

DATES: Comments must be received in writing on or before October 6, 2006 to be assured of consideration. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practicable.

ADDRESSES: Comments concerning this notice should be addressed to Director, Engineering Staff, RPC5, USDA Forest Service, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Mail Stop 1101, Washington, DC 20250-1101.

Comments also may be submitted via facsimile to (703) 605-1542 or by e-mail to: jbello1@fs.fed.us.

The public may inspect comments received at the Office of the Director of Engineering, USDA Forest Service, 1601 N. Kent St., Room 500, Arlington, VA 22209 during normal business hours. Visitors are encouraged to call ahead to (703) 605-4646 to facilitate entry to the building.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John Bell, Engineering Staff, at (703) 605-4612. Individuals who use TDD may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1-800-877-8339, 24 hours a day, every day of the year, including holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Application for Permit, Non-Federal Commercial Use of Roads Restricted by Order.

OMB Number: 0596-0016.

Expiration Date of Approval: August 31, 2006.

Type of Request: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: Authority for road use permits is derived from the National Forest Roads and Trails Act (Pub. L. 88-657, 16 U.S.C. 532-538, as amended). The law authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to establish procedures for sharing investments in roads and to require commercial users to perform road maintenance commensurate with their use of roads. Detailed implementing regulations are contained in Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations, sections 212.5, 212.9, and 261.54. 36 CFR 212.5 and 36 CFR 212.9 authorize the Chief of the Forest Service to establish procedures for investment sharing and to require commercial users to perform road maintenance commensurate with use. 36 CFR 261.54 contains a national prohibition against using a National Forest System road for commercial hauling without a permit or written authorization when so provided by order. Forest Service policies implementing the regulations are found in Forest Service Manual chapter 7730. The policies require Forest Supervisors to enter into appropriate investment sharing arrangements, to require commercial users of National Forest System roads to perform road

maintenance commensurate with their use, and to issue orders that implement the national prohibition at 36 CFR 261.54. These policies assure that those commercial haulers not already operating under investment and maintenance sharing provisions contained in Forest Service permits and contracts will obtain road use permits. The road use permits they obtain contain requirements for maintenance and investment sharing.

FS-7700-40—Application for Permit for Non-Federal Commercial Use of Roads Restricted by Order. This form is used by individuals, corporations, or organizations that apply for a permit to use National Forest System roads for non-Federal commercial use. The following information is collected: (1) Name, address, and telephone number; (2) identification by Forest Service route number of roads to be used; (3) purpose of use; (4) use schedule; and (5) plans for future use. The requester submits the information to the Forest Supervisor or District Ranger responsible for the National Forest System roads on which commercial vehicular use is requested. Engineering personnel on the staff of the responsible National Forest System unit evaluates the information. The information is used by the Forest Service to identify road maintenance required as a direct result of the applicant's vehicular traffic and to calculate the applicant's commensurate share of road maintenance. The information will also be used to calculate collections for recovery of past Federal investments in roads when that method of sharing investment is appropriate. These fees are then embodied in clauses in the road use permit (FS-7700-41) issued to the applicant.

Estimate of Annual Burden: 15 minutes per application.

Type of Respondents: Commercial users of National Forest System roads.

Estimated Annual Number of Respondents: 2,000.

Estimated Annual Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 500 hours.

Comment is invited on: (1) Whether this collection of information is necessary for the stated purposes and the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical or scientific utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4)

ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including the use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

All comments received in response to this notice, including names and addresses when provided, will be a matter of public record. Comments will be summarized and included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval.

Dated: July 28, 2006.

Gloria Manning,

Associate Deputy Chief, National Forest System.

[FR Doc. E6-12727 Filed 8-4-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Extension of Comment Period on the Proposed Land Management Plans for the Bitterroot, Flathead and Lolo National Forest

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

SUMMARY: The Forest Service published a notice in the **Federal Register** on May 8, 2006 initiating a 90-day comment period on the Proposed Land Management Plans for the Bitterroot, Flathead and Lolo National Forests. The closing date for submitting comments has been extended to September 7, 2006.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be sent to: Proposed Land Management Plan, Bitterroot National Forest, 1801 North 1st St., Hamilton, MT 59840. Comments by e-mail should be sent to: wmpz@fs.fed.us.

DATES: The comment period closing date has been extended, from August 7, 2006 to September 7, 2006.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Claudia Narcisco, 406-329-3802.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In the **Federal Register** of May 8, 2006, (FR Vol. 71, Num. 88, page 26734) the Forest Service initiated a 90-day comment period on the Proposed Land Management Plans for the Bitterroot, Flathead and Lolo National Forests. The closing date for submitting comments has been extended from August 7, 2006 to September 7, 2006.

Pursuant to 36 CFR 219.9(b)(2), the Bitterroot, Flathead and Lolo National Forests are asking for comments on their Proposed Forest Land Management Plans. The Plans are available for viewing and downloading at the Web

site: www.fs.fed.us/r1/wmpz. CD (Compact Disk) copies of the Plans have been mailed to persons on our current mailing list and are available to others on request. Plans are also available for viewing at Supervisors Offices and Ranger Stations on the Bitterroot, Flathead and Lolo National Forests.

Please note that all comments, names, and addresses become part of the public record and are subject to the Freedom of Information Act, except for proprietary documents and information.

