

Islander East's administrative appeal; and (3) provides information about other procedural aspects of the appeal.

**DATES:** Processing of the Islander East appeal by the Department of Commerce resumed on August 8, 2003. The public comment period for the appeal will run through November 20, 2003. The deadline for federal agencies to submit comments on the appeal is October 27, 2003. Information concerning a public hearing on the appeal to be held in Connecticut will be available approximately 30 days prior to the hearing.

**ADDRESSES:** All e-mail comments on issues relevant to the Secretary of Commerce's (Secretary) decision in this appeal may be submitted to [IslanderEast.comments@noaa.gov](mailto:IslanderEast.comments@noaa.gov). Comments may also be sent by mail to the Office of the General Counsel for Ocean Services, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1305 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Materials from the appeal record are available at the Internet site <http://www.ogc.doc.gov/czma.htm> and at the Office of the General Counsel for Ocean Services. Also, public filings made by the parties to the appeal are to be available for review at the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT.

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:** Branden Blum, Senior Counselor, NOAA Office of the General Counsel, via e-mail at [GCOS.inquiries@noaa.gov](mailto:GCOS.inquiries@noaa.gov), or at 301-713-2967, extension 186.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **I. Recommencement of Appeal Proceedings**

In November 2002, the Islander East Pipeline Company, L.L.C. (Islander East) filed a notice of appeal with the Department of Commerce (Department) pursuant to the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (CZMA), as amended, asking that the Secretary of Commerce override the State of Connecticut's (State) objection to Islander East's proposed natural gas pipeline. The pipeline would extend from near North Haven, Connecticut, across the Long Island Sound to a terminus in Suffolk County (Long Island), New York. Connecticut's objection is based on the project's potential effects on the natural resources or land and water uses of Connecticut's coastal zone.

Appeal proceedings before the Department have been stayed since March 17, 2003. The initial stay and an extension were granted at the request of both parties to allow for settlement

negotiations. A subsequent stay was granted in order to accommodate Islander East's request that the appeal be remanded to the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (Connecticut) for reconsideration of its objection to the proposed natural gas pipeline project. On July 29, 2003, Connecticut reiterated its continuing objection to the proposed pipeline. Connecticut's determination requires the Department of Commerce to resume processing the Islander East appeal. 15 CFR 930.129(d). Consequently, the Department provided notice to the parties on August 8, 2003 that it was recommencing processing of Islander East's appeal. Information on scheduled filings by the parties is available at the Department's Coastal Zone Management Act Appeals Web site, <http://www.ogc.doc.gov/czma.htm>.

##### **II. Public Comments**

In connection with the resumption of appeal proceedings, the public comment period has been reopened through November 20, 2003. During this period, the public may submit comments to the Department of Commerce (see address section above) on issues to be considered in the appeal. A summary of the grounds for which Islander East requested an override of the State's objection appears in the **Federal Register** at 68 FR 3513. Comments received between July 31, 2003, the close of the earlier public comment period, and before the publication of this notice, will be considered to be timely filed.

##### **III. Other Procedural Matters**

This portion of the **Federal Register** notice provides information concerning other aspects of the Islander East appeal that are affected by the resumption of proceedings. The federal agency comment period has been reopened and letters announcing this action were sent to agencies whose views had been previously solicited but not yet received, although timely comments will be accepted from all agencies. The Department will also schedule a public hearing on the appeal in the State of Connecticut. A hearing, to occur prior to the close of the public comment period, had been previously announced in the **Federal Register**. 68 FR 5620. A notice concerning the date, location and related information will be provided at least 30 days prior to the hearing.

Please visit the Department of Commerce CZMA Appeals Web site (<http://www.ogc.doc.gov/czma.htm>) for further information concerning the CZMA administrative appeal process or

to review documents from the Islander East appeal record.

Questions about the resumption of the Islander East appeal may be sent to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, via e-mail ([GCOS.inquiries@noaa.gov](mailto:GCOS.inquiries@noaa.gov)) or made by telephone (301 713-2967, extension 186).

[Federal Domestic Assistance Catalog No. 11.419 Coastal Zone Management Program Assistance.]

Dated: August 13, 2003.

**James R. Walpole,**

*General Counsel.*

[FR Doc. 03-21207 Filed 8-18-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-08-P**

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## **DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**

### **Office of the Secretary**

#### **Notice of Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact Related to the Pulsed Fast Neutron Analysis Cargo Inspection System Test Facility at the Ysleta Port of Entry Commercial Cargo Facility, El Paso, Texas**

**AGENCY:** Counterdrug Technology Development Program Office (CTDPO), Department of Defense (DoD).

**ACTION:** Notice of Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact.

**SUMMARY:** The Counterdrug Technology Development Program Office (CTDPO) is considering the construction of a Pulsed Fast Neutron Analysis (PFNA) Cargo Inspection System Test Facility at the Ysleta Port of Entry Commercial Cargo Facility, El Paso, Texas and has prepared an Environmental Assessment in support of this action. Based upon the Environmental Assessment, the Department of Defense has concluded that a Finding of No Significant Impact is appropriate, and therefore an Environmental Impact Statement is unnecessary.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Stephen Haimbach, Department of Defense, Counterdrug Technology Development Program Office, Naval Surface Warfare Center, 17320 Dahlgren Road, Dahlgren, Virginia 22448-5100; telephone (540) 653-2374 or e-mail [PFNAmail@dodcounterdrug.com](mailto:PFNAmail@dodcounterdrug.com).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In its counter-terrorism and counter-drug efforts, the Federal Government has invested considerable resources into developing technologies for detecting explosives, narcotics or other

contraband hidden among the freight imported into the United States. Radiation-based, non-intrusive inspection systems, such as X-ray and gamma ray, have been in use for several years by Federal Government agencies. A related technology, called Pulsed Fast Neutron Analysis (PFNA), was developed several years ago for cargo inspection. PFNA is designed to directly and automatically detect and measure the presence of specific materials, such as cocaine or explosives, which may have been hidden within the vehicle. PFNA technology uses pulses of neutrons as the radiation source to non-intrusively examine packages and containers for suspect materials. While PFNA has been successfully demonstrated in a laboratory setting, it has yet to be tested in an operational environment.

