

- Take is anticipated to be by Level B behavioral harassment only, consisting of brief startling reactions and/or temporary avoidance of the survey area;

- While the survey area is within areas noted as biologically important for migration of the North Atlantic right whale, migration would not be affected since project activities would occur in such a comparatively small area. In addition, mitigation measures will be required to shut down sound sources at 500 m to further minimize any potential for effects to this species; and

- The proposed mitigation measures, including visual monitoring and shutdowns, are expected to minimize potential impacts to marine mammals, particularly in light of the small size of the take zones.

Based on the analysis contained herein of the likely effects of the specified activity on marine mammals and their habitat, and taking into consideration the implementation of the proposed monitoring and mitigation measures, NMFS preliminarily finds that the total marine mammal take from the proposed activity will have a negligible impact on all affected marine mammal species or stocks.

#### Small Numbers

As noted above, only small numbers of incidental take may be authorized under Sections 101(a)(5)(A) and (D) of the MMPA for specified activities other than military readiness activities. The MMPA does not define small numbers and so, in practice, where estimated numbers are available, NMFS compares the number of individuals taken to the most appropriate estimation of abundance of the relevant species or stock in our determination of whether an authorization is limited to small numbers of marine mammals. Additionally, other qualitative factors may be considered in the analysis, such as the temporal or spatial scale of the activities relative to the species.

The numbers of marine mammals that we propose for authorization to be taken, for all species and stocks, would be considered small relative to the relevant stocks or populations (less than 3 percent for the bottlenose dolphin Western North Atlantic, southern migratory coastal stock and less than one percent for all other species and stocks proposed for authorization). See Table 8. Based on the analysis contained herein of the proposed activity (including the proposed mitigation and monitoring measures) and the anticipated take of marine mammals, NMFS preliminarily finds that small numbers of marine mammals will be

taken relative to the population sizes of the affected species or stocks.

#### Unmitigable Adverse Impact Analysis and Determination

There are no relevant subsistence uses of marine mammals implicated by this action. Therefore, NMFS has determined that the total taking of affected species or stocks would not have an unmitigable adverse impact on the availability of such species or stocks for taking for subsistence purposes.

#### Endangered Species Act (ESA)

Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA: 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) requires that each Federal agency insure that any action it authorizes, funds, or carries out is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any endangered or threatened species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of designated critical habitat.

No incidental take of ESA-listed species is proposed for authorization or expected to result from this activity. Therefore, NMFS has determined that formal consultation under section 7 of the ESA is not required for this action.

#### Proposed Authorization

As a result of these preliminary determinations, NMFS proposes to issue an IHA to Avangrid for HRG survey activities during geophysical survey activities off the Coast of Virginia and North Carolina from June 1, 2019, through May 31, 2020, provided the previously mentioned mitigation, monitoring, and reporting requirements are incorporated. A draft of the proposed IHA can be found at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/permit/incidental-take-authorizations-under-marine-mammal-protection-act>.

#### Request for Public Comments

We request comment on our analyses, the proposed authorization, and any other aspect of this Notice of Proposed IHA for the proposed HRG survey. We also request comment on the potential for renewal of this proposed IHA as described in the paragraph below. Please include with your comments any supporting data or literature citations to help inform our final decision on the request for MMPA authorization.

On a case-by-case basis, NMFS may issue a one-year IHA renewal with an expedited public comment period (15 days) when (1) another year of identical or nearly identical activities as described in the Specified Activities section is planned or (2) the activities would not be completed by the time the IHA expires and a second IHA would

allow for completion of the activities beyond that described in the Dates and Duration section, provided all of the following conditions are met:

- A request for renewal is received no later than 60 days prior to expiration of the current IHA.

- The request for renewal must include the following:

- (1) An explanation that the activities to be conducted under the proposed Renewal are identical to the activities analyzed under the initial IHA, are a subset of the activities, or include changes so minor (*e.g.*, reduction in pile size) that the changes do not affect the previous analyses, mitigation and monitoring requirements, or take estimates (with the exception of reducing the type or amount of take because only a subset of the initially analyzed activities remain to be completed under the Renewal); and

- (2) A preliminary monitoring report showing the results of the required monitoring to date and an explanation showing that the monitoring results do not indicate impacts of a scale or nature not previously analyzed or authorized.

- Upon review of the request for renewal, the status of the affected species or stocks, and any other pertinent information, NMFS determines that there are no more than minor changes in the activities, the mitigation and monitoring measures will remain the same and appropriate, and the findings in the initial IHA remain valid.

Dated: April 22, 2019.

**Catherine Marzin,**

*Deputy Director, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 2019-08361 Filed 4-24-19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

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## BUREAU OF CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION

### Academic Research Council Meeting

**AGENCY:** Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** Under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), this notice sets forth the announcement of a public meeting of the Academic Research Council (ARC or Council) of the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection (Bureau). The notice also describes the functions of the Council.

