

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**Department of the Navy****Notice of Intent To Prepare a Legislative Environmental Impact Statement (LEIS) for the Continued Withdrawal of Lands at Bravo 20 Bombing Range (B-20), Fallon, Nevada as Identified in the Military Land Withdrawal Act of 1986**

SUMMARY: The Department of the Navy announces its intent to prepare a Legislative Environmental Impact Statement (LEIS) pursuant to Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 as implemented by Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR parts 1500-1508). The LEIS will analyze the proposed continued withdrawal of lands supporting B-20 at Naval Air Station (NAS) Fallon, Nevada. Section 5 of the Military Lands Withdrawal Act of 1986 (Pub. L. 99-606) directs the Navy to prepare an LEIS to evaluate the environmental effects of continued naval operations on the checkerboard pattern of withdrawn public lands that make up the B-20 training range. The LEIS will evaluate the cumulative effects of all NAS Fallon land withdrawals and serve as a Navy recommendation to Congress for consideration in determining the continued withdrawal of B-20 lands. In order to maintain the military mission, the Navy is proposing the continued use of the B-20 as defined by the Military Lands Withdrawal Act, Section 1(a). The actions considered in the LEIS would not result in the withdrawal of additional lands. The LEIS will analyze the potential environmental effects of the proposed action, public scoping alternatives, if applicable, and a "no action" alternative. Under the "no action" alternative, withdrawn lands listed in Section 1(a) of the Military Lands Withdrawal Act would not be renewed for continued military purposes.

ADDRESSES: The Navy is initiating a public scoping process for the purpose of determining public concerns and issues to be analyzed and addressed for this action. The Navy will hold public scoping meetings on December 9, 1997, from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., at the Fallon Convention Center, 100 Campus Way, Fallon, Nevada; on December 10, 1997, from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., at Pershing County District Office, 1150 Elmhurst Avenue, Lovelock, Nevada; and on December 11, 1997, from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., at Reno Sparks Convention Center, 4590 S. Virginia Street, Reno, Nevada. A Navy public

open house will occur at each site from 3:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. prior to each scoping meeting.

A brief presentation will precede a request for public information and comments. Navy representatives will be available at these meetings to receive information and comments from agencies and the public regarding issues of concern. It is important that federal, state and local agencies, and interested individuals take this opportunity to provide information or identify environmental concerns that should be addressed during the analysis and preparation of the LEIS. In the interest of the available time, each speaker will be asked to limit oral comments to three minutes. Comment forms will also be available to submit written comments at these meetings.

Agencies and the public are also invited and encouraged to provide written comments in addition to, or in lieu of, oral comments at the public scoping meetings. To be most helpful, scoping comments should clearly describe specific information, data, issues or topics which the commenter believes the LEIS should address. Written comments or questions regarding the scoping process and/or LEIS should be postmarked no later than Friday, February 13, 1998 and sent to the following address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Written statements and or questions regarding the scoping process should be mailed to: Commanding Officer, Engineering Field Activity West, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, 900 Commodore Drive, San Bruno, CA 94066-5006 (Attn: Mr. Sam Dennis, Code 7031), telephone (650) 244-3007, fax (650) 244-3206, e-mail at: slldennis@efawest.nav-fac.navy.mil.

Dated: November 19, 1997.

Darse E. Crandall,
LCDR, JAGC, USN, *Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

[FR Doc. 97-29904 Filed 11-12-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3810-FF-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**Department of the Navy****Notice of Intent To Grant Exclusive License; Edge Technologies, Inc.**

SUMMARY: The Department of the Navy hereby gives notice of its intent to grant to Edge Technologies, Inc., a revocable, nonassignable, exclusive license in the United States to practice the Government-owned inventions described in: U.S. Patent Number 4,906,879 entitled *Terbium-Dysprosium*

Magnetostrictive High Power Transducers

Anyone wishing to object to the grant of this license has 60 days from the date of this notice to file written objections along with supporting evidence, if any. Written objections are to be filed with the Carderock Division, Naval Surface Warfare Center, Code 004, 9500 MacArthur Blvd., West Bethesda, Maryland 20817-5700.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Dick Bloomquist, Director, Technology Transfer, Naval Surface Warfare Center Carderock Division, Code 0117, 9500 MacArthur Blvd., West Bethesda, Maryland 20817-5700, telephone (301) 227-4299.

Dated: November 4, 1997.

Darse E. Crandall,
LCDR, JAGC, USN, *Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

[FR Doc. 97-29793 Filed 11-12-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3810-FF-P

DELAWARE RIVER BASIN COMMISSION**Notice of Commission Meeting**

Notice is hereby given that the Delaware River Basin Commission will hold a regular business meeting on Wednesday, November 19, 1997. The meeting is open to the public and scheduled to begin at 1:30 p.m. in the Goddard Conference Room of the Commission's offices at 25 State Police Drive, West Trenton, New Jersey.

The subjects of the meeting will be as follows:

A. Minutes of the October 22, 1997 business meeting.

B. Announcements.

C. Report on Hydrologic Conditions in the Delaware River Basin. The report will include an update on the Basin's current drought warning status.

D. General Counsel's Report.

E. Jefferson Township Sewer Authority Docket No. D-97-6 CP. The Commission conducted public hearings on this project application on June 25 and July 28, 1997.

