

The Environmental Protection Agency plans to publish a notice of availability of the Draft EIS in the **Federal Register** on or about May 7, 2004. The public review of the Draft EIS ends on June 21, 2004. The final public hearing is scheduled for Thursday, June 3, 2004, at 6:30 p.m., at the Lehi Community Center, 1231 East Oak Street, Mesa, Arizona. Comments concerning this Draft EIS should be submitted to the address listed below by June 21, 2004.

**ADDRESSES:** District Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District, ATTN: CESPL-PD-RN, P.O. Box 532711, Los Angeles, CA 90053-2325.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Sarah Laughlin, Environmental Coordinator, telephone (540) 231-8303, or Ms. Kayla Eckert, Study Manager, telephone (602)-640-2001. The SRPMIC, a cooperating entity, requests inquiries to Ms. Marilyn Ethelbah, Cultural and Environmental Services, telephone (480) 850-4157, or for any additional information. The City of Mesa requests inquiries to Mr. Gordon Haws, Senior Engineer, telephone (480) 644-2251, or for any additional information.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: 1. Authorization.** This study was prepared as an interim response to the following authorities provided by Congress: (1) House Resolution 2425 (HR 2425), dated May 17, 1994, which states: “\* \* \* the Secretary of the Army is requested to review reports of the Chief of Engineers on the State of Arizona \* \* \* in the interest of flood damage reduction, environmental protection and restoration, and related purposes.” (2) The second authority is given in Public Law 761, Seventy-fifth Congress, dated June 28, 1938, known as section 6 of the Flood Control Act of 1938 of Public Law 761, which reads in part, “The Secretary of War is hereby authorized and directed to cause preliminary examination and surveys \* \* \* at the following localities \* \* \* Gila River and tributaries, Arizona.” The Energy and Water development Appropriations Act of 2001 (Pub. L. 106-377, dated October 17, 2000) provided \$150,000 for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to evaluate opportunities for environmental restoration and related matters on the Salt River in Arizona.

**2. Background.** The Salt River is a major tributary to the Gila River in Arizona. The river originates in eastern Arizona and flows westward to its confluence with the Gila River west of downtown Phoenix. Prior to agricultural development and urbanization of the Phoenix metropolitan area, the Salt

River was a perennial stream fed by snowmelt from mountains in eastern Arizona. In the early part of the 20th century, major modifications to the river system occurred as part of the Salt River Project, which placed several dams along the Salt River to allow diversions of water for agricultural and urban uses. Sand and gravel mining operations and other activities along the river induce additional changes to the river channel and hydrology. As diversions of water increased, the perennial flows in the river ceased, causing the groundwater table to drop. These changes in hydrological conditions caused the natural riparian ecosystem to decline to the point that only small, isolated fragments of this former habitat remain. At the present time, the study area consists of a highly disturbed riverbed with minimal extant native vegetation.

This DEIS provides: (1) A description of restoration alternatives, including the no-action alternative; (2) an analysis of the existing and future conditions of the area without the project; (3) and analyzes the impacts associated with five alternatives that have been determined to be the most feasible, including the preferred alternative (proposed action).

**3. Proposed Action.** The proposed action includes the establishment of approximately 200 acres of wetlands; 880 acres of cottonwood/willow stands; 380 acres of mesquite bosque; and 24 acres of Sonoran desert scrub shrub. Each vegetation types will be irrigated through either a drip irrigation system or a type of flood irrigation; both systems will use surface water currently owned by the SRPMIC, or groundwater pumped from an existing or new well. Other features include removal of invasive vegetation, reshaping of abandon sand and gravel mining pits, reshaping of some sections of the river channel to return water flow to a more natural pathway, a grade control structure, and a recreation trail system.

#### **4. Alternatives.**

a. No action: No vegetation or structural features would be placed within the Salt River.

b. Five alternatives are evaluated in the Draft EIS. In general, the primary difference among alternatives is the acreage of each vegetation type and the resulting water necessary to maintain the vegetation. Other differences are the inclusion or exclusion of structural features such as river channelization and bank stabilization.

**5. Scoping Process.** Participation of all interested Federal, State and county resource agencies, as well as Native American peoples, groups with environmental interests, and all

interested individuals are encouraged. The public review period will conclude 45 days after publication of this notice.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the SRPMIC and City of Mesa, the local sponsors, will consider public concerns on the Draft EIS. A summary of the public hearing and written comment letters and responses will be incorporated into the Final EIS as appropriate.

#### **Brenda S. Bowen,**

*Alternate Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

[FR Doc. 04-9601 Filed 4-27-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-KF-M

## **DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**

### **Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers**

#### **Chief of Engineers Environmental Advisory Board; Meeting**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of open meeting.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463), announcement is made of the forthcoming meeting. The meeting is open to the public.