**DATES:** The meeting date is Friday, May 10, 2019, 10:30 a.m.–12:00 p.m. eastern standard time.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting is being held via conference call. RSVP is requested to receive the conference dial-in.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kim George, Outreach and Engagement Associate, at 202-435-7884, or [CFPB\\_CABandCouncilsEvents@cfpb.gov](mailto:CFPB_CABandCouncilsEvents@cfpb.gov). If you require this document in an alternative electronic format, please contact [CFPB\\_Accessibility@cfpb.gov](mailto:CFPB_Accessibility@cfpb.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Background**

Section 2 of the of the ARC Charter provides that the pursuant to the executive and administrative powers conferred on the Bureau by section 1012 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (Dodd-Frank Act), the Director established the Academic Research Council under agency authority. Section 3 of the ARC Charter states:

The committee will (1) provide the Bureau with advice about its strategic research planning process and research agenda, including views on the research that the Bureau should conduct relating to consumer financial products or services, consumer behavior, cost-benefit analysis, or other topics to enable the agency to further its statutory purposes and objectives; and (2) provide the Office of Research with technical advice and feedback on research methodologies, data collection strategies, and methods of analysis, including methodologies and strategies for quantifying the costs and benefits of regulatory actions.

**II. Agenda**

The Academic Research Council will discuss methodology and direction for consumer finance research at the Bureau.

Persons who need a reasonable accommodation to participate should contact [CFPB\\_504Request@cfpb.gov](mailto:CFPB_504Request@cfpb.gov), 202-435-9EEO, 1-855-233-0362, or 202-435-9742 (TTY) at least ten business days prior to the meeting or event to request assistance. The request must identify the date, time, location, and title of the meeting or event, the nature of the assistance requested, and contact information for the requester. The Bureau will strive to provide, but cannot guarantee that accommodation will be provided for late requests.

Written comments will be accepted from interested members of the public and should be sent to [CFPB\\_CABandCouncilsEvents@cfpb.gov](mailto:CFPB_CABandCouncilsEvents@cfpb.gov), a minimum of seven (7) days in advance of the meeting. The comments will be provided to the ARC members for consideration. Individuals who wish to

join the Academic Research Council must RSVP via this link <https://consumer-financial-protection-bureau.forms.fm/may-2019-cfpb-academic-research-council-arc-meeting> by noon, May 9, 2018. Members of the public must RSVP by the due date.

**III. Availability**

The Council's agenda will be made available to the public on April 25, 2019 via [consumerfinance.gov](http://consumerfinance.gov). Individuals should express in their RSVP if they require a paper copy of the agenda.

A recording and transcript of this meeting will be available after the meeting on the Bureau's website [consumerfinance.gov](http://consumerfinance.gov).

Dated: April 16, 2019.

**Kirsten Sutton,**

Chief of Staff, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

[FR Doc. 2019-08129 Filed 4-24-19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4810-AM-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**

**Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers**

**Inland Waterways Users Board Meeting Notice**

**AGENCY:** Department of the Army, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DoD.

**ACTION:** Notice of open Federal advisory committee meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of the Army is publishing this notice to announce the following Federal advisory committee meeting of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Inland Waterways Users Board (Board). This meeting is open to the public. For additional information about the Board, please visit the committee's website at <http://www.iwr.usace.army.mil/Missions/Navigation/InlandWaterwaysUsersBoard.aspx>.

**DATES:** The Army Corps of Engineers, Inland Waterways Users Board will meet from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on May 23, 2019. Public registration will begin at 7:15 a.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The Inland Waterways Users Board meeting will be conducted at The Westin New Orleans Canal Place, 100 Rue Iberville, New Orleans, Louisiana 70130, 504-566-7006.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Mark R. Pointon, the Designated Federal Officer (DFO) for the committee, in writing at the Institute for Water Resources, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, ATTN: CEIWR-GM, 7701 Telegraph Road, Casey Building,

Alexandria, VA 22315-3868; by telephone at 703-428-6438; and by email at [Mark.Pointon@usace.army.mil](mailto:Mark.Pointon@usace.army.mil). Alternatively, contact Mr. Kenneth E. Lichtman, the Alternate Designated Federal Officer (ADFO), in writing at the Institute for Water Resources, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, ATTN: CEIWR-GW, 7701 Telegraph Road, Casey Building, Alexandria, VA 22315-3868; by telephone at 703-428-8083; and by email at [Kenneth.E.Lichtman@usace.army.mil](mailto:Kenneth.E.Lichtman@usace.army.mil).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The committee meeting is being held under the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (5 U.S.C., Appendix, as amended), the Government in the Sunshine Act of 1976 (5 U.S.C. 552b, as amended), and 41 CFR 102-3.150.

**Purpose of the Meeting:** The Board is chartered to provide independent advice and recommendations to the Secretary of the Army on construction and rehabilitation project investments on the commercial navigation features of the inland waterways system of the United States. At this meeting, the Board will receive briefings and presentations regarding the investments, projects and status of the inland waterways system of the United States and conduct discussions and deliberations on those matters. The Board is interested in written and verbal comments from the public relevant to these purposes.

**Agenda:** At this meeting the agenda will include the status of funding for inland and coastal Navigation; status of the Inland Waterways Trust Fund (IWTF) and project updates; status of the construction activities for Olmsted Locks and Dam Project, the Locks and Dams 2, 3, and 4 on the Monongahela River Project, the Chickamauga Lock Project and the Kentucky Lock Project; an update of the Upper Ohio River Navigation Study; an update of the Mississippi River and Illinois Waterway Navigation and Environmental Sustainability Project (NESP); an update of the Calcasieu Lock study and results of simulations; and discussion of innovative design techniques and standardization of features for inland waterway projects.

**Availability of Materials for the Meeting.** A copy of the agenda or any updates to the agenda for the May 23, 2019 meeting. The final version will be provided at the meeting. All materials will be posted to the website after the meeting.

**Public Accessibility to the Meeting:** Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552b, as amended, and 41 CFR 102-3.140 through 102-3.1