

Dated: May 28, 1998.

**W. Michael McCabe,**

*Regional Administrator, Region III.*

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## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[ER-FRL-5492-5]

### Environmental Impact Statements; Notice of Availability

*Responsible Agency:* Office of Federal Activities, General Information (202) 564-7167 or (202) 564-7153. Weekly receipt of Environmental Impact Statements Filed June 1, 1998 Through June 5, 1998 Pursuant to 40 CFR 1506.9.

EIS No. 980208, Draft EIS, AFS, AK, Sea Level Harvest Timber Sale, Implementation, Tongass National Forest, Ketchikan Ranger District, U.S. Coast Guard Permit, NPDES Permit and COE Section 10 and 404 Permit, Revillagigedo (Revilla) Island/Cleveland Peninsula, AK, Due: August 7, 1998, Contact: Peter Griffin (907) 228-4131.

EIS No. 980209, Final EIS, FHW, CA, I-805 Nobel Drive Interchange and Extension Project, Improvements, between Nobel Drive and Miramar Road/LaJolla Village Drive and the extension of Nobel Drive from Shoreline Drive to Miramar Road, in the City of San Diego, San Diego County, CA, Due: July 13, 1998, Contact: G. Glenn Clinton (916) 498-5037.

EIS No. 980210, Final EIS, JUS, CA, Service Processing Center (SPC) for Detainees, Construction and Operation, Possible Sites, Stockton and Tracy Sites, San Joaquin Counties, CA, Due: July 13, 1998, Contact: William A. Kopitz (202) 307-1877.

EIS No. 980211, Final EIS, AFS, CA, Payen, Pass Creek and English Range Allotments, Grazing Land Management Plan, Implementation, Tahoe National Forest, Sierraville Ranger District, Sierra and Nevada Counties, CA, Due: July 13, 1998, Contact: Fred Kent (530) 994-3401.

EIS No. 980212, Final Supplement, AFS, OR, Summit Fire Recovery Forest Restoration Project, Implementation, Malheur National Forest, Long Creek Ranger District, Grant County, OR, Due: July 13, 1998, Contact: Michael Hutchins (541) 575-3000.

EIS No. 980213, Final EIS, BOP, DC, District of Columbia, Department of Corrections (DCDC), Felony Inmate

Population, Implementation, Contracting Private Correctional Facilities for Housing of Inmate Population, United States Capitol, City of Washington, D.C., Due: July 13, 1990, Contact: David D. Dorworth (202) 514-6470.

EIS No. 980214, Final EIS, FHW, PA, US 222 Corridor Design Location Study, Improvements from Breingsville to the I-78 Interchange, Funding, Lower and Upper Macungie Township, Lehigh County, PA, Due: July 13, 1998, Contact: Ronald W. Carmichael (717) 221-3461.

EIS No. 980215, Draft EIS, USA, AZ, Fort Huachuca Real Property Master Planning, Approval of Land Use and Real Estate Investment Strategies, Cochise County, AZ, Due: July 27, 1998, Contact: Gregory Brewer (703) 693-4583.

EIS No. 980216, Final EIS, COE, CA, Yuba River Basin Investigation Study, Flood Protection, Also Portions of the Feather River Basin below Oroville Dam, City of Maryville Yuba County, CA, Due: July 13, 1998, Contact: Jack Rinck (916) 557-6715.

EIS No. 980217, Draft EIS, DOC, PR, VI, Corals and Reef Associated Plants and Invertebrates, Fishery Management Plan, Amendment I Marine Conservation District (MCD), Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), Puerto Islands and U.S. Virgin Islands, PR and VI, Due: July 27, 1998, Contact: Andrew J. Kemmerer (813) 570-5305.

EIS No. 980218, Draft EIS, COE, AK, Beaufort Sea Oil and Gas Development Northstar Project, Implementation, NPDES Permit, Sea Island, Alaskan Beaufort Sea, Offshore Marine Environment and Onshore Northslope of Alaskan Coastal Plain, AK, Due: July 27, 1998, Contact: Ms. Terry Carpenter (907) 753-2712.

