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David P. Boergers,

Secretary.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6221-7]

Notice of Oxygenate Use in Gasoline Panel Meeting

SUMMARY: On November 30, 1998, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Carol M. Browner announced the creation of a blue-ribbon panel of leading experts from the public health and scientific communities, automotive fuels industry, water utilities, and local and State government to review the important issues posed by the use of MTBE and other oxygenates in gasoline. EPA created the panel to gain a better understanding of the public health concerns raised by the discovery of MTBE in some water supplies. The panel will be chaired by Mr. Daniel Greenbaum, President of the Health Effects Institute (HEI) of Cambridge, Massachusetts, and Mr. Robert Perciasepe, Assistant Administrator for Air and Radiation, US EPA.

This notice announces the time and place for the first meeting of the panel.

DATES: The blue-ribbon panel reviewing the use of oxygenates in gasoline will conduct its first meeting on Friday, January 22, 1999, in Washington DC beginning at 8:30 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held from 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. at the Marriott Crystal City, 1999 Jefferson Davis Hwy, Arlington, VA.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Karen Smith at U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Air and Radiation, 401 M Street, SW (6406J), Washington, D.C. 20460, (202) 564-9674, or John Brophy at (202) 564-9068.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This will be the first of several meetings at locations around the country to hear from regional and national experts on the facts concerning oxygenate use in fuel. In addition to invited presentations, the panel has set aside time for public comment. A sign-up sheet will be available at the registration table the morning of the meeting and any person desiring to make a brief statement should sign-up by 11:00 a.m. These statements will be scheduled on a first come, first serve basis and may be limited in length to allow for

participation by all parties. The panel will also be accepting written submissions. Written submissions can be mailed to US EPA, 401 M Street, SW, Mail Code 6406J (Attn: Blue-Ribbon Panel), Washington, DC 20460.

Dated: January 13, 1999.

Michael G. Shields,

Acting Director, Office of Mobile Sources.

[FR Doc. 99-1106 Filed 1-14-99; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[ER-FRL-5498-7]

Environmental Impact Statements; Notice of Availability

Responsible Agency: Office of Federal Activities, General Information (202) 564-7167 OR (202) 564-7153.

Weekly receipt of Environmental Impact Statements Filed January 04, 1999 Through January 08, 1999 Pursuant to 40 CFR 1506.9.

EIS No. 990000, FINAL EIS, AFS, UT, South Spruce Ecosystem Rehabilitation Project, Implementation, Dixie National Forest, Cedar City Ranger District, Iron and Kane Counties, UT, Due: February 15, 1999, Contact: Phillip G. Eisenhauer (435) 865-3200.

EIS No. 990001, DRAFT EIS, AFS, ID, St. Joe Ranger District Noxious Weed Control Project, Implementation, Proposal from Control Noxious Weeds on 131 Sites, Idaho Panhandle National Forests, St. Joe Ranger District, Benewah, Latah and Shoshone Counties, Idaho, Due: March 01, 1999, Contact: Dennis Griffith (208) 245-2531.

EIS No. 990002, DRAFT EIS, DOE, MN, Snake River Watershed Plan, Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention, NPDES Permit and COE Section 404 Permit, Marshall Pennington and Polk Counties, MN, Due: March 01, 1999, Contact: Vic Ruhland (612) 602-7900.

EIS No. 990003, FINAL SUPPLEMENT, AFS, ID, Thompson Creek Molybdenum Project, Cyprus Mines Corporation, Custer County, ID, Due: February 15, 1999, Contact: Tom Buchta (801) 625-5663.

EIS No. 990004, DRAFT EIS, BLM, CO, Yankee Gulch Sodium Minerals Project, To Produce Sodium Products, Piceance Basin, Right-of-Way Permit and COE Section 404 Permit, Rio Blanch County, CO, Due: March 08, 1999, Contact: Larry Shutts (970) 878-3601.

EIS No. 990005, FINAL EIS, NOA, Monkfish Fishery Regulations Northeast Multispecies Fishery (FMP), Fishery Management Plan, Amendment 9, Implementation, Exclusive Economic Zone, off the New England and Mid-Atlantic Coast, Due: February 15, 1999, Contact: Kathi Rodrigues (978) 281-9300.

EIS No. 990006, FINAL EIS, COE, Santa Maria and Sisquoc Rivers Specific Plan, Mining and Reclamation Plans, (MRPs), Coast Rock Site and S.P. Milling Site, Conditional Use Permits, Approval of Reclamation Plans, and Section 404 Permits, Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo County, CA, Due: February 15, 1999, Contact: Ms. Tiffany Welch (805) 641-2935.

Dated: January 12, 1999.

William D. Dickerson,

Director, NEPA Compliance Division, Office of Federal Activities.

[FR Doc. 99-1016 Filed 1-14-99; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[ER-FRL-5498-8]

Environmental Impact Statements and Regulations; Availability of EPA Comments

Availability of EPA comments prepared December 28, 1998 through January 01, 1999 pursuant to the Environmental Review

Process (ERP), under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act and Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act as amended. Requests for copies of EPA comments can be directed to the Office of Federal Activities at (202) 564-7167.

An explanation of the ratings assigned to draft environmental impact statements (EISs) was published in FR dated April 10, 1998 (62 FR 17856).

Draft EISs

ERP No. D-AFS-L65311-ID Rating EC2, North Fork St. Joe River Project, Implementation, Idaho Panhandles National Forest, St. Joe Ranger District, Shoshone County, ID.

