

Four, Suite 500, Arlington, Virginia 22202.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The mission of the Advisory Group is to provide advice to the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology, to the Director of Defense Research and Engineering (DDR&E), and through the DDR&E to the Director, Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency and the Military Departments in planning and managing an effective and economical research and development program in the area of electron devices.

The AGED meeting will be limited to review of research and development programs which the Military Departments propose to initiate with industry, universities or in their laboratories. The agenda for this meeting will include programs on Radiation Hardened Devices, Microwave Tubes, Displays and Lasers. The review will include details of classified defense programs throughout.

In accordance with Section 10(d) of Pub. L. 92-463, as amended, (5 U.S.C. App. § 10(d) (1994)), it has been determined that this Advisory Group meeting concerns matters listed in 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(1) (1994), and that accordingly, this meeting will be closed to the public.

Dated: October 15, 1998.

L.M. Bynum,

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

[FR Doc. 98-28144 Filed 10-20-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5000-04-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary of Defense

Meeting of the DOD Advisory Group on Electron Devices

AGENCY: Department of Defense, Advisory Group on Electron Devices.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Working Group B (Microelectronics) of the DoD Advisory Group on Electron Devices (AGED) announces a closed session meeting.

DATES: The meeting will be held at 0900, Thursday, November 19, 1998.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held Palisades Institute for Research Services, 1745 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 500, Arlington, VA 22202.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Timothy Doyle, AGED Secretariat, 1745 Jefferson Davis Highway, Crystal Square Four, Suite 500, Arlington, Virginia 22202.

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provide advice to the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology, to the Director Defense Research and Engineering (DDR&E), and through the DDR&E, to the Director Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency and the Military Departments in planning and managing an effective research and development program in the field of electron devices.

The Working Group B meeting will be limited to review of research and development programs which the military proposes to initiate with industry, universities or in their laboratories. The microelectronics area includes such programs on semiconductor materials, integrated circuits, charge coupled devices and memories. The review will include classified program details throughout.

In accordance with Section 10(d) of Pub. L. 92-463, as amended, (5 U.S.C. App. § 10(d) (1994)), it has been determined that this Advisory Group meeting concerns matters listed in 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(1) (1994), and that accordingly, this meeting will be closed to the public.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers

Intent to Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for Emerald Creek Garnet Company, Benewah and Shoshone Counties, Idaho

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

ACTION: Notice of Intent.

SUMMARY: Emerald Creek Garnet Company is proposing to initiate dredge mining of alluvial garnet deposits on an approximately 416 acre site along the St. Maries River in Benewah and Shoshone Counties, Idaho. The site contains approximately 160 acres of wetlands which will be temporarily filled by construction of isolation berms, topsoil and overburden stockpiles, work pads, and other discharges of dredged and fill material. The entire site is proposed to be mined over a period of up to 25 years, with reclamation of mined properties occurring each year. Reclamation would consist of returning the land to pre-mining contours and reestablishing hydrology and plant

communities appropriate to site conditions. The total acreage proposed for mining and reclamation each year would not exceed 16 acres. Temporary or permanent discharges of fill material into wetlands will require a Department of the Army Permit under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is the lead Federal agency.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Questions about the proposed action and the Draft EIS can be answered by Mr. Michael T. Doherty, Coeur d'Alene Regulatory Office, Walla Walla District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83815-8363, telephone 208-765-7237.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. *Proposed Action:* Emerald Creek Garnet Company is proposing to initiate placer mining of alluvial garnet deposits along the St. Maries River in portions of Sections 5, 8, 9, 15, and 16, township 43 North, Range 1 East, Boise Meridian, Shoshone and Benewah Counties, Idaho. The project extends from just upstream of the confluence of Emerald Creek and the St. Maries River, 3.2 miles downstream to just above the confluence of Carpenter Creek and the St. Maries River. The purpose of the project is to extract industrial garnet to meet worldwide market demand. Mining would be conducted incrementally over a period of up to 25 years. The acreage of area to be mined each year would depend on the ability of the company to assure adequate environmental protection and reclamation on a yearly basis as well as market demand for industrial garnet products. Reclamation would immediately follow mining, and would be monitored for a period of five years to assure that the annually mined properties meet or exceed pre-project environmental value.

2. *Alternatives:* Because garnet deposits are located in specific water-deposited areas, alternative locations to be mined will not be examined. The alternatives analysis will focus on timing of mining activities, type of mining method, and duration of mining in any given year. Seven alternatives will be considered. They include:

- (1) wet panel mining all year long.
- (2) wet and dry panel mining all year long.
- (3) wet panel mining 8 months (approximately March through November).
- (4) wet and dry panel mining 8 months (approximately March through November).
- (5) dry panel mining all year long.

(6) dry panel mining 8 months (approximately March through November).

(7) no action.

