

public comment that the CCE is not delivered on a timely basis, indicating that relatively few people currently rely on the published CCE to secure copyright registration information.

While the Copyright Office has maintained public records since 1870, the information has never been so readily and widely available before. This is due to the fact that in 1994 the Copyright Office inaugurated remote public access via Internet to its computerized database of post 1977 copyright registration and recordation information. Public information on how to use the registration system, including forms and circulars, was included as part of the on-line system.

The registration information and recorded documents which are available over Internet are limited to Copyright Office records produced in machine-readable form from January 1, 1978, to the present. These include the following files: COHM, which contains all original and renewal registrations except serials; COHD, which contains documents; and COHS, which contains serials. Locating information through on-line searches of the record eliminates the need to search individual volumes of the published CCE and is, therefore, far more efficient.

#### V. Conclusion

While the Copyright Office has historically been assigned the responsibility of creating and maintaining a public record of copyright registration information, the Office has had difficulty in serving the needs of individuals who were unable to come to the Copyright Office. Since the Catalog of Copyright Entries addressed this need, it maintained some level of support within the copyright community. The Office is now providing broad public access on a timely basis via Internet, and there is no longer any reason for maintaining publication of the Catalog of Copyright Entries.

Publication of the catalog has always been quite costly due to the low volume of sales. Moreover, publication of the catalog serves relatively few people since existence of the catalog is not widely known, and only a few hundred copies of each edition of the catalog is distributed. Individuals with access to the Internet, on the other hand, number in the millions; therefore, making copyright registration information available over the Internet is a far more efficient means for publicly disseminating copyright registration information.

The Office has determined that the language of section 707(a) of the Copyright Act is sufficiently flexible to

authorize publishing copyright registration information over the Internet. The legislative history of this section emphasizes flexibility and actually mentions "electronic devices" as a suitable means for enhancing distribution efficiency. For these reasons, the Copyright Office is discontinuing publication by print or microfiche of the Catalog of Copyright Entries and will meet its responsibilities under 17 U.S.C. 707(a) through publication over Internet. The Office will continue to maintain the volumes of CCE printed so far.

Dated: September 30, 1996.  
Marilyn J. Kretsinger,  
*Acting General Counsel.*  
[FR Doc. 96-25345 Filed 10-4-96; 8:45 am]  
BILLING CODE 1410-30-P

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## MERIT SYSTEMS PROTECTION BOARD

### Sunshine Act Notice

**TIME AND DATE:** 2:30 p.m., Monday, October 7, 1996.

**PLACE:** Board Conference Room, Eighth Floor, 1120 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C., 20419.

**STATUS:** The meeting will be closed to the public.

**MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:** Litigation strategy in the case *Willie Williams v. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission*, Docket Number AT-0752-94-0127-I-1 (case caption *Willie Williams v. Merit Systems Protection Board*, Docket Number 96-3259 in United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit) and adjudication of *Dexter Neal v. Department of Defense*, Docket Number DA-0432-95-0225-I-1.

**CONTACT PERSON FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** Matthew Shannon, Counsel to the Clerk of the Board, (202) 653-7200.

Dated: October 2, 1996.  
Robert E. Taylor,  
*Clerk of the Board.*  
[FR Doc. 96-25718 Filed 10-3-96; 9:30 am]  
BILLING CODE 7400-11-M

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## NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

[Notice 96-118]

### National Environmental Policy Act; X-33 Program: Vehicle Design and Flight Demonstration

**AGENCY:** National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

**ACTION:** Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) and conduct scoping for the development and testing of the X-33 vehicle.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended (42 U.S.C. 4231 *et seq.*), the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA (40 CFR Part 1500-1508), and NASA policy and procedures (14 CFR Part 1216 Subpart 1216.3), NASA intends to prepare an EIS for Phase II of the X-33 Program (hereinafter referred to as the "Program"), which would involve development and demonstration of the X-33 test vehicle. The EIS will address environmental issues associated with the fabrication, assembly, testing, and preparation of the flight operations and landing sites associated with the X-33 technology demonstrator spaceplane. The purpose of the proposed test program is to demonstrate the feasibility of technology which could result in commercially viable Reusable Launch Vehicles (RLV's) with certain aircraft-like operational characteristics. The proposed Phase II of the Program would involve final design, assembly and testing the X-33 vehicle by the year 2000.

