

potential harm to or within the floodplain and wetland. Because of the location of the contaminated soil, there is no practicable alternative to the location of this action within the floodplain and wetlands. Because of the potential risk to human health and the environment, the DOE has combined the Notice of Involvement with the Statement of Findings in this **Federal Register** Notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON THIS PROPOSED ACTION OR TO COMMENT ON THE ACTION CONTACT: Mr. Steve McCracken, U.S. Department of Energy, Weldon Spring Site Remedial Action Project, 7295 Highway 94 South, St. Charles, MO 63304, (314) 441-8978.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON GENERAL DOE FLOODPLAIN/WETLAND ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW REQUIREMENTS CONTACT: Carol M. Borgstrom, Director, Office of NEPA Policy and Assistance, EH-42, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20585, (202) 586-4600 or (800) 472-2756.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The DOE is conducting response actions at its Weldon Spring Site under the direction of the DOE Office of Environmental Management. The Weldon Spring site is located in St. Charles County, Missouri, approximately 48 km (30 miles) west of St. Louis. As part of the overall cleanup of the Weldon Spring Site, the DOE is proposing to conduct a removal action at an area referred to as Vicinity Property 9 (VP 9). VP 9, which contains a small wetland area no larger than 1.5 acres, occurs within the 100-yr floodplain of the Missouri River, and is located within the heavily used State of Missouri Weldon Spring Conservation Area.

The proposed action is necessary to remove radioactively contaminated soils within VP 9 that poses a potential risk to the health of recreational users of the conservation area. Because of the urgency to conduct this removal and in order to optimize resources that are immediately available (i.e., equipment and crew currently are conducting bulk waste removal in the immediate vicinity) in the nearby quarry area, the DOE has waived the 15-day public comment period for this notice of involvement, as permitted under Section 1022.18c of 10 CFR 1022. Further information is available from the DOE at the address shown below.

In accordance with the DOE regulations for compliance with floodplain/wetlands environmental review requirements (10 CFR 1022), the DOE has prepared a floodplain and wetland assessment describing the

effects, alternatives, and measures designed to avoid or minimize potential harm to or within the floodplain and wetland, and has determined that the proposed removal action will not impact floodplain storage. Impacts to the wetland will be temporary and will not affect long term wetland function. Further information on the floodplain and wetland assessments is available from the DOE at the address shown below.

The DOE proposes to remove radiologically contaminated soils from VP 9 by excavating soils to a depth of approximately 1 ft from an area of approximately 180 ft x 380 ft (1.5 acres) in size. Prior to excavation, vegetation at the area would be cleared by grubbing, and a temporary excavation equipment access ramp to VP 9 would be installed. Good engineering practices such as hay bales and silt fences would be employed to control sedimentation and erosion to nearby surface waters and adjacent floodplain areas. Excavation would be accomplished using standard excavation equipment (e.g., backhoe), and the contaminated soils would be transported to the Weldon Spring chemical plant area for treatment and subsequent disposal. Following completion of the proposed action, the equipment access ramp would be removed and all excavated areas would be backfilled with clean fill, graded to original contours, and revegetated with native species previously occurring at the site.

The no-action alternative with institutional controls was also evaluated. The no-action alternative is not acceptable because (1) The potential risk to human health from the contaminated soils would return in the event of loss of institutional control, (2) recreational activities at the conservation area would be disrupted, (3) potential risk to the environment would be largely unaffected by institutional controls, and (4) natural flood events could transport the contaminated soils to other portions of the floodplain and conservation area. Because of the potential risk to human health and to the environment, the DOE finds that there is no practicable alternative to the location of the removal action in the floodplain and wetland, and wishes to expedite the proposed removal of the contaminated soil and complete the removal action in as timely a manner as possible.

The proposed action would conform to applicable federal, state, and local floodplain and wetland protection standards. Impacts to the floodplain and wetland would be minimized by the avoidance (to the extent practicable) of

adjacent floodplain and wetland areas, and through the use of good engineering practices for sediment and erosion control. No impacts are anticipated to the 100-yr floodplain of the Missouri River. The removal of contaminated soils from VP 9 would not impact the storage capacity of the Missouri River floodplain. No permanent structures that could displace flood storage capacity would be constructed as part of the proposed action. Potential impact to the wetland would be restricted to removal of hydrophytic vegetation species that would be replaced following completion of the removal action. Upon completion of the action, the equipment access ramp would be removed and the excavated area would be backfilled and graded to original contours to restore the pre-excavation flood-storage capacity of the area.

Robert W. Poe,

Assistant Manager for Environment, Safety, and Quality.

[FR Doc. 95-19395 Filed 8-4-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

Financial Assistance Award Intent to Award Cooperative Agreement to Florida International University

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of non-competitive financial assistance award.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Energy announces that it is making a noncompetitive discretionary financial assistance award to Florida International University (FIU). The proposed cooperative agreement will provide funding in the estimated amount of \$33,681,844, of which \$22,000,000 will be contributed by DOE, over a 5-year period, to further develop and expand the Hemispheric Center for Environmental Technology (HCET). This proposed expansion will ultimately result in an increase to the scientific knowledge base in the area of environmental research (especially innovative environmental technology research and development), as well as provide increased opportunities for minority and other students to pursue advanced education in the environmental arena to help meet the challenges associated with solving current and future environmental related problems.

