

Development and Housing Authority, HUD granted an exception to applicability of the Buy American requirements with respect to work, using CFRFC grant funds, based on the fact that the relevant manufactured goods (VRV HVAC systems) are not produced in the U.S. in sufficient and reasonably available quantities or of satisfactory quality.

2. *Chicago Housing Authority.* On December 11, 2009, upon request of the Chicago Housing Authority, HUD granted an exception to the applicability of the Buy American requirements with respect to work, using CFRFC grant funds, based on the fact that the relevant manufactured goods (VRF system, fan coils and RTUs) are not produced in the U.S. in sufficient and reasonably available quantities or of satisfactory quality.

Dated: December 18, 2009.

**Sandra B. Henriquez,**

*Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing.*

[FR Doc. E9-30716 Filed 12-28-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4210-67-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Geological Survey

#### Proposed Information Collection: State Water Resources Research Institute Program Annual Application and Reporting

**AGENCY:** United States Geological Survey (USGS), Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of a new collection; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** We (U.S. Geological Survey) will ask the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to approve the information collection (IC) described below. As required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 and as a part of our continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, we invite the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on this IC. We may not conduct or sponsor and a person is not required to respond to an information collection unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

**DATES:** You must submit comments on or before March 1, 2010.

**ADDRESSES:** Send your comments to the IC to Phadrea Ponds, Information Collections Clearance Officer, U.S. Geological Survey, 2150-C Centre Avenue, Fort Collins, CO 80525 (mail); (970) 226-9230 (fax); or [pponds@usgs.gov](mailto:pponds@usgs.gov) (e-mail). Please reference Information Collection 1028-NEW, USGS-SWRIP in the subject line.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** John E. Schefter, Chief, Office of External Research, U.S. Geological Survey, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, MS 424, Reston, Virginia 20192 (mail) at (703) 648-6800 (Phone); or [schefter@usgs.gov](mailto:schefter@usgs.gov) (e-mail).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Abstract

The Water Resources Research Act of 1984, as amended (42 U.S.C. 10301 et seq.), authorizes a water resources research institute or center in each of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa. There are currently 54 such institutes, one in each state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Guam. The institute in Guam is a regional institute serving Guam, the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The State Water Resources Research Institute Program issues an annual call for applications from the institutes to support plans to promote research, training, information dissemination, and other activities meeting the needs of the States and Nation. The program also encourages regional cooperation among institutes in research into areas of water management, development, and conservation that have a regional or national character. Each of the 54 institutes submits an annual application for an allotment grant and provides an annual report on its activities under the grant. The U.S. Geological Survey has been designated as the administrator of the provisions of the Act.

##### II. Data

*OMB Control Number:* None. This is a new collection.

*Title:* State Water Resources Research Institute Program Annual Application and Reporting.

*Type of Request:* New.

*Affected Public:* The state water resources research institutes authorized by the Water Resources Research Act of 1984, as amended, and listed at <http://water.usgs.gov/wri/institutes.html>.

*Respondent's Obligation:* Mandatory (necessary to obtain benefits).

*Frequency of Collection:* Annually.

*Estimated Number of Annual*

*Respondents:* We expect to receive 54 applications and award 54 grants per year.

*Estimated Annual Total Responses:* 54.

*Estimated Time per Response:* 160 hours. This includes 80 hours per applicant to prepare and submit the

annual application; and 80 hours (total) per grantee to complete the annual reports.

*Annual Burden Hours:* 8,640.

### III. Request for Comments

*We invite comments concerning this IC on:*

(1) Whether or not the collection of information is necessary, including whether or not the information will have practical utility;

(2) the accuracy of our estimate of the burden for this collection of information;

(3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents.

Please note that the comments submitted in response to this notice are a matter of public record. We will include or summarize each comment in our request to OMB to approve this IC. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment, including your personal identifying information, may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that it will be done.

*USGS Information Collection Clearance Officer:* Phadrea D. Ponds 970-226-9445.

Dated: December 10, 2009.

**John E. Schefter,**

*Water Resources Research Act Program Coordinator.*

[FR Doc. E9-30727 Filed 12-28-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4311-AM-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[LLCAD0000, L14300000.DS0000]

#### Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Tule Wind Project and the Proposed East County Substation Project, San Diego County, CA

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, as

amended, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) California Desert District (CDD), Moreno Valley, California, together with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), San Diego County (County), the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), and the California State Lands Commission (CSLC), intend to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)/ Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the proposed Tule Wind Project and the proposed East County Substation Project (ECO) and by this notice are announcing the beginning of the scoping process to solicit public comments and identify issues. The BLM will be the lead agency for NEPA compliance and the CPUC will be the lead agency for CEQA compliance.

