

the closure of Zone 4 would not be achieved. This realization, coupled with the availability of adequate storage space in Zone 4 to accommodate both surplus pits and weapons dismantlement activities, as well as concerns expressed by the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board over storing both national security and surplus pits in Zone 12, led DOE to reexamine whether it would be more appropriate to continue storing surplus pits in Zone 4.

The storage of surplus pits in Zone 4 at Pantex is ongoing and consistent with the current storage practices and was evaluated as part of the No Action Alternative in the Storage and Disposition PEIS. The SPD EIS ROD also acknowledged that DOE was considering leaving the surplus pits in Zone 4, pending disposition at SRS.

#### D. MOX Fuel Program

Section 3155(c) of The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2002 required the Department to submit to Congress by February 1, 2002, a plan for disposal of the surplus plutonium currently located at SRS or to be shipped to SRS in the future. Section 3155(d) also required the Department to submit a plan for a disposition path for plutonium that would otherwise have been disposed of at an immobilization facility or at a MOX facility, if the Department determines not to proceed with either facility. In response to this Congressional mandate, DOE/NNSA, on February 15, 2002 (and supplemented by letter on March 5, 2002) submitted a document entitled Report to Congress: Disposition of Surplus Defense Plutonium at Savannah River Site. That report states that DOE/NNSA's current disposition strategy involves a MOX-only approach, under which DOE/NNSA would dispose of up to 34 t of surplus plutonium by converting it to MOX fuel and irradiating it in commercial power reactors. Implementation of this strategy is key to the successful completion of the agreement between the U.S. and the Russian Federation discussed in Section I.A., above. DOE is currently analyzing the changes to the MOX fuel portion of the surplus plutonium disposition program needed to carry out that strategy, including analysis conducted pursuant to NEPA. No final decisions regarding the MOX portion of the surplus plutonium disposition program will be made until DOE/NNSA has completed this analysis.

#### Amended Decisions

DOE/NNSA is modifying its decisions on storage and disposition of surplus plutonium as follows:

- Cancel the immobilization portion of DOE/NNSA's disposition strategy.
- Select the alternative of consolidated long-term storage at SRS of non-pit surplus plutonium now stored separately at RFETS and at SRS.
- Utilize the KAMS facility for consolidated long-term storage of surplus plutonium.
- Continue storage of surplus pits in Zone 4 at Pantex in lieu of storage in Zone 12.

Issued in Washington, DC, April 15, 2002.

**John A. Gordon,**

*Administrator, National Nuclear Security Administration.*

[FR Doc. 02-9658 Filed 4-18-02; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6450-01-P**

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#### ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[ER-FRL-6628-4]

#### Environmental Impact Statements; Notice of Availability

*Responsible Agency:* Office of Federal Activities, General Information (202) 564-7167 or [www.epa.gov/oeca/ofa](http://www.epa.gov/oeca/ofa)  
Weekly receipt of Environmental Impact Statements  
Filed April 08, 2002 Through April 12, 2002  
Pursuant to 40 CFR 1506.9.

*EIS No. 020143, Final EIS, FHW, MI, M-24 Reconstruction Project, From One Mile North of the Oakland County Line to I-69, Funding, Lapeer County, MI, Wait Period Ends: May 20, 2002, Contact: James A. Kirshensteiner (517) 702-1835.*

*EIS No. 020144, Draft EIS, FHW, MN, Trunk Highway (TH) 53 Project, Transportation Improvements, from 1.2 km (¾ mile) South of St. Louis County Road 307 to the South City Limits of Cook, NPDES Permit, COE Section 10 and 404 Permits, St. Louis County, MN, Comment Period Ends: June 03, 2002, Contact: Cheryl Martin (651) 291-6120.*

*EIS No. 020145, Final EIS, USA, CO, Pueblo Chemical Depot, Destruction of Chemical Munitions, Design, Construction, Operation and Closure of a Facility, Pueblo County, CO, Wait Period Ends: May 20, 2002, Contact: Penny Robitaille (410) 436-4178.*

#### Amended Notices

*EIS No. 020124, Draft EIS, FRC, CT, NY, Islander East Pipeline Project,*

*Interstate Natural Gas Pipeline Facilities Construction and Operation to provide 285,000 dekatherms per day (Dth/d) of Natural Gas to Energy Markets in Connecticut, Long Island and New York, New Haven, CT and Suffolk County, NY, Comment Period Ends: May 20, 2002, Contact: Margalite R. Salas (202) 208-2156. Revision of FR notice published on 04/05/2002: Title Correction. 285,009 dekatherms per day (Dth/d) Changed to 285,000 dekatherms per day (Dth/d).*

*EIS No. 020125, Final EIS, FTA, MN, Northstar Transportation Corridor Improvement Project, Downtown Minneapolis to the St. Cloud Area along Trunk Highway 10/47 and the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad Transcontinental Route connecting Hiawatha Light Rail Transit Line at a Multi-Modal Station, Minneapolis/St Paul International Airport and Mall of America, Bloomington, MN, Wait Period Ends: May 06, 2002, Contact: Joel Ettinger (312) 353-2865. Revision of FR Notice Published on 04/12/2002: Correction to County from Joseph to Josephine County Report on 04/12/2002.*

*EIS No. 020129, Draft EIS, BLM, OR, Kelsey Whisky Landscape Management Planning Area, Implementation, Associated Medford District Resource Management Plan Amendments, Josephine and Jackson Counties, OR, Comment Period Ends: July 12, 2002, Contact: Sherwood Tubman (541) 618-2399. Revision of FR Notice Published on 03/29/2002: CEQ Comment Period Ending 04/29/2002 has been Corrected to 05/13/2002.*

Dated: April 16, 2002.

**Joseph C. Montgomery,**

*Director, NEPA Compliance Division, Office of Federal Activities.*

[FR Doc. 02-9656 Filed 4-18-02; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6560-50-U**

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#### ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[ER-FRL-6628-3]

**North Slope, Alaska: Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on a Proposal To Develop Oil and Gas Reserves in or Near the Point Thomson Unit, Potentially Including Designation of Ocean Dredged Material Disposal Site(s)**

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 10.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent.

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