Under the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis heading, the entry for Area Bancshares Corporation, Owensboro, Kentucky, is revised to read as follows:

A. Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis (Randall C. Sumner, Vice President) 411 Locust Street, St. Louis, Missouri 63102-2034:

1. Area Bancshares Corporation, Owensboro, Kentucky; to indirectly acquire Mutual Service Corporation, Somerset, Kentucky, and thereby engage in riskless principal transactions, pursuant to § 225.28(b)(7) of the Board's Regulation Y.

Comments on this application must be received by July 21, 1997.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, July 8, 1997.

Jennifer J. Johnson,

Deputy Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 97–18222 Filed 7–10–97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210–01–F

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Formations of, Acquisitions by, and Mergers of Bank Holding Companies

The companies listed in this notice have applied to the Board for approval, pursuant to the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956 (12 U.S.C. 1841 *et seq.*) (BHC Act), Regulation Y (12 CFR Part 225), and all other applicable statutes and regulations to become a bank holding company and/or to acquire the assets or the ownership of, control of, or the power to vote shares of a bank or bank holding company and all of the banks and nonbanking companies owned by the bank holding company, including the companies listed below.

The applications listed below, as well as other related filings required by the Board, are available for immediate inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank indicated. The application also will be available for inspection at the offices of the Board of Governors. Interested persons may express their views in writing on the standards enumerated in the BHC Act (12 U.S.C. 1842(c)). If the proposal also involves the acquisition of a nonbanking company, the review also includes whether the acquisition of the nonbanking company complies with the standards in section 4 of the BHC Act. Unless otherwise noted, nonbanking activities will be conducted throughout the United States.

Unless otherwise noted, comments regarding each of these applications must be received at the Reserve Bank indicated or the offices of the Board of Governors not later than August 7, 1997.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of New York (Betsy Buttrill White, Senior Vice President) 33 Liberty Street, New York, New York 10045-0001:

1. Pathfinder Bancorp, MHC, Oswego, New York; to acquire 100 percent of the voting shares of Pathfinder Bancorp, Oswego, New York, and Stock Holding Company, Oswego, New York, and thereby indirectly acquire Oswego City Savings Bank, Oswego, New York.

B. Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland (Jeffery Hirsch, Banking Supervisor) 1455 East Sixth Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44101-2566:

1. F.N.B. Corporation, Hermitage, Pennsylvania; to acquire up to 20 percent of the voting shares of Sun Bancorp, Inc., Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania, and thereby indirectly acquire Sun Bank, Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania.

In connection with this application, Applicant has also applied to acquire Pennsylvania Sun Life Insurance Company, Phoenix, Arizona, and thereby engage in providing credit life and disability insurance exclusively to customers of Sun Bank, Sun Bancorp, Inc.'s bank subsidiary, pursuant to § 225.28(b)(11) of the Board's Regulation Y.

C. Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas (Genie D. Short, Vice President) 2200 North Pearl Street, Dallas, Texas 75201-2272:

1. Maypearl Bancshares, Inc., Maypearl, Texas, and Maypearl Holdings, Inc., Wilmington, Delaware; to become a bank holding companies by acquiring 100 percent of the voting shares of First State Bank, Maypearl, Texas.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, July 8, 1997.

Jennifer J. Johnson,

Deputy Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 97–18223 Filed 7–10–97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210–01–F

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Sunshine Act Meeting

AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

TIME AND DATE: 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, July 16, 1997.

PLACE: Marriner S. Eccles Federal Reserve Board Building, C Street entrance between 20th and 21st Streets, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20551.

STATUS: Closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

1. Personnel actions (appointments, promotions, assignments, reassignments, and salary actions) involving individual Federal Reserve System employees.

2. Any items carried forward from a previously announced meeting.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Mr. Joseph R. Coyne, Assistant to the Board; (202) 452–3204. You may call (202) 452–3207, beginning at approximately 5 p.m. two business days before this meeting, for a recorded announcement of bank and bank holding company applications scheduled for the meeting.

Dated: July 9, 1997.

Jennifer J. Johnson,

Deputy Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 97–18359 Filed 7–9–97; 10:56 am]

BILLING CODE 6210–01–P

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

Final Record of Decision

AGENCY: General Services Administration, in cooperation with Food and Drug Administration, Assistance from Leo A Daly Greenhorne and O'Mara, Inc.

DIRECT INQUIRIES TO: Mr. Jag Bhargava, Development Director, General Services Administration, National Capital Region, 7th and D Streets, S.W., Washington, DC 20407, (202) 708–6570.

Abstract

June, 1997

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

This Record of Decision formally documents the intent of the General Services Administration and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to construct new consolidated, state-of-the-art facilities for the U.S. Food and Drug Administration at the former Naval Surface Warfare Center at White Oak in Montgomery County, Maryland. This Record of Decision summarizes the impacts of the proposed development and proposed mitigation measures which are detailed in the Final Environmental Impact Statement. Specific mitigation plans will be developed during the design stage and will consist of those strategies identified in the Final EIS.

