

Rural Utilities Service**Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Town of Albany, Cagle Water Expansion Project and Notice of Public Scoping Meeting**

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent and notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), USDA announces its intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (U.S.C. 4231 *et seq.*) in accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA (40 CFR 1500-1508) and Agency regulations 7 CFR 1940-G. The primary scope of the EIS is to evaluate the environmental impacts of and alternatives to the City of Albany's proposal to increase treatment capacity of their water treatment plant from 2.0 million gallons per day (MGD) to 5.0 MGD; install 30,000 linear feet (5.68 miles) of a 16-inch water transmission main; and construct a 1.5 million gallon water storage tank. Alternatives to be considered will include alternatives to the treatment plant expansion.

The Town of Albany has requested financial assistance from three Federal Agencies: RUS, Economic Development Administration (EDA), and Housing and Urban Development (HUD). In accordance with 40 CFR 1501.5, Lead Agencies, the RUS will be the lead Agency for the EIS and EDA and HUD will be cooperating Agencies.

With this notice, RUS invites any affected Federal, State, and local Agencies and other interested persons to comment on the scope, alternatives, and significant issues to be analyzed in depth in the EIS.

The public scoping meeting will be held on December 19, 1996 at the Clinton County High School Gym, Highway North 127, Albany, KY 42602 at 6:30 pm.

After the scoping process and the initial environmental analysis are completed RUS will issue a Draft EIS. A Notice of Availability of the Draft EIS will be published in the Federal Register and area newspapers, and public comments will again be solicited. Those persons who choose not to comment on the scope of the document at this time but desire a copy of the Draft EIS should send their names and addresses to Mark S. Plank at the address listed below. RUS anticipates

releasing a final EIS in less than nine months.

DATES: Written comments on the scope of the EIS will be accepted 15 days after the public scoping meeting is held.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be sent to Mark S. Plank, USDA, Rural Utilities Service, Engineering and Environmental Staff, Mail Stop 1571, Washington, DC 20250, telephone (202) 720-1649 or fax (202) 720-0820 or Thomas G. Fern, State Director, USDA, Rural Development State Office, 771 Corporate Drive, Suite 200, Lexington, KY 40503, (606) 224-7300 or fax (606) 224-7340.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jim Letcher, Vernon Brown, or Ken Sloane, USDA, Rural Development State Office, 771 Corporate Drive, Suite 200, Lexington, KY 40503, (606) 224-7300 or Mark S. Plank, at the address and telephone number above.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to Subchapter C, Part I (Empowerment Zones, Enterprise Communities and Rural Development Investment Areas) of Title XIII of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993, Clinton County, Kentucky is located in an area designated as an Empowerment Zone/Enterprise Community (EZ/EC) (see Federal Register Vol. 60, No. 24, February 6, 1995). The purpose of the EZ/EC initiative is to empower rural communities and their residents to create opportunities for economic development as part of a Federal-State-local and private sector partnership. The proposed action is an integral component of the EZ/EC initiative by providing the financial assistance for infrastructure development that is critical for promoting favorable economic conditions for job creation. One of the EZ/EC initiatives is the construction of a chicken processing plant (Plant) in Clinton County by Cagle Industries, Atlanta, GA. The Plant is expected to bring 800-1,000 jobs in an area of chronic poverty and high unemployment. In order to accommodate the water needs of the Plant, the City of Albany submitted a pre-application on September 5, 1996, to the Rural Utilities Service (and other Federal agencies) to upgrade the existing Albany Water Treatment Plant (WTP). The City of Albany proposes to increase treatment capacity of the WTP from 2.0 million gallons per day (MGD) to 5.0 MGD; install 30,000 linear feet (5.68 miles) of a 16-inch water transmission main; and construct a 1.5 million water storage tank at the Plant site.

Dated: November 25, 1996.

Adam Golodner,

Acting Administrator, Rural Utilities Service.
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ARCHITECTURAL AND TRANSPORTATION BARRIERS COMPLIANCE BOARD**Telecommunications Access Advisory Committee; Meeting**

AGENCY: Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board (Access Board) gives notice of the dates and location of the meetings of the Telecommunications Access Advisory Committee.

DATES: The Telecommunications Access Advisory Committee will meet on December 16, 17, and 18, 1996 beginning at 9:00 a.m. each day.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held at the Steptoe & Johnson building, 1330 Connecticut Avenue, NW., Washington, DC on the concourse level.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information regarding the meetings, please contact Dennis Cannon, Office of Technical and Information Services, Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board, 1331 F Street, NW., suite 1000, Washington, D.C. 20004-1111. Telephone number (202) 272-5434 extension 35 (voice); (202) 272-5449 (TTY). Electronic mail address: cannon@access-board.gov. This document is available in alternate formats (cassette tape, braille, large print, or computer disk) upon request. It is also available on the Internet at <http://www.access-board.gov/notices/taacmtg.htm>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On May 24, 1996, the Access Board published a notice appointing members to its Telecommunications Access Advisory Committee (Committee). 61 FR 26155 (May 24, 1996). The Committee will make recommendations to the Access Board on accessibility guidelines for telecommunications equipment and customer premises equipment. These recommendations will be used by the Access Board to develop accessibility guidelines in conjunction with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) under section 255 (e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. The Committee is composed of