The Department of Defense in cooperation with the United States Bureau of Customs and Border Protection and the Transportation Security Administration plans to conduct a six-month operational test of a PFNA system at the Ysleta/Zaragoza Border Station in Ysleta, Texas. Ysleta is next to the Rio Grande River just southeast of the city of El Paso. Ysleta was selected as the test location principally because it had space available (no additional land purchase was required) and sufficient commercial traffic.

The test facility will consist of an inspection building (approximately 220 feet by 60 feet) housing the PFNA equipment and several smaller structures for electronic equipment and operators.

The Environmental Assessment is available for public viewing by accessing the following Internet address: <http://www.scainc.biz/EA>.

Dated: August 12, 2003.

**Patricia L. Toppings,**

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

[FR Doc. 03-21161 Filed 8-18-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 5001-08-M**

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## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### Federal Interagency Coordinating Council (FICC) Meeting

**AGENCY:** Federal Interagency Coordinating Council, Education.

**ACTION:** Notice of a public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** This notice describes the schedule and agenda of a forthcoming meeting of the Federal Interagency Coordinating Council (FICC). Notice of this meeting is intended to inform

members of the general public of their opportunity to attend the meeting. The FICC will engage in policy discussions related to health services for young children with disabilities and their families. The meeting will be open and accessible to the general public.

**DATE AND TIME:** FICC Meeting: Thursday, September 18, 2003 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** American Institutes for Research, 1000 Thomas Jefferson Street, NW, Conference Rooms B & C, 2nd Floor, Washington, DC 20007.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Obra Vance, U.S. Department of Education, 330 C Street, SW, Room 3090, Switzer Building, Washington, DC 20202. Telephone: (202) 205-5507 (press 3). Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call (202) 205-5637.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The FICC is established under section 644 of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1444). The FICC is established to: (1) Minimize duplication across Federal, State, and local agencies of programs and activities relating to early intervention services for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families and preschool services for children with disabilities; (2) ensure effective coordination of Federal early intervention and preschool programs, including Federal technical assistance and support activities; and (3) identify gaps in Federal agency programs and services and barriers to Federal interagency cooperation. To meet these purposes, the FICC seeks to: (1) Identify areas of conflict, overlap, and omissions in interagency policies related to the provision of services to infants, toddlers, and preschoolers with disabilities; (2) develop and implement joint policy interpretations on issues related to infants, toddlers, and preschoolers that cut across Federal agencies, including modifications of regulations to eliminate barriers to interagency programs and activities; and (3) coordinate the provision of technical assistance and dissemination of best practice information. The FICC is chaired by Dr. Robert Pasternack, Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

Individuals who need accommodations for a disability in order to attend the meeting (i.e., interpreting services, assistive listening devices, material in alternative format) should notify Obra Vance at (202) 205-5507 (press 3) or (202) 205-5637 (TDD) ten days in advance of the meeting. The meeting location is accessible to individuals with disabilities.

Summary minutes of the FICC meetings will be maintained and available for public inspection at the U.S. Department of Education, 330 C Street, SW, Room 3090, Switzer Building, Washington, DC 20202, from the hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., weekdays, except Federal Holidays.

**Loretta Petty Chittum,**

*Acting Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.*

[FR Doc. 03-21195 Filed 8-18-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4000-01-M**

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

[Docket No. EA-284]

### Sempra Energy Solutions

**AGENCY:** Office of Fossil Energy, DOE.

**ACTION:** Notice of Application.

**SUMMARY:** Sempra Energy Solutions (SES) has applied for authority to transmit electric energy from the United States to Mexico pursuant to section 202(e) of the Federal Power Act.

**DATES:** Comments, protests or requests to intervene must be submitted on or before September 2, 2003.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments, protests or requests to intervene should be addressed as follows: Office of Coal & Power Im/Ex (FE-27), Office of Fossil Energy, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585-0350 (FAX 202-287-2793).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Steven Mintz (Program Office) 202-586-9506 or Michael Skinker (Program Attorney) 202-586-6667.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Exports of electricity from the United States to a foreign country are regulated and require authorization under section 202(e) of the Federal Power Act (FPA) (16 U.S.C. 824a(e)).

On August 6, 2003, the Office of Fossil Energy (FE) of the Department of Energy (DOE) received an application from SES to transmit electric energy from the United States to Mexico. SES is incorporated in the State of California and has its principal place of business in San Diego, California. SES is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Sempra Energy Global Enterprises, which, in turn, is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Sempra Energy. Sempra Energy owns 100% of San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E). SES does not have a franchised utility service area. The electric energy which the applicant proposes to export to Mexico would be surplus generation from utilities and