

for modifications to increase its capacity, reduce occupational radiation exposure, and reduce radioactive effluents.

In 1976, Nuclear Fuel Services estimated that over \$600 million would be required to modify the facility to increase its capacity and to comply with changes in regulatory standards. As a result, the company decided to withdraw from the nuclear fuel reprocessing business and exercise its contractual right to yield responsibility for the Center to NYSERDA. Nuclear Fuel Services withdrew from the Center without removing any of the in-process nuclear wastes. NYSERDA now holds title to and manages the Center on behalf of the people of the State of New York.

In 1980, Congress passed the WVDP Act (Pub. L. 96–368). This Act requires DOE to demonstrate that the liquid high-level radioactive waste (HLW) from reprocessing can be safely managed by solidifying it at the Center and transporting it to a geologic repository for permanent disposal. In addition to HLW, the WVDP also manages low-level radioactive waste (LLW), transuranic (TRU) waste, and mixed waste (radioactive and hazardous) generated as a result of Project activities.

The WVDP Facilities and areas storing the waste are: The Process Building, which includes approximately 70 rooms and cells that comprised the NRC-licensed spent nuclear fuel reprocessing operations (one of the cells—the Chemical Process Cell—now serves as the storage facility for the canisters containing the HLW, which has been immobilized through vitrification); the Tank Farm, which includes the underground HLW storage tanks; Waste Storage Areas, which include several facilities such as Lag Storage Areas and the Chemical Process Cell Waste Storage Area; and the Radwaste Treatment System Drum Cell (Drum Cell), which stores cement-filled drums of stabilized LLW.

DOE announced its intent to prepare this EIS in a March 2001 Notice of Intent (NOI) (66 FR 16447, March 26, 2001). DOE modified the proposed scope of this EIS as a result of public comments received during scoping and the Department's further evaluation of activities that might be required independently of final decisions on decommissioning and/or long-term stewardship at the WVDP. In the future, DOE plans to issue an EIS on decommissioning and/or long-term stewardship. DOE published an Advance NOI (66 FR 56090, November 6, 2001) inviting preliminary public comment on a proposed scope for the

decommissioning and/or long-term stewardship EIS and published an NOI (68 FR 12004, March 13, 2003).

Public Comments

The Waste Management EIS was issued in draft on May 16, 2003, for public review and comment (68 FR 26587 (2003)). The 45-day comment period ended on June 30, 2003, although DOE also considered comments received after that date. Two public hearings on the Draft EIS were held on June 11, 2003, at the Ashford Office Complex near the WVDP site. The Final EIS incorporates public comments received on the Draft EIS and DOE responses.

In response to public comments, several changes were made in the Final EIS. In particular, the option under Alternative B of placing retrievable grout in the HLW tanks as an interim stabilization measure has been eliminated. Information has been added regarding the extent to which the Canadian population within 80 kilometers (50 miles) of the site could be affected by the activities at the site and transportation under routine and accident conditions. In addition, a number of specific technical changes and corrections have been made in response to public comments, and updated DOE guidance regarding health risk factors was used to estimate potential impacts.

Description of Alternatives

The Final EIS analyzes three alternatives for the continued onsite waste management and shipment of wastes to offsite disposal. Under the No Action Alternative, Continuation of Ongoing Waste Management Activities, waste management would include continued storage of existing Class B and Class C LLW, TRU waste, and HLW. Limited amounts of Class A LLW would be shipped for off-site disposal and the remainder would be stored onsite. The waste storage tanks and their surrounding vaults would continue to be ventilated to manage moisture levels as a corrosion prevention measure.

Under DOE's Preferred Alternative A, Offsite Shipment of HLW, LLW, Mixed LLW, and TRU Wastes to Disposal, DOE would ship Class A, B, and C LLW and mixed LLW to one of two potential DOE disposal sites (in Washington or Nevada) or to a commercial disposal site (such as the Envirocare facility in Utah); ship TRU waste to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) in New Mexico; and ship HLW to the proposed Yucca Mountain HLW Repository. LLW and mixed LLW would be shipped over the next ten years. TRU waste shipments to

the WIPP could occur within the next ten years if the TRU waste were determined to meet all the requirements for disposal in this repository. If some or all of WVDP's TRU waste did not meet these requirements, the Department would need to explore other alternatives for disposal of this waste. The waste storage tanks would continue to be managed as described under the No Action Alternative.

Under Alternative B, Offsite Shipment of LLW and Mixed LLW to Disposal, and Shipment of HLW and TRU Waste to Interim Storage, LLW and mixed LLW would be shipped offsite for disposal at the same locations as Alternative A. TRU wastes would be shipped for interim storage at one of five DOE sites: the Hanford Site in Washington; the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory (INEEL); the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) in Tennessee; the Savannah River Site (SRS) in South Carolina; or WIPP. TRU wastes would subsequently be shipped to WIPP for disposal or interim storage at WIPP until disposal could be arranged. HLW would be shipped to SRS or Hanford for interim storage, with subsequent shipment to Yucca Mountain for disposal. The waste storage tanks would continue to be managed as described under the No Action Alternative.

In addition, DOE considered, but did not analyze, an alternative to construct and maintain waste storage facilities for indefinite storage of waste at the WVDP. DOE presently does not consider that alternative to be practical or reasonable over time, because of continuing costs of construction of new facilities and maintenance of existing facilities.

