

of the United Nations (FAO) of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (FAO Code). While the FAO Code is a voluntary and non-binding instrument, the United States has consistently supported its usefulness as an internationally agreed upon statement of principles that should govern the policies of FAO members in all sectors of the fishing industry, including aquaculture, which is addressed in Article 9 of the FAO Code. Although the Code of Conduct for the U.S. EEZ does not have to follow the FAO model, the FAO Code is an important reference instrument. A copy of the aquaculture section (Article 9) of the FAO Code can be obtained from the contact person listed above, and can be found on the Internet at <http://www.fao.org/fi/agreem/codecond/ficonde.asp>.

#### Stakeholder Input

NMFS held a series of six regional workshops during 2000 to obtain stakeholder input on the development of the draft Code of Conduct. These were held in Seattle (WA), Danvers (MA), and Galveston (TX) in September 2000, and in Honolulu (HI), Miami (FL), and Silver Spring (MD) in November 2000. NMFS announced the meetings in two separate **Federal Register** notices, dated August 24, 2000 (65 FR 51591), and October 30, 2000 (65 FR 64682), and encouraged stakeholder participation through more than 200 contacts in state and Federal agencies, Sea Grant College Program Centers, education and research institutions, non-governmental organizations, and commercial enterprises. NMFS specifically asked for input on the scope, content, specificity and use of a Code of Conduct that can be used to help guide aquaculture development in the EEZ. Areas for discussion included, but were not limited to, species choices, siting, transboundary considerations, design and construction of facilities, disease prevention and control, feeds and feeding protocols, effluents and pollution, interactions with wild species and protected resources, general operations, stock enhancement, use conflict resolution, and on-shore impacts. The workshops were open to all interested persons, and a total of 181 persons attended. In addition, NMFS received written comments from an additional 23 contributors.

#### The Code of Conduct

The Code of Conduct provides guidance to potential users of the U.S. EEZ for aquaculture. It provides general guidance to the aquaculture industry for siting and operating aquaculture facilities in this zone, and provides

NMFS with a framework that can be used to ensure a more consistent review of aquaculture projects that require agency actions. NMFS may also use the Code of Conduct as a starting point for the development of regulatory standards in the future.

The Code of Conduct was developed with input secured from stakeholders and in consultation with other Federal agencies with authorities in Federal waters. Public comments received regarding this document will be addressed in the notice of availability of the final Code of Conduct, which will be published in the **Federal Register** within 60 days of the closing of the public comment period. The two previous **Federal Register** notices, dated August 24, 2000 (65 FR 51591), and October 30, 2000 (65 FR 64682), provided a tentative time frame for the production of a Code of Conduct. The time frame has been revised as provided here.

#### Time Frame

August 2002: Release draft Code of Conduct for public comment via posting of the document on the NMFS Web site ([www.nmfs.gov/aquaculture.htm](http://www.nmfs.gov/aquaculture.htm)). The document will also be provided in hard copy upon request (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**).

September 2002: Public comment period on draft Code of Conduct ends.

November 2002: Release final Code of Conduct via a Federal Register notice of availability and posting on the NMFS Web site ([www.nmfs.gov/aquaculture.htm](http://www.nmfs.gov/aquaculture.htm)). The document will also be provided in hard copy upon request (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**).

Dated: August 20, 2002.

**Virginia M. Fay,**

*Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Army

#### Secretarial Authorization for a Member of the Department of Defense To Serve on the Board of Directors, National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA)

**AGENCY:** Department of the Army, DoD.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with 10 U.S.C. 1033(b), the General Counsel of the Department of Defense has designated the National Commission on

Certification of Physician Assistants, and has concurred with the Secretary of the Army's authorization of LTC William L. Tozier to serve, without compensation, on the Board of Directors for the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants.

Authorization to serve on the Board of Directors has been made for the purpose of providing oversight and advice to, and coordination with the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants. Participation of the above official in the activities of the Commission will not extend to participation in day-to-day operations.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Matt Reres, Deputy General Counsel (Fiscal & Ethics), Department of the Army. 703-697-5105.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** None.

**John A. Hall,**

*Alternate Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Army

#### Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation Board of Visitors Curriculum Subcommittee Meeting

**AGENCY:** Department of the Army, DoD.

**ACTION:** Notice of open meeting.

**SUMMARY:** This notice sets forth the schedule and summary agenda for the Curriculum Subcommittee meeting of the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation (WHINSEC) Board of Visitors (BoV). Notice of this meeting is required under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463). The WHINSEC board was chartered on February 1, 2002 in compliance with the requirements set forth in 10 U.S.C. 2166. This Subcommittee was created on June 4, 2002 during the full BoV inaugural session.

**DATES:** September 10-12, 2002.

**Time:** 9 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. and 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. on September 10; 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on September 11; and 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. on September 12, 2002.

**Location:** Pratt Hall, Building 35, 7011 Morrison Ave., Fort Benning, GA 31905

**Proposed Agenda:** The WHINSEC BoV Curriculum Subcommittee will review the WHINSEC curriculum (courses and classes) for compliance with the authorizing legislation.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ken LaPlante, Core Processes, Inc., Army G-

3 (Room 2D337), 400 Army Pentagon, Washington, DC 20310, telephone (703) 692-7419 or LTC Andres Toro at (703) 692-7421.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The meeting is open to the public. There will be time, specified, for public comments by individuals and organizations at the end of the meeting on September 12. Public comment and presentations will be limited to two minutes each and must be provided in writing and received before Friday, September 6, 2002. Mail written presentations and requests to register to attend the public sessions to: LTC Andres Toro, DAMO-SSR (Rm. 2D337), 400 Army Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-0400. Public seating is limited, and is available on a first come, first served basis.

