

Peace Bridge Capacity Expansion Project

On December 9, 1998, the IJC received an application by the Buffalo and Fort Erie Public Bridge Authority to approve the Peace Bridge Capacity Expansion Project. The proposed project consists of a multi-span, multiple steel arch bridge over the Niagara River and Black Rock Canal between Fort Erie, Ontario and Buffalo, New York. The project will be constructed parallel to the existing Peace Bridge, which will remain in use after the project is completed.

Under the Boundary Waters Treaty, the IJC approves any uses, obstructions and diversions of boundary waters that would affect the natural level or flow across the boundary, unless the two federal governments give approval by a special agreement. The IJC will evaluate potential effects on water levels and flows, and other potential transboundary effects, of the proposed bridge construction. The original Peace Bridge was approved by the IJC in 1925.

Ontario Hydro Water Diversion Facilities Project

On December 21, 1998, the IJC received a reference from the Governments of the United States and Canada to investigate and report on the effects of a proposed Ontario Hydro project on the remedial works associated with its water diversion facilities in the Niagara River and on other transboundary effects, including environmental effects, as the IJC considers necessary or helpful.

The proposed project by Ontario Hydro would require modification of remedial works in the Niagara River that were previously recommended and approved by the IJC. Under the reference, the IJC will be investigating the effects of the proposed project on the remedial works and will be recommending any changes in the design plans or operating conditions needed to achieve objectives recommended by the IJC in 1953. The objectives included ensuring that there is an unbroken crest line over Horseshoe Falls and no effect on the level of Lake Erie.

Public Hearings

The IJC has scheduled public hearings at the following times and locations to receive comment from any interested citizens or organizations in Canada or the United States:

Canada

7:00–10:00 p.m., January 27, 1999,
Marriott Hotel of Niagara Falls, 6740
Oakes Drive, Niagara Falls, ON L2G
3W6, 905.871.2546

United States

7:00–10:00 p.m., January 28, 1999,
Buffalo-Niagara Marriott, 1340
Millersport Highway, Amherst, NY
14221, Ballrooms 1, 2 and 3,
716.689.6900

Topics will be addressed in the following order at the public hearings:

- (1) Comment on the proposed Peace Bridge Capacity Expansion Project;
- (2) Comment on the proposed redevelopment and expansion of Ontario Hydro's water diversion facilities in the Niagara River;
- (3) Comment on the effects of the two projects combined.

The IJC has asked its International Niagara Board of Control to review and advise the IJC on certain issues with respect to the Peace Bridge application and the Ontario Hydro project reference. The IJC has asked the board to provide a status report on January 22, 1999 on potential issues and to make a presentation at the public hearings. The IJC's request to the board will be available and the board's status report will also be available, when it is received, on the IJC's website at: www.ijc.org.

Document Availability

Descriptions of the proposed projects, along with the application and reference, will be available for inspection at the following locations:

IJC website: www.ijc.org
Buffalo and Fort Erie Public Bridge Authority*, The Peace Bridge—Peace Bridge Plaza, Buffalo, NY 14213, 716.884.6744 (United States), 905.871.1608 (Canada), *Peace Bridge information only
Ontario Hydro Public Reference Centre**, 700 University Avenue, Mezzanine Floor, Toronto, ON M5G 1X6, 416.592.5111, **Ontario Hydro information only,
Business, Science and Technology Dept., Buffalo and Erie County Public Library, Lafayette Square, Buffalo, NY 14203, 716.858.7181
Reference Desk, Niagara Falls Public Library, 1425 Main Street, Niagara Falls, NY 14305, 716.286.4881
Fort Erie Public Library, 136 Gilmore Road, Fort Erie, Ontario L2A 2M1

Written Comment

All interested persons and organizations are encouraged to submit comments in writing. Depending on the number of people wishing to speak, speakers may only have the opportunity to summarize their comments at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted to the IJC's secretaries at the public hearing, or at the following

addresses to be received by February 4, 1999:

Secretary, United States Section, 1250
23rd Street NW, Suite 100,
Washington, DC 20440, Fax
202.736.9015, Email
Commission@washington.ijc.org
Secretary, Canadian Section, 100
Metcalfe Street, 18th Floor, Ottawa,
Ontario K1P 5M1, Fax 613.993.5583,
Email Commission@ottawa.ijc.org

The International Joint Commission

The International Joint Commission was created under the Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909 to help prevent and resolve disputes over the use of waters along the United States-Canada boundary. Its responsibilities include approving certain projects that would alter water levels on the other side of the boundary and providing independent advice on matters of mutual concern on request from the Governments of the Canada and United States. For more information, please consult the Commission's Web site at www.ijc.org, or contact Frank Bevacqua at 202.736.9024.

Dated: December 23, 1998.

Gerald E. Galloway,

Secretary, United States Section.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice #2951]

Advisory Committee on International Communications and Information Policy; Notice of Meeting; U.S. Telecommunications and Information Policy Regarding APEC and the OECD

The Department of State announces meetings to prepare U.S. communications and information policy for upcoming sessions of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

First, a meeting to prepare for TEL 19, the 19th meeting of APEC's Telecommunications Working Group, will be held on Wednesday, January 20, 1999, in room 1205 from 2:30–4:00 p.m. Then a second meeting will be held Thursday, January 21, 1999, in room 1205 from 2:30–4:00 p.m., to prepare for the spring meetings of the OECD's Committee for Information, Computer and Communications Policy (ICCP).

