

application for a permit to dredge or excavate adjacent to a Federal Navigation Channel in or affecting navigable waters of the United States, and potential impacts on the human environment from such activities, as well as the disposal of material in the littoral disposal area, which could be suitable for beneficial use. Also included in the evaluation is the placement of dredged material within the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) designated Pascagoula Ocean Dredged Material Disposal Site (ODMDS) and the designated Littoral Zone Placement Area located east and south of the barrier island. It is anticipated that the excavated area would become part of the Federal Navigation Channel in the future, if the Corps adopts maintenance of the widened area, pending approval of the Corps Planning documents described above. No wetland impacts are known to exist at the proposed dredge disposal site. In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Corps is requiring the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) prior to rendering a final decision on the Port's permit application, based on potentially significant impacts to water quality, cultural resources, endangered or threatened species, or sediment transport. The Corps may ultimately make a determination to approve the permit, approve the permit with conditions, or deny the permit for the above project.

This effort will also support non-federal construction of the project and, in concert with the parallel Planning Division EIS, the potential federal maintenance under the authority of Section 204(b) of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986.

Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (as amended), the Corps will serve as Lead Agency for the Preparation of an EIS. The Draft EIS is intended to be sufficient in scope to address both the Federal and the state and local requirements and environmental issues concerning the proposed activities and permit approvals. The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has expressed interest in acting as a cooperating agency in the preparation of the EIS.

**2. Project Purpose and Need.** The overall project purpose is to widen the existing Federal Navigation Channel, including excavation, as needed, to reconfigure the site to alleviate the current transit restrictions and increase travel efficiencies for vessel transit, improve safety conditions for vessel operations, improve conditions for port operations, and improve habitat

conditions through the beneficial use of dredged material.

**3. Issues.** There are several potential environmental issues that will be addressed in the EIS. Additional issues may be identified during the scoping process. Issues initially identified as potentially significant include:

- a. Impacts to traffic, including marine navigation and ground transportation;
- b. Potential impacts to endangered and threatened species;
- c. Air quality;
- d. Water quality;
- e. Socioeconomic effects;
- f. Cumulative impacts; and
- g. Placement of dredged materials.

**4. Alternatives.** Alternatives initially being considered for the proposed improvement project include the following:

**a. No Project/No Action.** This alternative would not implement any of the elements presented in the project description.

**b. Widening 100 feet on the West Side.** This alternative is the proposed Project to widen the Federal Channel segment approximately 100 feet parallel to the existing channel centerline, to the existing depth of -42 feet mean lower low water. The width may be increased as necessary to allow adequate transit for navigation in transition zones. The improved channel would be 7.22 miles long and result in excavation of approximately 3.4 to 3.8 million cubic yards of dredged material.

**c. Widening of 50 feet on Either Side of the Channel Centerline.** This alternative includes a proposal to widen the Federal Channel segment, approximately 50 feet on either side of the existing channel centerline, to the existing depth of -42 feet mean lower low water. The width may be increased as necessary to allow adequate transition for navigation. The improved channel would be similar in length and dredged material quantities to the proposed Project (widening 100 feet on the West Side).

**5. Scoping Process.** As part of the Corps Planning Division EIS, a public scoping meeting was conducted for the proposed Bayou Casotte and Lower Sound Channels Widening of the Pascagoula Harbor Channel. The meeting was held to receive public comments and assess public concerns regarding the appropriate scope and preparation of the Draft EIS. Participation in the public meeting by Federal, State, and local agencies and other interested organizations and persons was encouraged. This meeting was conducted in English, and was held on Thursday, February 25, 2010 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., located at the

Pascagoula Public Library, 3214 Pascagoula Street, Pascagoula, MS 39567.

A comment period was held for the Regulatory Division on the permit application, which was noticed April 15, 2011. The comment period was held from April 15, 2011 to May 16, 2011.

The Corps will be accepting written comments on this Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS, and they will be taken into consideration during development of the document. We encourage any additional comments from interested public, agencies, and local officials. Written and e-mailed comments to the Corps will be received until October 20, 2011. Written comments should be sent to the address below:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District, Regulatory Division, c/o Philip A. Hegji, 109 St. Joseph Street, Mobile, Alabama 36628-0001, e-mail: [Philip.A.Hegji@usace.army.mil](mailto:Philip.A.Hegji@usace.army.mil).

**6. Availability of the Draft EIS.** The Corps expects the Draft EIS to be made available to the public in late spring 2012. A public hearing will be held during the public comment period for the Draft EIS.

Dated: September 9, 2011.

**Craig J. Litteken,**  
Chief, Regulatory Division.

[FR Doc. 2011-23994 Filed 9-16-11; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE P**

**DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD**

**Senior Executive Service Performance Review Board**

**AGENCY:** Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces the membership of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB) Senior Executive Service (SES) Performance Review Board (PRB).