Pursuant to Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations (40 CFR Part 1500 and 1508), and the General Services Administration (GSA) Handbook, PBS Preparation of Environmental Assessments and Environmental Impact Statements (PBS P 1095.4B), GSA, in its role as manager of federal government real estate and

space planning, announces its Record of Decision regarding locating the proposed consolidation of the Headquarters component of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) at the former Naval Surface Warfare Center at White Oak in Montgomery County, Maryland. GSA will develop the White Oak site with approximately 2,111,421 gross square feet of offices, laboratories and support facilities for approximately 5,947 employees and 500 visitors per day.

I. The Purpose of and Need for the Proposed Action

Purpose of the Proposed Action

The purpose of the proposed action is to provide new, consolidated, state-of-the-art facilities for the headquarters component of FDA on one location in Montgomery County, Maryland. The White Oak site would be used to consolidate the Office of the Commissioner, the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, the Center for Devices and Radiological Health, and the Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research, the Center for Devices and Radiological Health, and the Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research. (The Center for Veterinary Medicine and the Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition would be in separate locations in Prince George's County, Maryland, and have been addressed in separate environmental documents.)

Background of the Proposed Action

In 1990, Congress passed the FDA Revitalization Act, which authorized the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Administrator of the GSA to plan, design, and construct a consolidated facility for FDA. In the Fiscal Year 1992 Appropriation of funding for the FDA consolidation, Congress directed that the new facilities supporting FDA be constructed on two sites. The directive of the Appropriation split the consolidation between two counties in Maryland. In May of 1995, the U.S. Congress rescinded the funding for the FDA consolidation in Montgomery County. In order to reinstate the funding, GSA and FDA developed a revised program to (1) reduce the size and cost, (2) reduce the construction budget, (3) utilize a smaller site, and (4) find a less remote, more developed location, for the proposed action.

Need for the Proposed Action

The Headquarters components of FDA are current housed in more than 40 federally-owned or leased buildings at 18 locations throughout the Washington D.C. Metropolitan area. The dispersed locations of the FDA have created both administrative and operational inefficiencies, including duplication of services. The fragmentation of and distance between FDA's metropolitan facilities, coupled with inadequate parking at several facilities, make travel between the various components inefficient. Also, many of the buildings occupied by FDA are old, in poor condition, and overcrowded.

The proposed action is needed to provide a consolidated facility for FDA. The consolidation would improve administrative and operational efficiency and would facilitate communication and interaction among staff. The proposed action would provide state-of-the-art laboratories and buildings for FDA. The facilities would provide flexibility for FDA to quickly and economically respond to changing priorities and programs and advances in science and technology through modular planning and systems flexibility. The new facilities would improve safety and reduce potential hazards through careful design of the laboratories, animal rooms, offices, and support spaces, including adequate processing and storage areas for wastes.

The new facilities would improve energy efficiency through heat recovery strategies, central power plant efficiencies, site placement and landscaping, and an efficient building envelop, form, and operation.

The consolidation of the FDA Headquarters at new state-of-the-art facilities would provide a quality workplace environment that would promote creativity and productivity and facilities communication among staff. A quality workplace environment would also improve FDA's opportunities to recruit and retain high quality employees.

II. Alternatives Considered

Description of the Proposed Action

The FDA Consolidation within Montgomery County would consist of constructing approximately 2,111,421 gross square feet (gsf) [190,028 square meters (m^2)] of offices, laboratories, and support facilities for approximately 5,947 employees and 500 visitors per day.

The Office of the Commissioner would have its own office building and each of the centers of FDA Headquarters would have its own research laboratory facilities, in separate structures, to support its regulatory mission. Shared support facilities proposed for the FDA consolidation are listed bellow:

- Agency Crisis Center.
- Auditorium.
- Broadcast Studio.
- Child-Care Center.
- Computer Center.
- Credit Union.
- Custodial Services.
- Employee Assistance.
- Food Services.
- Health Center.
- Library and Resource Center.
- Mailing Center.
- Maintenance Shop.
- Security/Guard Station.
- Shipping and Receiving.
- Training Center.
- Visitor Center.
- Warehouse.
- Waste Storage.

The laboratory portion of the facility would house research laboratories, laboratory support, and offices for the scientists. In order to provide efficient design, the laboratories would likely be medium-rise structures.

Naval Surface Warfare Center at White Oak

The Naval Surface Warfare Center at White Oak in Silver Spring, Maryland is the Selected Alternative for the proposed FDA consolidation. The site has been used by the Navy for research, development, testing, and evaluation since 1946. The Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1995 mandated that the Navy close the White Oak base. The site encompasses 670 acres (268 hectares). The most concentrated area of development would be on the western portion of the site. The site layout would maximize the conservation of existing wetlands, stream valleys, forested areas, and steep slopes. The proposed facilities would include a compact layout, utilizing medium-rise buildings clustered on approximately 130 acres (52 hectares). A 40-acre remote parking lot is proposed, as well as a new access road to Cherry Hill Road.

Reuse of Existing White Oak Facilities

GSA prepared a detailed evaluation of the existing buildings and systems for their potential renovation/reuse in the new development scheme, or alternatively, their demolition. It is known that existing buildings contain hazardous materials, in the form of asbestos and lead paint, which would have to be removed or encapsulated before the buildings could be demolished or renovated. Findings indicated that it would not be cost effective to rehabilitate and reuse the majority of the existing buildings. Two buildings will be reused, Building 1 (the Main Administration Building and Building 100.

