. Construction authorities imply the authority to undertake reevaluation studies.

2. *Proposed Action.* The proposed action is to reduce the controlling depth of the MR-GO. Economic analyses will be performed to determine the current and future needs for the channel by various draft vessels, and the costs and benefits of maintaining channels of various sizes.

3. *Alternatives.* Channel depths of 12, 16, and 20 feet will be investigated. The current authorization provides for a 36-foot deep channel. Alternatives to be investigated include abandonment of channel dredging until a minimal controlling channel dimension is reached, whereupon channel maintenance would resume to maintain the new channel size. Also, structural features will be investigated to quickly reduce the controlling depth of the channel. These structures will be evaluated for their effectiveness in producing desirable effects on salinity levels and fish and wildlife habitats, especially tidal wetlands. The structures will also be evaluated for their effectiveness in reducing hurricane storm surge.

4. *Scoping.* Scoping is the process for determining the scope of alternatives and significant issues to be addressed in the EIS. For this study, a letter will be sent to all parties believes to have an interest in the study, requesting their input on alternatives and issues to be evaluated. The letter will also notify interested parties of a public scoping meeting that will be held in the local area. Notices will also be sent to local news media. All interested parties are invited to comment at this time, and anyone interested in this study should request to be included in the study mailing list.

A public scoping meeting will be held on August 30, 2001, at 7 pm. The meeting will be held in the St. Bernard Parish Council Meeting Room of the St. Bernard Parish Government Complex located at 8201 West Judge Perez Drive in Chalmette, Louisiana.

5. *Significant Issues.* The tentative list of resources and issues to be evaluated in the EIS includes tidal wetlands (marshes and swamps), aquatic resources, wildlife resources, essential fish habitat, water quality, air quality, threatened and endangered species, recreation resources, and cultural resources. Socioeconomic items to be evaluated in the EIS include navigation, flood protection, business and industrial

activity, employment, land use, properly values, public/community facilities and services, tax revenues, population, community and regional growth, vehicular transportation, housing, community cohesion, and noise.

6. *Environmental Consultation and Review.* The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) will be assisting in the documenting of existing conditions and assessment of effects of project alternatives through Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act consultation procedures. The USFWS will also provide a Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act report. Consultation will also be accomplished with the USFWS and the National Marine Fisheries Service concerning threatened and endangered species. The draft EIS or a notice of its availability will be distributed to all interested agencies, organizations, and individuals.

7. *Estimated Date of Availability.* Funding levels will dictate the date when the draft EIS is available. The earliest that the draft EIS may be expected to be available is mid-2002.

Luz D. Ortiz,

Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 01-19761 Filed 8-6-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers

Notice of Intent To Prepare a Joint Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS)/Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) for the Llagas Creek Flood Control Project

AGENCY: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DOD.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers San Francisco District (Corps) in coordination with the Santa Clara Valley Water District (SCVWD) is preparing a joint Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS)/Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) for the Llagas Creek Flood Control Project. This project will provide flood protection for residential, commercial, and agricultural developments in southern Santa Clara County, to protect and improve water quality in the watershed and to preserve and enhance the rivers's habitat, fisheries, and wildlife.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Christopher K. Eng either by telephone at (415) 977-8543, by fax at (415) 977-