

Issued at Washington, DC on March 23, 1998.

Rachel Samuel,

Deputy Advisory Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 98-7956 Filed 3-25-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board, Nevada Test Site

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, 86 Stat. 770) notice is hereby given of the following Advisory Committee meeting: Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB), Nevada Test Site.

DATES: Wednesday, May 6, 1998: 5:30 p.m.-9 p.m.

ADDRESSES: U.S. Department of Energy, Nevada Support Facility, Great Basin Room, 232 Energy Way, North Las Vegas, Nevada.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kevin Rohrer, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Environmental Management, P.O. Box 98518, Las Vegas, Nevada 89193-8513, phone: 702-295-0197.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose of the Board

The purpose of the Advisory Board is to make recommendations to DOE and its regulators in the areas of environmental restoration, waste management, and related activities.

Tentative Agenda

5:30 p.m. Call to Order
5:40 p.m. Presentations
7:00 p.m. Public Comment/Questions
7:30 p.m. Break
7:45 p.m. Review Action Items
8:00 p.m. Approve Meeting Minutes
8:10 p.m. Committee Reports
8:45 p.m. Public Comment
9:00 p.m. Adjourn

Copies of the final agenda will be available at the meeting.

Public Participation

The meeting is open to the public. Written statements may be filed with the Committee either before or after the meeting. Individuals who wish to make oral statements pertaining to agenda items should contact Kevin Rohrer, at the telephone number listed above. Requests must be received 5 days prior to the meeting and reasonable provision will be made to include the presentation

in the agenda. The Designated Federal Officer is empowered to conduct the meeting in a fashion that will facilitate the orderly conduct of business.

Minutes

The minutes of this meeting will be available for public review and copying at the Freedom of Information Public Reading Room, 1E-190, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20585 between 9:00 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday-Friday, except Federal holidays. Minutes will also be available by writing to Kevin Rohrer at the address listed above.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

Notice of Intent To Provide Optional Prescreening Process for the National Industrial Competitiveness Through Energy, Environment and Economics (NICE³) Program

AGENCY: The Department of Energy (DOE).

ACTION: Notice of intent to provide optional prescreening process for potential applicants under the DOE NICE³ program solicitation.

SUMMARY: The Office of Industrial Technologies of the Department of Energy is funding a State Grant Program entitled National Industrial Competitiveness through Energy, Environment, and Economics (NICE³). The goals of the NICE³ Program are to improve energy efficiency, promote cleaner production, and to improve competitiveness in industry.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Eric Hass, at (303) 275-4728, or Steve Blazek, at (303) 275-4723, at the U.S. Department of Energy Golden Field Office, 1617 Cole Boulevard, Golden, Colorado 80401, FAX (303) 275-4788. In addition, information on the NICE³ program can be located at <http://www.oit.doe.gov/Access/nice3>. The Contract Specialist is James Damm, at (303) 275-4744.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background Information

The intent of the NICE³ program is to fund projects that have completed the

research and development stage and are ready to demonstrate a fully integrated commercial unit. For the past seven years the NICE³ program has funded innovative industrial technologies. Some industrial technologies that the NICE³ program has funded follow: SO₃ Cleaning Process in the Manufacture of Semiconductors; Innovative Design of a Brick Kiln Using Low Thermal Mass Technology; Continuously Reform Electroless Nickel Plating Solutions; Recovery and Reuse of Water-Washed Overspray Paint; and HCl Acid Recovery System.

Eligible applicants for funding include any authorized agency of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and any territory or possession of the United States. For convenience, the term State in this notice refers to all eligible State agency applicants. Local governments, State and private universities, private non-profits, private businesses, and individuals, who are not eligible as direct applicants, must work with the appropriate State agencies in developing projects and forming participation arrangements. The state applicant is required to have an industrial partner to be eligible for grant consideration.

The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance number assigned to this program is 81.105. It is anticipated that up to \$6 million in Federal funds will be made available in FY 1999 by DOE for the June 1998 solicitation. 50% cost sharing is required by all applicants and/or cooperating project participants. The DOE share for each award shall not exceed \$425,000. The industrial partner may receive a maximum of \$400,000 in DOE funding. A maximum of \$25,000, or 10% of the total amount to industry, whichever is less, may be used to support the state applicant's cost share, if any, for costs associated with technology transfer/dissemination, marketing, etc. In addition to direct financial contributions, cost sharing can include beneficial services or items, such as manpower equipment, consultants, and computer time that are allowable in accordance with applicable cost principles.

Presolicitation

This notice is to advise potential applicants and project participants of the June 1998 solicitation and that DOE will accept presolicitation submissions that set out a brief description of the potential projects. The submissions

should not exceed two pages and should adhere to the format laid out in the preproposal format. This format can be obtained by calling the U.S. Department of Energy's Golden Field Office contacts or the OIT website (listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section). All preproposal submissions will be reviewed by NICE³ project monitors at the Golden Field Office. The monitors will provide comments to the submitter on the proposed project's applicability to the NICE³ program. In addition, the reviewers will provide feedback which the applicant can use to formulate and refine their proposal.