Record of Decision (ROD)

DOE intends to issue a ROD no sooner than 30 days following publication in the **Federal Register** of the Environmental Protection Agency's Notice of Availability of the WVDP Final EIS. DOE will publish its ROD in the **Federal Register**.

Issued in Washington, DC, on January 12, 2004.

Jessie Hill Roberson,

Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management.

[FR Doc. 04–988 Filed 1–15–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board, Rocky Flats

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a meeting of the Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB), Rocky Flats. The Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, 86 Stat. 770) requires that public notice of this meeting be announced in the **Federal Register**.

DATES: Thursday, February 5, 2004; 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

ADDRESSES: College Hill Library, Room L211, Front Range Community College, 3705 West 112th Avenue, Westminster, CO.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ken Korkia, Board/Staff Coordinator, Rocky Flats Citizens Advisory Board, 10808 Highway 93, Unit B, Building 60, Room 107B, Golden, CO 80403; telephone (303) 966-7855; fax (303) 966-7856.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: *Purpose of the Board:* The purpose of the Board is to make recommendations to DOE and its regulators in the areas of environmental restoration, waste management, and related activities.

Tentative Agenda:

1. Annual State of the Flats Presentation by Rocky Flats Officials.
2. Presentation and Discussion of the Original Landfill Interim Measure/Interim Remedial Action Document.
3. Presentation and Discussion of the Groundwater Interim Measure/Interim Remedial Action Document.
4. Other Board business may be conducted as necessary.

Public Participation: The meeting is open to the public. Written statements may be filed with the Board either before or after the meeting. Individuals who wish to make oral statements pertaining to agenda items should contact Ken Korkia at the address or telephone number listed above. Requests must be received at least five days prior to the meeting and reasonable provisions will be made to include the presentation in the agenda. The Deputy Designated Federal Officer is empowered to conduct the meeting in a fashion that will facilitate the orderly conduct of business. Each individual wishing to make public comment will be provided a maximum of five minutes to present their comments.

Minutes: The minutes of this meeting will be available for public review and copying at the office of the Rocky Flats Citizens Advisory Board, 10808 Highway 93, Unit B, Building 60, Room 107B, Golden, CO 80403; telephone (303) 966-7855. Hours of operations are 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Minutes will also be made available by writing or calling Ken

Korkia at the address or telephone number listed above. Board meeting minutes are posted on RFCAB's Web site within one month following each meeting at <http://www.rfcab.org/Minutes.HTML>.

Issued at Washington, DC, on January 13, 2004.

Rachel M. Samuel,

Deputy Advisory Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 04-986 Filed 1-15-04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP96-190-026]

Colorado Interstate Gas Company; Notice of Proposed Changes in FERC Gas Tariff

January 9, 2004.

Take notice that on December 10, 2003, Colorado Interstate Gas Company (CIG) tendered for filing and acceptance by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, First Revised Sheet No. 11B to its FERC Gas Tariff, First Revised Volume No.1.

CIG states that the tariff sheet updates a previously filed negotiated rate transaction and is proposed to become effective January 1, 2004.

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest said filing should file a motion to intervene or protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, in accordance with sections 385.214 and 385.211 of the Commission's rules and regulations. All such motions or protests must be filed in accordance with sections 385.214 or 385.211 of the Commission's rule and regulations. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party must file a motion to intervene. This filing is available for review at the Commission in the Public Reference Room or may be viewed on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "eLibrary" link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll free at (866) 208-3676, or TTY (202) 502-8659. The Commission strongly encourages electronic filings. See 18

CFR 385.2001(a) (1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's Web site under the "e-Filing" link.

Comment Date: January 15, 2004.

Magalie R. Salas,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. E4-73 Filed 01-15-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket Nos. CP03-342-001 and CP03-343-001]

Discovery Gas Transmission LLC, Discovery Producer Services LLC; Notice of Amendments

January 9, 2004.

Take notice that Discovery Gas Transmission LLC (Discovery), 2800 Post Oak Blvd., Houston, Texas, 77056, filed in Docket No. CP03-342-001 on December 30, 2003, pursuant to section 7(C) of the Natural Gas Act (NGA), as amended, and part 157 of the Commission's regulations an amendment to its application for certificate authorization for Discovery's Market Expansion Project. In conjunction with this filing, Discovery Producer Services LLC (DPS) filed, in Docket No. CP03-343-001, an amendment to its application for a limited jurisdiction certificate to provide compression services to Discovery's Market Expansion Project. Discovery amends its Market Expansion Project application to adjust a portion of the route of its proposed pipeline to the proposed interconnection with Columbia Gulf Transmission Company (Columbia Gulf) in response to landowner concerns, to restate its proposed initial rates, and to revise its pro forma tariff to clarify that any commitments to deliver gas to the new delivery point at Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Corporation (Transco) is subject to Discovery's lease of capacity from Texas Eastern Transmission, LP. In addition, DPS is amending its Compression Services Agreement with Discovery to cover the cost of some piping, valves and other miscellaneous items that will need to be constructed by DPS at the Larose gas processing plant, all as more fully set forth in the application which is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection. These filings may be also viewed on the Web at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "eLibrary" link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number