DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
International Trade Administration
America Crece Industry Roundtable and Request for Public Comment

AGENCY: International Trade Administration, Commerce.

ACTION: Request for public comments and notice of a roundtable discussion on energy and other infrastructure opportunities in Latin America and the Caribbean under the America Crece initiative.

SUMMARY: The International Trade Administration (ITA) of the Department of Commerce seeks individual comments from industry on government programs aimed at catalyzing U.S. private sector participation in commercial opportunities in energy and other infrastructure in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC). Through this notice, ITA announces a request for written public comments and announces a roundtable discussion with industry representatives and U.S. government staff. This notice serves as an initial step in improving ITA’s understanding of private sector interests and programmatic and policy needs in energy and other infrastructure sectors in the LAC region under the new America Crece initiative. This notice further sets forth topics for discussion and comment.

DATES:
Event: The roundtable will be held on November 7, 2019 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Eastern Daylight Time.

Written Comments: To be ensured of consideration, written public comments must be received on or before November 22, 2019. Comments should not include any business confidential information.

Event Registration: ITA will evaluate registrations based on the submitted comments (see below) and inform applicants of selection decisions, which will be made on a rolling basis until 30 participants have been selected.

ADDRESSES:
Event: The roundtable will be held at the Department of Commerce, Commerce Research Library, 1401 Constitution Ave. NW, Room 30019, Washington, DC 20230. Although comments may be submitted by mail, ITA prefers to receive comments via electronic mail. For alternatives to online or mail submissions, please contact Christian Herman, International Trade Specialist, ITA, at (202) 482–5430.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
AmericaCreceOutreach@trade.gov or Christian Herman, International Trade Specialist, ITA, at (202) 482–5430.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In 2018, the government of the United States launched the America Crece (Growth in the Americas) initiative to foster coordinated, whole-of-government efforts in support of all U.S. energy and infrastructure engagement in the LAC region. This request for comment and event notification seeks public comment on priorities and strategies to enhance commercial engagement in energy and other infrastructure in the LAC region through programs under the umbrella of the America Crece initiative.

The Department seeks individual input and views at the November 7, 2019 roundtable regarding the LAC region, including the following topics:
- The principal foreign regulatory and policy barriers to growing sales and exports to the LAC region and how to prioritize these barriers for USG engagement.
- The principal foreign barriers to investment in the energy and infrastructure sectors in LAC countries.
- The challenges U.S. companies face in seeking and/or providing competitive financing for projects in the LAC region.
- Proactive solutions or actions that the U.S. government could pursue that would have an impact on catalyzing U.S. private sector participation in commercial opportunities in LAC.
- Insights from working with USG agencies—such as State, Commerce, Treasury, Energy, USTDA, EXIM, OPIC, USAID—in doing business in LAC, including assessments of the strengths and weaknesses of the U.S. government tools to promote U.S. businesses in the energy and infrastructure sectors in LAC countries.

Event: The November 7, 2019 roundtable will provide an overview of the America Crece initiative and will include a discussion session during which participants will provide insights and feedback related to the initiative and energy and infrastructure in the LAC region. Due to limited space, the event is closed to press and observers. Industry participation is limited to 30 qualifying industry representatives.

Selection
To attend, participants should submit the below information to AmericaCreceOutreach@trade.gov by November 1, 2019. I&A will evaluate registrations based on the submitted information (and based on the criteria below) on a rolling basis until 30 participants have been selected and inform applicants of selection decisions.

Applicants are encouraged to send representatives at a sufficiently senior level to be knowledgeable about their organization’s capabilities, interests and challenges in the LAC region.

Registrations should include the following information in their registration email:
- Name of attendee and short bio.
- Organization and brief organization description.
- A statement self-certifying how the organization meets each of the following criteria:
  1. It is not majority owned by a foreign government entity (or entities).
  2. Its existing products or services are either produced in the United States, or, if not, marketed under the name of a U.S. firm and have demonstrable U.S. content as a percentage of the value of the finished product or service and/or it is a major investor in projects in LAC in which U.S. companies with such products may compete.
  3. It has already exported from the United States to or invested in the LAC region.
  4. In the case of a trade association, academic or research institution, the applicant will only be representing companies during the Roundtable that satisfy each of the criteria above.