3. Scoping and Public Involvement:

The scoping process will commence in late October 1998 with the issuance of a Scoping Notice. Federal, state and local agencies, Indian tribes, and interested organizations and individuals will be asked to comment on the significant issues relating to the potential effects of the alternatives. A formal public scoping meeting is planned for the evening of November 5, 1998 in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. An informal open-house will be held the same day in Fernwood, Idaho at Emerald Creek Mining Company headquarters.

Potentially significant issues to be addressed in detail include the effects of the project on wetlands, wildlife and fish, endangered species, cultural resources, recreation, traffic, hazardous materials and waste, and any other issues revealed during the scoping process.

The Draft EIS will be prepared concurrently with other environmental compliance requirements, including the Endangered Species Act and the national Historic Preservation Act. The Corps intends to integrate the consultation procedures pursuant to these other statutes with the EIS. The Corps and the applicant have begun consultation with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service under the Endangered Species Act.

The proposed project also requires a placer mining permit from the State of Idaho Department of Lands as well as a Section 401 Water Quality Certification from the State of Idaho Division of Environmental Quality.

4. Availability of the Draft EIS: The Draft EIS is scheduled for release in April 1999.

Gregory D. Showalter,

Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 98-28183 Filed 10-20-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers

Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Ohio River Main Stem System Study

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

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY:

a. The Great Lakes & Ohio River Division of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is evaluating alternative investment strategies for the maintenance of commercial navigation infrastructure on the Ohio River System for the next 50 years and for the restoration of habitats along the main stem of the Ohio River that have been degraded by cultural influences. The proposed action is being conducted under the authority of United States Senate, Committee on Public Works resolution dated May 16, 1955; and, United States House of Representatives, Committee on Public Works and Transportation resolution dated March 11, 1982.

b. The Corps of Engineers will conduct public scoping meetings at three locations along the main stem of the Ohio River to solicit input for the development of one or more draft Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) for the project. These meetings will be conducted in an informal setting with "work stations" established for question and answer sessions and the submittal of comments relevant to the format and scope of the EIS. Meetings are scheduled as follows:

Date: November 17, 1998.

Time: 12:00-8:00 pm.

Place: Radisson Hotel, 600 Walnut Street, Evansville, IN, Phone: (800) 333-3333.

Date: November 19, 1998.

Time: 12:00-8:00 pm.

Place: Huntington Civic Arena, PO Box 2767, Huntington, WV, Phone: (304) 696-5990.

Date: November 24, 1998.

Time: 12:00-8:00 pm.

Place: David L. Lawrence Convention Center, 1001 Penn Ave., Pittsburgh, PA, Phone: (412) 565-6000.

Interested parties are encouraged to provide oral comments relevant to the scope of the environmental analysis for the EIS at any of these public forums. Otherwise, please forward written scoping comments or requests for information to the following study contact.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Please address questions regarding this notice to Mr. Louis E. Aspey II, PD-F, Huntington District, Corps of Engineers, 502 Eighth Street, Huntington, West Virginia 25701-2070, Telephone: (304) 529-5638.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

a. The Ohio River Main Stem System Study is designed to capture foreseeable maintenance, rehabilitation and new construction needs for the navigation

infrastructure of the Ohio River until the year 2060 and to investigate habitat restoration options along the main stem Ohio River. The Study would also identify those actions which are economically justified and environmentally prudent. The final report will be advanced during 2002 for approval with implementation planning expected immediately.

b. The Corps of Engineers has been collecting data and pursuing approaches for the study of Ohio River Navigation since 1996. Preliminary economic analysis has indicated traffic congestion and economic losses for two of the nineteen Ohio River Locks & Dams associated with foreseeable maintenance cycles. This has prompted the Corps to pursue an Interim Ohio River Main Stem System Study Report to address this short-term need at Greenup Locks & Dam, Greenup, Kentucky; and John T. Myers Locks & Dam, Mount Vernon, Indiana. This interim report will be advanced in 2000 for approval and requesting authority to implement immediately. Economic losses for both of these structures are associated with future traffic levels being impacted during scheduled maintenance.

c. Feasible approaches to mitigating this economic loss vary with each Lock & Dam facility. However, the Corps has begun the review of small-capital improvements at each site to facilitate lockages using only the existing auxiliary lock chamber during scheduled outages. Extensions to the existing auxiliary chambers and new 1200 feet long lock chambers at the existing sites are also under consideration.

d. Interest in habitat restoration along the main stem of the Ohio River has also prompted consideration of a program to restore degraded habitats as part of a defined restoration program.

e. The EIS will discuss impacts that could occur as a result of construction and operation of the proposed project(s) including impacts to biological resources, cultural resources, and socioeconomic effects, air quality, noise impacts, and recreation resources. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Interim Report is expected to be available to the public in December 1999.

Daniel E. Steiner, P.E.,

Chief, Planning Division.

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