

Weapons—Usable Fissile Material Programmatic EIS is scheduled to be issued in late 1996.

18. *Final Environmental Impact Statement for Continued Operation of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory* (DOE/EIS-0157, August 1992, the "LLNL Site-wide EIS"). This document analyzes the potential environmental impacts of a proposed action to continue operation of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and Sandia National Laboratories, Livermore. The LLNL site-wide EIS also analyzes the potential environmental impacts associated with a no-action alternative involving continuing operations at FY 1992 funding levels without further growth, an alternative to modify operations to reduce adverse environmental impacts of operations or facilities, and a shutdown and decommissioning alternative. The Record of Decision for the LLNL Site-wide EIS (58 FR 6268, January 27, 1993) announced that DOE had decided to continue the operation of LLNL and Sandia National Laboratories, Livermore, including near-term (within 5 to 10 years) proposed projects. This action included current operations plus programmatic enhancements and facility modifications required to support the research and development missions established for the Laboratories by Congress and the President. The alternatives to be analyzed in the Rocky Flats Plutonium Residues and Scrub Alloy EIS that would involve treatment of a portion of the Rocky Flats plutonium residues at LLNL will represent activities beyond those considered in the LLNL Site-wide EIS.

19. *Los Alamos National Laboratory Site-wide EIS Notice of Intent* (60 FR 92:25697-8, May 12, 1995). This notice announced DOE's intention to prepare a Site-wide EIS to address operations and planned activities at the Los Alamos National Laboratory foreseen in the next 5 to 10 years. DOE anticipates that this EIS will provide an analysis of all activities at LANL and all DOE land management activities related to operations at LANL. The draft LANL Site-wide EIS is scheduled to be issued in mid-1997. The alternatives to be analyzed in the Rocky Flats Plutonium Residues and Scrub Alloy EIS that would involve treatment of a portion of the Rocky Flats plutonium residues at LANL will be prepared in coordination with the analyses being performed for the LANL Site-wide EIS.

20. *Plutonium Finishing Plant Stabilization Environmental Impact Statement* (DOE/EIS-0244, May 1996). This EIS addressed the potential

environmental impacts associated with alternative technological processes at the Hanford Site for stabilizing plutonium-bearing materials, including plutonium residues. In the Record of Decision for this EIS (61 FR 36352, July 10, 1996), DOE decided that the plutonium residues having a low plutonium content (less than 50 weight percent) and meeting criteria established by DOE will be immobilized at the Plutonium Finishing Plant through a cementation process and stored pending disposal. This EIS provided the NEPA analyses required for management of the plutonium residues currently stored at the Hanford Site.

21. *Interim Management of Nuclear Materials at the Savannah River Site Environmental Impact Statement* (DOE/EIS-0220, the IMNM EIS). The IMNM EIS addressed the potential environmental impacts associated with alternatives that the Department could implement to stabilize a variety of nuclear materials that are at the Savannah River Site for improved safety or to convert them to another form to support the Department's programs. This analysis also included an evaluation of the alternatives for the treatment of approximately 1,000 kg of plutonium residues and approximately 6 kg of scrub alloy (discussed in IMNM EIS Section 2.3.3, "Plutonium and Uranium Stored in Vaults"), some of which originated at Rocky Flats Site and is currently in storage at the Savannah River Site. Three Records of Decision have been issued for the IMNM EIS (60 FR 65300, December 19, 1995; 61 FR 6633, February 21, 1996; and 61 FR 48474, September 13, 1996), each covering different materials. The decision regarding the plutonium residues and scrub alloy, specified in the first Record of Decision, was to process these materials through the canyon facilities to a form that meets the DOE storage criteria (DOE-STD-3013-94) and to store the plutonium at the Savannah River site.

Issued in Washington, D.C. on this 15th day of November, 1996.

Peter N. Brush,

Acting Assistant Secretary, Environment, Safety and Health.

[FR Doc. 96-29650 Filed 11-15-96; 12:52 pm]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

Availability of the Stockpile Stewardship and Management Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy (DOE) announces the availability of the Stockpile Stewardship and Management Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS), DOE/EIS-0236. The Stockpile Stewardship and Management PEIS analyzes the consequences to the environment associated with alternative ways of maintaining the safety and reliability of the nuclear weapons stockpile in the absence of underground nuclear testing.

DATES: The Environmental Protection Agency published its Notice of Availability regarding this Final PEIS on November 15, 1996. DOE intends to issue a Record of Decision on the Stockpile Stewardship and Management PEIS no sooner than 30 days from the publication date of the Environmental Protection Agency Notice of Availability in the Federal Register.

ADDRESSES AND FURTHER INFORMATION: A copy of the entire Final PEIS (five volumes) or its Summary may be obtained upon request by calling 1-800-776-2765, or writing to: Reconfiguration Group, Office of Technical, and Environmental Support, DP-45, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20585.

Requests for copies of the Final PEIS can also be made electronically via computer as follows: Federal Information Exchange Bulletin Board, InterNet Address: <http://web.fie.com/fedix/doeoor.html>, Modem Toll-Free: 1-800-783-3349, DC Metro Modem: 301-258-0953.

For general information on the DOE NEPA process, please contact: Carol M. Borgstrom, Director, Office of NEPA Policy and Assistance, EH-42, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington DC 20585, (202) 586-4600 or (800) 472-2756.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In response to the end of the Cold War and changes in the world political regimes, the United States is no longer producing new design nuclear weapons and is no longer conducting underground nuclear testing. Instead, the emphasis of the United States' nuclear weapons program is on reducing the size of the Nation's nuclear stockpile by dismantling existing nuclear weapons. The DOE has been directed by the President and Congress to maintain the safety and reliability of the reduced nuclear weapons stockpile in the absence of underground nuclear testing. In order to fulfill that responsibility, DOE has developed the Stockpile Stewardship

and Management Program to provide a single, highly integrated technical program for maintaining the continued safety and reliability of the nuclear stockpile. The Stockpile Stewardship and Management PEIS describes and analyzes alternative ways to implement the Stockpile Stewardship and Management Program.