F. A Resolution to Adopt the Commission's Annual Budgets for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1999 and to Apportion Among the Signatory Parties the Amounts Required for the Support of the Current Expense and Capital Budgets. A public hearing on this budget was held on October 22, 1997.

G. A Resolution to Amend the Administrative Manual—Rules of Practice and Procedure. The Commission conducted a public hearing on the proposed amendments to its

Rules of Practice and Procedure on October 22, 1997.

H. Public Dialogue.

Dated: November 3, 1997.

Susan M. Weisman,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-29868 Filed 11-12-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6360-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Notice of Floodplain and Wetlands Involvement for the Proposed Jacksonville Electric Authority Circulating Fluidized Bed Combustor Project

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), and notice of floodplain and wetlands involvement.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy (DOE) announces its intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), the Council on Environmental Quality NEPA regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508), and the DOE NEPA regulations (10 CFR Part 1021), to assess the potential environmental and human health impacts of the construction and operation of a project proposed by the Jacksonville Electric Authority (JEA) that has been selected by DOE to demonstrate circulating fluidized bed (CFB) technology under the Clean Coal Technology (CCT) Program. The proposed project would involve construction and operation of a CFB combustor fueled by coal and petroleum coke to repower an existing steam turbine at JEA's Northside Generating Station in Jacksonville, Florida, to generate nearly 300 megawatts of electricity (MWe). This EIS will support a DOE decision regarding whether DOE will provide approximately \$75 million in cost-shared funding (about 24% of the total cost of approximately \$309 million) for the proposed project.

The purpose of this Notice of Intent is to inform the public about the proposed action; present the schedule for the action; announce the plans for a public scoping meeting; invite public participation in the scoping process; and solicit public comments for consideration in establishing the scope and content of the EIS. The EIS will evaluate the potential impacts of the

proposed action and reasonable alternatives. Because the proposed project may involve an action in floodplains and wetlands, the EIS will include a floodplain and wetlands assessment and a statement of findings in accordance with DOE regulations for compliance with floodplain and wetlands environmental review requirements (10 CFR Part 1022).

DATES: To ensure that the full range of issues related to this proposal is addressed, DOE invites comments on the scope and content of the EIS from all interested parties. All comments must be received by December 31, 1997, to ensure consideration. Late comments will be considered to the extent practicable. In addition to receiving comments in writing and by telephone, DOE will conduct a public scoping meeting in which agencies, organizations, and the general public are invited to present oral comments or suggestions with regard to the range of actions, alternatives, and impacts to be considered in the EIS. The scoping meeting will be held at the Northside Generating Station, In-Plant Conference Room, 4377 Heckscher Drive, Jacksonville, Florida, on Wednesday, December 3, 1997, at 7 p.m.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and requests to participate in the public scoping process should be addressed to: Dr. Jan Wachter, NEPA Document Manager for the JEA Project, Federal Energy Technology Center, U.S. Department of Energy, 3610 Collins Ferry Road, Morgantown, WV 26507-0880. Individuals who would like to verbally or electronically provide comments should contact Dr. Wachter at direct telephone 304-285-4607; toll free number 1-800-432-8330 (ext. 4607); fax 304-285-4469; or E-mail JWACHT@FETC.DOE.GOV.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To obtain additional information about this project or to receive a copy of the draft EIS when it is issued, contact Dr. Jan Wachter at the address provided above. For general information on the DOE NEPA process, contact Ms. Carol M. Borgstrom, Director, Office of NEPA Policy and Assistance (EH-42), U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20585-0119; telephone 202-586-4600; or leave a message at 1-800-472-2756.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background and Need for the Proposed Action

Under Public Law 99-190, Congress provided authorization and funds to

DOE to support the construction and operation of demonstration facilities selected for cost-shared financial assistance as part of DOE's CCT Program. In December 1985, Congress made funds available to DOE for conducting the first round of the CCT Program. Congress directed that this first solicitation for federal cost-sharing (1) be open to all market applications of clean coal technologies, (2) apply to any segment of the U.S. coal resource base, and (3) encompass both new and retrofit applications. In response to the solicitation, proposals were received and projects were selected by DOE for negotiation. In addition, a list of alternate candidates was established from which replacement selection could be made should any of the original selections not proceed. JEA's proposed CFB combustor project has evolved through a series of site changes from a project that was selected from the alternate list for demonstration.

The demonstration of JEA's CFB combustor project under the CCT Program would fulfill an existing DOE programmatic need. Coal has the potential to address critical energy supply issues because of its abundant reserves; however, barriers to increased use of coal include concerns about environmental issues, such as acid deposition, global climate change, polyaromatic hydrocarbon emissions, and solid waste. Since the early 1970's, DOE and its predecessor agencies have sponsored long-term programs to develop innovative coal technologies through the proof-of-concept stage to overcome these environmental barriers while improving combustion efficiency and reducing costs.

However, the availability of a technology at the proof-of-concept stage is not sufficient to ensure its continued development and subsequent commercialization. Before any technology can seriously be considered for commercialization, it must be demonstrated at a large enough scale to prove its reliability and to show economically competitive performance. The financial risk associated with such large-scale demonstration is, in general, too high for the private sector to assume in the absence of strong incentives. The congressionally-directed CCT Program provides a mechanism to accelerate the commercialization of innovative technologies to meet the nation's near-term energy and environmental goals, to