Flight operations and landing site alternatives are under consideration to satisfy flight testing requirements. The flight test demonstration program would require short-range, mid-range, and long-range landing sites remote from the flight operations (*i.e.*, vehicle takeoff) site at distances of approximately 160, 640, and 1,360 kilometers (km) (100, 400, and 850 miles (mi)) respectively. The reasonable alternative sites for the proposed flight operations are located within Edwards Air Force Base (EAFB) near Lancaster, California. Alternative landing sites for the flight test activities are being considered in the states of California, Utah, Montana, and Washington.

NASA is the lead agency in the preparation of the EIS. It is anticipated that components of the U.S. Department of Defense, the Bureau of Land Management, and the Federal Aviation Administration will act as cooperating agencies.

**DATES:** Interested parties are invited to submit comments on or before November 29, 1996, to assure full consideration during the scoping process.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should be addressed to Dr. Rebecca C. McCaleb, Director, Environmental Engineering and Management Office, Code AE01,

Marshall Space Flight Centers, Alabama 35812. In addition, comments may be sent to Dr. McCaleb electronically at (X33EIS@msfc.nasa.gov) or by facsimile at 205-544-8259. Information repositories will be maintained at the following locations:

- (a) NASA Headquarters, Library, Room 1J20, 300 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20546.
- (b) NASA, Marshall Space Flight Center, Library, Building 4200, Huntsville, AL 35812.
- (c) Kern County Library, Boron Branch, 27070 Highway 5, Boron, CA 93516.
- (d) Kern County Library, Ridgecrest Branch, 131 East Las Flores Street, Ridgecrest, CA 93555.
- (e) Los Angeles County Library, Lancaster Branch, 1150 West Avenue J, Lancaster, CA 93524.
- (f) Palmdale City Library, 700 East Palmdale Boulevard, Palmdale, CA 93550.
- (g) San Bernadino County Library, Barstow Branch, 304 East Buena Vista, Barstow, CA 92311.
- (h) Great Falls Public Library, 301 2nd Avenue North, Great Falls, MT 59401.
- (i) Moses Lake Library, 418 East 5th Street, Moses Lake, WA 98837.
- (j) Dugway Proving Grounds Library, 5124 Kistler Avenue, Dugway, UT 84022.
- (k) Tooele Library, 47 East Vine Street, Tooele, UT 84074.
- (l) Salt Lake City Library, 209 East 500 South, Business/Science Department, Salt Lake City, UT 84111.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT;** Dr. Dominic A. Amatore, Deputy Director, Public Affairs Office, Code CA01, Marshall Space Flight Center, AL 35812, 205-544-6533. His office will ensure that the appropriate source of information is provided.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The key objectives of the X-33 Design and Flight Demonstration Program include:

- Reduce business and technical risks to privately financed development and operation of a next generation space transportation system through ground and flight tests of a spaceplane technology demonstrator.
- Ensure that the X-33 design and major components are usable and scaleable to a full scale, single-stage-to-orbit (SSTO) RLV
- Demonstrate "aircraft like" operations such as reusability and affordability.
- Demonstrate autonomous capability (*i.e.*, vehicle does not have a pilot or onboard flight crew but is controlled by onboard flight management system; vehicle is tracked by telemetry and on systems; and human

intervention capability to modify trajectory is maintained at the flight operations site) from takeoff to landing.

- Verify operability and performance in "real world" environments.

The X-33 test vehicle is planned as an approximately one-half scale reusable spaceplane. The vehicle would takeoff in a vertical position and use conventional runways to land horizontally. The X-33 vehicle would consist of a lifting body airframe with two cryogenic liquid propellant tanks (liquid hydrogen (LH<sub>2</sub>) and liquid oxygen (LOX)) placed within the aeroshell, and would use two linear aerospike main engines. Water would be the primary product of the LOX/LH<sub>2</sub> combustion. The entire spaceplane (with all fuel tanks and engines) would takeoff and land as a single unit. The flight profile includes takeoff with engine burn until flight speed and altitude objectives are reached; at that point, the engines would cut off.