Stockpile stewardship refers to activities associated with research, design, development, and testing of nuclear weapons, and the assessment and certification of their safety and reliability. The stockpile stewardship portion of the PEIS evaluates the potential environmental impacts of three proposed facilities: the National Ignition Facility (NIF), the Contained Firing Facility, and the Atlas Facility. Four sites are potentially affected by the Stockpile Stewardship alternatives: Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL), Sandia National Laboratories/New Mexico (SNL), and the Nevada Test Site (NTS).

Stockpile management refers to activities associated with the production, maintenance, surveillance, refurbishment, and dismantlement of the nuclear weapons stockpile. The stockpile management portion of the PEIS evaluates the potential environmental impacts of the reasonable alternatives for carrying out the stockpile management functions. Alternative sites are assessed for nuclear weapons assembly/disassembly, and for fabrication of plutonium, uranium, high explosives, and nonnuclear components. Eight sites are potentially affected: Savannah River Site (SRS), Oak Ridge Reservation (ORR), Pantex Plant (Pantex), Kansas City Plant (KCP), LANL, LLNL, SNL, and NTS.

The PEIS also evaluates the No Action alternative of relying on existing facilities and continuing the missions at current sites to achieve both stockpile stewardship and stockpile management missions. The No Action alternative assesses the environmental impacts of the on-going Stockpile Stewardship and Management Program and provides a baseline against which alternatives can be evaluated.

The following preferred alternatives have been identified:

Stockpile Stewardship

- Construct and operate the NIF at LLNL;
- Construct and operate the Contained Firing Facility at LLNL;
- Construct and operate the Atlas Facility at LANL.

Stockpile Management

- Secondary and Case Component Fabrication—downsize the Y-12 Plant at ORR;
- Pit Component Fabrication—re-establish capability and appropriate capacity at LANL;
- Assembly/Disassembly—downsize at Pantex;
- High Explosives Fabrication—downsize at Pantex;
- Nonnuclear Component Fabrication—downsize at KCP.

Based on the analyses performed to support this PEIS, the preferred alternatives for strategic reserve storage are as follows: (1) Highly enriched uranium strategic reserve storage at Y-12; and (2) plutonium pit strategic reserve storage in Zone 12 at Pantex. The preferred alternatives for strategic reserve storage could change based upon analyses conducted in support of the Storage and Disposition of Weapons-Usable Fissile Materials Final PEIS. Decisions on strategic reserve storage are not expected to be made until both the Stockpile Stewardship and Management Final PEIS and the Storage and Disposition of Weapons-Usable Fissile Materials Final PEIS are completed. The preferred alternative for plutonium-242 oxide at SRS is to transport the material to LANL for storage.

DOE has distributed copies of the Stockpile Stewardship and Management Final PEIS to interested individuals and organizations. Additional copies of the Final PEIS are available to any other interested persons and can be requested as described above. DOE expects to issue a Record of Decision on the Stockpile Stewardship and Management PEIS no sooner than December 16, 1996.

Signed in Washington, DC this 13th day of November 1996, for the United States Department of Energy.

Victor H. Reis,

Assistant Secretary for Defense Programs.

[FR Doc. 96-29540 Filed 11-18-96; 8:45 am]

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Secretary of Energy Advisory Board

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: Consistent with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Public Law 92-463, 86 Stat. 770), notice is hereby given of the following advisory committee meeting:
Name: Secretary of Energy Advisory Board.

Date and Time: Tuesday, December 3, 1996, 9:00 am–1:00 pm.

Place: National Press Club, 14th and F Streets, NW, Washington, DC 20045.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dick Fredlund, Deputy Director, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20585; or by phone (202) 586-7092, fax (202) 586-6279, or e-mail dick.fredlund@hq.doe.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose of the Committee: The Secretary of Energy Advisory Board (Board), comprised of distinguished members of the private sector, provides expert, independent advice, information and recommendations to the Secretary. Issues addressed by the Board include the Department's management reforms, basic and applied research and development activities, and other issues related to the Department's energy, science and technology, environmental quality and national security responsibilities.

Tentative Agenda

Tuesday, December 3, 1996

9:00 am–9:15 am—Opening Remarks

9:15 am–11:00 am—Message from the Secretary: DOE Accomplishments and Priorities

11:00 am–12:30 pm—Subcommittee Reports and Discussion of the following: Laboratory Operations Board, Openness Advisory Panel, Task Force on the Non-Proliferation and Arms Control Implications of Weapons-Usable Fissile Material Disposition Alternatives, and Task Force on Electric System Reliability

12:30 pm–1:00 pm—Public Comment
1:00 pm—Adjourn.

A final agenda will be available at the meeting.

Public Participation: The Chairman of the Board is empowered to conduct the meeting in a fashion that will, in the Chairman's judgment, facilitate the orderly conduct of business. During its meeting in Miamisburg, Ohio, the Board welcomes public comment. Members of the public will be heard in the order in which they sign up at the beginning of the meeting. The Board will make every effort to hear the views of all interested parties. Written comments may be submitted to Dick Fredlund, Deputy Director, Secretary of Energy Advisory Board, AB-1, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20585, or sent by fax to (202) 586-6279, or by e-mail to dick.fredlund@hq.doe.gov.

Minutes: Minutes and a transcript of the meeting will be available for public review and copying approximately 30 days following the meeting at the Freedom of Information Public Reading Room, 1E-190 Forrestal Building, 1000