

2. At 9 a.m. on March 10, 1997, the lands will be opened to the operation of the public land laws generally, subject to valid existing rights, the provisions of existing withdrawals, other segregations of record, and the requirements of applicable law. All valid applications received at or prior to 9 a.m. on March 10, 1997, shall be considered as simultaneously filed at that time. Those received thereafter shall be considered in the order of filing.

3. At 9 a.m. on March 10, 1997, the lands will be opened to location and entry under the United States mining laws, subject to valid existing rights, the provisions of existing withdrawals, other segregations of record, and the requirements of applicable law.

Appropriation of any of the lands described in this order under the general mining laws prior to the date and time of restoration is unauthorized. Any such attempted appropriation, including attempted adverse possession under 30 U.S.C. 38 (1988), shall vest no rights against the United States. Acts required to establish a location and to initiate a right of possession are governed by State law where not in conflict with Federal law. The Bureau of Land Management will not intervene in disputes between rival locators over possessory rights since Congress has provided for such determinations in local courts.

Dated: January 23, 1997.

Bob Armstrong,

*Assistant Secretary of the Interior.*

[FR Doc. 97-2956 Filed 2-5-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-HC-P

[OR-958-0777-54; GP6-0159; OR-19601 (WA), OR-19633 (WA)]

**Public Land Order No. 7241;  
Revocation of Secretarial Orders Dated  
May 8, 1914, and March 12, 1924;  
Washington**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Public land order.

**SUMMARY:** This order revokes in their entirety two Secretarial orders which withdrew 1,218.78 acres of public lands for the Bureau of Land Management's Powersite Reserve No. 424 and Powersite Classification No. 61. The lands are no longer needed for the purpose for which they were withdrawn. The lands are within the Spokane Indian Reservation and this action will open the lands to such forms of disposition as may by law be made of Indian Reservation lands.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** March 10, 1997.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Betty McCarthy, BLM Oregon/ Washington State Office, P.O. Box 2965, Portland, Oregon 97208-2965, 503-952-6155.

By virtue of the authority vested in the Secretary of the Interior by Section 204 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, 43 U.S.C. 1714 (1988), it is ordered as follows:

1. The Secretarial Order dated May 8, 1914, which established Powersite Reserve No. 424, is hereby revoked in its entirety:

Willamette Meridian

T. 28 N., R. 36 E.,

Sec. 9, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;

Sec. 11, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;

Sec. 12, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;

Sec. 30, lots 7 and 10, and  
SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ .

T. 28 N., R. 37 E.,

Sec. 7, lot 17.

T. 27 N., R. 38 E.,

Sec. 30, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$  and  
SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ .

All that portion of the Spokane Indian Reservation lying between the meander line of the north or right bank of the Spokane River and the south boundary of said reservation, in T. 28 N., R. 36 E., Tps. 27 and 28 N., R. 37 E., and T. 27 N., Rs. 38 and 39 E.

The areas described aggregate approximately 1,200 acres in Lincoln and Stevens Counties.

2. The Secretarial Order dated March 12, 1924, which established Powersite Classification No. 61, is hereby revoked in its entirety:

Willamette Meridian

T. 28 N., R. 36 E.,

Sec. 11, lots 20, 22, and that portion of lot 18 within the N $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ .

The area described contains 18.78 acres in Stevens County.

3. At 8:30 a.m., on March 10, 1997, subject to valid existing rights, the provisions of existing withdrawals, other segregations of record, and the requirements of applicable law, the lands will be open to such forms of disposition as may by law be made of Indian Reservation lands.

Dated: January 23, 1997.

Bob Armstrong,

*Assistant Secretary of the Interior.*

[FR Doc. 97-2955 Filed 2-5-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-33-P

**National Park Service**

**Public Notice**

**AGENCY:** National Park Service, Interior.

**SUMMARY:** Public notice is hereby given that the National Park Service proposes to award a concession contract

authorizing food service, lodging and conference center facilities and services for the public at Fort Wadsworth within the Staten Island Unit of Gateway National Recreation Area for a period of ten (10) years from date of contract execution.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** April 7, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested parties should contact Gateway National Recreation Area, Concession Division, Floyd Bennett Field, Building 69, Brooklyn, New York 11234, telephone (718) 338-4603, to obtain a copy of the prospectus describing the requirements of the proposed contract.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This contract has been determined to be categorically excluded from the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act and no environmental document will be prepared.

There is no existing concessioner. The Secretary will consider and evaluate all proposals received as a result of this notice. Any proposal must be received by the National Park Service, New England System Support Office, Concession Management Division, 15 State Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02109-3572, not later than the sixtieth (60th) day following publication of this notice to be considered and evaluated.

Dated: December 17, 1996.

Chrysandra L. Walter,

*Acting Field Director, Northeast Field Area.*

[FR Doc. 97-3011 Filed 2-5-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-70-M

**Delaware Water Gap National  
Recreation Area Citizens Advisory  
Commission Meeting**

**AGENCY:** National Park Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces two upcoming meetings of the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area Citizens Advisory Commission. Notice of these meetings is required under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Public Law 92-463).

*Meeting Date and Time:* Thursday, March 27, 1997 at 7:00 pm.

*Address:* Bushkill School, Bushkill PA 18324.

*Meeting Date and Time:* Thursday, June 5, 1997 at 7:00 pm.

*Address:* Walpack Church, Walpack Center, NJ 07881.