DATES: The anticipated project period of the proposed cooperative agreement is 60 months from the effective date of award which is proposed to be August 18, 1995. Any comments or inquiries should be submitted on or before August 21, 1995.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Please write the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Placement and Administration Attn: Phyllis Morgan, HR-561.22 1000 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20585.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

The Department of Energy has determined in accordance with 10 CFR 600.7(b)(2)(i)(A) and (B), that the application submitted by FIU is for an activity which is necessary to the satisfactory completion of, and is a continuation of an activity presently being funded by DOE for which competition for support would have a significant adverse effect on continuity or completion of the activity; the activity is being conducted by FIU using its own resources and DOE support of this activity will enhance the public benefits to be derived; and DOE knows of no other entity which is conducting or planning to conduct such an activity. The proposed effort is to: (1) Further develop and expand the environmental research and education capabilities at FIU's HCET; (2) initiate new, as well as continue to develop already existing, cooperative research efforts with other major universities (including a number of Historically Black Colleges and Universities); (3) increase the number of minority students pursuing undergraduate and graduate degrees in environmental related disciplines; and (4) increase the scientific knowledge base in the environmental arena, with particular emphasis on energy related environmental restoration and waste management technology research and development.

John M. Albers,

Contracting Officer, Office of Placement and Administration.

[FR Doc. 95-19394 Filed 8-4-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

Environmental Management Advisory Board

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Public Law 92-463, 86 Stat. 770), notice is hereby given of the following Advisory Committee meeting:

Name: Environmental Management Advisory Board, formerly Utilized Site Remedial Action Program Committee.

Date and Times: Tuesday, August 22, 1995 from 11:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Wednesday, August 23, 1995 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Place: Holiday Inn Grand Island Resort & Conference Center, 100

Whitehaven Road, Grand Island, NY 14072, (716) 773-1111.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

James T. Melillo, Executive Director, Environmental Management Advisory Board, EM-5, 1000 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20585, (202) 586-4400. The Internet address is: James.Melillo@em.doe.gov

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Purpose of the Board**

The purpose of the Board is to provide the Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management (EM) with advice and recommendations on issues confronting the Environmental Management program and the Programmatic Environmental Management Impact Statement, from the perspectives of affected groups and State and local Governments. The Board will help to improve the Environmental Management Program by assisting in the process of securing consensus recommendations, and providing the Department's numerous publics with opportunities to express their opinions regarding the Environmental Management Program including the Formerly Utilized Site Remedial Action Program.

Tentative Agenda

Tuesday, August 22, 1995

- 11:30 a.m. Chairman Opens Public Meeting
- Overview of Activities and Findings from the June 20-21, 1995 Committee meeting in St. Louis, MO and Discussion of Remaining Issues
- 12:30 p.m.—Lunch
- 1:30 p.m.—Presentation on Applicability of Ore Recovery Methods as Potential Treatment Technology
- 2:00 p.m.—Presentation of Issue Papers—Residues; Land Use; Community Options on Land Use and EPA Standards Coordination
- 4:15 p.m.—Committee/ Public Discussion of Issues
- 5:00 p.m.—Break for Dinner
- 7:00 p.m.—Public Comment Session
- 8:00 p.m.—Meeting Adjourns

Wednesday, August 23, 1995

- 8:00 a.m.—Chairman Reconvenes Public Meeting
- 8:05 a.m.—Continued Discussion on Treatment and Land Use Issues
- 12:00 p.m.—Lunch
- 1:00 p.m.—Discussion of Potential Guiding Principles
- 3:30 p.m.—Committee Business
- 5:00 p.m.—Meeting Adjourns

A final agenda will be available at the meeting.

Public Participation

The meeting is open to the public. Written statements may be filed with the Board either before or after the meeting. Members of the public who wish to make oral statements pertaining to agenda items should contact James T. Melillo at the address or telephone number listed above. Individuals wishing to orally address the Committee during the public comment session should call (800) 736-3282 and leave a message. Individuals may also register on August 22, 1995 at the meeting site. Every effort will be made to hear all those wishing to speak to the Committee, on a first come, first serve basis. Those who call in and reserve time will be given the opportunity to speak first. The Chairman is empowered to conduct the meeting in a fashion that will facilitate the orderly conduct of business.

Transcripts and Minutes

Meeting minutes will be available for public review and copying at the Freedom of Information Public Reading Room, 1E-190, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20585 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Issued at Washington, DC on August 2, 1995

Rachel Murphy Samuel,

Acting Deputy Advisory Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 95-19393 Filed 8-4-95; 8:45 am]

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Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket Nos. RM95-8-000, RM 94-7-001]

Promoting Wholesale Competition Through Open Access Non-Discriminatory Transmission Services by Public Utilities, Recovery of Stranded Costs by Public Utilities and Transmitting Utilities; Notice of Public Scoping Meeting

August 1, 1995.

The Commission staff will hold a public meeting in this proceeding on September 8, 1995, to discuss the scope of the proposed environmental impact statement (EIS) as described in the Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NOPR) and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues (NOI) issued July 12, 1995. The meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m., in Hearing Room 1, at 810 First Street NE., Washington, D.C.