

March 23, 1995, at 7:30 p.m., in the Port Hueneme City Hall, located at 250 North Ventura Road, Port Hueneme, California. In addition, written comments may be submitted within 30 days of the published date of this notice to Ms. Mary Doyle, Environmental Planning Branch (Code 09F2), Engineering Field Activity West, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, 900 Commodore Drive, San Bruno, California 94066-5006, telephone (415) 244-3024, fax (415) 244-3737. For further information regarding the Port Hueneme NCEL Community Reuse Plan, please contact Mr. Thomas Figg, Director of Community Development, 250 North Ventura Road, Port Hueneme, California 93041, telephone (805) 986-6514.

Dated: March 3, 1995.

**M.D. Schetzle,**

*Lt. JAGC, USNR, Alternative Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

[FR Doc. 95-5648 filed 3-7-95; 8:45 am]

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**Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Shock Testing of the Seawolf Submarine**

Pursuant to section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 as implemented by the Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR parts 1500-1508), the Department of the Navy announces its intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the environmental effects of shock testing the SEAWOLF Submarine at a site to be located off the east coast of the United States.

Pursuant to 40 CFR 1501.6, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) will be a cooperating agency in the preparation and development of the EIS.

A "shock test" is the name given to a series of underwater detonations that are used to propagate a shock wave through a ship's hull (similar to those encountered in combat). It is required to test the hull, all ship systems, and crew survivability of each new class of Navy ships. This test provides important information which will be used to improve the initial design and enhance the effectiveness and overall survivability of the ship and crew. The improvements are applied to follow-on ships of that class. The shock test of the lead ship of the class is an integral part of the Live Fire Test (LFT) Program mandated by Congress. Shock tests have proven their value as recently as the Persian Gulf War when ships were able

to survive battle damage and continue their mission because of ship design, crew survivability, and crew training lessons learned during previous shock tests.

The proposed action would subject the SEAWOLF submarine to a total of five explosive charges, 10,000 lbs. each, while monitoring the results. The decision to be addressed in the Environmental Impact Statement is the siting of shock test. Important logistical considerations include: a Naval base proximate to the test location, and water depth of 500 feet, which, for the sites being considered, range from 70 to 100 miles offshore. The shock test is proposed to occur over a five week period between April 1 and October 1, of 1997.

Alternative sites that would be considered include a number of different sites off the eastern U.S. coast. These areas are off the coast of Norfolk, Virginia, and Jacksonville, Florida, due to the existence of supporting Naval Bases at those sites. The "no action" alternative of not conducting the shock test will be addressed in the EIS.

Physical and biological issues that will be addressed in the EIS include impacts on air and water resources, impacts to other uses of the area, and impacts to marine life including marine mammals and endangered and threatened species.

The Navy will initiate a scoping process for the purpose of determining the scope of issues to be addressed and for identifying the significant issues related to this action. The Navy will hold three public scoping hearings to receive comments from the public on the proposed action. The first hearing will be held on March 23, 1995, at 10 a.m., in the auditorium of NMFS Office, 1335 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland. The second meeting will be on March 28, 1995, at 7 p.m., in the auditorium of the Granby High School, 701 Granby Street, Norfolk, Virginia. The last meeting will be on March 29, 1995, at 7 p.m., in the cafeteria of the Mayport Middle School, 2600 Mayport Road, Atlantic Beach, Florida. The meeting will be advertised in area newspapers.

A brief presentation will precede the request for public comment. Navy representatives will be available at this meeting to receive comments from the public regarding issues of concern to the public. It is important that federal, state, and local agencies and interested individuals take this opportunity to identify environmental concerns that should be addressed during the preparation of the EIS. In the interest of available time, each speaker will be

asked to limit oral comments to five minutes.

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 meeting. To be most helpful, scoping comments should clearly describe specific issues or topics which the commenter believes the EIS should address. Written statements and/or questions regarding the scoping process should be mailed no later than May 1, 1995 to: Commanding Officer, Southern Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, P.O. Box 190010, North Charleston, SC 29419-9010 (Attention: Mr. Will Sloger, Code 064WS), telephone 803-743-0797, FAX 803-743-0993.

Dated: March 3, 1995.

**M.D. Schetzle,**

*Lt. JAGC, USNR, Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

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**Notice of Public Hearing for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Seawolf Class Submarine Homeporting on the East Coast of the United States**

Pursuant to Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR parts 1500-1508) implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act, the Department of the Navy has prepared and filed with the US Environmental Protection Agency, the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for SEAWOLF Class Submarine Homeporting on the East Coast of the United States. The DEIS addresses the need, alternatives, and environmental consequences of homeporting three SEAWOLF Class submarines at three submarine facilities including the Naval Submarine Base New London, Groton CT; the Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay GA, and the Naval Station Norfolk VA. The Naval Submarine Base New London has been identified as the preferred alternative.

Dredging and the disposal of dredged material are required for SEAWOLF homeporting at each of the candidate homeports and have been identified as the significant issues of environmental concern. The DEIS quantifies and characterizes the dredge material and disposal options at each homeport alternative.

