

**ADDRESSES: Administrative Records.**

The administrative record for the exemptions, except information protected as confidential, may be viewed during normal operating hours at the following locations. For plants in New York: EPA Region 2, 290 Broadway, New York, NY 10007-1866; for plants in Texas: EPA Region 6, First Interstate Bank Tower, 1445 Ross Avenue, Dallas, TX, 75202-2733; and for plants in Kansas and Missouri: EPA Region 7, 726 Minnesota Ave., Kansas City, KS, 66101.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For plants in New York, Gerry DeGaetano, 212-637-4020; for plants in Texas, Dan Meyer, 214-665-7233, and for plants in Kansas and Missouri, Lisa Hanlon, 913-551-7599.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** All public comment received on any exemption in this direct final action on which significant, adverse comments are timely received will be addressed in a subsequent issuance or denial of exemption based on the relevant draft exemption in the notice of draft written exemptions that is published elsewhere in today's Federal Register and that is identical to this direct final action.

Under the Acid Rain Program regulations (40 CFR 72.7), utilities may petition EPA for an exemption from permitting and monitoring requirements for any new utility unit that serves one or more generators with total nameplate capacity of 25 MW or less and burns only fuels with a sulfur content of 0.05 percent or less by weight. On the earlier of the date a unit exempted under 40 CFR 72.7 burns any fuel with a sulfur content in excess of 0.05 percent by weight or 24 months prior to the date the exempted unit first serves one or more generators with total nameplate capacity in excess of 25 MW, the unit shall no longer be exempted under 40 CFR 72.7 and shall be subject to all permitting and monitoring requirements of the Acid Rain Program.

EPA is issuing written exemptions to the following new units, effective from January 1, 1996 through December 31, 2000:

Wamego units 1920-3, 1920-4, and 1920-5 in Kansas, operated by the City of Wamego. The designated representative for Wamego is Larry Fechter.

Malden units 2, 3, and 4 in Missouri, operated by the City of Malden. The designated representative for Malden is Gary Youngquist.

Vandalia units 4 and 5 in Missouri, operated by the City of Vandalia. The designated representative for Vandalia is Todd Hileman.

Additionally under the Acid Rain Program regulations (40 CFR 72.8), utilities may petition EPA for an exemption from Phase II permitting requirements for units that are retired prior to the issuance of a Phase II Acid Rain permit. Units that are retired prior to the deadline for continuous emissions monitoring system (CEMS) certification may also petition for an exemption from monitoring requirements.

While the exempt retired units have been allocated allowances under 40 CFR part 73, units exempted under 40 CFR 72.8 must not emit any sulfur dioxide or nitrogen oxides on or after the date the units are exempted, and the units must not resume operation unless the designated representative submits an application for an Acid Rain permit and installs and certifies its monitors by the applicable deadlines.

EPA is issuing written exemptions from Phase II permitting requirements and monitoring requirements, effective from January 1, 1996, through December 31, 2000, to the following retired units:

Waterside units 51 and 52 in New York, operated by Consolidated Edison. The designated representative for Waterside is M. Peter Lanahan, Jr.

Victoria unit 5 in Texas, operated by Central and Southwest Services, Inc. The designated representative for Victoria is E. Michael Williams.

Dated: March 19, 1996.

Brian J. McLean,

*Director, Acid Rain Division, Office of Atmospheric Programs, Office of Air and Radiation.*

[FR Doc. 96-7032 Filed 3-21-96; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6560-50-P**

**[ER-FRL-5414-6]**

### **Environmental Impact Statements; Notice of Availability**

**RESPONSIBLE AGENCY:** Office of Federal Activities, General Information (202) 564-7167 or (202) 564-7153.

Weekly receipt of Environmental Impact Statements Filed March 11, 1996 through March 15, 1996, Pursuant to 40 CFR 1506.9.

EIS No. 960123, Draft EIS, AFS, CA, Emigrant Wilderness Management Direction, Implementation, Stanislaus National Forest, Tuolumne County, CA, Due: May 21, 1996, Contact: Steve Brougher (209) 965-3434.

