

the highest canal flow. Such a canal failure would likely close the American Canal for at least one month during costly emergency repairs. If the canal flow was disrupted for just one month due to repairs, the El Paso Water Utilities production of potable water would be reduced by 80 to 120 million gallons per day, and over a thousand El Paso County farmers could lose their crops, likely resulting in up to 500 bankruptcies. The No Action Alternative is not considered to be a viable alternative.

The preliminary engineering design studies for the replacement of the old American Canal indicate that a closed design may become the preferred alternative for the middle canal segment. Limited right-of-way constraints and existing infrastructure restrictions will dictate the proper design and construction methods to minimize the adverse effects to the public and adjacent landowners along the project. The reported project conditions will remain the same, but the aesthetics of the predominantly open canal will change. The USIBWC will consult with the Texas State Historic Preservation Officer should the preliminary canal design study recommend that the subject portion of the open canal be replaced with pre-cast box culvert.

The Draft FONSI and Draft EA were distributed November 21, 2000. The Notice of Draft FONSI for the Draft EA was published in the **Federal Register** on November 29, 2000. The Legal Notice of the Draft FONSI and Draft EA was published in the El Paso Times on December 2, 2000. The Public Comment period extended from November 21, 2000 through January 2, 2001. Public comments received were compiled into the Final EA, dated October 31, 2001. The Final EA finds that the proposed action does not constitute a major federal action that would cause a significant local, regional, or national adverse impact on the environment, because the Proposed Action Alternative would:

1. Improve structural stability of the American Canal, providing a reliable conveyance structure to transport flows of allocated water from the Rio Grande to El Paso County farms and to existing and planned El Paso Water Utilities water treatment facilities. The Rio Grande will be unchanged from existing conditions under USIBWC jurisdiction;
2. Minimize seepage loss through the cracks in the canal lining;
3. Provide the full design capacity (1535 cfs) influent into the RGACE;
4. Improve safety and reduce the risk of accidental drownings in the

American Canal by installing fences and safety equipment;

5. Preserve the historic predominantly open channel character of the Canal; and

6. Preserve historical and photographic documentation of the historic Smelter Bridge per HAER Level III Standard.

Based on the Final Environmental Assessment and the implementation of the proposed historical mitigation, it has been determined that the proposed action will not have a significant adverse effect on the environment, and an Environmental Impact Statement is not warranted.

Dated: March 1, 2002.

Mario Lewis,

General Counsel.

[FR Doc. 02-5395 Filed 3-6-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-03-P

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

[Notice (02-031)]

Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1966: Administrative Wage Garnishment

AGENCY: National Aeronautics And Space Administration (NASA).

ACTION: NASA's adoption of the Department of Treasury's regulation as described in 31 CFR 285.11, Administrative Wage Garnishment.

SUMMARY: The National Aeronautics and Space Administration hereby gives notice that the Agency has adopted the provisions contained in the Debt Collection Improvement Act Of 1996 (DCIA). Wage Garnishment is a process whereby an employer withholds amounts from an employee's wages and pays those amounts to the employee's creditors in satisfaction of a withholding order. The DCIA authorizes Federal agencies administratively to garnish the disposable pay of an individual to collect delinquent non-tax debts owned to the United States.

DATES: Effective: March 7, 2002.

ADDRESSES: NASA Headquarters, Code BFZ, Washington, DC 20546.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Melvin Denwiddie, (202) 358-0983.

Stephen J. Varholy,

Deputy Chief Financial Officer.

[FR Doc. 02-5402 Filed 3-6-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7510-01-P

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

[Notice (02-030)]

Notice of Prospective Patent License

AGENCY: National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

ACTION: Notice of prospective patent license.

SUMMARY: NASA hereby gives notice that EnviroMetal Technologies Inc. of Waterloo, Ontario, Canada, has applied for an exclusive patent license for the Use of Ultrasound to Improve the Effectiveness of a Permeable Treatment Wall, U.S. Patent No. 6,013,232, which is assigned to the United States of America as represented by the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. Written objections to the prospective grant of a license should be sent to Randall M. Heald, Assistant Chief Counsel/Patent Counsel, and John F. Kennedy Space Center.

DATES: Responses to this Notice must be received by March 22, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Randall M. Heald, Assistant Chief Counsel/Patent Counsel, John F. Kennedy Space Center, Mail Code: CC-A, Kennedy Space Center, FL 32899, telephone (321) 867-7214.

Dated: March 1, 2002.

Robert M. Stephens,

Deputy General Counsel.

[FR Doc. 02-5401 Filed 3-6-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7510-01-P

NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE HUMANITIES

Meeting

March 1, 2002.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Public L. 92-463, as amended), notice is hereby given the National Council on the Humanities will meet in Washington, DC on March 21-22, 2002.

The purpose of the meeting is to advise the Chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities with respect to policies, programs, and procedures for carrying out his functions, and to review applications for financial support from and gifts offered to the Endowment and to make recommendations thereon to the Chairman.

The meeting will be held in the Old Post Office Building, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC. A