

10 U.S.C. 1092 and section 716 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1996 (Public L. 104-106).

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** November 1, 1997.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Marion Gosnell or Dr. John Sentell, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs), telephone (703) 697-8975.

Dated: June 27, 1997.

**L.M. Bynum,**

*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.*

[FR Doc. 97-17457 Filed 7-2-97; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 5000-04-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Air Force

#### Active Duty Service Determination for Civilian or Contractual Groups

On June 2, 1997, the Secretary of the Air Force determined that the service of the group known as "Yugoslavians attached to Headquarters 2677th Regiment, Office of Strategic Services (Prov.), Bari, Italy, who served in a military capacity with the United States Armed Forces in German occupied Yugoslavia" shall not be considered "active duty" under the provisions of Public Law 95-202 for the purposes of all laws administered by the Department of Veteran Affairs (VA).

**Barbara A. Carmichael,**

*Air Force Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

[FR Doc. 97-17505 Filed 7-2-97; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3910-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Army

#### Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact for the Transfer of the Common-Use Ground Communication-Electronics Maintenance Workload From Sacramento Air Logistics Center, McClellan Air Force Base, Sacramento, California, to Tobyhanna Army Depot, Tobyhanna, Pennsylvania

**AGENCY:** Department of the Army, DoD.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with Public Law 101-510 (as amended), the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990, the 1995 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission (BRAC) recommended the transfer of the Common-Use Ground Communication-Electronics (GCE) maintenance from the Sacramento Air Logistics Center (SM-

ALC), McClellan Air Force Base, Sacramento, California, to Tobyhanna Army Depot (TYAD), Tobyhanna, Pennsylvania.

The Environmental Assessment (EA) evaluates the anticipated environmental impacts associated with the proposed transfer of the GCE maintenance and 982 associated civilian positions from SM-ALC to TYAD. This transfer includes upgrading and renovating existing facilities and transferring test facilities and equipment to support mission receipt at TYAD. No new major construction is necessary.

The EA, which is incorporated into the Finding of No Significant Impact, examines potential impacts of the proposed action and alternatives on 13 resource areas and areas of environmental concern: land use, air quality, noise, water resources, geology, infrastructure, training areas, hazardous and toxic materials, biological resources and ecosystems, cultural resources, the sociological environment, economic development, and quality of life.

As the workload being relocated largely offsets recently experienced and projected future reductions at TYAD, the analysis found in the EA determined that the potential impacts on the quality of the natural or human environment from these relocations and facilities renovations would be temporary and not significant and would be mitigated through the use of best management practices. Therefore, implementation of the proposed action, subject to public comment, will not require the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement.

**DATES:** Inquiries will be accepted until August 4, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** A copy of the EA or inquiries into the FNSI may be obtained by writing to the Commander, Tobyhanna Army Depot, ATTN: SIOTY-PA (Mr. Kevin Toolan), 11 Hap Arnold Blvd., Tobyhanna, PA 18466-5076, or calling (717) 895-7308.

Dated: June 30, 1997.

**Raymond J. Fatz,**

*Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Environment, Safety and Occupational Health) OASA (I, L&E).*

[FR Doc. 97-17495 Filed 7-2-97; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

#### Notice of Intent to Solicit National Industrial Competitiveness Through Energy, Environment and Economics (NICE<sup>3</sup>) Grants

**AGENCY:** Department of Energy (DOE).

**ACTION:** Notice of Intent to Issue a Solicitation.

**SUMMARY:** The Office of Industrial Technologies of the Department of Energy is funding a State Grant Program entitled National Industrial Competitiveness through Energy, Environment and Economics (NICE<sup>3</sup>). The goals of the NICE<sup>3</sup> Program are to improve energy efficiency, promote cleaner production, and to improve competitiveness in industry. The intent of the NICE<sup>3</sup> program is to fund innovative projects that have completed the research and development stage and are ready to demonstrate a fully integrated commercial unit. Some industrial technologies that the NICE<sup>3</sup> program has funded follow: SO<sub>3</sub> Cleaning Process in the Manufacture of Semiconductors; Innovative Design of a Brick Kiln Using Low Thermal Mass Technology; Continuously Reform Electroless Nickel Plating Solutions; Fiber Loading for Paper Manufacture; and HCl Acid Recovery System. For the past seven years the NICE<sup>3</sup> program has offered 78 grants (approximately \$25.3 million) to fund innovative industrial technologies. In 1997 the Department of Energy offered \$4.8 million in grants to 13 U.S. companies in 11 states.

**Restricted Eligibility:** Eligible applicants for purposes of funding under the program include any authorized agency of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and any territory or possession of the United States. For convenience, the term State in this notice refers to all eligible State agency applicants. Local governments, State and private universities, private non-profits, private businesses and individuals, who are not eligible as direct applicants, must work with the appropriate State agencies in developing projects and forming participation arrangements. DOE requires these types of cooperative arrangements in support of program goals. The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance number assigned to this program is 81.105. Cost sharing is required by all participants. The Federal Government will provide up to 45 percent of the funds for the project. The

remaining funds must be provided by the eligible applicants and/or cooperating project participants. Cost sharing, by industry/State partners, beyond the 55 percent required match is desirable. In addition to direct financial contributions, cost sharing can include beneficial services or items, such as manpower, equipment, consultants and computer time that are allowable in accordance with applicable cost principles. The inclusion of industrial partners is required for a proposal to be considered responsive to the solicitation to be eligible for grant consideration. A State agency application signed by an authorized State official is required for a proposal to be responsive.