**Name of Committee:** Chief of Engineers Environmental Advisory Board (EAB).

**Date:** May 13, 2004.

**Location:** The Faculty Club, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720-6050, (510) 540-5678.

**Time:** 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Norman Edwards, Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Washington, DC 20314-1000; Phone: 202-761-1934.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Board advises the Chief of Engineers on environmental policy, identification and resolution of environmental issues and missions, and addressing challenges, problems and opportunities in an environmentally sustainable manner. The EAB will visit many locations in the San Francisco Bay area prior to the meeting to gain a better perspective of the water resources issues and challenges in the region. The public meeting, however, will focus on general issues of national significance rather than on individual project or region related topics. The intent of this meeting is to present an opportunity for the Chief of Engineers to receive the views of his EAB. Time will be provided for public comment. Each speaker will be limited to no more than three minutes

in order to accommodate as many people as possible within the limited time available. If you wish to receive electronic notice of future meetings you may subscribe to a list server at: [http://www.usace.army.mil/inet/functions/cw/hot\\_topics/Eab.htm](http://www.usace.army.mil/inet/functions/cw/hot_topics/Eab.htm).

**Brenda S. Bowen,**

*Alternate Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

[FR Doc. 04-9600 Filed 4-27-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-92-M

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Comment Period Extension and Additional Public Scoping Meetings for an Environmental Impact Statement for the Alignment, Construction, and Operation of a Rail Line to a Geologic Repository at Yucca Mountain, Nye County, Nevada; Correction

**AGENCY:** Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Notice of Comment Period Extension and Additional Public Meetings; correction.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Energy published a document in the **Federal Register** of April 26, 2004, concerning the additional scoping meetings to be held in support of the Rail Alignment EIS. The document contained an incorrect date and location for the Las Vegas, NV scoping meetings.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Robin Sweeney at 1-800-967-3477.

#### Correction

In the **Federal Register** of April 26, 2004, in FR Vol 69, No. 80, on Page 22496, in the first column, correct the date and location for the Las Vegas, NV scoping meeting to read: Las Vegas, Nevada. Cashman Center, Rooms 103-106, 850 Las Vegas Blvd. North, May 17, 2004, from 4-8 p.m.

Dated: April 26, 2004.

**Margaret S.Y. Chu,**

*Director, Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management.*

[FR Doc. 04-9719 Filed 4-27-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board, Paducah

**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), Paducah. The

Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, 86 Stat. 770) requires that public notice of these meetings be announced in the **Federal Register**.

**DATES:** Thursday, May 20, 2004, 5:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** 111 Memorial Drive, Barkley Centre, Paducah, Kentucky.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** William E. Murphie, Deputy Designated Federal Officer, Department of Energy Portsmouth/Paducah Project Office, 1017 Majestic Drive, Suite 200, Lexington, Kentucky 40513, (859) 219-4001.

#### 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 and waste management activities.

#### Tentative Agenda

5:30 p.m. Informal Discussion.

6 p.m. Call to Order; Introductions; Approve April Minutes; Review Agenda.

6:05 p.m. DDFO's Comments.

6:25 p.m. Ex-officio Comments.

6:35 p.m. Federal Coordinator Comments.

6:45 p.m. Public Comments and Questions.

6:55 p.m. Break.

7:05 p.m. Task Forces/Presentations:

- Waste Disposition;
- Water Quality;
- Long Range Strategy/Stewardship;
- Community Outreach.

8:05 p.m. Public Comments and Questions.

8:15 p.m. Administrative Issues:

- Review of Work Plan;
- Review of Next Agenda;
- Review of Chairs Meeting.

8:35 p.m. Review of Action Items.

8:50 p.m. Subcommittee Reports:

- Executive Committee.

9:15 p.m. Final Comments.

9:30 p.m. Adjourn.

Copies of the final agenda will be available at the meeting.

*Public Participation:* The meeting is open to the public. Written statements may be filed with the Committee either before or after the meeting. Individuals who wish to make oral statements pertaining to agenda items should contact David Dollins at the address listed below or by telephone at (270) 441-6819. Requests must be received five days prior to the meeting and reasonable provision 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 comments 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 Freedom of Information Public Reading Room, 1E-190, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday-Friday, except Federal holidays. Minutes will also be available at the Department of Energy's Environmental Information Center and Reading Room at 115 Memorial Drive, Barkley Centre, Paducah, Kentucky between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Monday thru Friday or by writing to: David Dollins, Department of Energy Paducah Site Office, Post Office Box 1410, MS-103, Paducah, Kentucky 42001 or by calling him at (270) 441-6819.

Issued in Washington, DC on April 22, 2004.

**Rachel M. Samuel,**

*Deputy Advisory Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 04-9603 Filed 4-27-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board, Oak Ridge Reservation

**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), Oak Ridge. 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:** Wednesday, May 12, 2004; 6 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** DOE Information Center, 475 Oak Ridge Turnpike, Oak Ridge, TN.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Pat Halsey, Federal Coordinator, Department of Energy Oak Ridge Operations Office, P.O. Box 2001, EM-90, Oak Ridge, TN 37831. Phone (865) 576-4025; Fax (865) 576-5333 or e-mail: [halseypj@oro.doe.gov](mailto:halseypj@oro.doe.gov) or check the Web site at [www.oakridge.doe.gov/em/ssab](http://www.oakridge.doe.gov/em/ssab).

**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:* Presentation on the Capacity Assessment Remedial Action