

Supplement to the FEIS for a period of at least 45 days from the date the EPA publishes the Notice of Availability in the **Federal Register**. Public meeting dates during the public comment period will be advertised in the media. Please note that comments in response to this NOI and in response to the draft supplement will be regarded as public information.

The Forest Service believes, at this early stage, it is important to give reviewers notice of court rulings related to public participation in the environmental review process. First, reviewers of draft environmental impact statements (in this case a draft supplement to the environmental impact statement) must structure their participation in the environmental review of the proposal so that it is meaningful and alerts an agency to the reviewer's position and contentions [*Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corp. v. NRDC*, 435 U.S. 519, 553 (1978)]. Also, environmental objections that could be raised at the draft supplement stage but that are not raised until after completion of the final supplement may be waived or dismissed by the courts [*City of Angoon v. Hodel*, 803 F.2d 1016, 1022 (9th Cir. 1986) and *Wisconsin Heritages, Inc. v. Harris*, 490 F. Supp. 1334, 1338 (E.D. Wis. 1980)]. Because of these court rulings, it is very important that those interested in this proposed action participate by the close of the 45-day comment period so that substantive comments and objections are made available to the Forest Service at a time when they can meaningfully consider them and respond to them in the final supplement.

To assist the Forest Service in identifying and considering issues and concerns on the proposed action and alternatives, comments on the draft supplement should be as specific as possible. It is also helpful if comments refer to specific pages or chapters of the draft supplement. Comments may also address the adequacy of the draft supplement or the merits of the alternatives formulated and discussed in the statement. Reviewers may wish to refer to the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act at 40 CFR 1503.3 in addressing these points.

After the comment period ends on the Draft Supplement to the FEIS, the comments will be analyzed and considered by the Forest Service in preparing the Final Supplement to the FEIS. The Final Supplement to the FEIS is scheduled to be completed by the Spring of 1999. The Forest Service is required to respond to the comments

received in the Final Supplement to the FEIS (40 CFR 1503.4).

The Responsible Official will consider the comments, responses, and environmental consequences discussed in the Final Supplement to the FEIS, and applicable laws, regulations, and policies when making a decision regarding this proposal. The Responsible Official will document the decision and reasons for the decision in the Record of Decision. The decision will be subject to appeal under 36 CFR 217 and 36 CFR 251.

Dated: July 28, 1998.

Donna Hepp,

Forest Supervisor.

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BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Intergovernmental Advisory Committee Subcommittee Meeting

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Intergovernmental Advisory Committee will meet on August 6, 1998, at the Double Tree Hotel, Columbia River, Portland, Oregon. The purpose of the meeting is to continue discussions on the implementation of the Northwest Forest Plan. The meeting will begin at 9:15 a.m. and continue until 3:00 p.m. Agenda items to be discussed include, but are not limited to: continued discussion of future agenda topics; review ongoing and potential activities for the coming year; and progress reports on effectiveness monitoring and information issues. The IAC meeting will be open to the public and is fully accessible for people with disabilities. Interpreters are available upon request in advance. Written comments may be submitted for the record at the meeting. Time will also be scheduled for oral public comments. Interested persons are encouraged to attend.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Questions regarding this meeting may be directed to Don Knowles, Executive Director, Regional Ecosystem Office, 333 SW 1st Avenue, P.O. Box 3623, Portland, OR 97208 (Phone: 503-808-2180).

Dated: July 29, 1998.

Donald R. Knowles,

Designated Federal Official.

[FR Doc. 98-20718 Filed 8-3-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Utilities Service

Associated Electric Cooperative, Inc.; Notice of Intent

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent to hold scoping meeting and prepare an Environmental Assessment and/or Environmental Impact Statement.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Rural Utilities Service (RUS), pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations for Implementing NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508), and RUS Environmental Policies and Procedures (7 CFR Part 1794) proposes to prepare an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for its Federal action related to a proposal by Associated Electric Cooperative, Inc., to construct two, 100 megawatt simple cycle electric turbines in Northwest Missouri.

MEETING INFORMATION: RUS will conduct a scoping meeting in an open house forum on Tuesday, September 8, 1998, from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. at the headquarters of United Electric Cooperative in Maryville, Missouri. The headquarters is located on Highway 136 East approximately 2.5 miles east of Maryville.

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Bob Quigel, Engineering and Environmental Staff, Rural Utility Service, Stop 1571, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-1571, telephone (202) 720-0468. Bob's E-mail address is bquigel@rus.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Associated Electric Cooperative, Inc., proposes to construct the plant at one of two potential sites. These sites are in the Nodaway County, Missouri. One site is approximately 5.5 miles southeast of Maryville about 0.5 miles south of the intersection of County Highways N and F along County Highway N. The other site is located approximately 1.5 miles east of Graham along County Highway A then 1 mile north up a gravel road.

The proposed project will be composed of two nominal 100 megawatt simple cycle combustion turbines. They will be primarily gas-fired combustion turbines with the option to burn fuel oil. The combustion turbines will be used for peaking capacity. The hours of operation of the combustion turbines will be limited. The number of operating hours will depend on the emission rates ultimately guaranteed by