**Availability of Funds in FY 1998:**

With this publication, DOE is announcing the availability of up to \$6 million dollars in grant/cooperative agreement funds for fiscal year 1998. The awards will be made through a competitive process. In response to the solicitation, a State agency may include up to 10 percent, not to exceed \$25,000 per project, for State agency program support. The Federal share of grants including State agency program support may range up to \$425,000. Projects may cover a period of up to 3 years. DOE reserves the right to fund, in whole or in part, any, all, or none of the proposals submitted in response to this notice.

**Availability of the Solicitation:** DOE expects to issue the solicitation on August 1, 1997. To obtain a copy of the solicitation, eligible parties may write to the U.S. Department of Energy Golden Field Office, Attention: Amy Johnson, 1617 Cole Boulevard, Golden, Colorado 80401, or obtain an electronic copy through the Golden Field Office Home Page at <http://www.eren.doe.gov/golden/solicit.htm> beginning August 1, 1997. Only written requests for the solicitation will be honored. For convenience, requests for the solicitation and referrals to the appropriate state agency may be faxed to Ms. Johnson at (303) 275-4788.

Issued in Golden, Colorado, on June 25, 1997.

**John W. Meeker,**

*Chief, Procurement, GO.*

[FR Doc. 97-17346 Filed 7-2-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP97-596-000]

#### ANR Pipeline Company; Notice of Application

June 27, 1997.

Take notice that, on June 20, 1997, ANR Pipeline Company (ANR), 500 Renaissance Center, Detroit, Michigan 48243, filed an abbreviated application requesting: (1) permission and approval, pursuant to Section 7(b) of the Natural Gas Act, to abandon (i.e., spin-down) a portion of its Holly Ridge Lateral facilities to ANR Field Services Company (ANRFS); (2) authorization, pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Natural Gas Act, to refunctionalize the Holly Ridge Lateral facilities that ANR will retain, from gathering to transmission; and (3) that the Commission find that the facilities to be transferred to ANRFS will be non-jurisdictional facilities after the transfer, all as more fully set forth in the application, which is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

The Holly Ridge Lateral facilities include 26.98 miles of 8-inch diameter pipeline, two 600 horsepower (hp) compressors, and a meter station. The first leg of the Holly Ridge Lateral extends for 15.88 miles, from ANR's Holly Ridge Meter Station, in Section 30, T11N, R10E, Tensas Parish, Louisiana, and on to ANR's Gilbert Interconnection with Mid Louisiana Gas Company, located in Section 8, T12N, R8E, Franklin Parish, Louisiana. From the Gilbert Interconnection, the Holly Ridge Lateral continues for another 11.1 miles to the a tie-in with ANR's Southeast Mainline, in Section 12, T13N, R6E, Franklin Parish, Louisiana.

ANR proposes to spindown the 15.88-mile portion of its Holly Ridge Lateral, the two 600 hp compressors, and the meter station to ANRFS. ANR proposes to retain and refunctionalize (from gathering to transmission) the remaining 11.1 miles of its Holly Ridge Lateral, and the Gilbert Interconnection. ANR requests that the Commission issue an order in this proceeding by August 1, 1997, authorizing ANR to spindown (to ANRFS) the Holly Ridge Lateral facilities upstream of the Gilbert Interconnection, authorizing ANR to refunctionalize the remaining Holly Ridge Lateral facilities (from gathering to transmission), and finding that the transferred facilities will be non-jurisdictional facilities after they have been transferred to ANRFS.

Any person desiring to be heard, or to make any protest with reference to said

application should, on or before July 18, 1997, file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Washington D.C., 20426, a motion to intervene or protest in accordance with the requirements of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.214 or 385.211) and the regulations under the Natural Gas Act (18 CFR 157.10). All protests filed with the Commission will be considered by it in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make the protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party to the proceeding, or to Docket participate as a party in any hearing therein, must file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules.

Take further notice that, pursuant to the authority contained in and subject to the jurisdiction conferred upon the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission by Sections 7 and 15 of the Natural Gas Act and the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, a hearing will be held without further notice before the Commission or its designee on this application, if no motion to intervene is filed within the time required herein, or if the Commission on its own review of the matter finds that permission and approval for the proposed abandonment and a grant of the certificate authorization are required by the public convenience and necessity. If a motion for leave to intervene is timely filed, or the Commission on its own motion believes that a formal hearing is required, further notice of such hearing will be duly given.

Under the procedure herein provided for, unless otherwise advised, it will be unnecessary for ANR to appear or be represented at the hearing.

**Lois D. Cashell,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 97-17439 Filed 7-2-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP97-400-000]

#### Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation; Notice of Termination of Gathering Services

June 27, 1997.

Take notice that on June 25, 1997, Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation (Columbia), tendered for filing a notice of termination of gathering service upon the transfer by sale of Columbia's Line 2 to Eastern American Energy