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Program Authority: 22 U.S.C. 2452(b)(6).

Dated: July 30, 1999.

Claudio R. Prieto,

Acting Assistant Secretary, Office of Postsecondary Education.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for Stockpile Stewardship and Management

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Amended notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy (DOE) is announcing a revised schedule for its preparation of a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for the National Ignition Facility portion (Volume III, Appendix I) of the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for Stockpile Stewardship and Management (DOE/EIS-0236; September, 1997). This Draft SEIS is being prepared pursuant to a Joint Stipulation and Order approved and entered as an order of the court on October 27, 1997, in partial settlement of the lawsuit *NRDC v. Richardson*, Civ. No. 97-936 (SS) (D.D.C.).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information about this SEIS or to be placed on the document distribution list, please call, toll-free, (877) 388-4930, or call or write to Richard A. Scott, Document Manager, U.S. Department of Energy, L-293, P.O. Box 808, Livermore, CA 94550, Phone (925) 423-3022, Facsimile (925) 424-3755.

For information about the DOE National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process, please contact: Carol Borgstrom, Director, Office of NEPA Policy and Assistance (EH-42), U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Ave, SW, Washington, DC 20585-0119, Phone: (202) 586-4600, Messages: (800) 472-2756, Facsimile: (202) 586-7031.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In a September 25, 1998, **Federal Register** notice (63 FR 51341), DOE announced that it expected to publish a Notice of Availability for the Draft SEIS in the **Federal Register** in December 1998.

DOE now intends to publish the Notice of Availability no later than November 30, 1999. DOE has delayed the issuance of the Draft SEIS pending completion of a new investigation that was initiated in December 1998, in response to the discovery of contamination by polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in soil that had been excavated from the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory's East Traffic Circle, which is one of the areas covered by the Joint Stipulation and Order. After the discovery of the contaminated soil, DOE on December 23, 1998, notified the court and the plaintiffs in *NRDC v. Richardson* of the discovery; stated that the contaminated soil was being removed in accordance with applicable laws and regulations; and explained that a new investigation would be conducted into the extent of the contamination, and that DOE would delay issuance of the Draft SEIS pending the results of the new investigation.

Since then, DOE has filed two Quarterly Reports with the court, on March 24 and June 22, 1999, describing the progress that it has made in conducting the investigation and in analyzing its results for incorporation into the environmental impact analyses that will be included in the Draft SEIS. Copies of those Quarterly Reports, and of DOE's December 23, 1998 notice mentioned above, are available at the DOE Oakland Operations Office Public Reading Room on the first floor of the Federal Building, 1301 Clay Street, Oakland, CA; at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory Environmental Repository Public Reading Room, East Gate Visitors Center, Greenville Road, Livermore, CA; at the DOE Freedom of Information Act Public Reading Room, 1000 Independence Ave, SW, Washington, DC; or by calling Richard A. Scott at the telephone number provided above.

Issued in Washington, DC on July 30, 1999.

Jonathan S. Ventura,

Acting Executive Assistant, Office of Defense Programs.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

[Docket No. EG99-206-000]

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Astoria Generating Company, L.P.; Notice of Application for Commission Determination of Exempt Wholesale Generator Status

July 30, 1999.

Take notice that on July 28, 1999, Astoria Generating Company, L.P. (Applicant), with its principal office at c/o Orion Holdings, Inc., 7 E. Redwood Street, 10th Floor, Baltimore, Maryland 21201, filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) an application for determination of exempt wholesale generator status pursuant to Part 365 of the Commission's regulations.

Applicant will be engaged in owning and operating certain facilities located in New York State. The eligible facilities consist of approximately of the Astoria Bundle sold by Consolidated Edison of New York, with a total summer net capacity of 1,855 MW. The Applicant will sell electric energy exclusively at wholesale. Electric energy produced by the eligible facilities is sold exclusively at wholesale.

Any person desiring to be heard concerning the application for exempt