

applications with the Bureau of Land Management in 1998 and 1999 to construct and operate petroleum products and natural gas pipelines and ancillary facilities on public lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management, National Forest System Lands administered by the United States Forest Service (USFS), and private and state owned lands in the states of New Mexico, Colorado, and Utah. The three projects are independent of each other (each project could be constructed and operated regardless of whether the other two projects are approved). The three projects were analyzed together because they would share common utility corridors across the Manti-LaSal and Uinta National Forests and would cause cumulative impacts.

The BLM and the USFS examined alternative natural gas and petroleum transportation methods and several alternative pipeline route segments to address concerns about (1) potential petroleum products leaks and spill effects on natural resources, water and people; (2) natural gas leaks and failure effects on natural resources and people, and; (3) effects on the character of USFS inventoried roadless and unroaded areas. Two major (30 miles or longer) route alternatives, and two short (5 miles or less) route variations were carried forward in the analysis in addition to the proposed action and the no action alternative. Also, as part of the proposed action is a proposal to amend one or more forest plans following the 1982 regulations (36 CFR, part 219). Public scoping for these projects was completed in two phases. An Initial Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS for these projects was published in the **Federal Register** on April 28, 1999. Nine public meetings were held in Colorado and Utah. An amended Notice of Intent was published on April 19, 2000, as a result of a change in the project scope. This established a new public scoping period between April 19, 2000 and June 9, 2000, during which two additional scoping meetings were held in Utah.

Dated: February 12, 2001.

Sally Wisely,

Utah State Director.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[OR-130-1020-PH; GP01-0104]

Eastern Washington Advisory Council; Meeting

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Spokane District.

ACTION: Notice of the meeting of the Eastern Washington Advisory Council; March 22, 2001, in Spokane, Washington.

SUMMARY: A meeting of the Eastern Washington Resource Advisory Council will be held on March 22, 2001. The meeting will convene at 9 a.m., at the Spokane District Office, Bureau of Land Management, 1103 North Fancher Road, Spokane, Washington 99212-1275. The meeting will adjourn upon conclusion of business, but no later than 4 p.m. Public comments will be heard from 10 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. If necessary, to accommodate all wishing to make public comments, a time limit may be placed upon each speaker. At an appropriate time, the meeting will adjourn for approximately one hour for lunch. Topics to be discussed include Election of Chair, Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Project Status Report, BLM Work Plan for FY 2001, BLM/Forest Service Fire Program, Charter Renewal and Next Meeting Scheduling.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Bureau of Land Management, Spokane District Office, 1103 N. Fancher Road, Spokane, Washington 99212; or call 509-536-1200.

Dated: February 14, 2001.

Joseph K. Buesing,

District Manager.

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term may be renewable for up to an additional 4 years. The OCS SC is chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act to advise the Director of the MMS on the appropriateness, feasibility, and scientific value of the OCS Environmental Studies Program (ESP) and environmental aspects of the offshore oil and gas program. The ESP, which was authorized by the OCS Lands Act as amended (Section 20), is administered by the MMS and covers a wide range of field and laboratory studies in biology, chemistry, and physical oceanography, as well as studies of the social and economic impacts of OCS oil and gas development. Currently, the work is conducted through award of competitive contracts and interagency and cooperative agreements. The OCS SC reviews the relevance of the information being produced by the ESP and may recommend changes in its scope, direction, and emphasis. The OCS SC comprises distinguished scientists in appropriate disciplines of the biological, physical, chemical, and socioeconomic sciences. Vacancies, which need to be filled, exist in the biological, physical oceanography, and a new requirement, offshore sand and gravel mining disciplines. The selection is based on maintaining disciplinary expertise in all areas of research, as well as geographic balance. Demonstrated knowledge of the scientific issues related to OCS oil and gas development is essential. Selection is made by the Department of the Interior on the basis of these factors; appointments to the Committee are made by the Secretary of the Interior. For more information regarding the Committee, please visit our website at <http://www.mms.gov/mmab/ocssc.htm>.

Interested individuals should send a letter of interest and resume within 60 days to: Julie Reynolds, Program Planner, Minerals Management Service, 381 Elden Street, Mail Stop 4001, Herndon, Virginia 20170. She may be reached by telephone on (703) 787-1211, or e-mailed at Julie.Reynolds@mms.gov.

Dated: February 16, 2001.

Carolita U. Kallaur,

Associate Director for Offshore Minerals Management.

[FR Doc. 01-4501 Filed 2-22-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Minerals Management Service (MMS)

Minerals Management Advisory Board, Outer Continental Shelf (OCS), Scientific Committee (SC)

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of vacancies and request for nominations.

SUMMARY: The MMS is seeking interested and qualified individuals to serve on its Minerals Management Advisory Board OCS SC during the period of October 1, 2001, through September 30, 2003. The initial 2-year