

tentatively scheduled to begin in the fall of 2010 with an estimated duration of construction of 1 year.

RUS is the lead agency for the federal environmental review with Division of Resource Management of the Leech Lake Reservation, the Chippewa National Forest, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers participating as cooperating agencies. In addition to federal review, the project is subject to Power Plant Siting Act (Minn. Stat. 216E). Accordingly OES and RUS have collaborated to create a joint draft EIS for this project. A Notice of Intent to Prepare an EIS and Hold a Scoping Meeting was published in the **Federal Register** at 73FR41312, on July 18, 2008, and local newspapers. Scoping meetings for the EIS were held in the project area in August, 2008, and public comments were accepted from July 22, 2008, through September 30, 2008. The OES issued an EIS scoping decision on March 31, 2009, and modified it on February 5, 2010. RUS issued a Scoping Decision/Report in December, 2009.

As part of its broad environmental review process, RUS must take into account the effect of the proposal on historic properties in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulation, "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR Part 800). Pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.2(d)(3), RUS is using its procedures for public involvement under NEPA to meet its responsibilities to solicit and consider the views of the public during Section 106 review. Accordingly, comments submitted in response to scoping will inform RUS' decision making in Section 106 review. Any party wishing to participate more directly with RUS as a "consulting party" in Section 106 review may submit a written request to the RUS contact provided in this notice.

Alternatives to the proposed project considered by RUS, OES, and Minnesota included (a) no action, (b) generation alternatives, (c) load management, (d) alternative transmission line configurations, and (e) alternative transmission routes. A Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that describes the proposal in detail and discusses its anticipated environmental impacts has been prepared and is available for public review at the addresses provided in this Notice.

Questions and comments should be sent to RUS or OES at the mailing or e-mail addresses provided in this Notice. RUS should receive comments on the Draft EIS in writing by April 19, 2010 to ensure that they are considered in the Final EIS. Once available, the final EIS will be noticed in the **Federal Register**

and local newspapers. The Federal Agencies will then issue a Record of Decision following a 30-day public comment period on the Final EIS.

Any final action by RUS related to the proposal will be subject to, and contingent upon, compliance with all relevant Federal, state and local environmental laws and regulations, and completion of the environmental review requirements as prescribed in RUS' Environmental Policies and Procedures (7 CFR Part 1794).

Dated: February 25, 2010.

**Nivin Elgohary,**

*Acting Assistant Administrator, Electric Program, USDA/Rural Utilities Service.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### Tehama County Resource Advisory Committee

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of Meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Tehama County Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) will meet in Red Bluff, California. Agenda items to be covered include: (1) Introductions, (2) Approval of Minutes, (3) Public Comment, (4) Chairman's Perspective, (5) Elect Vice Chairmen, (6) Next Agenda.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on March 25, 2010 from 9 a.m. and end at approximately 12 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Lincoln Street School, Pine Room, 1135 Lincoln Street, Red Bluff, CA. Individuals wishing to speak or propose agenda items must send their names and proposals to Randy Jero, Committee Coordinator, 825 N. Humboldt Ave., Willows, CA 95988.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Randy Jero, Committee Coordinator, USDA, Mendocino National Forest, Grindstone Ranger District, 825 N. Humboldt Ave, Willows, CA 95988. (530) 934-1269; e-mail [rjero@fs.fed.us](mailto:rjero@fs.fed.us).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The meeting is open to the public. Committee discussion is limited to Forest Service staff and Committee members. However, persons who wish to bring matters to the attention of the Committee may file written statements with the Committee staff before or after the meeting. Public input sessions will be provided and individuals who made written requests by March 22, 2010 will

have the opportunity to address the committee at those sessions.

**Eduardo Olmedo,**

*Designated Federal Official.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### International Trade Administration

#### Caribbean Trade Mission

**AGENCY:** International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice.

#### Mission Description

The Commerce Department's International Trade Administration (ITA) and the U.S. Commercial Service (USCS) post in Santo Domingo—Dominican Republic, will organize a matchmaking trade mission in June 2010.

The matchmaking trade mission will include representatives from a variety of U.S. manufacturing companies and service providers. These mission participants will be introduced to international agents, distributors and end-users whose capabilities are targeted to each U.S. participants' needs in that particular market. Mission participants will also meet with key local industry contacts that can advise on local market conditions and opportunities. In addition to the above-mentioned services, the U.S. Commercial Service industry specialist will be on hand to discuss market trends and opportunities in the Dominican Republic and Jamaica.

#### Commercial Setting

The Caribbean is more than just a vacation destination; it is also a steadily growing market full of business opportunities for U.S. companies. The Caribbean Region is a natural commercial partner of the United States, tied closely together by geography, history, and culture. The region as a whole represents a market of about 41 million people who collectively imported over \$20.3 billion of U.S. goods in 2008! As a result, the Caribbean Region is the 3rd largest export market for U.S. manufactured goods in Latin America behind only Mexico and Brazil. The United States enjoys a cooperative trading relationship with the region. Agreements such as The Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI)—launched in 1983 and renewed in 2000 through legislation