EIS No. 960124, Final EIS, AFS, AK, Northwest Baranof Timber Sale(s), Implementation, NPDES, Coast Guard Bridge, COE Section 10 and 404 Permits, Tongass National Forest, Sitka Ranger District, Baranof Island,

AK, Due: April 22, 1996, Contact: James M. Thomas (907) 747-6671. EIS No. 960125, Draft EIS, USN, FL, Programmatic EIS—Mayport Naval Station, to Evaluate Facilities Development Necessary to Support Potential Aircraft Carrier Homporting, Duval County, FL, Due: May 6, 1996, Contact: Ronnie Lattimore (803) 820-5888.

EIS No. 960126, Final EIS, GSA, CA, San Diego—United States Courthouse, Site Selection and Construction within a portion of the Central Business District (CBD), City of San Diego, San Diego County, CA, Due: April 22, 1996, Contact: Rosanne Nieto (415) 444-8111.

EIS No. 960127, Draft EIS, AFS, MT, Boulder and Wyman Gulch Vegetation Management Timber Sale and Prescribed Burning, Implementation, Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forests, Philipsburg Ranger District, Granite County, MT, Due: May 06, 1996, Contact: Ed Casey (406) 859-3211.

EIS No. 960128, Final EIS, FHW, OH, US 50 Highway Improvements between the City of Athens to the Village of Coolville, US 50 18.58 from 4 km (2.5 miles) west of OH-690 to OH-7, US Coast Guard Permit and COE Section 10 and 404 Permits, Athens County, OH, Due: April 22, 1996, Contact: Dale E. Wilken (708) 283-3500.

EIS No. 960129, Draft EIS, DOE, NY, West Valley Demonstration Project for Completion and Western New York Nuclear Service Center Closure or Long-Term Management, Appalachian Plateau, City of Buffalo, NY, Due: September 22, 1996, Contact: Dan Sullivan (800) 633-5280.

Dated: March 18, 1996.

William D. Dickerson,

*Director, NEPA Compliance Division, Office of Federal Activities.*

[FR Doc. 96-7002 Filed 3-21-96; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6560-50-U**

**[ER-FRL-5414-7]**

### **Environmental Impact Statements and Regulations; Availability of EPA Comments**

Availability of EPA comments prepared March 4, 1996 through March 8, 1996 pursuant to the Environmental Review Process (ERP), under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act and Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act as amended. Requests for copies of EPA comments can be directed to the Office of Federal Activities at (202) 564-7167.

An explanation of the ratings assigned to draft environmental impact statements (EISs) was published in FR dated April 14, 1996 (60 FR 19047).

#### Draft EISs

ERP No. D-AFS-J65243-MT Rating LO, Castle Mountains Allotment Management Plan, Implementation, Lewis and Clark National Forest, Musselshell and King Hill Ranger Districts, White Sulphur Springs, Meagher County, MT.

*Summary:* EPA expressed lack of objections and recommended that additional information including improved descriptions of State Water Quality Standards and linkages to State lists of water quality limited streams be included in the FEIS.

ERP No. D-BLM-K67032-NV Rating EO2, Round Mountain Mine Mill and Tailings Facility, Construction and Operation for the Smoke Valley Operation, Plan of Operations Amendment Approval, Nye County, NV.

*Summary:* EPA expressed environmental objections to the proposed project because it could result in significant adverse cumulative impacts to waterfowl attracted to the pit lake which could exceed water quality standards for wildlife. We also recommended additional information in the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) regarding mitigation measures; impacts to soil, vegetation, wildlife, livestock, and springs and seeps; and monitoring.

ERP No. D-SFW-G64012-00 Rating LO, Mexican Wolf (*Canis lupus baileyi*) Reintroduction within the Historic Range, Implementation, in the Southwestern United States, Catron, Dona Ana, Grant and Lincoln Counties, NM and Apache and Greenlee Counties, AZ.

*Summary:* EPA had no objections to the proposed action and concurs with the Fish and Wildlife Service's selection of Alternative A as the environmentally preferred alternative.