Selection will be based on the following criteria:
- Suitability of the company’s (or in the case of another organization, represented companies’ or constituents’)
existing products or services to commercial opportunities in the energy and infrastructure sectors in the LAC region.

- Suitability of the company’s (or in the case of another organization, represented companies’ or constituents’) experience pursuing commercial opportunities in the LAC region.
- Suitability of the representative’s position and biography to be able to engage in the conversation.

Dated: October 22, 2019.

Man Cho,
Deputy Director, Office of Energy and Environmental Industries.

[FR Doc. 2019–23463 Filed 10–25–19; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3510–DR–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Notice of Availability of a Draft Revised Management Plan for the North Carolina National Estuarine Research Reserve


ACTION: Notice of availability of a draft revised management plan; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is soliciting comments from the public on a draft revised management plan for the North Carolina National Estuarine Research Reserve. The revision of the existing plan is necessitated by the applicable requirements of the National Estuarine Research Reserve System. The North Carolina Research Reserve revised plan is intended to replace the plan approved in 2009.

DATES: Comments must be received at the appropriate address (see ADDRESSES) on or before November 27, 2019.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the draft management plan can be downloaded or viewed on the internet at https://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/coastal-management/nc-coastal-reserve/about-reserve/management-plans/review-2020. The document is also available by sending a written request to the point of contact identified below (see FOR FURTHER INFORMATION).

You may submit comments on this draft Management Plan by any of the following methods:

Electronic Submission: Submit all electronic public comments by email to Steph.Robinson@noaa.gov.

Mail: Submit written comments to Stephanie Robinson, Office for Coastal Management, 2234 South Hobson Avenue, Charleston, SC 29405.

Comments submitted by any other method or after the comment period may not be considered. All comments are a part of the public record and may be publicly accessible. Any personal identifying information (e.g., name, address) submitted voluntarily by the sender may also be accessible. NOAA will accept anonymous comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stephanie Robinson of NOAA’s Office for Coastal Management by email at Steph.Robinson@noaa.gov, phone at (843) 740–1174, or mail at Office for Coastal Management, 2234 South Hobson Avenue, Charleston, SC 29405.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to 15 CFR 921.33(c), a state must revise its reserve management plan at least every five years. The North Carolina National Estuarine Research Reserve revised plan will replace the plan previously approved in 2009.

The revised management plan outlines a strategic plan; administrative structure; research and monitoring; education, stewardship, wetland science, and training programs of the reserve; resource protection and manipulation plans; restoration management plan; public access and visitor use plan; consideration for future land acquisition; and facility development to support reserve operations. This plan will focus on inspiring target audiences to protect coastal and estuarine ecosystems through training and education programs; advancing understanding of coastal and estuarine ecosystems and informing coastal management through research and monitoring; contributing to the study and appreciation of coastal and estuarine ecosystems through the stewardship of protected sites; and gaining recognition of the reserve in coastal and estuarine ecosystem research, training, education, and stewardship through effective administration and communication strategies.

Since 2009, the reserve has completed its habitat map and added marsh vegetation and surface elevation monitoring; conducted a habitat vulnerability assessment to understand marsh vulnerability; led a number of research and training initiatives related to living shorelines; increased education programming at the Masonboro Island component of the reserve; begun implementing Teachers on the Estuary (TOTE) training; expanded use of volunteers to conduct citizen science regarding sensitive species and site conditions; and implemented training focused on informing real estate professionals of coastal issues. The revised management plan will serve as the guiding document for the 10,568-acre research reserve for the next five years.

NOAA’s Office for Coastal Management will conduct an environmental analysis in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act on the proposed approval of the reserve’s revised management plan. The public is invited to provide comment or information about any potential environmental impacts of the proposed action, and these comments will be used to inform NOAA’s decision on whether to approve the revised management plan.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1451 et seq.

Keelin S. Kuipers,
Deputy Director, Office for Coastal Management, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

[FR Doc. 2019–23465 Filed 10–25–19; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3510–08–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648–XV118

Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC); Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice; public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council’s (Council) Ecosystem and Ocean Planning (EOP) Committee will hold a meeting.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 13, 2019, from 9 a.m. through 12 p.m. See SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION for agenda details.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will take place over webinar with a telephone-only connection option. Details on how to connect to the webinar by computer and by telephone will be available at: http://www.nmfs.gov. Council address: Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 800 N State Street, Suite 201, Dover, DE 19901;