

Dated: May 14, 2001.

Patricia L. Toppings,

*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison
Officer, Department of Defense.*

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Navy

Public Hearing for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIS/ DEIR) for the Disposal and Reuse of Fleet and Industrial Supply Center Naval Fuel Depot (NFD) Point Molate, CA

AGENCY: Department of the Navy, DOD.

ACTION: Announcement of public hearing.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Navy (Navy) has prepared and filed with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) a DEIS/DEIR for disposal and reuse of NFD Point Molate, California. A public hearing will be held for the purpose of receiving oral and written comments on the DEIS/DEIR. Federal, local and state of California agencies, and interested individuals are invited to be present at the hearing.

DATES: One public hearing will be held on Wednesday, June 20, 2001, at 6:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: City of Richmond Council Chambers, 2600 Barrett Avenue, Richmond, CA, 94804.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Robert A. Montana (06CM.RM), Southwest Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, 1220 Pacific Highway, San Diego, CA, 92132-5190, telephone (619) 532-0942, facsimile (619) 532-0940.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as implemented by the Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508), the Navy has prepared and filed with the EPA a DEIS/DEIR for Disposal and Reuse of NFD Point Molate, CA.

A Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare the DEIS/DEIR was published in the **Federal Register** on September 15, 1997 (62 FR 178). A public scoping meeting announcement was published on September 27 and 28, 1997, in both the West Contra Costa Times and the Oakland Tribune, and on September 24 and 28, 1997, in the Richmond Post. One public scoping meeting was held on October 1, 1997, at the City of

Richmond Council Chambers, Richmond, CA.

The proposed action is the disposal of surplus Navy property for subsequent reuse and redevelopment, in accordance with the 1990 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act, and the 1995 Base Closure and Realignment Commission recommendations. A parcel totaling 413 acres (167 hectares) has been declared surplus and is the focus of this DEIS/DEIR. NFD Point Molate was operationally closed on September 30, 1998.

The DEIS/DEIR evaluates three reuse alternatives, each emphasizing various types of development, e.g., residential, commercial, industrial, open space, recreation, etc. A fourth alternative, no action, assumes no disposal of property and retention of the depot by the Navy in caretaker status. Under the No Action alternative, the site would not be reused or redeveloped. Environmental cleanup would continue and be completed.

The base reuse plan recommended by the Blue Ribbon Advisory Committee, a committee appointed by the Local Redevelopment Authority (LRA), was approved by the Richmond City Council acting as the LRA. It includes the preferred reuse alternative of the City of Richmond and the Navy. This plan, Alternative 2, consists of the following major elements: Commercial uses including retail shops, bed and breakfast establishments, small hotels, conference centers, and office space; industrial uses including manufacturing, sales and distribution businesses, wholesale services, warehousing, data processing, telecommunications, and research and development. No decision on the proposed action will be made until the NEPA process has been completed.

Potential impacts evaluated in the DEIS/DEIR include, but are not limited to land use compatibility; geology and soils, traffic, utilities, air quality, and public services. With one exception, all potentially significant impacts under all of the reuse alternatives can be mitigated to non-significant levels. Potentially significant but mitigable impacts include: Future odor emissions from necessary sewage treatment plants, future requirements for developments to be implemented in conformance with existing guidelines for seismic hazards, possible future impacts due to increased traffic demand on the existing road network, and an increase in emissions which may exceed local air quality standards. The one exception is a land use compatibility impact; no mitigation is available except to revise the land use plan.

The DEIS/DEIR has been distributed to affected federal, local and state of

California agencies and other interested parties. In addition, copies of the DEIS/DEIR are available for review at the following public libraries:

—Richmond Public Library, 325 Civic Center Plaza, Richmond, CA.
—West Side Branch Library, 135 Washington Avenue, Pt. Richmond, CA.

A public hearing will be held to inform the public of the DEIS/DEIR findings and to solicit and receive oral and written comments. The hearing will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 20, 2001, at city of Richmond Council Chambers, 2600 Barrett Avenue, Richmond, CA 94804. Government agencies and interested parties are invited to be present at the hearing. Oral comments will be heard and transcribed by a court recorder; written comments are also requested to ensure accuracy of the record. All comments, both oral and written, will become part of the official record. In the interest of available time, each speaker will be asked to limit oral comments to three minutes. Those who intend to speak will be asked to submit a speaker card (available at the door). Longer comments should be summarized at the public hearing and submitted in writing either at the hearing or mailed to Mr. Robert A. Montana at the address given above. Written comments are requested not later than July 2, 2001.

Dated: May 8, 2001.

J.L. Roth,

*Lieutenant Commander, Judge Advocate
General's Corps, U.S. Navy, Federal Register
Liaison Officer.*

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Agency Information Collection Under Review By The Office of Management and Budget

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Submission for OMB review; comment request.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy (DOE), pursuant to section 3507(g) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, intends to extend for three years, an information collection package with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). The Department's Office of Environment, Safety and Health information collection package, OMB No. 1910-5105, allows the Department and its contractors to provide management control and oversight over health and safety programs concerning worker exposure to ionizing radiation.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed collections of information must be mailed to the OMB Desk Officer, on or before June 18, 2001. If you anticipate that you will be submitting comments, but find it difficult to do so within the period of time allowed by this notice, please advise the OMB Desk Officer of your intention to make a submission as soon as possible. The Desk Officer may be telephoned at (202) 395-7318. In addition, please notify the DOE contact listed in this notice.