No-Action Alternative

Under the No-Action alternative, the FDA, through GSA, would continue to use its existing facilities of more than 40 government-owned and leased buildings at 18 locations in the Washington D.C. Metropolitan area. Additional facilities would be leased as the need arises.

The No-Action alternative would not allow for the improved efficiency resulting from consolidated of the administrative, management, and technical support functions of the Headquarters component of FDA. Higher administrative costs, due to duplication of services in multiple facilities, would continue. The existing facilities would not allow FDA to support the changing technology required to meet its regulatory mission. Expansion and renovation of existing FDA facilities or the leasing of additional facilities would be necessary to alleviate overcrowding. Under the No-Action alternative, the White Oak site studied in this EIS would not be used for the proposed FDA consolidation.

Alternative Sites Considered and Dismissed

Private Sector Site for Construction of New Facilities

The site selection process began with an announcement of March 21, 1994, of GSA's intention to acquire a site for the proposed FDA facilities in Montgomery County, Maryland. Early in the planning for the FDA consolidation, GSA, in consultation with FDA, established criteria for a site on which to construct the new facilities. These criteria were established to meet FDA requirements for office and laboratory space as well as for shared use support areas (see Section 2.2.3).

Nine sites were evaluated to determine compliance with the advertised criteria. These evaluations were based upon not only data received from the offerors, but also upon additional data obtained independently by the Site Selection Team from public agency mapping sources, aerial photo interpretations, physical site investigations, and environmental analyses. The Site Selection Team determined that five of the sites did not meet advertised requirements and one of the sites was withdrawn by the offeror. The sites studied in detail included the King Farm site, the Germantown site, and the Clarksburg Triangle site. These privately-owned sites were dismissed from consideration with the offer of the White Oak, federally-owned property.

Purchase or Lease Additional Facilities

Because the majority of existing FDA facilities cannot accommodate expansion, GSA and FDA also investigated either the leasing or purchasing of additional facilities. Public notices were published, however, none of the offers received could provide sufficient space to meet FDA's needs.

III. Environmental Impact Statement

An EIS was prepared to address the direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts of the Proposed Action, consolidation of FDA at White Oak, and No-Action alternatives. A Draft EIS was issued in March 1996 and the Final EIS was issued in April 1997. Impacts from the No-Action alternative were assessed based on the FDA remaining in currently-used facilities. The environmental issues addressed in the EIS were identified through early public involvement (scoping); through consultations with local, state, and federal agencies; and by the project team, which includes GSA, FDA, and contractor personnel who have had experience with projects of similar scope. For discussion and analysis, the issues are grouped into four categories: natural and physical environment; socioeconomic environment; cultural environment; and infrastructure and waste management. The EIS identified the Proposed Action alternative as the preferred alternative.

IV. Affected Environment

The White Oak site encompasses 670 acres (268 hectares), of which approximately 621 acres (248 hectares) lie within Montgomery County and approximately 49 acres (20 hectares) lie within Prince George's County Maryland. Primary access to the site is from New Hampshire Avenue, approximately 1.15 miles (1.84 kilometers) north of the Capital Beltway, Interstate 495, and 0.75 miles (1.22 kilometers) south of U.S. Highway 29, Colesville Road.

The White Oak site is roughly 10,000 feet (3,048 meters) east-west by 3,300 feet (1,006 meters) north-south. The property was acquired by the Navy in 1944 and utilized until recently for research, development, testing and evaluation of weapons systems. The developed areas of the site are separated by eight wooded stream courses, the largest of which is Paint Branch, bisecting the site from north to south. Existing development is grouped on the western, central and eastern thirds of the site, with the main concentration being on the western third. There are 212 existing structures on site.

V. Environmental Consequences of the Proposed Action and Mitigation Measures

The proposed FDA facilities would be constructed on a compact site layout, utilizing medium-rise buildings clustered on approximately 130 acres (52 hectares) of the western portion of the site. In addition to the 130-acre development area, 40 acres (16 hectares) are proposed for use as remote parking. The majority of the White Oak site, including all buildings, ground and infrastructure, outside the 170 acres (68 hectares) developed for FDA's consolidation, would remain as it exist when the Navy leaves. Future development of currently unoccupied area would be subject to separate environmental reviews. The proposed limits of disturbance for development of the centers, road, and support facilities were used to assess impact for the Proposed Action.

A summary of the impacts to the natural and physical environment, the social environment, the cultural environment, and infrastructure and waste management along with proposed mitigation measures is provided below.

Geology, Soils, and Topography

The construction of the FDA facility would interact with the existing geologic environment as the result of grading activities associated with construction which would alter the topography and soils of the site. Construction in areas with steep slopes will be avoided to the extent possible. Detailed subsurface engineering studies will be undertaken prior to design and construction to ensure that sound building practices are followed. Soil suitability will be determined and appropriate building foundation specifications will be developed. A detailed erosion and sedimentation plan will be developed prior to construction, following the state's ''Erosion and Sediment Control Guidelines for State and Federal Projects'' (Maryland Department of Environment (MDE), 1990), to ensure that appropriate soil erosion and sediment control measures are taken during construction of buildings, roadways, or utility lines to minimize soil loss due to erosion.