#### Final EISs

ERP No. F-NPS-K61128-CA Santa Rosa Island Development Concept Plan, Implementation and Funding, Channel Islands National Park, Santa Barbara County, CA.

*Summary:* EPA requested that the NEPA Record of Decision contain a commitment to implement the water quality protection measures contained in the FEIS.

Dated: March 18, 1996.

William D. Dickerson,  
*Director, NEPA Compliance Division, Office of Federal Activities.*

[FR Doc. 96-7003 Filed 3-21-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-U

#### [ER-FRL-5414-5]

### Intent To Prepare a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for the Alaska-Juneau (AJ) Mine Project, Juneau, AK

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice of intent to prepare an SEIS.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with Section 511(c)(1) of the Clean Water Act (CWA) and Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) EPA has identified a need to prepare an SEIS and publishes this Notice of Intent in accordance with 40 CFR 1501.7.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR TO SEND

**SCOPING COMMENTS:** William Riley, Office of Water Mining Coordinator OW-135, EPA, 1200 Sixth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98101, phone (206) 553-1412. Local contact is Steve Torok, EPA's Juneau office, phone (907) 586-7619.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The proposed AJ Mine Project is subject to EPA authorization through CWA Section 402, including the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program. The project is a new source (40 CFR 122.2 and 122.29), and under CWA Section 511(c)(1) is subject to NEPA prior to the NPDES permit decision (40 CFR Part 6, Subpart F). The AJ Mine is an underground gold mine, located south of Juneau, Alaska, which closed in 1944. In 1988, Echo Bay, Alaska (Echo Bay) filed necessary permit applications to reopen the mine and an EIS was completed by the Bureau of Land Management in 1992. During the permitting phase, EPA completed a technical assistance report which concluded there was a high potential for significant degradation of the waters of the United States. Echo Bay proposed modifications to address concerns raised and filed new permit applications. EPA also commenced a rule-making that would allow consideration of submarine tailings disposal. New field studies to characterize marine and other resources are ongoing.

**Project Description—**The reopened AJ Mine would produce 15,000 tons per day of ore, and 80 million tons during the 13-year project life. Gold recovery

would be by means of gravity separation and froth flotation processes in an underground mill. No cyanide would be used. Surface facilities would be located at the Rock Dump area south of Juneau. The tailings would be pumped through a pipeline in Gastineau Channel for discharge at depth in Stephens Passage. Power would be supplied by diesel-gas turbine generators. Staffing is estimated at 400 personnel.

Project alternatives currently considered include: (1) Douglas Island Dry Tailings—the tailings would be piped across Gastineau Channel, dewatered and conveyed to a dry tailings disposal area on Douglas Island, (2) Sheep Creek Subaqueous Tailings—similar to the proposed action in the 1992 FEIS except the impoundment would hold less tailings, no cyanide would be used, and the flows of Sheep Creek would be partially diverted around the impoundment, (3) Powerline Gulch Subaqueous Tailings—similar to an option in the 1992 FEIS, except the impoundment would hold less tailings, no cyanide would be used, and surface runoff would be diverted around the impoundment, (4) Mine Backfill and Douglas Island Dry Tailings—combining backfilling of cemented tailings with surface disposal at a reduced dry tailings site on Douglas Island, (5) Submarine Tailings Disposal Upland Pipeline—similar to the proposal, except the tailings pipeline would follow an upland route along Gastineau Channel and to Stephens Passage for discharge.

**SCOPING MEETING DATE AND COMMENT DEADLINE:** On April 17, 1996, EPA will host an SEIS scoping open house at Centennial Hall in Juneau from 3:00 to 9:00 p.m. Scoping comments from the public will be welcomed that day, or they may be submitted to EPA in writing. The scoping period comment deadline is April 30, 1996.

**ESTIMATED DATE OF DRAFT SEIS RELEASE:** September, 1996.

Dated: March 20, 1996.

Richard E. Sanderson,

*Director, Office of Federal Activities.*

[FR Doc. 96-7004 Filed 3-21-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-U