

north-south and east-west state highway and county road rights-of-way enroute to NWE's 230-kV substation. Major river crossings include those of the Marias approximately 10 miles south of Cut Bank, and the Teton, approximately 14 miles south of Brady, Montana.

In addition to transmission line routes within the above proposed corridors, the EA will consider the environmental impacts of the "No Action" alternative. Under the No Action alternative DOE would not issue a Presidential permit and DEQ would not issue a Certificate of Compliance. DOE and DEQ will also consider any additional reasonable alternatives that result from comments received during the scoping period.

However, not issuing the Presidential permit or Certificate would not necessarily imply maintenance of the status quo. MATL indicated its proposed action is to construct a merchant transmission line to improve the reliability of both the Alberta and Montana power transmission grids and to enable the development of new power generation projects in Alberta and Montana. MATL asserts that the proposed transmission facilities would enable the development of new wind electric generation projects because the proposed line route passes through an area that has tremendous wind generation potential. If the Presidential permit and Certificate are not issued and this proposed project is not built, other transmission facilities may be constructed in support of future wind development. The No Action Alternative will address the environmental impacts that are reasonably foreseeable to occur if the Presidential permit and Certificate are not issued.

Identification of Environmental Issues

In the EA, DOE and DEQ will examine public health and safety effects and environmental impacts in the U.S. from the proposed transmission facilities. The EA will be prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Council on Environmental Quality NEPA Implementing Regulation (40 CFR parts 1500–1508) and DOE's NEPA Implementing Procedures (10 CFR part 1021). Because the project involves action in a floodplain, the EA will include a floodplain assessment and floodplain statement of findings in accordance with DOE regulations for compliance with floodplain and wetlands environmental review (10 CFR part 1022). Tribal governments and Federal, State and local agencies with special expertise or jurisdiction over the proposed project are being invited to become cooperating agencies on the EA.

This notice is to inform agencies and the public of the proposed project and to solicit comments and suggestions for consideration in the preparation of the EA. To help the public frame its comments, this notice contains a preliminary list of potential environmental issues in the U.S. that DOE and MATL have tentatively identified for analysis. These issues include:

1. Impact from development of wind generation resources;
2. Impacts on farming;
3. Impacts on protected, threatened, endangered, or sensitive species of animals or plants, or their critical habitats;
4. Impacts on floodplains and wetlands;
5. Impacts on cultural or historic resources;
6. Impacts on human health and safety;
7. Impacts on air, soil, and water;
8. Visual impacts; and
9. Socioeconomic impacts, and disproportionately high and adverse impacts on minority and low-income populations.

Scoping Process

Interested parties are invited to participate in the scoping process both to refine the environmental issues to be analyzed and to identify the reasonable range of alternatives. Both oral and written comments will be considered and given equal weight by DOE and DEQ.

Public scoping meetings will be held at the locations, dates, and times indicated above under the **DATES** and **ADDRESSES** sections. The scoping meetings will be structured as informal open houses. They will provide interested parties the opportunity to view proposed project exhibits, ask questions, and make comments. DOE, DEQ, and any cooperating agency representatives will be available to answer questions and provide additional information to attendees.

DOE and DEQ invite those entities with jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to environmental issues to be cooperating agencies on the EA, as defined at 40 CFR 1501.6. Cooperating agencies have certain responsibilities to support the NEPA process, as specified at 40 CFR 1501.6(b).

Persons submitting comments during the scoping process will receive copies of the Pre-Approval EA. Persons who do not wish to submit comments or suggestions at this time but who would like to receive a copy of the document for review and comment when it is

issued should notify Mrs. Ellen Russell and also Tom Ring at the addresses provided above.

Pre-Approval EA Schedule and Availability

The Pre-Approval EA is scheduled to be issued in the spring, 2006, at which time its availability will be announced in the **Federal Register** and public comments again will be solicited.

Issued in Washington, DC, on November 16, 2005.

Anthony J. Como,

Director, Permitting and Siting, Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability.