Water Resources

Of the ten stream systems on the White Oak site (Paint Branch, Westfarm Branch, and eight unnamed tributaries), five streams could be directly affected by the proposed action. Paint Branch and its tributaries on the White Oak site

are classified by Maryland Department of the Environment as Use II waters and carry the state's most stringent water quality standards. Stormwater management for the proposed development will be designed to meet MDE requirements. Three stormwater management detention (dry) basins and an underground stormwater management facility will provide quantitative control for the main FDA site. Four stormwater management (dry) basins will provide quantitative control for the remote parking area, and another detention (dry) basin will provide quantitative control for the new entrance road connecting existing Dahlgren Road to Cherry Hill Road.

Qualitative stormwater management will be provided by bioretention areas and, if feasible, infiltration trenches throughout the site. Bioretention areas are proposed for many of the islands in the parking lots to treat the runoff from the parking lots. Infiltration trenches will provide qualitative control for the buildings and roads.

Several non-structural best management practices (BMPs) will be incorporated into the design of the project to further mitigate potential water quality concerns. Open section roads (i.e., no curb and gutter) with grass swales and vegetated islands will be used on the site to filter pollutants and reduce thermal impacts. Stream buffers will be maintained to protect stream water quality in accordance with Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) guidelines.

Mitigation measures will be incorporated into the construction to minimize the risk of contaminants entering groundwater. Proper precautions will be taken to prevent transport of contaminants during construction and excavation activities. The amount of mowed lawns will be minimized and integrated pest management techniques will be used during landscaping and turf maintenance practices to reduce the potential for altering groundwater quality.

Wetlands

Based on the proposed limits of disturbance, there will be no direct impacts to vegetated wetlands. Incidental impacts (<50 square feet each) may be necessary for construction of seven stormwater outfalls. Authorizations from the Corps of Engineers and Maryland Department of Environment will be obtained prior to construction of these outfalls, if impacts to the stream channels become necessary.

The increase in impervious surfaces could increase erosion and sedimentation which could indirectly impact wetlands and streams. The vegetated wetland on the site could experience scouring, loss of sediments, and loss of herbaceous vegetation. Increased flooding could expand the wetland boundary in some areas. Increased erosion due to scouring would increase sediment load in the tributaries, which could increase sedimentation and facilitate the conversion of wetlands to uplands. Effective stormwater management and erosion control will minimize indirect impacts. The proposed buffer zones throughout the site will also minimize impacts. There would be some cumulative impacts to wetlands on the White Oak site due to on- and off-site developments. Increases in flooding, erosion, and sediment loads are anticipated to affect existing wetlands.

Vegetation and Wildlife

Based on the proposed limits of disturbance for the proposed action, 35 acres (14 hectares) of mowed lawn and 32 acres (13 hectares) of deciduous forest land would be directly affected. Other areas affected by the proposed construction are previously developed areas which provide minimal wildlife habitat. The majority of proposed forest land impacts are along the edge of the existing forest land and near the existing development. All possible measures will be taken to avoid impacts to forest land. Impacts from human disturbance will be minimal since the areas being developed for the FDA facilities are presently developed.

The White Oak site is surrounded by development and is one of only a few areas of substantial plant and wildlife habitat remaining in the vicinity. Development of this site for the FDA facility and would further decrease the limited amount of plant and wildlife habitat available in this area. Mitigation measures for effects to vegetation and wildlife primarily consist of maintaining large areas of forest, especially along streams, to provide wildlife habitat and movement corridors. Sufficient amounts of forest will be retained under this alternative to comply with county and state forest conservation regulations. Specifically, there will be 25 acres (10 hectares) of forest land remaining on the 170-acre development site. This forest land is contiguous and will continue to buffer streams located on the project site.

Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive Species

No known direct, indirect, or cumulative impacts are anticipated to any federally-listed or state-listed endangered or threatened species or those proposed for listing with proposed construction on the White Oak site.

Contamination Assessment

Of the seven identified hazardous waste sites, only one (Site #11, Industrial Wastewater Disposal Area 100) is located within the proposed project area. Groundwater will require a remediation program to achieve clean-up objectives. However, the timetable for implementation of the remediation is uncertain. The proposed remediation methodologies will involve extraction and on-site treatment of groundwater. The Navy is responsible for on-going remediation of all of the identified sites, including Site #11. Site investigation and remediation activities have been and will continue to be coordinated by the BRAC clean-up team which is comprised of the Navy (NSWC Detachment White Oak), the MDE, and the U.S. EPA Region III. These activities are communicated to the Restoration Advisory Board which is made up of local government and community members.

Future locations of extraction wells and treatment facilities for the proposed groundwater remediation have not yet been established. The design for the construction of the proposed action will be coordinated with the Navy's plans for design and siting of extraction wells and on-site treatment facilities for the remediation systems.

Contaminated soils are not expected to affect construction. If soil contamination is identified, a permit for soil remediation is required from the MDE Air and Radiation Management Division. In addition, arrangements for the testing, containment and treatment of groundwater will be required if dewatering operations are needed for construction excavations.

Asbestos has been identified in many of the buildings which are designated for demolition or renovation within the proposed action project area. As demolition and renovation activities could cause the release of asbestos to the environment, all friable or potentially friable asbestos will be removed prior to building alterations in accordance with the National Emissions Standard for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAPS) and Maryland Department of the Environment Air Management regulations. Asbestos emissions to the environment from each NESHAPS

source will be minimized through engineering controls and appropriate work practices. All asbestos and asbestos-contaminated debris will be disposed off-site at a permitted disposal facility.