The submission of a presolicitation description is not mandatory for submitting an application under the June 1998 solicitation. The DOE reviews and comments under the presolicitation process will not be used by DOE in evaluating or awarding applications under the solicitation. The only purpose of the presolicitation process is to assist potential applicants, who may need assistance, in refining their application.

DATES: A brief description of the proposed project can be submitted to the Golden Field Office on or before May 15, 1998. All summaries must be submitted through a state agency.

Issued in Golden, Colorado, on March 17, 1998.

Dated: March 13, 1998.

John W. Meeker,

Chief, Procurement, GO.

[FR Doc. 98-7955 Filed 3-25-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. SA98-26-000]

Glenn M. Dunne, Sr. Trust; Notice of Petition for Adjustment

March 29, 1998.

Take notice that on March 9, 1998, Glenn M. Dunne, Sr. Trust (Dunne) filed a petition for adjustment, pursuant to section 502(c) of the Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978 [15 U.S.C. 3142(c) (1982)], requesting that the Commission issue an order determining that the Kansas ad valorem tax refunds required by the Commission's September 10, 1997 order (in Docket No. RP97-369-000 *et al*)¹ on remand from the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals,² are barred by operation of

law. The subject refunds have been sought by Panhandle Eastern Pipe Line Company (Panhandle), in response to the Commission's September 10 order. Dunne's petition is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

Dunne requests that the Commission resolve the dispute between it and Panhandle concerning principal amount of refunds. Dunne also request a one year extension of the deadline for making refunds as to royalties. In addition, Dunne requests that the Commission grant a procedural adjustment to allow it to place into an escrow account: (a) the principal amount of refunds and interest thereon attributable to unrecovered royalties, (b) the principal amount and interest thereon attributable to production prior to October 3, 1983, (c) the interest due on royalty refunds which were recovered and paid to Panhandle and (d) the interest due on principal refunds other than royalties, pre-October 3rd production, and the disputed amount described above.

Any person desiring to be heard or to make any protest with reference to said petition should on or before 15 days after the date of publication in the **Federal Register** of this notice, file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426 a motion to intervene or a protest in accordance with the requirements of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.214, 385.211, 385.1105, and 385.1106). All protests filed with the Commission will be considered by it in determining the appropriate action to be taken but will not serve to make the protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party to a proceeding or to participate as a party in any hearing therein must file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules.

David P. Boergers,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-7847 Filed 3-25-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. SA98-13-000]

Hoffmann Oil Company; Notice of Petition for Adjustment and Dispute Resolution Request

March 20, 1998.

Take notice that on March 6, 1998, Hoffmann Oil Company (Hoffmann) filed a petition for adjustment under section 502(c) of the Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978 (NGPA),¹ and a dispute resolution request with respect to Hoffman's Kansas ad valorem tax refund liability under the Commission's September 10, 1997 order (September 10 order) in Docket Nos. RP97-369-000, GP97-3-000, GP97-4-000, and GP97-5-000.² Hoffmann's petition is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

The Commission's September 10 order on remand from the DC Circuit Court of Appeals³ directed first sellers under the NGPA to make Kansas ad valorem tax refunds, with interest, for the period from 1983 to 1988. The Commission clarified the refund procedures in an order issued January 28, 1998, in Docket No. RP98-39-001, *et al.*,⁴ stating therein that producers [first sellers] could request additional time to establish the uncollectability of royalty refunds, and that first sellers may file requests for NGPA section 502(c) adjustment relief from the refund requirement and the timing and procedures for implementing the refunds, based on their individual circumstances.

Hoffmann specifically requests that the Commission: (1) Resolve the pending dispute between Hoffmann and Panhandle Eastern Pipeline Company (Panhandle) concerning the proper amount of refunds, including interest, for reimbursement of Kansas ad valorem taxes paid over the period 1983 to 1988 (with such amounts being placed in an escrow account); (2) grant an adjustment to its procedures to allow Hoffman to defer payment of principal and interest attributable to royalties for one year until March 9, 1999; and (3) grant an adjustment to the Commission's procedures to allow Hoffmann to place

¹ 15 U.S.C. 3142(c) (1982).

² See 80 FERC ¶ 61,264 (1997); order denying reh'g 82 FERC ¶ 61,058 (1998).

³ *Public Service Company of Colorado v. FERC*, 91 F.3d 1478 (D.C. 1996), cert. denied, Nos. 96-954 and 96-1230 (65 U.S.L.W. 3751 and 3754, May 12, 1997) (Public Service).

⁴ See Order Clarifying Procedures 82 FERC ¶ 61,059 (1998).

¹ See 80 FERC ¶ 61,264 (1997); order denying reh'g issued January 2, 1998, 82 FERC ¶ 61,058 (1998).

² *Public Service Company of Colorado v. FERC*, 91 F.3d 1478 (D.C. 1996), cert. denied, Nos. 96-954

and 96-1230 (65 U.S.L.W. 3751 and 3754, May 12, 1997) (Public Service).