

Environment and Natural Resources Division, Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20044-7611, and should refer to *United States v. TH Agriculture & Nutrition, L.L.C Elf Atochem North America Inc., Industrial Chemicals Inc., and Astro Packaging, Inc.* (M.D. AL), DOJ # 90-1-3-1426/1.

The proposed consent decree may be examined at the Office of the United States Attorney, Montgomery, Alabama, the Region 4 Office of the Environmental Protection Agency, 61 Forsyth Street, Atlanta, Georgia 30303, and at the Consent Decree Library, Post Office Box 7611, Washington, DC 20044-7611. A copy of the proposed consent decree may be obtained by mail from the Consent Decree Library, Post Office Box 7611, Washington, DC 20044-7611. In requesting a copy please refer to the referenced case and enclose a check in the amount of 25 cents per page for reproduction costs, payable to the Consent Decree Library.

**Joel M. Gross,**

*Chief, Environmental Enforcement Section, Environment and Natural Resources Division.*  
[FR Doc. 00-9159 Filed 4-12-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4410-15-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Mine Safety and Health Administration

#### Petitions for Modification

The following parties have filed petitions to modify the application of mandatory safety standards under section 101(c) of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977.

#### 1. Energy Fuels Coal, Inc.

[Docket No. M-2000-020-C]

Energy Fuels Coal, Inc., P.O. Box 459, 1190 County Rd 92, Florence, Colorado 91226 has filed a petition to modify the application of 30 CFR 75.1909(1) (nonpermissible diesel-powered equipment; design and performance requirements) to its Southfield Mine (I.D. No. 05-03455) located in Fremont County, Colorado. The petitioner proposes to use a diesel engine to power its genset. The petitioner proposes to use the diesel-powered genset to move equipment from section to section, and to power a roof bolter used in roof rehabilitation in remote areas of the mine. The petitioner asserts that the proposed alternative method would provide at least the same measure of protection as the mandatory standard.

#### 2. Sugar Camp Coal, LLC

[Docket No. M-2000-021-C]

Sugar Camp Coal, LLC, 1055 Barrett Cemetery Road, Equality, Illinois 62934 has filed a petition to modify the application of 30 CFR 75.350 (air courses and belt haulage entries) to its Willow Lake Mine (I.D. No. 11-03054) located in Saline County, Illinois. The petitioner requests a modification of the standard to allow air coursed through belt haulage entries to be used to ventilate active working places. The petitioner proposes to install a low-level carbon monoxide detection system in the supply road with branches extended to the belt line at certain locations as an early warning fire detection system. The petitioner asserts that the proposed alternative method would provide at least the same measure of protection as the mandatory standard.

#### 3. Black Beauty Coal Company

[Docket No. M-2000-022-C]

Black Beauty Coal Company, P.O. Box 176, Wheatland, Indiana 47597 has filed a petition to modify the application of 30 CFR 75.1909(b)(6) (nonpermissible diesel-powered equipment; design and performance requirements) to its Air Quality Mine (I.D. No. 12-02010) located in Knox County, Indiana. The petitioner proposes to limit the minimum speed of the grader to less than 10 mph, provide training for the grader operators on lowering the moldboard for additional stopping capability in emergency situations, and on recognizing the appropriate speeds to use on different roadway conditions and slopes, instead of installing front wheel brakes on its "Getman" six-wheeled grader. The petitioner asserts that the proposed alternative method would provide at least the same measure of protection as the mandatory standard.

#### 4. Crystal Fuels Company

[Docket No. M-2000-023-C]

Crystal Fuels Company, P.O. Box 722, Matewan, West Virginia 25678 has filed a petition to modify the application of 30 CFR 75.1103 (automatic fire warning devices) to its No. 1 Mine (I.D. No. 46-03408) located in Mingo County, West Virginia. The petitioner proposes to install a low-level carbon monoxide detection system in all belt entries as an early warning fire detection system instead of using a monitoring systems that identify each belt flight. The petitioner asserts that the proposed alternative method would provide at least the same measure of protection as the mandatory standard.

#### 5. Webster County Coal, LLC

[Docket No. M-2000-024-C]

Webster County Coal, LLC, 2668 Street, Rt. 120 E., Providence, Kentucky 42450 has filed a petition to modify the application of 30 CFR 75.333 (ventilation controls) to its Dotiki Mine (I.D. No. 15-02132) located in Webster County, Kentucky. The petitioner requests a modification of the standard to permit a temporary stopping in the return stopping line, outby the section tailpiece, for a short period of time prior to the section moving from entries to rooms instead of using a permanent type stopping. The petitioner asserts that the proposed alternative method would provide at least the same measure of protection as the mandatory standard and that application of the existing standard will result in a diminution of safety to the miners.

#### 6. West Ridge Resources, Inc.

[Docket No. M-2000-025-C]

West Ridge Resources, Inc., P.O. Box 902, Price, Utah 84501 has filed a petition to modify the application of 30 CFR 75.1909(b)(6) (nonpermissible diesel-powered equipment; design and performance requirements) to its West Ridge Mine (I.D. No. 42-02233) located in Carbon County, Utah. The petitioner proposes to install devices such as gear lock-outs on its diesel grader to limit the speed to a maximum of 10 miles per hour when the grader is operating in an underground coal mine or on the surface of an underground coal mine, and provide training to every miner who operates the grader on the proper techniques for lowering the blade to restrict the speed and to stop the grader, on the proper gear selection for grading, and on the proper speed for grading. The petitioner asserts that the proposed alternative method would provide at least the same measure of protection as the mandatory standard.