Lead paint is likely to be present in buildings designated for demolition or renovation within the proposed action area. Demolition of buildings must be performed in accordance with MDE regulations (COMAR 26.11.06.03D) requiring that reasonable precaution must be taken to prevent particulate matter, such as fugitive dust from becoming airborne. Demolition and construction debris containing lead-based paint wastes will be segregated and tested to determine lead concentrations and appropriate disposal in accordance with RCRA guidelines.

PCB wastes are not stored within the proposed action area. However, fluorescent light ballasts containing PCBs are likely to be present in many of the buildings within the proposed action area. PCB-containing light ballasts and any remaining PCB-containing transformer equipment will be removed prior to building demolition and disposed at off-site TSCA-approved facilities.

According to the White Oak underground storage tank (UST) inventory, 11 petroleum UST systems are active in the proposed action area. The proposed action will require the removal or closure of all UST systems which are taken out of service. Also, removal of four fuel oil aboveground storage tanks (ASTs) from locations within the proposed action project area will be required by local building codes.

It is anticipated that abatement or closure activities related to remaining asbestos, lead paint, PCBs, and USTs will be carried out prior to or during construction, as appropriate, by demolition or abatement contractors. Project specifications for these actions will require proper off-site disposal of wastes, including hazardous wastes and special solid wastes, at appropriate disposal facilities.

Decommissioning surveys will be completed by the NSWC Health Physics Office in compliance with requirements for termination of permits for radioactive sources under the Navy's Nuclear Regulatory Commission license. Based on the findings of the scoping survey, related to residual Radium 226 contamination, further study will be required to determine how much remediation is necessary and the associated costs. Appropriate remediation will then be conducted by the Navy.

Air Quality

The results of the air quality analysis for both mobile and stationary emission sources indicate that the future scenario with FDA would not significantly affect the ambient air quality in the region. The mobile and stationary sources of the proposed action will not significantly contribute to any violations of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for ozone or its precursors such as nitrous oxide (NO_X) or volatile organic compounds (VOCs). The stationary sources at NSWC, including the proposed new boilers, will not impact the attainment of a 15 percent reduction in VOCs, as outlined in the Maryland State Implementation Plan. Upon comparison of the emissions from the automobile exhaust, it was determined that the carbon monoxide, NO_x, and particulate matter emissions were well below the de minimis levels. Therefore, emissions generated from the proposed action are exempt from further analysis as defined in the General Conformity Rule under the Clean Air Act.

The White Oak site is located in an ozone serious nonattainment area, however, the area is in attainment for carbon monoxide. The requirements will include review of criteria pollutants, if any, to be generated from the proposed sources. The permits will be reviewed and approved by the Maryland Air and Radiation Administration. The proposed boilers will require permits from the MDE. During the permitting process for the proposed boilers, the impacts on the ambient air quality will be determined. The air quality model in this case will also determine the minimum stack heights required to effectively disperse the emissions from the proposed boilers.

Federal mandates to reduce emissions include controls for refueling operations, inspection, and maintenance of vehicle emission systems. States and local governments have regulated specific operations and participated in the reformulated gasoline program. Car pooling, employee commute options, mass transit improvements, high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes are some of the Transportation Control Measures (TCMs), FDA, since it is a government agency, will be required to implement these measures to reduce emissions.

Noise

Direct, short-term noise impacts would result from construction activities during development of the FDA facility. There would be no direct impacts to area noise levels due to operations of the proposed facility. Noise levels should be similar or slightly lower than those currently at the side due to cessation of current Navy tests involving explosives. Indirect roadway traffic noise will have virtually no impact on noise levels at the identified sensitive receptors.

Noise from construction equipment can be reduced by the construction of temporary noise barriers by avoiding times of day or days of the week when noise exposures will be more objectionable (for example, weekend mornings). The lowest amplitude back-up alarms sufficient for ''audibility'' to meet safety requirements will be used. Equipment will be operated with manufacturer noise control features in working order.

Facilities on the FDA site that would generate noise will be located as far from noise-sensitive receptors as possible. Site topography and layout will be used to provide shielding by hillsides or other structures. For indoor noise sources, buildings will be specified to provide suitable sound attenuation and the equipment operating spaces will be treated to minimize interior sound buildup. Internal combustion engine exhausts and fans drawing from or discharging to the atmosphere will be fitted with silencers. Where possible, installed equipment will be specified to minimize noise generation (for example, fan selection for low noise). Noisy facility operations will be scheduled for times that are least noise-sensitive.

Land Use

The existing zoning for the White Oak site is for residential development; however, the proposed land use is compatible with the existing land use and impact will be minimal.

Population

Because no residential uses are contemplated as part of the proposed FDA consolidation and since the proposed action would result primarily in a consolidation of existing offices and laboratories, implementation of the proposed action on this site should not result in a significant change in county-wide population characteristics or projections.

Housing

Additional housing demand may be generated in the White Oak area due to the relocation of FDA facilities.