The flight test plan to meet the Program objectives would involve flights of approximately 160, 640, and 1,360 km (100, 400, and 850 mi). During the landing sequence, the spaceplane would glide to the landing site in an unpowered manner. Flight tests would involve speeds of up to Mach 15 and altitudes up to approximately 75,800 meters (250,000 feet). None of the X-33 tests flights would achieve Earth orbit. Ground operations and servicing (*e.g.*, checkout, refueling, etc.) would be conducted with "aircraft like" procedures and systems.

The test flight program is planned to be conducted in three stages, with all takeoffs occurring from the same flight operations site. The three stages would involve the incremental expansion of distance and speed referred to as the "flight envelope expansion" which allows the development program to minimize risk while achieving test objectives. The three stage approach would necessitate short-range, mid-range, and long-range landing sites to achieve maximum speeds of Mach 4, 12, and 15, respectively. After each test flight, the X-33 would be ferried back to the takeoff site by a Boeing 747 aircraft in a manner similar to that used for the transport of Space Shuttle orbiters. The test program is currently baselined for a combined total of 15 flights.

Alternatives to be considered for this proposal include, but are not limited to:

- Alternative flight operations (takeoff) sites
- Short-range landing sites
- Mid-range landing sites

- Long-range landing sites
- The "no action" alternative which defines the baseline conditions that would prevail in the absence of the X-33 test program.

Three locations within EAFB are the reasonable alternatives being considered for the flight operations site. Reasonable short-range landing sites being considered are Silurian Lake, a dry lake bed, northeast of Barstow, California; and China Lake Naval Weapons Center, near Ridgecrest, California. The baseline alternative for the mid-range landing site is Michael Army Air Field at Dugway proving Grounds, Utah.

Reasonable long-range landing sites being considered are Port of Moses Lake, Washington; and Malmstrom Air Force Base near Great Falls, Montana. Analyses conducted to date indicate that other potential flight operations and landing sites are inadequate to meet the requirements of the Program. The "no action" alternative (*i.e.*, absence of the X-33 Program) would mean that the RLV Program, as planned, could not proceed, resulting in continued reliance on existing U.S. Government owned or controlled space launch vehicles, such as the Space Shuttle and expendable launch vehicles; and/or space launch vehicles owned and operated by foreign governments.

The EIS will consider the potential environmental impacts associated with the test program and related construction and modification of facilities. An initial assessment of potential environmental impacts indicates that the EIS should focus on sonic booms; potential effects on cultural resources, and threatened and endangered species; on-range and off-range flight test paths; and environmental impacts at the reasonable flight operations and landing site alternatives.

Public scoping meetings will be held at the following dates and locations:

- (a) Monday, October 21, 1996; 7:00 p.m. Social Rehabilitative Services Auditorium, Sanders Avenue, Helena, MT 59601.
- (b) Tuesday, October 22, 1996; 6:00 p.m. Great Falls High School, 1900 Second Avenue, South, Great Falls, MT 59405.
- (c) Thursday, October 24, 1996; 7:00 p.m. Washington State National Guard Armory, 6500 32nd Avenue, N.E., Moses Lake, WA 98837.
- (d) Monday, October 28, 1996; 7:00 p.m. Dugway Post Theater, US Army Dugway proving Grounds, Dugway, UT 84022.
- (e) Tuesday, October 29, 1996; 7:00 p.m. Tooele Senior Center, 59 East Vine Street, Tooele, UT 84074.

(f) Wednesday, October 30, 1996; 7:00 p.m. Quality Inn Airport, 5575 West Amelia Earhart Drive, Salt Lake City, UT 84116.

(g) Tuesday, November 12, 1996; 7:00 p.m. Best Western Antelope Valley Inn, 44055 North Sierra Highway, Lancaster, CA 93534.

(h) Wednesday, November 13, 1996; 7:00 p.m. Carriage Inn, 901 North China Lake Boulevard, Ridgecrest, CA 93555.

(i) Thursday, November 14, 1996; 7:00 p.m. West Boron Elementary School, 12300 Del Oro, Boron, CA 93516.

(j) Saturday, November 16, 1996; 10:00 a.m. Holiday Inn, 1511 East Main Street, Barstow, CA 92311.

Written public input and comments on environmental impacts associated with the proposed Program, including, but not limited to, flight operations and landing site options, as well as related environmental concerns, are hereby solicited.