EIS No. 980219, Final EIS, AFS, MT, Bighorn Sheep Range and China Basin Salvage Project, Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Activities and Watershed Restoration Activities, Kootenai National Forest, Libby Ranger District, Lincoln County, MT, Due: July 13, 1998, Contact: Kirsten Kaiser (406) 293-7773.

EIS No. 980220, Legislative Draft EIS, USN, NV, Fallon Naval Air Station, Renewal of the B-20 Land Withdrawal, City of Fallon, Churchill County, NV, Due: August 3, 1998, Contact: Sam Dennis (650) 244-3007.

EIS No. 980221, Draft EIS, USA, IN, Newport Chemical Depot, Construction and Operation, Pilot Testing of Neutralization/ Supercritical Water Oxidation of VX Agent, Vermillion County, IN, Due:

July 27, 1998, Contact: Matt Hurlburt (410) 612-7207.

EIS No. 980222, Draft EIS, GSA, NY, Governors Island Disposition of Surplus Federal Real Property, Implementation, Upper New York Bay, NY, Due: July 27, 1998, Contact: Peter A. Sneed (212) 264-3581.

EIS No. 980223, Draft EIS, NPS, MT, Interagency Bison Management Plan for State of Montana and Yellowstone National Park, Implementation, Maintain a wild, Free Ranging Population, Address the risk of Brucellosis Transmission, Park and Gallatin Counties, MT, Due: October 1, 1998, Contact: Sarah Bransom (303) 969-2310.

EIS No. 980224, Final EIS, COE, GA, Brunswick Harbor Deepening Federal Navigation Project, Improvements, Brunswick, Glynn County, GA, Due: July 13, 1998, Contact: William G. Bailey (912) 652-5781.

Dated: June 9, 1998.

**Ken Mittelholtz,**

*Environmental Specialist, NEPA Compliance Division, Office of Federal Activities.*

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## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[ER-FRL-5492-6]

### Environmental Impact Statements and Regulations; Availability of EPA Comments

Availability of EPA comments prepared May 25, 1998 Through May 29, 1998 pursuant to the Environmental Review Process (ERP), under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act and Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act as amended. Requests for copies of EPA comments can be directed to the Office of Federal Activities at (202) 564-7167.

An explanation of the ratings assigned to draft environmental impact statements (EISs) was published in FR dated April 10, 1998 (63 FR 17856).

### Draft EISs

ERP No. D-MMS-G02007-TX Rating LO, Western Planning Area, Proposed Western Gulf of Mexico 1997-2002 (5-Year Program) Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Sales 171, 174, 177 and 180, Lease Offering, Offshore Marine Environmental and Coastal Counties/Parishes of Texas and Louisiana.

*Summary:* EPA had no objections to the selection of the preferred alternative. EPA encourages MMS to continue the practice of applying those stipulations

provided to previous lease sales for the OCS to the proposed sales of 1997 to 2002.

ERP No. D-NOA-L90027-AK Rating \*LO, Kackhemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (KBNERR) Management Plan, Operations and Development, Southcentral, AK.

**Summary:** EPA Region 10 used a screening tool to conduct a limited review of this action. Based upon the screen, EPA does not foresee having any environmental objections to the proposed project. Therefore, EPA will not be conducting a detailed review.

#### Final EISs

ERP No. F-AFS-K65201-CA Liberty Forest Health Improvement Project, Implementation, Tahoe National Forests, Sierraville Ranger District, Sierra and Nevada Counties, CA.

**Summary:** Review of the Final EIS was not deemed necessary. No formal comment letter was sent to the preparing agency.

ERP No. F-FHW-E40751-NC US 70 Goldsboro Bypass Construction, US 70 in the vicinity of NC-1237 to US 70 in the vicinity of NC-1731, Funding and COE Permits, Wayne County, NC.

**Summary:** EPA continues to be concerned regarding impact related to noise, relocations, and flood plain impacts.

ERP No. F-FHW-K50011-CA Carquinez Bridge Project, Replace/Retrofit the westbound I-80 between Cummings Skyway and CA-29, Funding, US Coast Guard and COE Section 10 and 404 Funding, Contra Costa and Solano Counties, CA.