Economy, Employment, and Income

The proposed action at White Oak will have positive short-term impacts on

the regional economy. The consolidation of the FDA facilities will not significantly affect the economy of the National Capital Region because neither employment nor procurement is expected to change. However, the White Oak Master Plan area of Montgomery County will benefit from payroll spending by FDA employees at local businesses and income of FDA employees choosing to relocate their place of residence.

Environmental Justice in Minority and Low-Income Populations

The proposed action will not disproportionately impact minority or low-income populations in the White Oak area. Construction of the proposed project will not hinder the continued economic growth or alter the character of the area.

Taxes and Revenue

Taxes and government revenues are not expected to be significantly affected by the proposed action.

Community Facilities and Services

Construction of the FDA facility at White Oak would not result in any direct impacts to existing community facilities and services.

Aesthetics and Visual Resources

The project facilities would permanently affect the existing appearance of the landscape within the project site. Special care will be given to the architectural character of the new buildings so that they are compatible with the surrounding area. Landscaping measures will help mitigate the visual impacts of the proposed facilities from surrounding properties.

Public Health and Safety

Details of the safety, prevention and mitigation procedures that will be employed to protect public health at the FDA facility will be provided by the FDA in a Safety Analysis Report when definitive plans for the site are in place. Extensive prevention and mitigation procedures are practiced by the FDA to prevent occupational hazards and migration of contaminants off site via transport by workers or any other pathway.

These regulations will contain hazardous or infectious substances in a controlled environment, and will prevent exposure of the general public to any agents that may adversely affect human health.

Historic Properties

The Maryland Historic Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form concluded that the Haval Ordnance Laboratory (NOL) historic district is significant under National Register Criterion A, B, and C, and possesses exceptional significance under National Register Criteria Consideration G, at the national level for its pivotal role as a first-generation Cold-War-period defense weapons research facility.

If the Maryland State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) concurs with this finding, then the proposed action will have an Adverse Effect on the Naval Ordnance Laboratory historic district as defined in 36 CFR 800.9 Approximately 70 Contributing historic district resources and 46 Non-contributing resources will be demolished within the 100 Area, and approximately 4 Contributing resources will be taken within the 200 Area. In the event of a finding of Adverse Effect, GSA will follow the requirements found in 36 CFR 800.5e (When the effect is adverse). In compliance with these requirements, GSA will: notify the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (Council); consult with the SHPO and involve interested persons as participating consulting parties; document the finding of Adverse Effect according to 36 CFR 800.8; inform the public of the finding of Adverse Effect; and execute a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the SHPO specifying how the effects will be taken into account. The MOA is expected to provide an agreement on ways in which GSA will minimize or mitigate these adverse impacts.

Archeological Resources

The Phase I archaeological investigation revealed no prehistoric or historic archaeological remains within the areas of potential effects for the proposed construction activities. Concurrence from the State Historic Preservation Office (Maryland Historical Trust) is pending.

Utilities

Adequate water supply can be provided to the White Oak site from existing service connections. Improvements to the existing sewer system will be required, and the Paint Branch Trunk sewer will likely require relief in the next 5 to 10 years. GSA and FDA will prepare a water conservation plan and policy, install water saving fixtures, and design landscape plans for minimum water usage.

Adequate electrical power and natural gas be supplied to the White Oak site from existing lines. Energy conservation measures will be incorporated into building design. Updated on-site communication systems will be required.

Transportation and Parking

Access to the White Oak site is provided via MD 650 and Cherry Hill Road. The improvements proposed for the main entrance to the site from MD 650 include:

- A single left-turn lane for southbound MD 650 into the site.
- A right-turn lane for northbound MD 650 into the site.
- A right-turn lane from the site to northbound MD 650.
- Three left-turn lanes, including a shared through lane, from the site to southbound MD 650.

A new full entrance is proposed from Cherry Hill Road adjacent to the northeast corner of the property. This entrance will be at a new location close to the Montgomery/Prince George's county line and will include:

- A left-and right-turn lane exiting the site to Cherry Hill Road.
- A right-turn lane for eastbound Cherry Hill Road into the site.
- A left-turn lane for westbound Cherry Hill Road into the site.

Intersection capacity analyses were performed for the AM and PM peak hours at study intersections within the White Oak study area for the projected build-out year of 2005. The results of he analyses indicated that the majority of intersections would not operate at acceptable levels of service with or without the proposed FDA facility.

A Transportation Management Plan (TMP) was developed to aid in the mitigation of traffic impacts from FDA to the extent possible. Transportation management strategies proposed include: provision of employee transportation coordinator; ride-matching service; preferential parking for carpools and vanpools; guaranteed ride home program; flexitime program; flecxiplace program; and bus service to/from Metrorail. In addition to these strategies, the following is a list of roadway improvements that would be necessary to mitigate traffic impacts if the FDA facility is located at the White Oak site.

- *MD 650 at Michelson Road.* These improvements include the addition of a right-turn lane along northbound MD 650 into the site. The total length of the lane, including taper, would be 350 feed (107 meters). the intersection improvements for MD 650 at Michelson Road mitigate the traffic impacts at the intersection in the PM but not the AM peak hour.
- *MD 650 and Schindler Drive/ Mahan Drive (Main Gate.)* These improvements include the addition of a

northbound channelized right-turn lane into the site; and extending the southbound left-turn lane on MD 650. The total length of the northbound right-turn lane, including taper, is 350 feet (107 meters) and the southbound left-turn lane is 400 feet (120 meters). These improvements also include the addition of two additional westbound lanes out of the site. The improvements to the intersection do not mitigate the traffic impact at the intersection in the PM peak hour.