#### 7. Andalex Resources, Inc.

[Docket No. M-2000-026-C]

Andalex Resources, Inc., P.O. Box 902, Price, Utah 84501 has filed a petition to modify the application of 30 CFR 75.1909(b)(6) (nonpermissible diesel-powered equipment; design and performance requirements) to its Aberdeen Mine (I.D. No. 42-02028) and its Pinnacle Mine (I.D. No. 42-01474) both located in Carbon County, Utah. The petitioner proposes to install devices such as gear lock-outs on its diesel grader in order to limit the speed to a maximum of 10 miles per hour when the grader is operating in an underground or on the surface of an underground coal mine, and provide

training to every miner who operates the grader on the proper techniques for lowering the blade to restrict the speed and to stop the grader, on the proper gear selection for grading, and on the proper speed for grading. The petitioner asserts that the proposed alternative method would provide at least the same measure of protection as the mandatory standard.

#### Request for Comments

Persons interested in these petitions are encouraged to submit comments via e-mail to "comments@msha.gov," or on a computer disk along with an original hard copy to the Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances, Mine Safety and Health Administration, 4015 Wilson Boulevard, Room 627, Arlington, Virginia 22203. All comments must be postmarked or received in that office on or before May 15, 2000. Copies of these petitions are available for inspection at that address.

Dated: March 28, 2000.

**Carol J. Jones,**

*Director, Office of Standards Regulations, and Variances.*

[FR Doc. 00-9023 Filed 4-12-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-43-U

#### LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

##### Sunshine Act Meeting of the Operations and Regulations Committee of the Board of Directors

**ACTION:** The Operations and Regulations Committee meeting scheduled for 2:30 p.m. on April 14, 2000 has been CANCELED.

##### CONTACT PERSON FOR INFORMATION:

Victor M. Fortuno, Vice President for Legal Affairs, at (202) 336-8800.

Dated: April 11, 2000.

**Victor M. Fortuno,**

*Vice President for Legal Affairs.*

[FR Doc. 00-9335 Filed 4-11-00; 12:51 pm]

BILLING CODE 7050-01-P

#### NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM

##### National Security Telecommunications Advisory Committee

**AGENCY:** National Communications System (NCS).

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** A meeting of the President's National Security Telecommunications Advisory Committee will be held on Tuesday, May 16, 2000, from 9 a.m. to

11:30 a.m. The Business Session will be held at the Broadmoor Hotel, Colorado Springs, Colorado.

The agenda is as follows:

- Call to Order
- Opening Remarks
- Information Assurance in the 21st Century Briefing
- Perspectives on Importance of Operational Information Sharing to the Success of PDD-63 Implementation Briefing
- Evolution of U.S. Space Command's Role in Information Operations Briefing
- National Communications System Manager's Report
- Industry Executive Subcommittee Report
- Adjournment

Due to the potential requirement to discuss classified information in conjunction with the issues listed above, the meeting will be closed to the public in the interest of National Defense.

##### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Telephone (703) 607-6209 or write the Manager, National Communications System, 701 South Court House Road, Arlington, VA 22204-2198.

**Frank McClelland,**

*Technology and Programs Division (N2).*

[FR Doc. 00-9210 Filed 4-12-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001-08-M

#### NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

##### Notice of Permit Applications Received Under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978 (Public Law 95-541)

**AGENCY:** National Science Foundation.

**ACTION:** Notice of permit applications received under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978, Public Law 95-541.

**SUMMARY:** The National Science Foundation (NSF) is required to publish notice of permit applications received to conduct activities regulated under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978. NSF has published regulations under the Antarctic Conservation Act at Title 45 Part 670 of the Code of Federal Regulations. This is the required notice of permit applications received.

**DATES:** Interested parties are invited to submit written data, comments, or views with respect to these permit applications by May 13, 2000. Permit applications may be inspected by interested parties at the Permit Office, address below.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should be addressed to Permit Office, Room 755,

Office of Polar Programs, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, Virginia 22230.

##### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Nadene G. Kennedy at the above address or (703) 306-1030.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The National Science Foundation, as directed by the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978 (Public Law 95-541), has developed regulations that implement the "Agreed Measures for the Conservation of Antarctic Fauna and Flora" for all United States citizens. The Agreed Measures, developed by the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties, recommended establishment of a permit system for various activities in Antarctic and designation of certain animals and certain geographic areas requiring special protection. The regulations establish such a permit system to designate Specially Protected Areas and Sites of Special Scientific Interest.

The applications received are as follows:

##### 1. Applicant

Permit Application No. 2001-007.

Rudof S. Scheltema, Biology Department, MS34, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543.

##### Activity for Which Permit Is Requested

Introduce non-indigenous species into Antarctica.

The applicant proposes use *Thalassiosera pseudonana*, *Isochryois galbana*, and *Dunaliella tertiolecta* cultures of unicellular algae in rearing zooplankton organisms. Indigenous zooplankton will be collected in antarctic waters and reared in the laboratory onboard ship, using the above named unicellular algae as food. The study will deal with the history of antarctic organisms, in particular with the larvae of benthic organisms. The larval life history is especially important in understanding the demography of bottom organisms. At the completion of the study, the algal cultures will be disposed of by heat sterilization.

##### Location

Onboard R/V LAURENCE M. GOULD research vessel in the region of the South Shetland Islands.

##### Dates

May 15, 2000 to June 15, 2000.

**Nadene G. Kennedy,**

*Permit Officer, Office of Polar Programs.*

[FR Doc. 00-9183 Filed 4-12-00; 8:45 am]

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