Dated: July 31, 2006.

Deborah L.R. Austin,

Forest Supervisor, Lolo National Forest.

[FR Doc. 06-6706 Filed 8-4-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Notice of Resource Advisory Committee, Custer, SD

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to authorities in the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Public Law 92-463) and the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self determination Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-393), the Black Hills National Forest's Custer County Resource Advisory Committee will meet on Tuesday, August 15, 2006 in Custer, South Dakota for a business meeting. The meeting is open to the public.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The business meeting on August 15 will begin at 6 p.m. at the Black Hills National Forest Supervisor's office at 25041 North Highway 16, Custer, South Dakota. Agenda topics will include election of officers and discussion of potential projects.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mike Lloyd, Hell Canyon District Ranger and Designated Federal Officer, at 605-673-4853.

Dated: August 1, 2006.

Michael D. Lloyd,

District Ranger.

[FR Doc. 06-6704 Filed 8-4-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Utilities Service

Highwood Generating Station

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of Extension of Public Comment Period and Additional Public

Hearing, Draft Environmental Impact Statement, Highwood Generating Station, Great Falls, Montana.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) is extending the public comment period for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Highwood Generating Station (HGS), and, as requested, is conducting an additional public hearing. The Draft EIS was prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (U.S.C. 4231 et seq.) in accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA (40 CFR 1500-1508) and RUS regulations (7 CFR 1794). This document has been prepared jointly with the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ).

The Draft EIS is to evaluate the potential environmental impacts of and alternatives to the Southern Montana Electric Transmission & Generation Cooperative, Inc. (SME) application for a loan guarantee to construct a 250 megawatt (MW) coal-fired power plant near Great Falls, Montana. SME is proposing to use a coal combustion technology known as circulating fluidized bed (CFB). Along with other proposed pollution controls collectively known as Best Available Control Technology (BACT), the HGS would be among the cleanest-burning coal-fired power plants currently operating in the United States. SME also proposes to construct and operate four, 1.5-MW wind turbines to generate supplemental electrical power at the preferred project location eight miles east of Great Falls.

Receipt of the Draft EIS was announced by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency in the **Federal Register** on July 3, 2006 (official date June 30, 2006). Requests for extension of public comment periods may be honored per 40 CFR 1506.10. The initial 45-day public comment period was to end on August 15, 2006. With the 15-day extension, the new deadline for public comments is now August 30, 2006.

In addition to the public hearing held in Great Falls, Montana on July 27, an additional hearing will be held in Havre, Montana. The Havre public hearing will be held on August 7, 2006 at the Applied Technology Center Auditorium at MSU Northern, 300 West 11th Street, Havre, MT. An open house will be held from 5-7 p.m., with the hearing beginning at 7 p.m. The hearing will include a presentation summarizing the findings of the Draft EIS and the

opportunity for attendees to submit both oral and written comments. In accordance with 40 CFR Section 1503.1, Inviting Comments, the purpose of the meeting will be to solicit comments from interested parties on the Draft EIS for the Highwood Generating Station.

DATES: Written comments on this Draft EIS will be accepted on or before August 30, 2006.

ADDRESS FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: To send comments or for more information, contact: Richard Fristik, USDA, Rural Development, Utilities Programs, 1400 Independence Avenue, Mail Stop 1571, Room 2237, Washington, DC 20250-1571, telephone (202) 720-5093, fax (202) 720-0820, or e-mail: Richard.Fristik@wdc.usda.gov.

A copy of the Draft EIS can be obtained or viewed online at <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. The files are in a portable document format (pdf); in order to review or print the document, users need to obtain a free copy of Acrobat Reader. The Acrobat Reader can be obtained from <http://www.adobe.com/prodindex/acrobat/readstep.html>.

Copies of the Draft EIS will be available for public review during normal business hours at the following locations:

Montana State Library System, Attn: Roberta Gebhardt, P.O. Box 201800, Helena, MT 59620-1800, (406) 444-5393.
 University of Montana at Missoula, 32 Campus Drive 59801, Mansfield Library, Missoula, MT 59812, (406) 243-6866.
 Missoula Public Library, 301 East Main, Missoula, MT 59802-4799, (406) 721-2665.
 Montana State University Libraries, P. O. Box 173320, Bozeman, MT 59717-3320, (406) 994-3119.
 Great Falls Public Library, 301 2nd Ave North, Great Falls MT 59401-2593, (406) 453-0349.
 Chouteau County Library, 1518 Main, Fort Benton, MT 59442.
 Branches: Box 1247, Big Sandy, MT 59520; Box 316, Geraldine, MT 59446.
 MSU-Northern Library, P. O. Box 7751, Havre, MT 59501-7751.
 Havre-Hill County Library, 402 3rd St., Havre, MT 59501-3644.
 Stone Child College Library, R. R. 1 Box 1082, Box Elder, MT 59521.
 Belt Public Library, 70 Castner St., Belt, MT 59411-0467.
 Wedsworth Memorial Library, 9-1/2 Front St., Cascade, MT 59421-0526.
 Fort Belknap College Library and Tribal Archives, P. O. Box 159, Harlem, MT 59526.
 Harlem Public Library, 37 First Ave., SE, Harlem, MT 59526.