**DATES:** This notice initiates the public scoping process for the EIS/EIR. Comments on issues may be submitted in writing until January 28, 2010. The dates and locations of any scoping meetings will be announced at least 15 days before the meeting through local media, newspapers, and the BLM Web site at: <http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/cdd.html>. In order to be considered in the Draft EIS/EIR, all comments must be received prior to the close of the scoping period or 15 days after the last public meeting, whichever is later. We will provide additional opportunities for public participation upon publication of the Draft EIS/EIR.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments on issues and alternatives related to the Tule Wind Project and East County Transmission Line Project by any of the following methods:

- *Web site:* <http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/cdd.html>.

- *E-mail:* [catulewind@blm.gov](mailto:catulewind@blm.gov).

- *Fax:* (951) 697-5299.

- *Mail or other delivery service:* Attn:

Greg Thomsen, BLM California Desert District Office, 22835 Calle San Juan de Los Lagos, Moreno Valley, California 92553-9046.

Documents pertinent to this proposal may be examined at the CDD Office at the address above or the BLM's California State Office, 2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, California 95825.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For further information or to have your name added to our mailing list, contact Greg Thomsen, telephone (951) 697-5237; BLM California Desert District Office, 22835 Calle San Juan de Los Lagos, Moreno Valley, California 92553-9046; e-mail [catulewind@blm.gov](mailto:catulewind@blm.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Pacific Wind Development has submitted an application to construct, operate, and maintain an energy generation facility

that would generate 200 megawatts of renewable power. The project, known as the Tule Wind Project, would include the construction of new roads, turbines, a transmission line, and other facilities.

The proposed project would be constructed on approximately 15,500 acres, comprised of lands administered by the BLM and the CSLC, lands of the Ewiiapaayp Indian Reservation, and privately-owned property under the jurisdiction of San Diego County. The BLM lands comprise 12,124.9 acres. The proposed project is located in unincorporated San Diego County, approximately 60 miles east of San Diego, California. The San Diego Gas and Electric Company (SDG&E) has filed an application with the CPUC for the proposed ECO project. The ECO project will include the following: Construction of a new 500/230/138 kilovolt (kV) substation (ECO Substation); a loop-in of the existing 500 kV Southwest Powerlink transmission line; construction of an approximately 13.3-mile-long, 138 kV transmission line from the ECO Substation to the Boulevard Substation; upgrading of the existing Boulevard Substation; dismantling and removal of the existing 69/12 kV substation; and upgrading of the existing SDG&E communication facility at White Star.

As part of the ECO Project, SDG&E has filed an application with the BLM for a right-of-way grant for an approximately 1.5-mile long, 100-foot wide area to construct a 138 kV transmission line within a designated utility corridor.

The purpose of the public scoping process is to determine relevant issues that may influence the scope of the environmental analysis, including alternatives, and guide the process for developing the EIS/EIR. At present, the BLM and the CPUC have identified the following preliminary issues: Special status species, cultural resources, visual resources, and areas of high potential for renewable energy development.

The BLM will use and coordinate the NEPA commenting process to satisfy the public involvement process for Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470f) as provided in 36 CFR 800.2(d)(3). Native American Tribal consultations will be conducted and tribal concerns will be given due consideration, including impacts on Indian trust assets. Federal, State, and local agencies, along with Tribes and other stakeholders that may be interested or affected by the BLM's, the CPUC's, the CSLC's, the BIA's, or the County's decision on this project are invited to participate in the scoping process and may request or be requested

to participate as a cooperating agency. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

**Authority:** 40 CFR 1501.7 and 43 CFR 1610.2

**Thomas Pogacnik,**

*Deputy State Director, California.*

[FR Doc. E9-30779 Filed 12-23-09; 4:15 pm]

**BILLING CODE 4310-40-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R8-R-2009-N160; 80230-1265-0000-S3]

#### Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Humboldt and Del Norte Counties, CA

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability; final comprehensive conservation plan/final environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact.

**SUMMARY:** We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce the availability of the final Comprehensive Conservation Plan/Final Environmental Assessment (CCP/EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge Complex. The Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge Complex is composed of Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) and Castle Rock NWR. The CCP, prepared under the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, and in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, describes how the Service will manage the Refuges for the next 15 years.

**DATES:** The CCP/EA and FONSI are available now. The FONSI was signed on September 24, 2009. Implementation of the CCP may begin immediately.

**ADDRESSES:** You may view or obtain copies of the final CCP and FONSI/EA by any of the following methods. You may request a hard copy or CD-ROM.

*Agency Web Site:* Download a copy of the document(s) at <http://www.fws.gov/humboldt/cdp.html>.