Dated: October 1, 1996.

Benita A. Cooper,

*Associate Administrator for Management Systems and Facilities.*

[FR Doc. 96-25643 Filed 10-4-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7510-10-M

#### [Notice 96-119]

#### NASA Advisory Council; Meeting

**AGENCY:** National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Pub. L. 92-463, as amended, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration announces a meeting of the NASA Advisory Council.

**DATES:** October 31, 1996, 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.; and November 1, 1996, 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m..

**ADDRESSES:** National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Room 9H40, 300 E Street, SW., Washington, DC 20546-0001.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Anne L. Accola, Code Z, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Washington, DC 20546-0001, 202/358-0682.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The meeting will be open to the public up to the seating capacity of the room. The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

- National Space Policy
- Questions to Focus NASA's Mission
- Update on Activities at NASA
- Advanced Technology Reorganization
- Report of Systems Concepts and Analysis Field Trip

- Space Debris
- Exobiology Responsibility
- Status of Mars Exploration Planning
- Committee/Task Force Reports
- Discussion of Findings and Recommendations

It is imperative that the meeting be held on these dates to accommodate the scheduling priorities of the key participants. Visitors will be requested to sign a visitor's register.

Dated: September 30, 1996.

Leslie M. Nolan,

*Advisory Committee Management Officer,  
National Aeronautics and Space Administration.*

[FR Doc. 96-25644 Filed 10-4-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7510-01-M

#### NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

##### Records Schedules; Availability and Requests for Comments

**AGENCY:** National Archives and Records Administration, Office of Records Administration.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of proposed records schedules; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) publishes notice at least once monthly of certain Federal agency requests for records disposition authority (records schedules). Records schedules identify records of sufficient value to warrant preservation in the National Archives of the United States. Schedules also authorize agencies after a specified period to dispose of records lacking administrative, legal, research, or other value. Notice is published for records schedules that (1) propose the destruction of records not previously authorized for disposal, or (2) reduce the retention period for records already authorized for disposal. NARA invites public comments on such schedules, as required by 44 U.S.C. 3303a(a).

**DATES:** Request for copies must be received in writing on or before November 21, 1996. Once the appraisal of the records is completed, NARA will send a copy of the schedule. The requester will be given 30 days to submit comments.

**ADDRESSES:** Address requests for single copies of schedules identified in this notice to the Records Appraisal and Disposition Division (NIR), National Archives and Records Administration, College Park, MD 20740. Requesters must cite the control number assigned to each schedule when requesting a

copy. The control number appears in the parentheses immediately after the name of the requesting agency.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Each year U.S. Government agencies create billions of records on paper, film, magnetic tape, and other media. In order to control this accumulation, agency records managers prepare records schedules specifying when the agency no longer needs the records and what happens to the records after this period. Some schedules are comprehensive and cover all the records of an agency or one of its major subdivisions. These comprehensive schedules provide for the eventual transfer to the National Archives of historically valuable records and authorize the disposal of all other records. Most schedules, however, cover records of only one office or program or a few series of records, and many are updates of previously approved schedules. Such schedules also may include records that are designated for permanent retention.

Destruction of records requires the approval of the Archivist of the United States. This approval is granted after a thorough study of the records that takes into account their administrative use by the agency of origin, the rights of the Government and of private persons directly affected by the Government's activities, and historical or other value.

This public notice identifies the Federal agencies and their subdivisions requesting disposition authority, includes the control number assigned to each schedule, and briefly describes the records proposed for disposal. The records schedule contains additional information about the records and their disposition. Further information about the disposition process will be furnished to each requester.

##### Schedules Pending

1. Department of State, Bureau of Politico-Military Affairs (N1-59-96-18). Routine, facilitative, and duplicative records of the Nuclear Risk Reduction Center.

2. Department of Education (N1-441-96-2). Citizen correspondence, graphics design records, training films, and other records maintained by the Office of Public Affairs.

3. Department of Housing and Urban Development (N1-207-96-5). Routine and administrative reports and working files for the Multifamily Tenant Characteristics System, (data files and documentation will be preserved).

4. Department of Housing and Urban Development (N1-207-96-6). Reports, data, tracking files and documentation for subsystems of the Homeless Assistance Management Information