This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

ADMINISTRATIVE CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED STATES

Notice of Public Meeting of the Assembly of the Administrative Conference of the United States

AGENCY: Administrative Conference of the United States.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Assembly of the Administrative Conference of the United States will meet during a one-day virtual plenary session to consider proposed recommendations and to conduct other business. Written comments may be submitted in advance, and the meeting will be accessible to the public.

DATES: The meeting will take place on Thursday, June 17, 2021, from 9:00 a.m.–4:15 p.m. The meeting may adjourn early if all business is finished.

ADDRESSES: To facilitate participation during the ongoing COVID–19 pandemic, the meeting will be conducted virtually. Information on how to access the meeting will be available on the agency’s website prior to the meeting at https://www.acus.gov/meetings-and-events/plenary-meeting/74th-plenary-session-virtual.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Shawne McGibbon, General Counsel (Designated Federal Officer), Administrative Conference of the United States, Suite 706 South, 1120 20th Street NW, Washington, DC 20036; Telephone 202–480–2080; email smcgibbon@acus.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Administrative Conference of the United States makes recommendations to federal agencies, the President, Congress, and the Judicial Conference of the United States regarding the improvement of administrative procedures (5 U.S.C. 594). The membership of the Conference, when meeting in plenary session, constitutes the Assembly of the Conference (5 U.S.C. 595).

Agenda: The Assembly will receive updates on past, current, and pending Conference initiatives. In addition, pending final action by the Conference’s the Council, five proposed recommendations will be considered. Summaries of the recommendations appear below:

- Clarifying Statutory Access to Judicial Review of Agency Action. This proposed recommendation urges Congress to enact a cross-cutting statute that addresses certain recurring technical problems in statutory provisions governing judicial review of agency action that may cause unfairness, inefficiency, or unnecessary litigation. It also offers a set of drafting principles for Congress when it writes new or amended judicial review statutes. It draws in large part on ACUS’s forthcoming Sourcebook of Federal Judicial Review Statutes, which analyzes the provisions in the U.S. Code governing judicial review of rules and adjudicative orders and identifies recurring drafting problems in them.

- Early Input on Regulatory Alternatives. This proposed recommendation addresses when and how agencies should solicit input on alternatives to rules under consideration before issuing notices of proposed rulemaking. Among other things, it provides targeted measures for agencies to obtain input from knowledgeable persons in ways that are cost-effective and equitable and that maximize the likelihood of obtaining diverse, useful responses.

- Mass, Computer-Generated, and Fraudulent Comments. This proposed recommendation offers best practices for managing mass and computer-generated comments, as well as a type of fraudulent comments referred to as “malattributed comments,” in agency rulemakings. Among other things, it offers best practices for agencies to consider with respect to using technology to process such comments, managing their public rulemaking dockets in response to such comments, and ensuring transparency with respect to any such actions they undertake.

- Periodic Retrospective Review. This proposed recommendation identifies best practices for agencies as they conduct retrospective review of their regulations on a periodic basis. It provides guidance for agencies on identifying the types of regulations that are strong candidates for review, determining the optimal frequency of review, soliciting public feedback to enhance their review efforts, identifying staff to participate in review, and coordinating review efforts with other agencies.

- Virtual Hearings in Agency Adjudication. This proposed recommendation addresses the use of virtual hearings, in which one or more participants attend remotely using a personal computer or mobile device, in agency adjudications. Virtual hearings have become increasingly common in agency adjudications, especially during the COVID–19 pandemic, but they can pose unique logistical challenges and raise questions of accessibility, transparency, privacy, and data security. The proposed recommendation identifies best practices for improving existing virtual-hearing programs and establishing new ones when appropriate.

Additional information about the proposals and the agenda, as well as any changes or updates to the same, can be found at the 74th Plenary Session page on the Conference’s website prior to the start of the meeting: https://www.acus.gov/meetings-and-events/plenary-meeting/74th-plenary-session-virtual.