**Summary:** Review of the Final EIS was not deemed necessary. No formal comment letter was sent to the preparing agency.

Dated: June 9, 1998.

**Ken Mittelholtz,**

*Environmental Specialist, NEPA Compliance Division, Office of Federal Activities.*

[FR Doc. 98-15759 Filed 6-11-98; 8:45 am]

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#### ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-6110-8]

#### Proposed Policies Affecting the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Program and Announcement of Stakeholder Meeting

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing to

issue two policy decisions for the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) program. The first would allow eligible privately-owned public water systems to be reimbursed for costs incurred after a State notifies the system that it will provide a loan, but before the system actually receives the loan. This will allow privately-owned systems to move ahead with construction to take advantage of construction seasons. The second policy would allow States to make loans for projects that are needed to solve public health problems for residents currently served by contaminated ground water wells. This policy would expand the universe of eligible loan recipients by allowing loans to an entity that is not currently a public water system, but which will become a public water system upon completion of the project.

EPA has also developed a proposed strategy to be used, if necessary, for implementing withholding of DWSRF funds in cases where States fail to meet statutory requirements for ensuring capacity of new systems commencing operation after October 1, 1999.

EPA is soliciting comments on these proposals until July 19, 1998. Comments in writing should be directed to Veronica Blette, Implementation and Assistance Division, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water, U.S. EPA, (4606), 401 M Street SW, Washington, D.C. 20460, by fax to (202) 260-4656 or by E-mail to blette.veronica@epa.gov. EPA is also holding a stakeholders meeting on July 13, 1998 in Washington, D.C. to discuss the proposals, and to provide an opportunity for participants to comment, ask questions and express their views.

#### Background

The DWSRF program was established by the reauthorized Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) (Pub. L. 104-182), signed by President Clinton on August 6, 1996. The SDWA Amendments authorizes \$9.6 billion for the DWSRF program and related programs from fiscal year 1994 through fiscal year 2003. EPA's budget included \$1.275 billion for the DWSRF program and related programs in FY 1997 and \$725 million in FY 1998. Final Guidelines [EPA 816-R-97-005] for the program were released on February 28, 1997. Funding provided by EPA from the national DWSRF appropriation is used by States to establish DWSRF loan programs. States can also use part of the funds to support State and local programs related to source water protection, operator certification and drinking water programs.

State DWSRF programs can make loans to both privately-owned and

publicly-owned community water systems and not-for-profit non-community water systems. A community water system is a system that serves at least 15 service connections used by year-round residents of the area served by the system; or regularly serves at least 25 year-round residents. A non-community water system is a public water system that is not a community water system. States have the flexibility to tailor DWSRF programs to address local needs as long as the programs meet minimum Federal requirements. States must develop a priority system which will be used to prioritize use of DWSRF funds. Funding priority must be based on three criteria: projects needed to protect public health, achieve or maintain SDWA compliance, and to help those systems with the greatest economic need. States are required annually to develop, and subject to public review, a comprehensive priority list of projects that have applied for funding and a fundable list, which is a list of the highest ranked projects which are expected to receive funding in that year.

#### Proposals

(1) The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) contains a provision which allows State DWSRF programs to provide loans to municipally owned systems to refinance debt incurred for eligible projects. Specifically, section 1452(f)(2) allows States "to buy or refinance the debt obligation of a municipality, intermunicipal or interstate agency within the State \* \* \* in any case in which a debt obligation is incurred after July 1, 1993." However, the SDWA does not have a similar provision for privately-owned facilities.

A number of States have expressed concern that a strict interpretation of this refinance provision could delay construction of some privately-owned projects that are needed to solve public health problems. States would like the option of reimbursing eligible privately-owned systems for debt or costs incurred by the system after it receives notification from the State that the State intends to offer it a loan in the near future. Costs incurred after the notification, but before the loan was made, would be eligible for reimbursement. This would encourage systems to move ahead with construction in order to, for example, take advantage of seasonal construction cycles.

EPA believes that projects which have been approved for funding from the DWSRF, but move ahead with construction prior to the actual award, should be able to include these short