The agenda for the meeting consists of reports from Citizen Advisory Commission committees including: By-Laws, Natural Resources, Recreation, Cultural and Historical Resources, Inter-

governmental and Public Affairs, Construction and Capital Project Implementation, as well as Special Committee Reports. Superintendent Roger K. Rector will give a report on various park issues.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area Citizens Advisory Commission was established by Public Law 100-573 to advise the Secretary of the Interior and the United States Congress on matters pertaining to the management and operation of the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, as well as on other matters affecting the Recreation Area and its surrounding communities.

The meeting will be open to the public. Any member of the public may file a written statement concerning agenda items with the Commission. The statement should be addressed to The Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area Citizens Advisory Commission, P. O. Box 284, Bushkill, PA 18324. Minutes of the meeting will be available for inspection four weeks after the meeting at the permanent headquarters of the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area located on River Road 1 mile east of U.S. Route 209, Bushkill, Pennsylvania.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Superintendent, Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, Bushkill, PA 18324, 717-588-2418.

Bob Kirby,

*Acting Superintendent.*

Congressional Listing for Delaware Water Gap NRA

Honorable Frank Lautenberg, U.S. Senate, SH-506 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510-3002

Honorable Robert G. Torricelli, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510-3001

Honorable Richard Santorum, U.S. Senate, SR 120 Senate Russell Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510

Honorable Arlen Specter, U.S. Senate, SH-530 Hart Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510-3802

Honorable Paul McHale, U.S. House of Representatives, 511 Cannon House Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20515-3815

Honorable Joseph McDade, U.S. House of Representatives, 2370 Rayburn House Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20515-3810

Honorable Margaret Roukema, U.S. House of Representatives, 2244 Rayburn House Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20515-3005

Honorable Tom Ridge, State Capitol, Harrisburg, PA 17120

Honorable Christine Whitman, State House, Trenton, NJ 08625

[FR Doc. 97-3012 Filed 2-5-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-70-P

## INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AGENCY

### Overseas Private Investment Corporation

#### Notice of Publication and Request for Comments

**AGENCY:** Overseas Private Investment Corporation, IDCA.

**ACTION:** Notice of Publication and Request for Comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) has published an "Environmental Handbook" which represents the current environmental policies and procedures in use at the Agency. Section 231(n) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (Title 22 U.S.C. 2191 (k)(2)), as amended, requires OPIC to: "Refuse to insure, reinsure, guarantee, or finance any investment in connection with a project which the Corporation determines will pose an unreasonable or major environmental, health, or safety hazard, or will result in the significant degradation of national parks or similar protected areas."

The Handbook was published to consolidate a number of sources of information into a single, easy-to-review and easily accessible document. This Handbook is also available on OPIC's Internet web site at [www.OPIC.gov](http://www.OPIC.gov). Comments on the Handbook and its content are being invited for Agency consideration. OPIC intends to consider revising the Handbook based upon the comments received. OPIC encourages all interested parties to respond within 120 calendar days of publication of this Notice. The entire text of the Handbook appears below.

**DATES:** Comments must be received on or before June 6, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should be submitted to Mr. Harvey Himberg, Environmental Affairs, Overseas Private Investment Corporation, 1100 New York Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20527 USA.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Contact Mr. Himberg by phone at 202/336-8414, by fax at 202/218-0177 or via Internet e-mail at /S=himberg/G=harvey@mhs-opic.attmail.com.

**TEXT OF HANDBOOK:**

OPIC ENVIRONMENTAL HANDBOOK  
December 1996

#### INTRODUCTION: STATEMENT OF PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

This Handbook is intended to provide guidance to OPIC's clients, as well as the interested public, with respect to the environmental standards, assessment and monitoring procedures that OPIC applies to prospective and ongoing investment projects. The standards and procedures described in this Handbook generally reflect existing practice at OPIC as it has evolved since the enactment in 1985 of statutory environmental provisions applicable to OPIC. (The environmental provisions contained in OPIC's statute are reprinted in Appendix A.) (OPIC is also subject to Executive Order 12114, "Environmental Effects Abroad of Major Federal Actions." Environmental Assessment Procedures for EO 12114 are included in Appendix A.)

Since 1985, OPIC has been required by statute to assess the environmental impacts of projects under consideration for political risk insurance and financing. OPIC's authorizing statute was amended at that time with the congressional intent of ensuring that "great care \* \* \* be paid to assuring the environmental soundness of U.S. Government supported foreign assistance projects." This is particularly important given OPIC's self-sustaining mandate. OPIC strongly supports these principles on their own merits.

In addition, it is increasingly evident that responsible and proactive environmental assessment and management enhance the competitiveness of U.S. investors, as well as project developers, suppliers and contractors associated with overseas investment projects.

Whereas public policy considerations have spurred multilateral and bilateral financial institutions such as OPIC to take the lead in addressing environmental issues in project finance and political risk insurance, private financial institutions both in the U.S. and overseas also have recently begun to integrate environmental concerns into their lending and insurance criteria.

Corporations themselves, through such initiatives as the ISO 14000 process, have undertaken to standardize environmental management, auditing and labeling on an international basis. (ISO is the International Standards Organization, a voluntary membership body composed of private sector companies.)

Over the years OPIC has worked with counterpart organizations providing similar services to investors in the U.S., overseas and on a multilateral basis as environmental procedures were developed. Many of the OPIC standards and procedures described in this Handbook are also applied by organizations such as the International Finance Corporation (IFC) and the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA), both affiliates of the World Bank; the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD); and the U.S. Export-Import Bank (US Exim). In OPIC's experience, the application of standards and procedures similar to those used by these organizations has facilitated co-financing and co-insurance arrangements and made it simpler for clients to address environmental requirements.