ADDRESSES: Address comments to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503. Persons submitting comments to OMB are requested to send a copy to Dr. Judith D. Foulke, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Worker Protection Policy and Programs (EH-52), Office of Environment, Safety and Health, 19901 Germantown Road, Germantown, MD 20874-1290.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for copies of the Department's Paperwork Reduction Act Submission and other information should be directed to Ms. Susan L. Frey, U.S. Department of Energy, Director, Records Management Division, Office of Records and Business Management (SO-312), Office of the Chief Information Officer, Germantown, MD 20874-1290. Ms. Frey can be contacted by telephone at (301) 903-3666 or e-mail at Susan.Frey@hq.doe.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This package contains: (1) *Current OMB No.* 1910-5105; (2) *Package Title:* Occupational Radiation Protection; (3) *Summary:* Request for a three-year extension without change, which covers mandatory responses; (4) *Purpose:* The recordkeeping and reporting requirements that comprise this information collection will permit DOE and its contractors to provide management control and oversight over health and safety programs concerning worker exposure to ionizing radiation; (5) *Type of Respondents:* 50 DOE management and operating contractors; (6) *Estimated Number of Burden Hours:* 50,000.

Statutory Authority: Sections 3507(h)(1) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. No. 104-13) (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.).

Issued in Washington, DC on May 10, 2001.

Susan L. Frey,

*Director, Records Management Division,
Office of Records and Business Management,
Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of Science; Office of Science Financial Assistance Program Notice 01-26: Program for Ecosystem Research (PER)

AGENCY: U.S. Department of Energy (DOE).

ACTION: Notice inviting grant applications.

SUMMARY: The Office of Biological and Environmental Research (OBER) of the Office of Science (SC), U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), hereby announces its interest in receiving applications for research grants in the Program for Ecosystem Research (PER). Applications should describe research projects that address the scientific aims of PER. Applications for research on carbon sequestration in terrestrial ecosystems were solicited under an earlier announcement (Carbon Sequestration Research Program; Notice 00-09), and applications for research on terrestrial ecosystem carbon cycle and carbon balance were solicited under another earlier announcement (Terrestrial Carbon Processes (TCP) Notice 00-12). Applications for research on those topics will not be considered by PER.

DATES: Potential applicants are strongly encouraged (but not required) to submit a preapplication for programmatic review. The deadline for preapplications is July 2, 2001. A response to the preapplications will be communicated to the principal investigators by July 9, 2001.

The deadline for receipt of formal applications is 4:30 p.m., EST, August 13, 2001, to be accepted for merit review and to permit timely consideration for award in early Fiscal Year 2002. An original and seven copies of the application must be submitted. Applicants are requested not to submit multiple applications using more than one delivery or mail service.

ADDRESSES: If submitting a preapplication, it should be sent as ASCII text attached to an e-mail to Karen.Carlson@science.doe.gov, using an e-mail subject line of "PER preapplication."

Formal applications, referencing Program Notice 01-26, should be sent

to: U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Science, Grants and Contracts Division, SC-64, 19901 Germantown Road, Germantown, MD 20874-1290, ATTN: Program Notice 01-26. This address must also be used when submitting applications by U.S. Postal Service Express Mail or any other commercial overnight delivery service, or when hand-carried by the applicant.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Jeffrey S. Amthor, Environmental Sciences Division, SC-74, Office of Biological and Environmental Research, U.S. Department of Energy, 19901 Germantown Road, Germantown, MD 20874-1290, telephone (301) 903-2507, e-mail: Jeff.Amthor@science.doe.gov, fax: (301) 903-8519. The full text of Program Notice 01-26, is available via the Internet at the following URL: <http://www.sc.doe.gov/production/grants/grants.html>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: DOE has responsibility for developing energy resources, technologies, and policies to provide for the nation's energy needs in a manner that will maintain, protect, and enhance environmental quality. Complementary to this commitment, and as part of the U.S. Global Change Research Program, DOE also addresses the question of how ecosystems respond and adjust to global and regional changes in atmospheric composition and related climate changes associated with energy production and use.

The mission of PER is to improve the scientific basis for predicting or detecting effects of simultaneous changes in climate and atmospheric composition on terrestrial ecosystems and their component organisms and processes. Ecosystem processes and components of importance to humanity are of special concern. Climatic and atmospheric changes of key interest include (but need not be limited to): Warming (and changes in diurnal, seasonal, and interannual temperature cycles), changes in precipitation and evapotranspiration (e.g., intensification of the hydrologic cycle), changes in frequency and/or magnitude of extreme weather events and patterns, and rising atmospheric carbon dioxide and ozone concentrations. (Hereafter, these climate and atmospheric changes are referred to as "environmental changes"). Effects of factors such as human land use and introduction and spread of invasive species on ecosystem structure and function are of programmatic interest only to the extent that they interact with (modify impacts of) environmental changes on terrestrial ecosystems, not as stand-alone factors influencing ecosystems and their component