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Dated: September 20, 2004.

Sally L. Stroup,

Assistant Secretary, for Postsecondary Education.

[FR Doc. E4-2358 Filed 9-22-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Notice

AGENCY: United States Election Assistance Commission.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting agenda.

DATE AND TIME: Thursday, September 30, 2004, 10 a.m.–12 Noon.

PLACE: U.S. Election Assistance Commission, 1225 New York Ave., NW., Suite 1100, Washington, DC 20005, (Metro Stop: Metro Center).

AGENDA: The Commission will receive updates on the following: Title II Requirements Payments, HAVA College Program; proceedings at the Technical Guidelines Development Committee Subcommittee meetings at the National Institute of Standards and Technology. The Commission will also receive presentations from panel participants in a discussion regarding the administration of provisional ballots.

PERSON TO CONTACT FOR INFORMATION: Bryan Whitener, Telephone: (202) 566-3100.

DeForest B. Soaries, Jr.,

Chairman, U.S. Election Assistance Commission.

[FR Doc. 04-21538 Filed 9-21-04; 3:37 pm]

BILLING CODE 6820-YN-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board Chairs Meeting

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a meeting of the Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board (EMSSAB) Chairs. The Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. No. 92-463, 86 Stat. 770) requires that public notice of these meetings be announced in the **Federal Register**.

DATES: Thursday, October 7, 2004, 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m., Friday, October 8, 2004, 8:30 a.m.–12 p.m.

ADDRESSES: Red Lion Hanford House, 802 George Washington Way, Richland, WA 99352, Phone: (509) 946-7611.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jay Vivari, Program Management Specialist (EM30.1), Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585, (202) 586-5143.

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

Tentative Agenda

Thursday, October 7, 2004:

8:30 a.m.—Welcome; introductions; meeting expectations (Waisley; Lowe, Mabie).

8:45 a.m.—Round Robin 1: Top Three Issues for Each Site-Specific Advisory Board.

10 a.m.—Break.

10:15 a.m.—Round Robin 2: Site-Specific Advisory Boards' Organizational Challenges.

11:30 a.m.—Potential National Stakeholders Workshop.

11:45 a.m.—Public comment period. Noon—Lunch.

1 p.m.—Hanford's Role in the Department of Energy's Complex and How Stakeholders Influence That Role.

1:45 p.m.—Round Robin 3: Current Developments Related to Interdependencies Among Department of Energy Sites for Waste Disposition.

2:30 p.m.—Break.

2:45 p.m.—Hanford Panel: Perspectives on Shipping and Receiving Waste at Hanford.

3:45 p.m.—Facilitated discussion—Vulnerabilities of the Current Waste Disposition Plan and Ramification for All Intersite Transfers.

4:30 p.m.—Public comment period.

4:45 p.m.—Next steps.

Friday, October 8, 2004:

8:30 a.m.—Opening.

8:45 a.m.—Department of Energy headquarters organizational changes, fiscal year 2005 budget, and the outlook for fiscal year 2006/Waisley.

9:15 a.m.—Potential National Stakeholders Workshop (continued).

9:45 a.m.—Break.

10 a.m.—Panel discussion—Ongoing Transition from Environmental Management to Legacy Management at Rocky Flats and Fernald.

10:30 a.m.—Facilitated discussion.

11:30 a.m.—Public comment period.

11:45 a.m.—Meeting wrap-up.

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 Jay Vivari at the address above or by telephone at (202) 586-5143. Requests must be received five days prior to the meeting and reasonable provision will be made to include the presentation in the agenda. The 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 at the end of the meeting.

Minutes: 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 by calling Jay Vivari at (202) 586-5143.

Issued at Washington, DC on September 16, 2004.

Rachel Samuel,

Deputy Advisory Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 04-21384 Filed 9-22-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket Nos. ER04-582-000, ER04-582-001, ER04-582-002, and ER04-582-003]

Hartford Steam Company; Notice of Issuance of Order

September 16, 2004.

Hartford Steam Company (Hartford) filed an application for market-based rate authority, with an accompanying rate schedule. The proposed rate schedule provides for wholesale sales of energy, capacity, and ancillary services at market-based rates. Hartford also requested waiver of various Commission regulations. In particular, Hartford requested that the Commission grant blanket approval under 18 CFR part 34 of all future issuances of securities and assumptions of liability by Hartford.

On September 10, 2004, pursuant to delegated authority, the Director, Division of Tariffs and Market Development—South, granted the

request for blanket approval under part 34, subject to the following:

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest the blanket approval of issuances of securities or assumptions of liability by Hartford should file a motion to intervene or protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure. 18 CFR 385.211, 385.214 (2004).

