POLICY JUSTIFICATION

India—M777 155mm Light-Weight Towed Howitzers

The Government of India has requested a possible sale of 145 M777 155mm Light-Weight Towed Howitzers with Laser Inertial Artillery Pointing Systems (LINAPS), warranty, spare and repair parts, support and test equipment, publications and technical documentation, maintenance, personnel training and training equipment, U.S. Government and contractor representatives’ technical assistance, engineering and logistics support services, and other related elements of logistics support. The estimated cost is $885 million.

This proposed sale will contribute to the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to strengthen the U.S.-India strategic relationship and to improve the security of an important partner which continues to be a for political stability, peace, and economic progress in South Asia.

India intends to use the howitzers to modernize its armed forces and enhance its ability to operate in hazardous conditions. India will have no difficulty absorbing these weapons into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractors will be BAE of Hattiesburg, Mississippi; Watervliet Arsenal of Watervliet, New York; Seller Instrument Company of St Louis, Missouri; Triumph Actuation Systems of Bloomfield, Connecticut; Taylor Devices of North Tonawanda, New York; Hutchinson Industries of Trenton, New Jersey; and Selex, Edinburgh, United Kingdom. In accordance with the Indian Defense Procurement Procedure (DPP), it is anticipated that the vendor will be required to negotiate an offset contract with the government of India.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require annual trips to India involving up to eight (8) U.S. Government and contractor representatives for technical reviews/support, training, and in-country trials for a period of approximately two years.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

This congressional notification transmittal number 13–BJ will supersede previously notified transmittal 09–DB.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of Air Force

Exchange of Air Force Real Property for Non-Air Force Real Property

SUMMARY: Notice identifies excess Federal real property under administrative jurisdiction of the United States Air Force it intends to exchange for real property not currently owned by the Federal government that will be placed under the administrative jurisdiction of the Air Force.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Arthur Calix, Air Force Civil Engineer Center Installations Center of Excellence (AFCEC/GIT), 2261 Hughes Avenue, Suite 155, Joint Base San Antonio (JBSA) Lackland, TX 78236–9853; telephone (210) 395–9481, (telephone number is not toll-free).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with 10 U.S.C. Section 2869(d)(1), the Air Force is publishing this Notice to identify Federal real property that it intends to exchange for property that is needed by the Air Force to limit encroachment and other constraints on military operations at Hanscom Air Force Base, Massachusetts. Description of the Air Force Property: Approximately 36 acres of railway corridor of irregular width, located in the North Falmouth section of the Town of Falmouth, located on the southern portion of Cape Cod, Massachusetts. The rail corridor extends from an area just west of Route 28A and north of Route 151 on Cape Cod and extends to the southern portion of the Joint Base Cape Cod formally known as (Massachusetts Military Reservation), Otis Air National Guard Base, Massachusetts. The property consists of 23 tracts of land providing a rail corridor of about thirteen thousand linear feet in length.

Property Number

Status: Excess.

Comments: The Air Force railway land described above was determined to be excess to military mission needs on April 29, 2013. The property proposed to be acquired by the Air Force in the property exchange is about 18 acres of land, owned by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, located adjacent to the Hanscom Air Force Base current main entry gate (Vandenberg Gate). If the transaction is approved, the Air Force intends to re-route the road into Vandenberg Gate and construct a new main gate facility to enhance the installation’s main entry control point. Before the exchange agreement is approved by the Air Force, the Air Force will notify the appropriate Congressional committees of the terms and conditions of the proposed exchange pursuant to section 2869(d)(2) of title 10, United States Code.

Authority: Title 10, United States Code, Section 2869(d)(1).

Bao-Anh Trinh,
Air Force Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 2013–19756 Filed 8–13–13; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 5001–05–P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers

Notice of Intent To Prepare a Joint Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Millennium Bulk Terminals—Longview Shipping Facility Project

SUMMARY: Millennium Bulk Terminals—Longview, LLC (MBTL) is proposing to construct and operate a shipping facility near Longview, Washington. MBTL currently intends to ship coal from the facility. Department of the Army (DA) authorization is required pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. The Corps has determined the proposed project may have significant individual and/or cumulative impacts on the human environment. The Corps has entered into an agreement with the Cowlitz County Building and Planning Department (County) and the Washington State Department of Ecology (WDOE), (together, the co-lead agencies) to prepare a joint Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in accordance with both the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, and the Washington State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA). The Corps will serve as the lead federal agency for purposes of NEPA, and the County and WDOE will serve as lead agencies under SEPA.

