

(3) Is not likely to be environmentally controversial.

(4) Will not likely result in litigation based on environmental quality issues.

(5) Does not require an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Harry W. McClellan, Jr.,

LTC, EN, Product Manager, Construction Equipment/Materials Handling Equipment.
[FR Doc. 98-2668 Filed 2-3-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-08-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

Corps of Engineers

Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Rio de Flag Area; Flagstaff, AZ Feasibility Study; City of Flagstaff, Coconino County, Arizona

AGENCY: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The Los Angeles District intends to prepare an EIS to support the proposed study for flood control and environmental restoration, in the Flagstaff area. The study area is a riparian corridor traversing a mostly urban environment, extending approximately twelve (12) miles along the Rio de Flag (river), between U.S. Highway 180 on the north and west; and the Interstate 40 (I-40) bridge on the southeast. The lower segments of Sinclair Wash and Clay Avenue Wash near their convergence with the Rio de Flag area also included.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information contact the Environmental Coordinator, Mr. David Compas, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District, Attn: CESPL-PD-RN, P.O. Box 532711, Los Angeles CA 90053 at 213-452-3850.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will sponsor a scoping meeting to solicit public input on 27 February 1998 at the City of Flagstaff offices, at 211 West Aspen Avenue, Flagstaff. Two sessions will be held from 1 to 3 PM and from 5 to 7 PM, both sessions will cover the same topics. This scoping will be held prior to preparing the Environmental Impact Statement to solicit public input on the significant environmental issues associated with the proposed action. The public, as well as Federal, State, and local agencies are encouraged to participate in the scoping process by attending the Scoping Meeting and/or submitting data, information, and

comments identifying relevant environmental and socioeconomic issues to be addressed in the environmental analysis. Useful information includes other environmental studies, published and unpublished data, alternatives that should be addressed in the analysis, and potential mitigation measures associated with the proposed action.

Individuals and agencies may offer information or data relevant to the proposed study by attending the public scoping meeting, or by mailing the information to Mr. David Compas at the address below prior to March 23, 1998. Comments, suggestions, and requests to be placed on the mailing list for announcements and for the Draft EIS, should be sent to: Mr. David Compas, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District, Attn: CESPL-PD-RN, P.O. Box 532711, Los Angeles, CA 90053. Comments will also be accepted via E-mail at: dcompas@spl.usace.army.mil

Alternatives

A full array of alternatives will be developed for further analyses. The proposed plan, viable project alternatives, and the "no action" plan will be carried forward for detailed analysis in the document. Conceptual alternatives will likely consist of: utilizing the present channel with modifications; utilizing the "historic" channel for a portion of the flow; splitting of northern flows from the southern flows; and/or diversion of flows to Walnut Canyon. Channel alternatives will likely consist of: a combination of open channels; covered channels; and/or greenbelt channels. Recreation alternatives will likely consist of: bike/walking trails; picnic tables; nature viewing areas; and/or a fitness course. Environmental alternatives will likely consist of: wetlands restoration; flora enhancement; and/or riparian enhancement.

Availability of the Draft EIS

The Draft EIS is expected to be published and circulated for public review in August 1999.

Gregory D. Showalter,

Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 98-2709 Filed 2-3-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Navy

Notice of Intent to Prepare a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for Milcon Project P-527b, Sewage Effluent Compliance, at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California

AGENCY: Department of the Navy, DOD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Marine Corps announces its intent to prepare a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the environmental effects of proposed alternative methods of sewage effluent disposal, in order to achieve compliance with a San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) Cease and Desist Order at Marine Corps Base (MCB), Camp Pendleton. This report will supplement the Sewage Effluent Compliance Project, Lower Santa Margarita Basin Environmental Impact Statement/Report (EIS/R).

DATES: Submit comments on or before March 23, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to Southwest Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, 1220 Pacific Highway, San Diego, CA 92132-5190, (Attn: Ms. Vicky Taylor, Code 533.VT)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Vicky Taylor, (619) 532-3007.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 as implemented by the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR parts 1500-1508), the U.S. Marine Corps announces its intent to prepare a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the environmental effects of proposed alternative methods of sewage effluent disposal, in order to achieve compliance with a San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) Cease and Desist Order at Marine Corps Base (MCB), Camp Pendleton. The Sewage Effluent Compliance Project, Lower Santa Margarita Basin Environmental Impact Statement/Report (EIS/R), which this report will supplement, addressed a system of pumps and piping to deliver effluent from Sewage Treatment Plants 1, 2, 3, 8, and 13 to percolation ponds and an existing ocean outfall for discharge. Each of the three alternatives evaluated included an element of effluent or brine discharge through the ocean outfall. During final consideration of the proposed action, the City of Oceanside City Council disapproved use

of its ocean outfall, thus requiring evaluation of further alternatives.

MCB Camp Pendleton is proceeding with on-base construction of the effluent collection and percolation pond elements of the disposal system described in the Final EIS/R and Record of Decision. This Supplemental EIS will analyze four alternatives to provide additional and sufficient disposal capacity, without the use of an ocean outfall, to achieve compliance with the San Diego RWQCB Cease and Desist Order.