• *MD 650 at Powder Mill Road.* These improvements include the widening of southbound MD 650 to accommodate the turning movements of three left-turn lanes from the east leg of Powder Mill Road. Widening will occur north and south of the intersection to transition the southbound lanes from a lane width of 12 feet to a width of 14 feet. The east leg of Powder Mill road will be restriped to provide double left-turn lanes, a thru/left-turn lane, and a right-turn lane and the traffic signal will be modified.

• *MD 650 at Lockwood Drive.* These improvements involve reconfiguring the intersection to provide an additional left-turn lane on Lockwood Drive's east and west approach to MD 650.

• *Cherry Hill Road at Broadbirch Dr./Calverton Blvd.* These improvements include the addition of a right-turn lane on northbound Cherry Hill Road. The total length of the northbound right-turn lane, including taper, is 350 feet (107 meters).

• *Cherry Hill Road to Powder Mill Road.* These improvements include the provision of separate north-and southbound left-turn lanes. The total length for both the north- and southbound lanes is 150 feet (46 meters).

• U.S. 29 at Lockwood Drive. These improvements involve widening the driveway from the Manor Care property to provide an additional left-turn lane.

The widening of Cherry Hill Road to four lanes from the Montgomery County line to Autoville Drive in College Park is included in the Prince George's County FY 1996–2001 Capital Improvement Program. However, this project is not presently funded. The Subregion 1 Master Plan identifies Powder Mill Road as an arterial highway which will be ultimately built as a four to six-lane divided roadway between the Montgomery County line and U.S. 1 in Beltsville. Construction of these improvements to Cherry Hill Road and Powder Mill Road will improve access to the FDA site and more than mitigate existing and projected levels of service at the intersection of Cherry Hill Road and Powder Mill Road. In addition, access to the FDA site from I–95 will be greatly enhanced.

The following intersections are not mitigated:

• *U.S. 29 at Cherry Hill Road/Randolph Road.*

• *MD 650 at Lockwood Drive.*

• *MD 650 at Elton Road.*

FDA traffic will have a relatively small impact on those intersections at which mitigation was not recommended. Mitigation was not recommended at these intersections due to physical constraints such as existing structures and inadequate rights of way. In addition, these intersections were projected to fail under future conditions without the presence of FDA traffic.

To improve traffic flow in the area surrounding the site, implementation of regional solutions proposed in the Montgomery and Prince George's Counties Master Plans will be necessary. These improvements could include construction of grade separated interchanges on U.S. 29, widening Cherry Hill Road and Powder Mill Road, and construction of a Transitway on U.S. 29. Additional regional solutions would include enhanced bus and feeder service to Metrorail and MARC train stations at Silver Spring and Greenbelt.

Waste Management

Waste types to be generated by FDA include: general waste (including recyclable waste), medical waste, hazardous waste, low-level radioactive waste, and mixed waste. All wastes will be properly handled, stored, and removed from the site in accordance with appropriate state and federal regulations.

VI. Areas of Controversy

The following areas of controversy concerning the proposed action have been identified from public and agency comments: the effects of the FDA facility on area traffic: the availability of adequate public transportation; existing contamination on the White Oak site; effects of the new facility on water quality; and historic preservation. The actions taken to resolve these areas of controversy are presented below.

Traffic

A traffic analysis was completed comparing the projected future traffic conditions for area intersections without FDA to those conditions projected for the proposed action. The results of the traffic analysis indicated that the majority of intersections would not operate at acceptable levels of service under either future scenario. To mitigate the impacts to area traffic from the FDA facility, off-site road improvements have been proposed as well as the implementation of transportation demand management strategies to reduce the number of vehicles accessing the White Oak site as detailed in Section V of this report.

Public Transportation

The Silver Spring, Forest Glen, and Wheaton stations along the Metrorail Red Line are located approximately three miles from the White Oak site, and the Greenbelt and College Park stations of the Metrorail Green Line are located approximately four miles from the White Oak site. The MARC train also services stations in Silver Spring, Greenbelt, and College Park. There are several Metrobus on Ride On bus routes that service the White Oak area; however, the current services schedules are infrequent and some existing bus stops are not conveniently located.

A component of the Transportation Management Plan is to provide bus service between the FDA facility and the Silver Spring Metro station. GSA will discuss bus service options with Montgomery County.

Existing Contaminated Areas

The Navy is responsible for on-going remediation of all of the identified contaminated sites. Remediation activities will continue to be coordinated by the BRAC clean-up team which is comprised of the Navy (NSWC Detachment White Oak), the MDE, and the U.S. EPA Region III. These activities are communicated to the Restoration Advisory Board which is made up of local government and community members.

Water Quality Impacts

Paint Branch and its tributaries on the White Oak site are classified by Maryland Department of the Environment as Use III waters and carry the state's most stringent water quality standards. Mitigation measures will include stream valley buffers, the utilization of best management practices for maximum pollutant removal efficiency, and state-of-the-art stormwater management techniques. Several stormwater management facilities are located within the stream valley buffers; however, they are within areas already disturbed.

