

public interest in connection with the performance of duties imposed upon the Department of Energy by law. The Council will continue to operate in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act and implementing regulations.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Rachel M. Samuel at 202/586-3279.

Issued at Washington, DC on November 1, 2001.

James N. Solit,

Advisory Committee, Management Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of Fossil Energy; National Petroleum Council

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of Charter Renewal.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 14(a)(2)(A) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. No. 92-463) and in accordance with title 41 of the Code of Federal Regulations, section 102-3.65, and following consultation with the Committee Management Secretariat of the General Services Administration, notice is hereby given that the National Petroleum Council has been renewed for a two-year period ending November 1, 2003. The Council will continue to provide advice, information, and recommendations to the Secretary of Energy on matters relating to oil and gas or the oil and gas industry.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Council members are chosen to assure a well-balanced representation from all sections of the country, all segments of the petroleum industry, and from large and small companies. The Council also has diverse members who represent interest outside the petroleum industry, including representatives from environmental, labor, research, academia, and State utility regulatory commissions. Membership and representation of all interests will continue to be determined in accordance with the requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, and implementing regulations.

The renewal of the Council has been determined essential to the conduct of the Department's business and in the public interest in connection with the performance of duties imposed upon the Department of Energy by law. The Council will operate in accordance with the Federal Advisory Act and implementing regulations.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Rachel M. Samuel at (202) 586-3279.

Issued at Washington, DC on November 1, 2001.

James N. Solit,

Advisory Committee, Management Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Advance Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement To Evaluate Decommissioning and/or Long-Term Stewardship at the West Valley Demonstration Project and Western New York Nuclear Service Center

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Advance notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is announcing in advance its intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Decommissioning and/or Long-Term Stewardship at the West Valley Demonstration Project (WVDP) and Western New York Nuclear Service Center (the Center). DOE has prepared this advance notice in accordance with the Department's regulations for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) [10 CFR 1021.311(b)], which state that DOE may publish an Advance Notice of Intent to provide an early opportunity to inform interested parties of a pending EIS or to solicit early public comments. DOE anticipates that the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) will participate in the preparation of the Decommissioning and/or Long-Term Stewardship EIS as a joint lead agency, that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) will participate as a cooperating agency, and that the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) will participate as an involved agency under the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA).

DOE and NYSEDA plan to evaluate the range of reasonable alternatives in this EIS to address their respective responsibilities at the Center, including those under the West Valley Demonstration Project Act (Public Law 96-368) and other applicable requirements, including decommissioning criteria that may be prescribed by NRC in accordance with the Act.

DOE invites early public comment on the range of environmental issues and alternatives to be analyzed. DOE and NYSEDA will consider the comments

received and other relevant information in developing a preliminary scope of the EIS for publication in a subsequent Notice of Intent, which would initiate a public scoping process in accordance with DOE's NEPA implementing regulations and those of SEQRA.

This Advance Notice of Intent is consistent with DOE's March 26, 2001, Notice of Intent (66 FR 16447) to revise the strategy for completing the *Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Completion of the West Valley Demonstration Project and Closure or Long-Term Management of Facilities at the Western New York Nuclear Service Center* (DOE/EIS-0226-D, March 1996, also referred to as the 1996 Cleanup and Closure Draft EIS), which was issued jointly by DOE and NYSEDA. The March 2001 Notice of Intent announced that DOE intends to prepare a separate EIS on its decontamination of WVDP facilities and related waste management activities.

ADDRESSES: Address early comments on the preliminary scope of the Decommissioning and/or Long-Term Stewardship EIS to the DOE Document Manager: Mr. Daniel W. Sullivan, West Valley Demonstration Project, U.S. Department of Energy, 10282 Rock Springs Road, West Valley, New York 14171, Telephone: (716) 942-4016, facsimile: (716) 942-4703, e-mail: daniel.w.sullivan@wv.doe.gov.

The "Public Reading Rooms" section under **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** lists the addresses of the reading rooms where documents referenced herein are available.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: For information regarding the WVDP or the EIS, contact Mr. Daniel Sullivan as described above. Those seeking general information on DOE's NEPA process should contact: Ms. Carol M. Borgstrom, Director, Office of NEPA Policy and Compliance, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, D.C. 20585, Telephone: (202) 586-4600, Facsimile: (202) 586-7031, or leave a message at 1-800-472-2756, toll-free.

Questions for NYSEDA should be directed to: Mr. Paul J. Bembia, New York State Energy Research and Development Authority, 10282 Rock Springs Road, West Valley, New York 14171, Telephone: (716) 942-4900, Facsimile: (716) 942-2148, email: pjb@nyserda.org.

Those seeking general information on the SEQRA process should contact: Mr. Hal Brodie, Deputy Counsel, New York State Energy Research and Development Authority, Corporate Plaza West, 286 Washington Avenue Extension, Albany,