The four alternatives include:

Alternative 1, land disposal—percolation of all effluent; Alternative 2, land and live stream disposal—percolation with seasonal discharge; Alternative 3, land and live stream disposal—percolation, advanced treatment and live stream discharge; and Alternative 4, land disposal—percolation, advanced treatment and reclamation. All alternatives will require the construction of percolation ponds at up to three locations; Lemon Grove, I-5/Railroad site, and the Boat Basin site. Under Alternative 1, the effluent would be conveyed through underground piping between the three sites. Most of this piping would be installed in existing roadways.

Under Alternative 2, berm height and depth at Lemon Grove will be increased, and an effluent storage pond will be constructed at Stuart Mesa. These structures will accommodate effluent storage when effluent input to the percolation ponds exceeds the percolation rate, and live stream disposal is not feasible. The effluent will be discharged from the Lemon Grove and Stuart Mesa storage ponds to the Santa Margarita River when the volume of river flow provides sufficient dilution of the effluent. The proposed discharge point will be north of the Lemon Grove ponds.

Alternative 3 will process effluent, that is in excess of the percolation rate, to remove nitrogen, phosphorous and other constituents, and will be discharged to the Santa Margarita River at the same point identified in Alternative 2. Construction of an advanced water treatment (AWT) facilities adjacent to Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) 13 and some effluent storage capacity will be required. Although the AWT would improve the quality of the effluent, it is not anticipated that the current Basin Plan objectives for total dissolved solids (TDS) would be achieved, and modification to the Basin Plan would be required.

Alternative 4 will be similar to Alternative 3, except the AWT effluent will be conveyed to a point near the

existing irrigation system and used for irrigation of on-base, leased agricultural lands northwest of the Lemon Grove ponds, on the east and west sides of I-5.

In addition, an alternative for a more limited expansion of the Lemon Grove Ponds will be considered in the Supplemental EIS. This alternative would limit the size of the Lemon Grove pond expansion to avoid the removal of approximately 300 eucalyptus trees. This alternative may be combined with any of Alternatives 1-4.

A supplement to the previously issued EIR is not required since the revised proposed action does not require local approvals or California Environmental Quality Act certification.

The scope of the analyses and issues of concern for this Supplemental EIS are anticipated to be very similar to those addressed in the Final EIS/R. The major issues are expected to be hydrology and water quality, biological resources, and cultural resources. Other issues to be addressed include geology and soils, air quality, land use, transportation and circulation, noise, visual resources, safety and environmental health, utilities, socioeconomics, and environmental justice.

This notice has been mailed to all parties who commented on the Sewage Effluent Compliance Project, Lower Santa Margarita Basin Environmental Impact Statement/Report (EIS/R), and other interested parties. This Notice has also been published in local newspapers. The Marine Corps invites agencies, organizations, and the general public to provide written comments relative to the proposed project and the issues to be addressed in the Supplemental EIS. Scoping comments should clearly describe specific issues or topics which the commentator believes the Supplemental EIS should address. Written statements or questions regarding the scoping process should be received no later than March 23, 1998, and should be sent to: Southwest Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, 1220 Pacific Highway, San Diego, CA 92132-5190, (Attn: Ms. Vicky Taylor, Code 533.VT), phone (619) 532-3007.

Dated: January 30, 1998.

L.L. Larson,

Colonel, USMC, Acting Head, Land Use and Military Construction Branch, Facilities and Services Division, Installations and Logistics Department, By direction of the Commandant of the Marine Corps.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Reimbursement for Costs of Remedial Action at Active Uranium and Thorium Processing Sites

AGENCY: Office of Environmental Management, Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of the acceptance of claims and the availability of funds for reimbursement in fiscal year 1998.

SUMMARY: This Notice announces the Department of Energy acceptance of claims for reimbursement. Approximately \$40 million in funds for fiscal year 1998 are available for reimbursement of certain costs of remedial action at eligible active uranium and thorium processing sites pursuant to Title X of the Energy Policy Act of 1992.

In fiscal year 1998, the Department will be implementing a new schedule for payment of claims. Fiscal year 1998 funds will be applied to outstanding approved claims from fiscal year 1997 and prior years. Since the outstanding approved claims from fiscal year 1997 and prior fiscal years exceed \$40 million, they will be subject to prorated payment in fiscal year 1998. Beginning in fiscal year 1998, current year claims will be reviewed for acceptability and eligible for payment in the following fiscal year, e.g., claims will be submitted by May 1 and technical and financial reviews will be completed and final determinations made within one year with reimbursements made by April 30 of the following year, pending congressional appropriations for such purpose.

After the payment of fiscal year 1998 funds against outstanding approved claims through fiscal year 1997, there will be remaining unpaid outstanding approved claims. Thus, any approved claim amounts for fiscal year 1998 will be added to the outstanding balances and eligible for prorated payment in fiscal year 1999 based on the availability of funds from congressional appropriations.

DATES: The Department will process payments of approximately \$40 million against outstanding approved claims through fiscal year 1997 by April 30, 1998. The closing date for the submission of claims in fiscal year 1998 is May 1, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Claims should be forwarded by certified or registered mail, return receipt requested, to the U.S. Department of Energy, Albuquerque Operations Office, Environmental Restoration Division, P.O. Box 5400, Albuquerque, NM, 87185-5400, or by express mail to the U.S. Department of