The DEIS has been distributed to various federal, state and local agencies, elected officials, special interest groups, the media, and concerned citizens. Copies of the DEIS have also been

placed in local libraries in Connecticut, Virginia, and Georgia. A limited number of single copies are available at the address at the end of this announcement.

The Department of the Navy will hold four public hearings to inform the public of the DEIS findings and to solicit comments. The first meeting will be held on Monday, March 27, 1995 beginning at 1:00 PM in the Groton Municipal Building, Groton, Connecticut. The Groton Municipal Building is located at 295 Meridian Street. The second meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 28, 1995 beginning at 7 pm at the same location, the Groton Municipal Building. These meetings will be co-chaired by the New England Division, U.S. Army Corp of Engineers. The third meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 29, 1995 beginning at 7 pm at the Airport Hilton, Norfolk, Virginia. The Hilton is located at 1500 North Military Highway and Northhampton Avenue. The fourth meeting will be held on Thursday, March 30, 1995 beginning at 7 pm at Crooked River Elementary School, St Marys, Georgia. The school is located at 1820 Spur 40.

The public hearings will be conducted by the Navy. Federal, state, and local agencies and interested parties are invited and urged to be present or represented at the hearings. Oral statements will be heard and transcribed by a stenographer; however, to assure the accuracy of the record, all statements should be submitted in writing. All statements, both oral and written, will become part of the public record on this action and will be given equal consideration.

In the interest of available time, each speaker will be asked to limit their oral comments to five minutes. If longer statements are to be presented, they should be summarized at the public hearing(s) and submitted in writing either at the hearing(s) or mailed to the address listed at the end of this notice. Written comments on the DEIS should be mailed to the address noted below and must be postmarked not later than April 10, 1995 to be part of the official record.

Additional information may be obtained by contacting Mr. Robert Ostermueller (Code 202) Northern Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, 10 Industrial Highway, MSC 82, Lester, PA 19113, telephone 610-595-0759.

Dated: March 3, 1995.

**M.D. Schetzle,**

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## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### Urban Community Service Program

**AGENCY:** Department of Education.

**ACTION:** Notice of final priority.

**SUMMARY:** The Secretary announces a competitive funding priority to focus funds for new urban community service projects on communities designated as Empowerment Zones (EZs) or Enterprise Communities (ECs) by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Under the competitive funding priority, the Secretary awards five (5) additional points to an application that meets the priority.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This priority takes effect April 7, 1995.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Sarah Babson, U. S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, SW (Portals C-80), Washington, DC 20202-5329. Telephone: (202) 260-3472. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339, between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Background on the Empowerment Zone and Enterprise Community Initiative

The Empowerment Zone and Enterprise Community program is a critical element of the Administration's community revitalization strategy. It promotes comprehensive economic and community development through strategic planning. On December 21, 1994, the President announced the designation of six urban Empowerment Zones, two urban Supplemental EZs, 65 urban Enterprise Communities, and four Enhanced urban ECs. These areas will benefit from flexible social service block grants and tax breaks in accordance with Internal Revenue Code section 1392, as amended by Title XIII of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 (Pub. L. 103-66). Urban Empowerment Zones and Enterprise Communities were nominated by one or more local governments and their States and have been designated by HUD on the basis of the quality of their strategic plans. Interested individuals may contact HUD at 1-800-998-9999 for

additional information on the Empowerment Zone and Enterprise Community program, including which communities have been selected for designation.

The Department of Education is supporting the Empowerment Zone and Enterprise Community initiative through the Urban Community Service Program by giving preference to proposed projects which are located in urban Empowerment Zones and Enterprise Communities. A list of the designated Empowerment Zones and Enterprise Communities will be included in the application package. The program's emphasis on coordinated planning to meet pressing urban needs makes it ideally suited to play a key role in the Empowerment Zone and Enterprise Community program.

#### Background on the Urban Community Service Program

The Urban Community Service Program is authorized under Title XI of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended. It uses the skills, experience and resources of institutions of higher education to help public and private organizations devise and carry out solutions to pressing and severe problems in their urban communities. The program makes discretionary grants of up to five years in duration to support collaborative projects that address problems confronting urban communities, ranging from work force preparation, economic development, urban poverty, crime, lack of health care services and access, underperforming school systems and students to urban housing and infrastructure deficits. Recipients may use program funds to carry out a variety of activities, such as planning, applied research, training, resource exchanges or technology transfers, delivery of services and other activities that the urban institution and its community partners agree have high priority.

Only institutions of higher education which have been designated as urban grant institutions are eligible to apply for funding. A designated urban grant institution has demonstrated to the Secretary that (a) it is a nonprofit municipal university established by the governing body of the city in which it is located and operating as of July 23, 1992, or that (b) it is an institution of higher education which meets all of the following criteria (a consortium of institutions is also eligible if at least one of its members meets all of the criteria). The institution—(1) is located in an urban area; (2) draws a substantial portion of its undergraduate student body from the urban area in which it is