Notice is hereby given that the deadline for filing motions to intervene or protest, is October 12, 2004.

Absent a request to be heard in opposition by the deadline above, Hartford is authorized to issue securities and assume obligations or liabilities as a guarantor, indorser, surety, or otherwise in respect of any security of another person; provided that such issuance or assumption is for some lawful object within the corporate purposes of Hartford, compatible with the public interest, and is reasonably necessary or appropriate for such purposes.

The Commission reserves the right to require a further showing that neither public nor private interests will be adversely affected by continued approval of Hartford's issuances of securities or assumptions of liability.

Copies of the full text of the Director's Order are available from the Commission's Public Reference Room, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426. The Order may also be viewed on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov>, using the e-Library link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number filed to access the document. Comments, protests, and interventions may be filed electronically via the Internet in lieu of paper. See 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's Web site under the "e-Filing" link. The Commission strongly encourages electronic filings.

Magalie R. Salas,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. E4-2328 Filed 9-22-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2744-038]

N.E.W. Hydro, Incorporated; Notice of Filing of Settlement Agreement Regarding License Article 401

September 16, 2004.

On July 16, 2004, N.E.W. Hydro, Incorporated (licensee) filed an Offer of Settlement regarding implementation of license article 401 for the Menominee and Park Mill Project (FERC No. 2744). License article 401 requires, in part, that the licensee consult with state and federal natural resource agencies and develop a study to assess the impacts of project operation on fish resources. The hydroelectric project is located on the Menominee River in Marinette County, Wisconsin and Menominee County, Michigan.

The Offer of Settlement addresses fish entrainment and mortality at the project with respect to implementation of article 401 of the license for the project. The Offer of Settlement was filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), by the licensee, on behalf of the signing parties that included: the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources; the Michigan Department of Natural Resources; and the Michigan Hydro Relicensing Coalition.

The settlement includes: (1) Provisions for the licensee to fund a fish passage/protection fund; (2) an agreement that it is not anticipated that any additional requirements during the remaining term of the license would appear to be necessary; (3) an agreement to enter into good faith negotiations aimed at a settlement of all issues concerning the relicensing of the project; (4) commitment by the licensee to request, from FERC, an accelerated relicensing of the project; and (5) a provision for dispute resolution processes in the event a disagreement arises from the interpretation of the terms and conditions of the settlement.

The Offer of Settlement can be viewed and printed from FERC's Web page: <http://www.ferc.gov>. Click on e-Library and follow the instructions. In the box titled, "Docket Number" enter: P-2744. If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact Mr. Thomas

LoVullo at (202) 502-8900 at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

Linda Mitry,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. E4-2322 Filed 9-22-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP04-409-000]

Northwest Pipeline Corporation; Notice of Request Under Blanket Authorization

September 16, 2004.

Take notice that on September 3, 2004, Northwest Pipeline Corporation (Northwest) filed a prior notice request pursuant to sections 157.205 and 157.208 of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's regulations under the Natural Gas Act, and Northwest's blanket certificate issued in Docket No. CP82-433-000, for authorization to increase the maximum operating pressure (MOP) of its Astoria Lateral in Cowlitz County, Washington and Columbia County, Oregon from 809 psig to 932 psig in order to facilitate physical receipts of natural gas from Northwest Natural Gas Company (Northwest Natural) at the Deer Island receipt point.

Northwest's bi-directional Astoria Lateral is connected to Northwest's 30-inch mainline loop which has an MOP of 960 psig and historical operating pressures near 800 psig. The lateral is also connected to Northwest's lower pressure 26-inch mainline which is currently in an idle status at the Astoria Lateral interconnect due to Office of Pipeline Safety restrictions. To facilitate firm receipts from the Deer Island receipt point into Northwest's 30-inch mainline loop, Northwest proposes to uprate the MOP of the Astoria Lateral from 809 psig to 932 psig. Under design day conditions on Northwest facilities and assuming Northwest Natural modifies its compression facilities at the Deer Island interconnect to provide supply at 932 psig, the higher lateral operating pressures would enable Northwest to receive up to approximately 115 Mdth/d on a firm basis from the Deer Island receipt point.

Northwest states that increasing the MOP of the Astoria Lateral from 809 psig to 932 psig will not require any new facilities or any ground disturbance. Therefore, Northwest believes that the project will have no significant impact on the quality of the