DATES: The scoping period for this EIS will begin August 16, 2013. Written comments regarding the scope of the EIS, including the environmental analysis, range of alternatives, and potential mitigation actions should be submitted to the address below or by email to comments@millenniumbulkeisw.gov by the closing date of the EIS scoping period, November 18, 2013.

BILLING CODE 5001–05–P
The federal EIS process begins with publication of this Notice of Intent. The EIS will be prepared in accordance with the Corps’ procedures for implementing NEPA (33 CFR Part 325, Appendix B) and consistent with the Corps’ policy to facilitate public understanding and review of agency proposals.

1. Proposed Action. The decision to issue, issue with conditions, or deny a permit for the proposed action. As part of the NEPA process, the Corps will gather and analyze information to compare the potential environmental effects of possible project alternatives and a “no action” alternative in the EIS. A single, joint EIS will be prepared to assess the potential social, economic, and environmental impacts of the project, and will be sufficient in scope to address Federal, State, and local regulatory requirements and pertinent environmental and socio-economic issues. The EIS will disclose the extent to which information in the joint document is for NEPA analysis and/or SEPA analysis only. It is up to each co-lead agency to determine the relevance and weight the information in the EIS will be given by each co-lead agency when making its own agency determinations, based on each agency’s respective statutes, responsibilities, and legal requirements.

The purpose of scoping is to assist the Corps in identifying pertinent issues, public concerns, and alternatives, and the depth to which they should be evaluated in the EIS. Consistent with the Corps’ scope of analysis for this project, as stated above. The Corps has prepared project information documents to familiarize agencies, tribes, interested organizations, and the public with the proposed project and potential environmental impacts. Copies of these documents will be available at the public meetings and on the Internet Web site developed for this EIS, www.milleniumberkleiwa.gov, or may be requested from Corps project manager, Ms. Danette L. Guy (see contact information above). Corps representatives will also answer scoping-related questions and accept comments at public scoping meetings.

a. Public scoping meetings will be held to present an overview of the MBTL project and afford participants an opportunity to provide comments on the range of actions, alternatives, and

2. Project Description. The project site is located in Cowlitz County, Washington, in an industrial area along the Columbia River just west of the city of Longview. MBTL proposes to construct the project on approximately 190 acres of a 536-acre site. The project includes construction of two piers in the Columbia River connected by a conveyor and access ramp. One pier would be up to 1,400 feet long and range from approximately 90 to 130 feet wide. The second pier would be approximately 900 feet long and 100 feet wide. Both would be connected to dry land by an access trestle approximately 800 feet long and range in width from up to 35 feet on the north end to up to 60 feet on the south end. The piers and trestle would support two ship loaders. MBTL proposes to dredge approximately 500,000 cubic yards of substrate from a 48-acre berthing area along the riverward side of the proposed piers. The dredged material would be disposed in the flow lane of the Columbia River. Periodic future maintenance dredging of the berthing area is also proposed. The shipping facility would include an open-air storage area approximately 75 acres in size served by an on-site balloon track system with parking capacity for eight trains. A system of rail-mounted reclaimers would convey coal from the storage area to the loading facility. The terminal would also include rail car unloading facilities, roadways, service buildings, storm water treatment facilities, and utility infrastructure. Constructing the portion of the terminal adjacent to the Columbia River would impact approximately 38 acres of waters of the U.S., including wetlands and drainage ditches. Any compensatory mitigation for impacts to waters of the U.S. would comply with the 2008 Compensation Mitigation Rule for Losses of Aquatic Resources, 33 CFR parts 325 and 332; 73 FR 19594 (April 10, 2008).