Historic Preservation

If the Maryland State Historic Preservation Officer concurs with the designation of the Naval Ordinance Laboratory as a historic district, then the proposed action will have an Adverse Effect. In the event of a finding of Adverse Effect, GSA will follow the

requirements found in 36 CFR 800.5e (When the effect is adverse). In compliance with these requirements, GSA will: notify the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (Council); consult with the SHPO and involve interested persons as participating consulting parties; document the finding of Adverse Effect according to 36 CFR 800.8; inform the public of the finding of Adverse Effect; and execute a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the SHPO specifying how the effects will be taken into account. The MOA is expected to provide an agreement on ways in which GSA will minimize or mitigate these adverse impacts.

VII. Environmental Planning Process

The Scoping process including the publication of the Notice of Intent in the **Federal Register** on October 25, 1995 followed by a series of scoping meetings held to identify issues of concern to the community and government agencies. A public scoping meeting was held on November 7, 1995 at the Naval Surface Warfare Center in White Oak, and an agency scoping meeting was held on November 21, 1995.

The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended, requires that the public and affected agencies be provided the opportunity to review and comment on the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). A 75-day review period of the draft EIS, commenced on March 15, 1996 and concluded on May 31, 1996 in order to comply with these requirements. During this period, a public hearing was held on April 16, 1996 at the Naval Surface Warfare Center at the site of the Proposed Action to receive comments from the public.

A Final Environmental Impact Statement was prepared to address comments made on the Draft EIS, and was filed with the U.S. EPA on May 2, 1997. The Final EIS was also made available to the public and affected agencies for an additional 30-day review period (May 2, 1997 through June 2, 1997). Comments on the Final EIS were taken into consideration by GSA and FDA in the preparation of this Record of Decision.

GSA believes that there are no other outstanding environmental issues to be resolved with respect to the proposed construction on the White Oak site with approximately 2,111,421 gsf of offices laboratories and support facilities, and 4,500 parking spaces for approximately 5,947 employees and 500 visitors per day. The mitigation program for the development of the White Oak site will be developed during the design phase. Mitigation measures will be developed from those recommended in the Final EIS or other state-of-the-art practices. Questions regarding the EIS prepared for this action should be directed to Mr. Jag Bhargava, P.E., Development Director, General Services Administration National Capital Region, Room 2120, 7th and D Streets, SW, Washington, DC 20407, telephone 202–708–6570.

Dated: June 26, 1997.

Nelson Alcalde,

Regional Administrator, General Services Administration.

[FR Doc. 97–18135 Filed 7–10–97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6820–23–M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. 97F–0283]

Akzo Nobel Chemical Co.; Filing of a Food Additive Petition

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is announcing that Akzo Nobel Chemical Co. has filed a petition proposing that the food additive regulations be amended to provide for the safe use of monoester of α-hydro-ω-hydroxy-poly(oxyethylene) poly(oxypropylene) poly(oxyethylene) (15 mole minimum) blocked copolymer derived from low erucic acid rapeseed oil as a component of defoaming agents used in the washing of sugar beets for processing into sugar.

DATES: Written comments on the petitioner's environmental assessment by August 11, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments to the Dockets Management Branch (HFA–305), Food and Drug Administration, 12420 Parklawn Dr., rm. 1–23, Rockville, MD 20857.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Vivian M. Gilliam, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (HFS–215), Food and Drug Administration, 200 C St. SW., Washington, DC 20204, 202–418–3167.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (sec. 409(b)(5) (21 U.S.C. 348(b)(5))), notice is given that a food additive petition (FAP 6A4494) has been filed by Akzo Nobel Chemical Co., 5 Livingstone Ave., Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522–3407. The petition proposes to amend the food additive regulations in § 173.340 *Defoaming agents* (21 CFR 173.340) to provide for the safe use of monoester of α-hydro-ω-hydroxy-poly (oxyethylene) poly(oxypropylene) poly(oxyethylene) blocked copolymer derived from low erucic acid rapeseed oil as a component of defoaming agents used in the washing of sugar beets for processing into sugar.

The potential environmental impact of this action is being reviewed. To encourage public participation consistent with regulations promulgated under the National Environmental Policy Act (40 CFR 1501.4(b)), the agency is placing the environmental assessment submitted with the petition that is the subject of this notice on display at the Dockets Management Branch (address above) for public review and comment. Interested persons may, on or before August 11, 1997, submit to the Dockets Management Branch (address above) written comments. Two copies of any comments are to be submitted, except that individuals may submit one copy. Comments are to be identified with the docket number found in brackets in the heading of this document. Received comments may be seen in the office above between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. FDA will also place on public display any amendments to, or comments on, the petitioner's environmental assessment without further announcement in the **Federal Register**. If, based on its review, the agency finds that an environmental impact statement is not required and this petition results in a regulation, the notice of availability of the agency's finding of no significant impact and the evidence supporting that finding will be published with the regulation in the **Federal Register** in accordance with 21 CFR 25.40(c).

Dated: June 13, 1997.

Alan M. Rulis,

Director, Office of Premarket Approval, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition.

[FR Doc. 97–18126 Filed 7–10–97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4160–01–F

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. 97F–0284]

Eastman Chemical Co.; Filing of Food Additive Petition

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.