DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Internation Trade Administration

Environmental Technologies Trade Advisory Committee Public Meeting

AGENCY: International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of Federal Advisory Committee meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice sets forth the schedule and proposed agenda of a meeting of the Environmental Technologies Trade Advisory Committee (ETTAC).

DATES: The meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 27, 2012, at 9 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time (EDT).

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held in Room 4830 at the U.S. Department of Commerce, Herbert Clark Hoover Building, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Todd DoLelle, Office of Energy & Environmental Industries (OEEI), International Trade Administration, Room 4053, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230. (Phone: 202-482-4877; Fax: 202-482-5665; email: todd.dolelle@trade.gov). This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to OEEI at (202) 482-5225 no less than one week prior to the meeting.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The meeting will take place from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. EDT. This meeting is open to the public and will be held for public comment from 3:30–10:30 p.m. EDT. Written comments concerning ETTAC affairs are welcome any time before or after the meeting. Minutes will be available within 30 days of this meeting.

Topics to be Considered: The agenda for the April 27, 2011 ETTAC meeting will include discussion of various issues and policies that affect environmental trade. These subjects will encompass the harmonization of global environmental regulations, standards, and certification programs; analysis of existing environmental goods and services data sources; trade liberalization negotiations; development of trade promotion programs; and issues related to innovation in the environmental technology sector.

Background: The ETTAC is mandated by Public Law 103–392. It was created to advise the U.S. government on environmental trade policies and programs, and to help it to focus its resources on increasing the exports of the U.S. environmental industry. ETTAC operates as an advisory committee to the Secretary of Commerce and the Trade Promotion Coordinating Committee (TPCC). ETTAC was originally chartered in May of 1994. It was most recently re-chartered until October 2012.

Edward A. O’Malley, Director, Office of Energy and Environmental Industries.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Incidental Take Permit and Habitat Conservation Plan for PacifiCorp Klamath Hydroelectric Project Interim Operations

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the availability of the Final Environmental Assessment (EA) on the application from PacifiCorp Energy (PacifiCorp or applicant) for an Incidental Take Permit (ITP) and Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) for take of a threatened species in accordance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA). NMFS and PacifiCorp have also developed an implementing agreement (IA) which details how NMFS and PacifiCorp will work together to implement the HCP. This notice also announces that NMFS has made a decision to issue an ITP to PacifiCorp for the covered activities described in their HCP, and has authorized the incidental take of Southern Oregon/Northern California Coast (SONCC) Evolutionarily Significant Unit (ESU) coho salmon (Oncorhynchus kisutch) as a result of operation and maintenance of their Klamath Hydroelectric Project (Project) in and near the Klamath River in Southern Oregon and Northern California, and implementation of the HCP during a ten-year period. This notice is provided under National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations and NMFS ESA permit regulations to inform the public that the Final EA HCP, responses to public comments, and associated documents are available for review; and NMFS has made a decision to issue the ITP.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information, or to receive a copy of the documents, please call Lisa Roberts, Fisheries Biologist, NMFS, at (707) 825–5178.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Availability of Documents

Copies of the Final EA, HCP, IA, and associated documents are available for public inspection during regular business hours at the Northern California National Marine Fisheries Office located at: 1655 Heindon Road, Arcata, CA 95521 (see FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT). The Final EA, HCP, and IA are also available electronically for review on the NMFS Southwest Region Web site at: http://swr.nmfs.noaa.gov/nea.html.

Background

Section 9 of the Federal ESA prohibits the take of fish or wildlife species listed as endangered or threatened by either the FWS or NMFS (16 U.S.C. 1538). The ESA defines the term “take” as: “harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct” (16 U.S.C. 1532(19)). NMFS has defined “harm” as an act which actually kills or injures fish or wildlife, and such acts may include “significant habitat modification or degradation which actually kills or injures fish or wildlife by significantly impairing essential behavioral patterns, including breeding, spawning, rearing, migrating, feeding, or sheltering” (50 CFR 222.102). Pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(B) of the ESA (16 U.S.C. 1539(a)(1)(B)), NMFS may issue ITPs authorizing the take of listed species if, among other things, such taking is incidental to, and not the purpose of, otherwise lawful activities. To receive an ITP under the ESA, an applicant must prepare an HCP that specifies the following: (1) the impact which will likely result from the taking; (2) steps the applicant will take to minimize and mitigate the impacts; (3) funding available to implement the steps; (4) what alternative actions to the taking the applicant considered and the reasons why these alternatives were not used; and (5) any other measures NMFS may require as being necessary or appropriate for purposes of the HCP (16...