Summary: EPA expressed environmental concerns. EPA requested

more information to ensure that antidegradation requirements for water quality will be met, to discuss project impact to health ecosystem, and to further address cumulative impacts of this and other projects in the area.

ERP No. D-COE-L03008-AK Rating EO2, Beaufort Sea Oil and Gas Development Northstar Project, Implementation, NPDES Permit, Sea Island, Alaskan Beaufort Sea, Offshore Marine Environment and Onshore Northslope of Alaskan Coastal Plain, AK.

Summary: EPA expressed environmental objections to the proposed Northstar project which were related to the risks of leaks and spills associated with the use of undersea pipelines in the Beaufort Sea, the technological/logistical difficulties in responding to oil spills, and the extent to which issues and concerns of the Inupiat Eskimos have been addressed in the development of the project and the EIS. EPA believes that further evaluation of double-walled undersea pipeline option and the Northstar Oil Discharges Prevention and Contingency Plan is necessary, and that further development of the project and EIS should be conducted in consultation with the Inupiat to ensure that their issues are addressed in a manner consistent with Executive Orders 12898 and 13084.

ERP No. D-FHW-G40151-TX Rating LO, US-190 Corridor from FM2657 to the East City Limits of Copperas Cove, Transportation Improvements, Major Investment Study, Coryell and Lampasas Counties, TX.

Summary: EPA had no objection to the selection of the preferred alternative, Alternative G, as described in the draft EIS.

ERP No. DA-COE-K32023-HI Rating EO2, Ma'aLaea Harbor Improvements for Light-Draft-Vessels, Entrance Channel Realignment and Breakwater Modification, Additional Information, Island of Maui, Maui County, HI.

Summary: EPA expressed environmental objections related to water quality and Clean Water Act Section 404 issues. The SDEIS showed exceedances in water quality standards for turbidity during construction and project operation due to increased turbulence caused by additional vessel traffic from the 130 new berths. EPA believes that the Corps should ensure that there are mechanisms in place to maintain EPA-approved Water Quality Standards. EPA asked that the Corps' final report to Congress on fiscal authorization not proceed until there are satisfactory assurances from the State

that onshore sewage improvements would be put into place.

Final EISs

ERP No. F-AFS-K65272-CA, Chico Genetic Resource Center for Pest Management Program, Implementation, Mendocino National Forest, Willow, Butte County, CA.

Summary: Review of the Final EIS was not deemed necessary. No formal comment letter was sent to the preparing agency.

ERP No. F-AFS-L65160-ID, North Round Valley Timber Sales and Road Construction, Implementation, Payette National Forest, New Meadows Ranger District, Adams County, ID.

Summary: Review of the Final EIS was not deemed necessary. No formal comment letter was sent to the preparing agency.

ERP No. F-FHW-E40761-NC, US 64 Bypass Transportation Improvements Project, from I-440 to US 64 west of Wendell and Eastern Wake Expressway from existing US 64 to NC-1007 (Poole Road), Funding and COE Section 404 Permit, Wake County, NC.

Summary: EPA found the document generally addressed the agency's comments on the draft EIS. However, lack of coordinated multi-modal transportation planning was noted.

Dated: January 12, 1999.

William D. Dickerson,

Director, NEPA Compliance Division, Office of Federal Activities.

[FR Doc. 99-1017 Filed 1-14-99; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPPTS-00254; FRL-6041-6]

Development of Voluntary Consensus Standards for Environmentally Preferable Goods and Services

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In association with its efforts to implement Presidential Executive Order 12873, "Federal Acquisition, Recycling and Waste Prevention," and Executive Order 13101, "Greening the Government Through Waste Prevention, Recycling and Federal Acquisition," EPA is interested in working with non-governmental standards developers to promote the development of voluntary consensus standards for environmentally preferable goods and services. EPA is seeking opinions and comments on the availability of using

voluntary consensus standards to implement the President's Order. The purpose of this notice is to help EPA determine the level of interest among standards developers in the development of environmental attributes and associated voluntary standards for specific product categories. EPA is seeking comments about what types of markets are most suited to incorporation of environmentally preferable products. EPA also seeks to gather information on the level of activity and expertise already available through standard setting organizations for determining environmental preferability in specific product categories and comment on whether EPA should adopt those standards.

DATES: Comments must be postmarked by March 31, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Each comment must bear the docket control number "OPPTS-00254." All comments should be sent in triplicate to: OPPT Document Control Officer (7407), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Rm. G-099, East Tower, Washington, DC 20460.

Comments and data may also be submitted electronically to: oppt.ncic@epamail.epa.gov. Follow the instructions under Unit II. of this document. No Confidential Business Information (CBI) should be submitted through e-mail.

All comments which contain information claimed as CBI must be clearly marked as such. Three sanitized copies of any comments containing information claimed as CBI must also be submitted and will be placed in the public record for this action. Persons submitting information on any portion of which they believe is entitled to treatment as CBI by EPA must assert a business confidentiality claim in accordance with 40 CFR 2.203(b) for each such portion. This claim must be made at the time that the information is submitted to EPA. If a submitter does not assert a confidentiality claim at the time of submission, EPA will consider this as a waiver of any confidentiality claim and the information may be made available to the public by EPA without further notice to the submitter.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lena Ferris, Pollution Prevention Division (7409), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20450, Telephone: (202) 260-2237, or e-mail: ferris.lena@epa.gov