Public Participation: The Conference welcomes the virtual attendance of the public at the meeting, subject to bandwidth limitations. Members of the public who wish to view the meeting are asked to RSVP online at the 74th Plenary Session web page shown above, no later than two days before the meeting, in order to ensure adequate bandwidth. For anyone who is unable to view the live event, an archived video recording of the meeting will be available on the Conference’s website shortly after the conclusion of the event: https://youtube.com/channel/UC1Gu44Qj1U7XsGdG97fL2A.

Written Comments: Persons who wish to comment on any of the proposed recommendations or official statement may do so by submitting a written statement either online by clicking “Submit a comment” on the 74th Plenary Session web page shown above or by mail addressed to: June 2021 Plenary Session Comments, Administrative Conference of the
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

[Doc. No. AMS–NOP–21–0038; NOP–21–05]

Meeting of the National Organic Standards Board; Meeting

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), is announcing a meeting of the National Organic Standards Board (NOSB). The NOSB assists the USDA in the development of standards for substances to be used in organic production and advises the Secretary of Agriculture on any other aspects of the implementation of the Organic Foods Production Act (OFPA).

DATES: An in-person meeting will be held October 19–21, 2021, from 8:30 a.m. to approximately 6:00 p.m. Pacific Time (PT) each day and may include a virtual broadcast. The NOSB will hear oral public comments via webinars on Wednesday, October 13, 2021, and Thursday, October 14, 2021, from 12:00 p.m. to approximately 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time (ET), and at the in-person meeting on Tuesday, October 19, 2021, and Wednesday, October 20, 2021. The deadline to submit written comments and/or sign up for oral comment at either the webinar or in-person meeting is 11:59 p.m. ET, September 30, 2021.

ADDRESSES: The webinars are virtual and will be accessed via the internet and/or phone. Access information will be available on the AMS website prior to the webinars. The in-person meeting will take place at the Holiday Inn Sacramento Downtown—Arena, 300 J Street, Sacramento, California, 95814, United States and may be broadcast virtually. Detailed information pertaining to the webinars and in-person meeting, including potential virtual viewing options, can be found at https://www.ams.usda.gov/event/national-organic-standards-board-nosb-meeting-sacramento-ca.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Michelle Arsenault, Advisory Committee Specialist, National Organic Standards Board, USDA–AMS–NOP, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Room 2642–S, STOP 0268, Washington, DC 20250–0268; Phone: (202) 997–0115; Email: nosb@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. 2 and 7 U.S.C. 6518(e), as amended, AMS is announcing a meeting of the NOSB. The NOSB makes recommendations to USDA about whether substances should be allowed or prohibited in organic production and/or handling, assists in the development of standards for organic production, and advises the Secretary on other aspects of the implementation of the Organic Foods Production Act, 7 U.S.C. 6501 et seq. NOSB is holding a public meeting to discuss and vote on proposed recommendations to USDA, to obtain updates from the USDA National Organic Program (NOP) on issues pertaining to organic agriculture, and to receive comments from the organic community. The meeting is open to the public. Registration is only required to sign up for oral comments. All meeting documents and instructions for participating will be available on the AMS website at https://www.ams.usda.gov/event/national-organic-standards-board-nosb-meeting-sacramento-ca. Please check the website periodically for updates. Meeting topics will encompass a wide range of issues, including substances petitioned for addition to or removal from the National List of Allowed and Prohibited Substances (National List), substances on the National List that are under sunset review, and guidance on organic policies.

Public Comments: Comments should address specific topics noted on the meeting agenda.

Written comments: Written public comments will be accepted on or before 11:59 p.m. ET on September 30, 2021, via http://www.regulations.gov (Docket No. AMS–NOP–21–0038). Comments submitted after this date will be added to the public comment docket, but Board members may not have adequate time to consider those comments prior to making recommendations. NOP strongly prefers comments be submitted electronically. However, written comments may also be submitted (i.e., postmarked) via mail to the person listed under FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT by or before the deadline.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Gould Wash Flood Protection Project, Washington County, Utah

AGENCY: Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

SUMMARY: The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Utah State Office announces its intent to prepare an EIS for the Gould Wash Flood Protection Project within the Warner Draw Watershed in Washington County, Utah. NRCS is requesting comments to identify significant issues and alternatives to be addressed in the EIS from all interested or affected individuals. The EIS process will examine existing flood control measures...