

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**Methane Hydrate Advisory Committee**

AGENCY: Office of Fossil Energy, Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a meeting of the Methane Hydrate Advisory Committee. The Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92–463, 86 Stat.770) requires that notice of these meetings be announced in the **Federal Register**.

DATES: Wednesday, February 15, 2017; 1:45 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. (EST)—Registration; 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. (EST)—Meeting.

ADDRESSES: U.S. Department of Energy, Forrestal Building, Room 3G–043, 1000 Independence Ave. SW., Washington, DC 20585.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lou Capitanio, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Oil and Natural Gas, 1000 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20585. *Phone:* (202) 586–5098.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose of the Committee: The purpose of the Methane Hydrate Advisory Committee is to provide advice on potential applications of methane hydrate to the Secretary of Energy, and assist in developing recommendations and priorities for the Department of Energy's Methane Hydrate Research and Development Program.

Tentative Agenda: The agenda will include: Welcome and Introduction by the Designated Federal Officer; Discussion of Committee Issues and Recommendations for Topics Requiring In-Depth Examination; and Public Comments, if any.

Public Participation: The meeting is open to the public. The Designated Federal Officer and the Chair of the Committee will conduct the meeting to facilitate the orderly conduct of business. 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 of the items on the agenda, you should contact Lou Capitanio at the phone number listed above and provide your name, organization, citizenship, and contact information. Anyone attending the meeting will be required to present government issued identification. Space is limited. You must make your request for an oral statement at least five business days prior to the meeting, and reasonable provisions will be made to

include the presentation on the agenda. Public comment will follow the three-minute rule.

Minutes: The minutes of this meeting will be available for public review and copying within 60 days at the following Web site: <http://energy.gov/fe/services/advisory-committees/methane-hydrate-advisory-committee>.

Issued at Washington, DC, on January 13, 2017.

LaTanya R. Butler,

Deputy Committee Management Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy****External Peer Review Meeting**

AGENCY: Water Power Technologies Office; Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy; Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of external peer review meeting.

SUMMARY: All programs within the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy are required to undertake rigorous, objective peer review of their funded projects on a regular basis in order to ensure and enhance the management, relevance, effectiveness, and productivity of those projects. The Water Power Technologies Office intends to hold an External Peer Review in Arlington, VA, on February 14–16, 2017. An External Peer Review Panel will review current and recently completed projects and provide feedback on technical, scientific, and business merit; the actual or anticipated results; and the productivity and management effectiveness of projects. The review panel will also assess the potential impact of projects on the water power industry and identify additional research initiatives and resources that may prove to be advantageous in the future.

Principal Investigators, expert reviewers, Water Power Technologies Office staff, and contract support staff will be in attendance during the review meeting. *The event is open to the public based upon space availability.*

DATES: The meeting is open to industry, academia, government, and the general public beginning at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, February 14, 2017, and ending on Thursday, February 16, 2017, at 5:00 p.m., based on availability. See pre-registration information below.

ADDRESSES: The External Peer Review will be held at the Sheraton Pentagon City Hotel, 900 S. Orme Street, Arlington, VA 22204. The Water Power Technologies Office Peer Review will be co-located with the Wind Energy Technologies Office Peer Review.

Pre-Registration: To pre-register, please contact Ms. Jenn ZiBerna via email at jziberna@aetherquest.com or via telephone at (571) 297–4018, or visit the meeting registration Web page: <https://ww2.eventrebels.com/er/Registration/StepReg>

Info.jsp?ActivityID=19344&StepNumber=1. Participants interested in attending should indicate the research area or areas they would like to observe, their name, company name or organization (if applicable), telephone number, and email no later than the close of business on January 30, 2017.

Comments: Comments may be submitted by the following methods:

- Email: Matthew.Grosso@ee.doe.gov. Include “Water Power Peer Review” in the subject line of the message.

- Postal Mail: Matthew Grosso, EE–4WP, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue SW.,

Washington, DC 20585. Due to the potential delays in DOE's receipt and processing of mail sent through the U.S. Postal Service, DOE encourages respondents to submit comments electronically to ensure timely receipt.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Objectives**

The objectives of the meeting are to:

- Review and evaluate the strategy and goals of the Water Power Technologies Office;
- Review and evaluate the progress and accomplishments of the Program's projects funded from FY2014 through FY2016; and
- Foster interactions among the DOE's national laboratories, industry, and academic institutions conducting research and development on behalf of the Office.

Research Areas

The Water Power Technologies Peer Review meeting will review projects sponsored by the Water Power Program in the following research areas:

- Marine Hydrokinetics
 - Environmental Research, Siting, and Resource Assessment
 - Market and Industry Development, Analysis and Data Dissemination
 - Component-level Research and Development
 - System-level Innovation and Design Iterations
 - Demonstrations for Performance