**John A. Hall,**

*Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

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**BILLING CODE 3710-08-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers

#### Availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement to Consider Issuance of a Department of the Army Permit Pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act for Aluminum Company of America (Alcoa) Inc.'s Proposal To Construct and Operate Three Oaks Mine in Lee and Bastrop Counties, TX

**AGENCY:** Department of the Army, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DoD.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Fort Worth District has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). This DEIS evaluates potential impacts to the natural, physical and human environment as a result of the proposed mining activities associated with Aluminum Company of America (Alcoa) Inc.'s proposed Three Oaks Mine. The USACE regulates this proposed project pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. The proposed activity would involve the discharge of dredged and fill material into waters of the United States associated with the proposed construction and operation of a surface lignite mine.

**DATES:** Submit comments by October 22, 2002. A public hearing regarding this

DEIS will be held on October 2, 2002 (*see SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION*).

**ADDRESSES:** Send written comments and suggestions concerning this proposal to Ms. Jennifer Walker, Regulatory Project Manager, Regulatory Branch, CESWF-PER-R, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, P.O. Box 17300, Fort Worth, TX 76102-0300 or via e-mail: [3oakseis@swf02.usace.army.mil](mailto:3oakseis@swf02.usace.army.mil). Requests to be placed on the mailing list should also be sent to this address.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Jennifer Walker, Regulatory Project Manager at (817) 886-1733 or via e-mail: [3oakseis@swf02.usace.army.mil](mailto:3oakseis@swf02.usace.army.mil).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Discharges of fill material into waters of the United States are regulated under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, with the permitting responsibility administered by the USACE. The proposed project must also address environmental impacts relative to the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, Endangered Species Act and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (FWCA). In accordance with the NEPA, the DEIS evaluates practicable alternatives for the USACE's decision making process. As required by NEPA, the USACE also analyzes the "no action" alternative as a baseline for gauging potential impacts.

As part of the public involvement process, notice is hereby given by the USACE Fort Worth District of a public hearing to be held at the Elgin High School, in Elgin, Bastrop County, TX, from 6:30 to 10 p.m., on October 2, 2002. The public hearing will allow participants the opportunity to comment on the DEIS prepared for the proposed Three Oaks Mine. Written comments should be sent to Ms. Jennifer Walker (*see ADDRESSES*). The comments are due 60 days from the date of publication of this notice. Copies of the DEIS may be obtained by contacting USACE Fort Worth District Regulatory Branch at (817) 886-1731 or printed from the Fort Worth District USACE Internet home page at <http://www.swf.usace.army.mil>.

Copies of the DEIS are also available for inspection at the locations identified below:

- (1) Bastrop City Hall, 902 Main Street, Bastrop, TX 78602.
- (2) Lexington City Hall, P.O. Box 56, Lexington, TX 78947.
- (3) Austin City Hall, 124 West 8th Street, P.O. Box 1088, Austin, TX 78767.
- (4) Rockdale City Hall, P.O. Box 586, Rockdale, TX 76567.
- (5) Elgin City Hall, P.O. Box 591, Elgin, TX 78621.
- (6) Giddings City Hall, 118 E. Richmond Street, Giddings, TX 78942.

(7) Lee County Courthouse, P.O. Box 390, Giddings, TX, 78942.

(8) Milam County Courthouse, P.O. Box 1008, Cameron, TX 76520.

(9) Bastrop County Courthouse, 804 Pecan Street, Bastrop, TX 78602.

(10) Travis County Courthouse, 1000 Guadalupe Street, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, TX 78767.

(11) City of Austin Library—Milwood Branch, 12500 Amherst Drive, Austin, TX 78727.

(12) City of Austin Library—John Henry Faulk Branch, 800 Guadalupe, Austin, TX 78701.

(13) City of Austin Library—Will Hampton at Oak Hill Branch, 5125 Convict Hill Road, Austin, TX 78749.

(14) City of Bastrop Public Library, 1100 Church Street, Bastrop, TX 78602.

(15) City of Elgin Public Library, 404 North Main Street, Elgin, TX 78621.

(16) City of Giddings Public Library, 177 South Madison Street, Giddings, TX 78942.

(17) City of Rockdale Public Library, 201 Ackerman Street, Rockdale, TX 76567.

After the public comment period ends, USACE will consider all comments received, revise the DEIS as appropriate, and issue a final Environmental Impact Statement.

**Wayne A. Lea,**

*Chief, Regulatory Branch.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers

#### Notice of Availability of a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS), for #20000380(IP-DEB), Phipps Ocean Park Beach Restoration Project, Town of Palm Beach, Palm Beach County, FL

**AGENCY:** Department of the Army, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DoD.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the requirements of National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE or Corps) Jacksonville District announces the availability of a Regulatory Program SEIS for the Phipps Ocean Park Beach Restoration Project. The Town of Palm Beach, Florida is seeking Corps regulatory authorization for the proposed project pursuant to section 404 of the Clean Water Act and section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403). In accordance with 40