3. Alternatives. The EIS will address an array of alternatives for a facility to receive material by rail and load ships for ocean transport. Alternatives may include, but will not be limited to, no action, alternative sites, alternative methods for on-site handling, and alternative facility designs. Mitigation measures could include, but would not be limited to, avoidance of sensitive areas, creation or enhancement of riverine nearshore habitats, and creation, restoration, or enhancement of wetlands.

4. Scope of Analysis. The scope of analysis identifies the federal action area under NEPA and, along with public input through the scoping process, informs the impacts (direct, indirect, and cumulative) analyzed in the EIS. In determining the scope of analysis for this EIS, the Corps must identify the scope of the activities under consideration and decide, for the purposes of NEPA, whether the agency has “control and responsibility” for activities outside of waters of the U.S. such that issuance of a permit would amount to approval of those activities (33 CFR Part 325 Appendix B, Par. 7(b)(1)). As a general rule, the Corps extends its scope of analysis beyond waters of the U.S. where the environmental consequences of upland elements of the project may be considered products of either the Corps permit action or the permit action in conjunction with other federal involvement (33 CFR Part 325 Appendix B, Para. 7(b)(2)).

For this EIS, the Corps’ scope of analysis will include the entire MBTL project area and any offsite area that might be used for compensatory mitigation. The project area consists of the approximately 190-acre shipping terminal project site, the area to be dredged, the dredged material disposal site(s), and any other area in or adjacent to the Columbia River that would be affected by, and integral to, the proposed project.

5. Scoping Process. The scoping period will begin August 16, 2013 and continue for 95 days until November 18, 2013. The Corps invites Federal agencies, state and local governments, Native American Tribes, and the public to participate in the scoping process by providing written comments and/or attending the public scoping meetings scheduled for the dates and locations listed below. Written comments will be considered during preparation of the Draft EIS. Comments postmarked or emailed after the closing date of the scoping period will be considered to the extent feasible.
Interested parties are encouraged to review and comment on the draft EIS. A 90-day public review period will begin after the close of the scoping period. The draft EIS is currently scheduled to be available for public review and comment by June 2015.

The draft EIS will be available on the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Internet Web site at www.millenniumbulkeiswa.gov on the EIS Internet Web site at www.millenniumbulkeiswa.gov for the duration of the scoping period. The Corps will consult with the National Historic Preservation Officer and applicable Tribes to comply with the National Historic Preservation Act; the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service to comply with the Endangered Species Act-listed species and Washington State species of concern; Tribal treaty rights; wetland and riparian habitat; wildlife; vehicle traffic; cultural, historic, and archeological resources; air and water quality; noise; recreation; land use; and aesthetics.

Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before September 13, 2013. Comments submitted in response to this notice should be submitted electronically through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at http://www.regulations.gov or via postal mail, commercial delivery, or hand delivery. Please note that comments submitted by fax or email and those submitted within the comment period will not be accepted. Written requests for information or comments submitted by postal mail or delivery should be addressed to the Director of the Information Collection Clearance Division, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW., LB], Room 2F103, Washington, DC 20202–4537.

For Further Information Contact: Electronically mail IGDocetMgr@ed.gov. Please do not send comments here.

Supplementary Information: The Department of Education (ED), in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)), provides the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed, revised, and continuing collections of information. This helps the Department assess the impact of its information collection requirements and minimize the public’s reporting burden. It also helps the public understand the Department’s information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format. ED is soliciting comments on the proposed information collection request (ICR) that is described below. The Department of Education is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) Is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology. Please note that written comments received in response to this notice will be considered public records.

Title of Collection: IEPS International Resource Information System (IRIS).
OMB Control Number: 1840–0759.
Type of Review: Revision of an existing collection of information.
Respondents/Affected Public: Private Sector, Federal Government, Individuals or households.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 6,754.
Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 13,439.

Abstract: This is a re-clearance of the on-line reporting system, International Resource Information System (IRIS) that IFLE uses to collect annual performance reports from Title VI and Fulbright–Hays grantees. The system is also used by IFLE to disseminate program information to the public.

Kate Mullan,
Acting Director, Information Collection Clearance Division, Privacy, Information and Records Management Services, Office of Management.