

To assist the Forest Service in identifying and considering issues and concerns on the proposed action, comments on the draft environmental impact statement should be as specific as possible. It is also helpful if comments refer to specific pages or chapters of the draft statement. Comments may also address the adequacy of the draft environmental impact statement 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.

Dated: October 11, 2000.

Robin Strathy,

Acting Lewis and Clark Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 00-29476 Filed 11-16-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Opal Creek Scenic Recreation Area (SRA) Advisory Council

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of Meeting.

SUMMARY: An Opal Creek Scenic Recreation Area Advisory Council meeting will convene in Stayton, Oregon on Monday, December 11, 2000. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 6 p.m., and will conclude at approximately 8:30 p.m. The meeting will be held in the South Room of the Stayton Community Center located on 400 West Virginia Street in Stayton, Oregon.

The Opal Creek Wilderness and Opal Creek Scenic Recreation Area Act of 1996 (Opal Creek Act) (Public Law 104-208) directed the Secretary of Agriculture to establish the Opal Creek Scenic Recreation Area Advisory Council. The Advisory Council is comprised of thirteen members representing state, county and city governments, and representatives of various organizations, which include mining industry, environmental organizations, inholders in Opal Creek Scenic Recreation Area, economic development, Indian tribes, adjacent landowners and recreation interests. The council provides advice to the Secretary of Agriculture on preparation of a comprehensive Opal Creek Management Plan for the SRA, and consults on a periodic and regular basis on the management of the area. The tentative agenda will include refining

issue statements and describing the desired future condition of the SRA.

The public comment period is tentatively scheduled to begin at 8 p.m. Time allotted for individual presentations will be limited to 3 minutes. Written comments are encouraged, particularly if the material cannot be presented within the time limits of the comment period. Written comments may be submitted prior to the December 11 meeting by sending them to Designated Federal Official Stephanie Phillips at the address given below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For more information regarding this meeting, contact Designated Federal Official Stephanie Phillips; Willamette National Forest, Detroit Ranger District, HC 73 Box 320, Mill City, OR 97360; (503) 854-3366.

Dated: November 13, 2000.

Y Robert Iwamoto,

Deputy Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 00-29455 Filed 11-16-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Utilities Service

South Texas Electric Cooperative, Inc.; Notice of Intent to Hold A Public Workshop and Prepare An Environmental Assessment

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent to hold a public workshop and prepare an environmental assessment.

SUMMARY: The Rural Utilities Service (RUS) intends to hold a public scoping meeting/workshop and prepare an environmental assessment (EA) in connection with possible impacts related to the construction and operation of a combined cycle combustion turbine generation facility. The project is proposed by South Texas Electric Cooperative (STEC), of Nursery, Texas and Medina Electric Cooperative, Inc., of Victoria, Texas. RUS may provide financing assistance for the project. RUS will conduct a public scoping meeting/workshop at the Sam Rayburn Generating Plant Pavilion, which is located three miles west of Nursery, Texas on FM 447. The meeting/workshop will be held on Wednesday, December 6, 2000, from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dennis E. Rankin, Environmental Protection Specialist, RUS, Engineering and Environmental Staff, Stop 1571, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-1571, telephone:

(202) 720-1953 or e-mail: or Joe Araiza, Project Manager, Burns and McDonnell, 1776 Yorktown, Suite 840, Houston, Texas 77056, telephone: (713) 622-0224 or e-mail: jaraiza@burnsmcd.com.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: STEC and Medina are proposing to construct a 3-on-1 LM6000 combined-cycle combustion turbine 186 MW generation plant available for commercial dispatch in January 2003. The preferred site is the existing Sam Rayburn Plant, which is located in Nursery, Texas. The existing plant infrastructure will be utilized for this new generation addition including existing gas lines, cooling water ponds and switchyard.

Alternatives to be considered by RUS include no action, load management and energy conservation, purchase power, alternative generators and alternative sites.

Comments regarding the proposed project may be submitted in writing at the public meeting/workshop or in writing no later than January 5, 2001, to RUS at the address provided above.

An environmental assessment (EA) will be prepared for the proposed project. Based on a review of the Environmental Assessment and other relevant information, RUS will determine if the preparation of an environmental impact statement is necessary. Should RUS determine that the preparation of an environmental impact statement is not necessary, it will prepare a Finding of No Significant Impact.

Any final action by RUS related to the proposed project will be subject to, and contingent upon, compliance with all relevant Federal, State and local environmental laws and regulations and completion of the environmental review procedures as prescribed by RUS's Environmental Policies and Procedures.

Dated: November 13, 2000.

Glendon D. Deal,

Acting Director, Engineering and Environmental Staff.

[FR Doc. 00-29483 Filed 11-16-00; 8:45 am]

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COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

Procurement List; Proposed Additions and Deletions

AGENCY: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

ACTION: Proposed additions to and deletions from procurement list.