[FR Doc. 05-23002 Filed 11-17-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of Science; Biological and Environmental Research Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a meeting of the Biological and Environmental Research Advisory Committee. 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: Monday, December 5, 2005, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday, December 6, 2005, 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

ADDRESSES: American Geophysical Union, 2000 Florida Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20009.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. David Thomassen (301-903-9817; david.thomassen@science.doe.gov) Designated Federal Officer, Biological and Environmental Research Advisory Committee, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Science, Office of Biological and Environmental Research, SC-23/Germantown Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585-1290. The most current information concerning this meeting can be found on the Web site: <http://www.science.doe.gov/ober/berac/announce.html>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Purpose of the Meeting: To provide advice on a continuing basis to the Director, Office of Science of the Department of Energy, on the many complex scientific and technical issues that arise in the development and implementation of the Biological and Environmental Research Program.

Tentative Agenda:

Monday, December 5, and Tuesday, December 6, 2005:

- Comments from Dr. Raymond Orbach, Director, Office of Science.
- Report of Subcommittee on Life Sciences COV.
- Status Reports on BER needed by BERAC to review BER's progress toward meeting its long-term performance goals.
- Discussion of BERAC's review of BER's progress toward meeting its long-term performance goals.

• Report by Dr. Ari Patrinos, Associate Director of Science for Biological and Environmental Research.

- Science talk.
- New business.
- Public comment (10 minute rule).

Public Participation: The day and a half meeting is open to the public. If you would like to file a written statement with the Committee, you may do so either before or after the meeting. If you would like to make oral statements regarding any of the items on the agenda, you should contact David Thomassen at the address or telephone number listed above. You must make your request for an oral statement at least five business days before the meeting. Reasonable provision will be made to include the scheduled oral statements on the agenda. The Chairperson of the Committee will conduct the meeting to facilitate the orderly conduct of business. Public comment will follow the 10-minute rule.

Minutes: The minutes of this meeting will be available for public review and copying within 30 days at the Freedom of Information Public Reading Room, IE-190, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Issued in Washington, DC on November 14, 2005.

Carol Matthews,
Acting Advisory Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 05-22886 Filed 11-17-05; 8:45 am]

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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 (EMSSAB), Rocky Flats. The

Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. No. 92-463, 86 Stat. 770) requires that public notice of this meeting be announced in the **Federal Register**.

DATES: Thursday, December 1, 2005. 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

ADDRESSES: College Hill Library, Room L-268, Front Range Community College, 3705 W. 112th Avenue, Westminster, Colorado.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ken Korkia, Executive Director, Rocky Flats Citizens Advisory Board, 12101 Airport Way, Unit B, Broomfield, CO, 80021; 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 in the areas of environmental restoration, waste management, and related activities.

Tentative Agenda:

1. Discussion of the Rocky Flats Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study document.
2. Discussion of long-term surveillance and maintenance needs for Rocky Flats.
3. 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. Individuals wishing to make public comment will be provided a maximum of five minutes to present their comments. This notice is being published less than 15 days before the date of the meeting due to programmatic issues.

Minutes: The minutes of this meeting will be available for public review and copying at the office of the Rocky Flats Citizens Advisory Board, 12101 Airport Way, Unit B, Broomfield, CO, 80021; 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 November 14, 2005.

Carol Matthews,

Acting Advisory Committee Management Officer.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPP-2005-0257; FRL-7745-2]

Quality Technology Inc. (QuTech); Transfer of Data

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces that pesticide related information submitted to EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP) pursuant to the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) and the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA), including information that may have been claimed as Confidential Business Information (CBI) by the submitter, will be transferred to Quality Technology Inc. (QuTech) in accordance with 40 CFR 2.307(h)(3) and 2.308(i)(2). QuTech has been awarded multiple contracts to perform work for OPP, and access to this information will enable QuTech to fulfill the obligations of the contracts.

DATES: QuTech will be given access to this information on or before November 23, 2005.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Felicia Croom, Acting Information Security Officer, Information Technology and Resources Management Division (7502C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460-0001; telephone number: (703) 305-786; e-mail address: croom.felicia@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. General Information

A. Does this Action Apply to Me?

This action applies to the public in general. As such, the Agency has not attempted to describe all the specific entities that may be affected by this action. If you have any questions regarding the applicability of this action to a particular entity, consult the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.