Environmental Policies and Procedures (7 CFR part 1794).

Because the proposed Project may involve action in floodplains or wetlands, this NOI also serves as a notice of proposed floodplain or wetland action. The EIS will include a floodplain/wetland assessment and, if required, a floodplain/wetland statement of findings will be issued with the Final EIS.

Agency Responsibilities: RUS is serving as the lead Federal agency, as defined at 40 CFR 1501.5, for preparation of the EIS. With this notice, Native American Tribes and agencies with jurisdiction or special expertise are invited to be cooperating agencies. Such tribes or agencies may make a request to RUS to be a cooperating agency by contacting Mr. Rankin. Designated cooperating agencies have certain responsibilities to support the NEPA process, as specified at 40 CFR 1501.6(b).

Environmental Issues: This notice is to inform agencies and the public of RUS’ federal action, and the proposed Project, and to solicit comments and suggestions for consideration in preparing the EIS. To help the public frame its comments, this notice contains a list of potential environmental issues that RUS has tentatively identified for analysis. These issues include:

1. Impacts on protected, threatened, endangered, or sensitive species of animals or plants;
2. Impacts on avian and bat species;
3. Impacts on land use, recreation, and transportation;
4. Impacts on cultural resources or historic properties and tribal values;
5. Impacts on human health and safety;
6. Impacts on air, soil, and water resources (including air quality and surface water impacts);
7. Visual impacts; and
8. Socioeconomic impacts and whether there would be any disproportionately high and adverse impacts to minority and low-income populations.

This list is not intended to be all-inclusive or to imply any predetermination of impacts. Environmental issues associated with the action of RUS, and Basin Electric’s proposed Project will be addressed separately in the EIS. RUS invites interested parties to suggest specific issues within these general categories, or other issues not included above, to be considered in the EIS.

Public Participation: Public participation and full disclosure are planned for the entire EIS process. The EIS process will include open-house public scoping meetings and a scoping comment period to solicit comments from interested parties; consultation and involvement with appropriate Federal, State, local, and tribal governmental agencies; public review and a hearing on the draft EIS; publication of a final EIS; and publication of a Record of Decision. Expected EIS completion date is December 2013. Additional informal public meetings may be held in the proposed Project areas, if public interest and issues indicate a need; if additional public meetings are determined to be necessary public notices will be published as appropriate.

RUS will hold open-house public scoping meetings in Williston, North Dakota, and Killdeer, North Dakota as noted above. The time and locations of these meetings will be well advertised in local media outlets a minimum of 15 days prior to the time of the meetings. Attendees are welcome to come and go at their convenience and to speak one-on-one with Project representatives and agency staff. The public will have the opportunity to provide written comments at the meetings. In addition, attendees may provide written comments by letter, fax, email.

The public scoping period begins with publication of this notice in the Federal Register and closes December 2, 2011. To be considered in defining the scope of the EIS, comments should be received by the end of the scoping period.

Dated: October 27, 2011.

Mark Plank,
Director, Engineering and Environmental Staff, Rural Utilities Service.

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COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Agenda and Notice of Public Meeting of the Connecticut, District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania Advisory Committees

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights (Commission) and the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), that a webinar briefing meeting of the Connecticut, District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania State Advisory Committees will convene on Monday, November 14, 2011, at 10:30 a.m. (E.S.T.). The briefing will be at Commission Headquarters, 624 9th Street NW., Room 540, Washington, DC 20425. The purpose of the meeting is to receive a briefing from experts on Human Trafficking.

Those who are unable to attend the briefing at the Commission Headquarters in person may join through an Internet connection. Please contact the Eastern Regional Office for details on the internet connection by calling (202) 376–7533 or by email at ero@uscrr.gov.

Members of the public are entitled to submit written comments. The comments must be received in the regional office by Monday, December 5, 2011. The address is Eastern Regional Office, 624 9th Street NW., Suite 740, Washington, DC 20425. Persons wishing to email their comments, or who desire additional information should contact the Eastern Regional Office at (202) 376–7533 or by email to: ero@uscrr.gov.

People seeking disability accommodations should contact the Eastern Regional Office at least five (5) working days before the scheduled meeting date.

Records generated from this briefing may be inspected and reproduced at the Eastern Regional Office, as they become available, both before and after the webinar. Persons interested in the work of these advisory committees are advised to go to the Commission’s Web site, http://www.uscrr.gov, or to contact the Eastern Regional Office at the above email or street address.

The briefing will be conducted pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Commission and FACA.

Dated in Washington, DC, on October 27, 2011.

Peter Minarik,
Acting Chief, Regional Programs Coordination Unit.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Foreign-Trade Zones Board
[Order No. 1795]

Grant of Authority for Subzone Status; VF Jeanswear, (Apparel Distribution), Mocksville, NC

Pursuant to its authority under the Foreign-Trade Zones Act of June 18, 1934, as amended (19 U.S.C. 81a–81l), the Foreign-Trade Zones Board (the Board) adopts the following Order:

Whereas, the Foreign-Trade Zones Act provides for "* * * the establishment