Members of the General Public may attend these meetings and join the discussions, subject to the instructions of the Chair. Admittance of public

members will be limited to the seating available. In this regard, entrance to the Department of State is controlled. Persons intending to attend the meetings should send a fax to (202) 647-7404 not later than 24 hours prior to the meeting date. On the fax please include the name of the meeting, your name, social security number, date of birth, and organization. One of the following valid photo identifications will be required for admittance: U.S. driver's license with your picture on it, U.S. passport, or a U.S. Government identification (company ID's are no longer accepted by Diplomatic Security). Enter from the 'C' Street Main Lobby.

Dated: December 22, 1998.

Michael V. McCabe,

Director for APEC & OECD, International Communications and Information Policy.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 2953]

Privacy Act of 1974; Altered System of Records and Creation of a New System of Records

Notice is hereby given that the Department of State proposes to alter an existing system of records, STATE-47; and also proposes to create a new system of records, STATE-34, pursuant to the provisions of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended (5 U.S.C. 522a (r)), and the Office of Management and Budget Circular No. A-130, Appendix I. The Department's report was filed with the Office of Management and Budget on December 23, 1998.

It is intended that the current system STATE-47 will retain the name "Senior Personnel Appointments Records." However, due to the expanded scope of the current system, the altered system description will include revisions and/or additions to each section except the location. The Department also proposes to implement a new system of records entitled "Records of the Office of White House Liaison." Changes to the existing system description and the creation of a new system of records are proposed in order to reflect more accurately the Bureau of Personnel's and the Office of White House Liaison's record-keeping systems for individuals who are pursuing non-career employment through the White House Liaison Office, and Presidential appointments through the Department of State.

Any persons interested in commenting on the altered system of

records or on the creation of the new system of records may do so by submitting comments in writing to Rosemary Melendy; Acting Chief; Programs and Policies Division; Office of IRM Programs and Services; Room 1512; Department of State; 2201 C Street, NW; Washington, DC 20520-1512. These systems of records will be effective 40 days from the date of publication, unless we receive comments that will result in a contrary determination.

The altered system description, "Senior Personnel Appointments Records, STATE-47" and the newly created system of records "Records of the Office of White House Liaison, STATE-34" will read as set forth below.

Dated: December 23, 1998.

Jerome F. Tolson,

Acting Assistant Secretary for the Bureau of Administration.

STATE-47

SYSTEM NAME:

Senior Personnel Appointments Records.

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION:

Unclassified.

SYSTEM LOCATION:

Department of State; 2201 C Street, NW; Washington, DC 20520.

CATEGORIES OF INDIVIDUALS COVERED BY THE SYSTEM:

Individuals—career members of the Foreign Service and non-career persons from outside the Department of State—who have been selected for a Presidential appointment or title. Appointments/titles include: Chiefs of mission, ranks and personal ranks of ambassador, principal officers of the Department of State, representatives and alternate representatives to the annual United Nations (UN) General Assembly and to the annual General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency. In addition, selectees who serve in Presidential appointed positions as representatives or alternate representatives on various UN boards and commissions such as the UN Human Rights Commission, the UN Commission on the Status of Women and UNICEF, and commissioners of the various international fisheries commissions are covered.

AUTHORITY FOR MAINTENANCE OF THE SYSTEM:

22 U.S.C. 2651a (Organization of the Department of State); 22 U.S.C. 3921 (Management of the Foreign Service); and 5 U.S.C. 301 (Management of the Department of State).

CATEGORIES OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:

Appointment documents are maintained first in a working file and, once appointed, the individual's material is moved to a country or position file. At the completion of the appointment, the documents are moved to a name-retrievable file.

The files contain documents pertaining to an individual's Presidential appointment. Specifically, they include: Director General welcome/congratulatory letter; Candidate Information Summary; security clearance forms; a White House Personal Data Statement; Questionnaire for Sensitive Positions; Consumer Credit Check form; Financial Disclosure Report; Office of the Legal Adviser's certification of financial disclosure report; Congressional forms (Senate Foreign Relations Committee form, Federal Campaign Contribution Report); biographic summary; White House press release; agreement telegrams (if bilateral ambassadorial positions); memoranda to the Office of Legislative Affairs transmitting Congressional documents; copies of letters to home State Senators and to members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee; nomination papers for the White House (transmittal memorandum, biographic summary, nomination, and a competence statement required under section 304(a)(4) of the Foreign Service Act); correspondence and/or e-mail exchanges with the individual regarding appointment processing; memoranda to the regional bureaus concerning selection and nomination; memoranda and appointment documents concerning federal employment for non-career selectees; resignation letters and responses from the President; official appointment notice prepared following Presidential attestation of an appointment; copies of memoranda, if applicable, concerning recall to the Foreign Service, waiver of the mandatory Foreign Service retirement age requirement, and termination of Chief of Mission services pursuant to section 401(b) of the Foreign Service Act.

Accreditation documents are maintained in the country files for bilateral and multilateral chiefs of mission. These documents consist of: A Presidential letter of responsibility, a Secretary of State administrative letter of instruction; copies of the Letters of Credence and Recall which are presented to the host government or secretariat of a multilateral organization.