**DATES:** *Effective Date:* September 19, 2011.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments concerning this notice to: Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, 625 Indiana Avenue, NW., Suite 700, Washington, DC 20004-2001.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Deborah Bisciegia by telephone at (202) 694-7041 or by e-mail at [debbieb@dnfsb.gov](mailto:debbieb@dnfsb.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** 5 U.S.C. 4314(c)(1) through (5) requires each agency to establish, in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Office of Personnel Management, one or more

performance review boards. The PRB shall review and evaluate the initial summary rating of the senior executive's performance, the executive's response, and the higher level official's comments on the initial summary rating. In addition, the PRB will review and recommend executive performance bonuses and pay increases.

The DNFSB is a small, independent Federal agency; therefore, the members of the DNFSB SES Performance Review Board listed in this notice are drawn from the SES ranks of other agencies. The following persons comprise a standing roster to serve as members of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board SES Performance Review Board: Christopher E. Aiello, Director of Human Resources, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation  
David M. Capozzi, Director of Technical and Information Services, United States Access Board  
Edward C. Hobson, Associate Director for Safety and Security, Peace Corps  
Steven G. McManus, Deputy Chief Operating Officer, Armed Forces Retirement Home  
Barry S. Socks, Chief Operating Officer, National Capital Planning Commission  
Christopher W. Warner, General Counsel, U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board  
Dated: September 12, 2011.

**Brian Grosner,**

*Chairman, Executive Resources Board.*

[FR Doc. 2011-23884 Filed 9-16-11; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3670-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

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

**AGENCY:** Department of Energy (DOE).

**ACTION:** Notice of open meeting.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces a meeting of the Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB), Portsmouth. 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:** Thursday, October 6, 2011, 6 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** Ohio State University, Endeavor Center, 1862 Shyville Road, Piketon, Ohio 45661.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Joel Bradburne, Deputy Designated Federal Officer, Department of Energy Portsmouth/Paducah Project Office, Post

Office Box 700, Piketon, Ohio 45661, (740) 897-3822,  
*Joel.Bradburne@lex.doe.gov.*

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

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

**Tentative Agenda**

- Call to Order, Introductions, Review of Agenda.
- Approval of September Minutes.
- Deputy Designated Federal Officer's Comments.
- Federal Coordinator's Comments.
- Liaisons' Comments.
- Presentation.
- FLUOR B&W Community Commitment Plan Update, Jerry Schneider.
- Administrative Issues:
  - Subcommittee Updates.
- Motions:
  - Second Reading of the amendment to the Operating Procedures: Section VI. Board Structure C 3a. fourteen days changed to seven days as proposed by the Executive Committee.
- Public Comments.
- Final Comments.
- Adjourn.

*Public Participation:* The meeting is open to the public. The EM SSAB, Portsmouth, welcomes the attendance of the public at its advisory committee meetings and will make every effort to accommodate persons with physical disabilities or special needs. If you require special accommodations due to a disability, please contact Joel Bradburne at least seven days in advance of the meeting at the phone number listed above. 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 Joel Bradburne at the address or telephone number listed above. 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. Individuals wishing to make public comments will be provided a maximum of five minutes to present their comments.

*Minutes:* Minutes will be available by writing or calling Joel Bradburne at the address and phone number listed above. Minutes will also be available at the

following Web site: <http://www.ports-ssab.energy.gov/>.

Issued at Washington, DC on September 14, 2011.

**LaTanya R. Butler,**

*Acting Deputy Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2011-23941 Filed 9-16-11; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6450-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### National Coal Council

**AGENCY:** Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Notice of open meeting.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces a meeting of the National Coal Council (NCC). 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:** Friday, October 21, 2011, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The Embassy Suites Convention Center, 900 10th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20001.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Michael J. Ducker, U.S. Department of Energy; 4G-036/Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585-1290; Telephone: (202) 586-7810.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Purpose of Meeting:* To conduct an open meeting of the NCC and to provide an update of the current NCC study.

**Tentative Agenda**

- Welcome and Call to Order by NCC Chair.
- Keynote address by Secretary Steven Chu, Department of Energy.
- Presentation by Phil Ren on the Northeast Asia Coal Exchange Center.
- Presentation by Barry Worthington, President of the U.S. Energy Agency.
- Presentation by Lynn Sprague, National Museum of Forest Service History, on reforestation and reclamation of mine lands.
- Council Business.
- Adjourn.

*Public Participation:* The 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 potential items on the agenda, you should contact Michael J. Ducker, (202) 586-7810 or *Michael.Ducker@HQ.DOE.GOV* (e-mail). You must make your request for an oral statement at least 5 business days before