

intake, after three months of instruction and nine months after enrollment using standardized tests of speaking, reading and writing and through a structured interview of literacy practices. Teachers, policymakers and teacher trainers will use the information from the study to develop more effective instruction.

[FR Doc. 99-8227 Filed 4-2-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance; Meeting

AGENCY: Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance, Education.

ACTION: Notice of upcoming meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice sets forth the schedule and proposed agenda of the forthcoming meeting of the Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance. This notice also describes the functions of the Committee. Notice of this meeting is required under Section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act. This document is intended to notify the general public.

DATES AND TIMES: Tuesday, April 27, 1999, beginning at 8:30 a.m. and ending at approximately 5 p.m.; and Wednesday, April 28, 1999, beginning at 8:30 a.m. and ending at approximately 2 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The University of Mississippi, Triplett Alumni Center, the Butler Auditorium, Alumni Drive, in Oxford, Mississippi 38677.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Brian K. Fitzgerald, Staff Director, Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance, Portals Building, 1280 Maryland Avenue, SW., Suite 601, Washington, DC 20202-7582 (202) 708-7439.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance is established under Section 491 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 as amended by Public Law 100-50 (20 U.S.C. 1098). The Advisory Committee serves as an independent source of advice and counsel to the Congress and the Secretary of Education on student financial aid policy. Since its inception, the Committee has been charged with providing technical expertise with regard to systems of need analysis and application forms, making recommendations that result in the maintenance of access to postsecondary education for low- and middle-income students; conducting a study of

institutional lending in the Stafford Student Loan Program; assisting with activities related to the 1992 reauthorization of the Higher Education Act of 1965; conducting a third-year evaluation of the Ford Federal Direct Loan Program (FDLP) and the Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP) under the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (OBRA) of 1993; and assisting Congress with the 1998 reauthorization of the Higher Education Act.

The congressional mandate requires the Advisory Committee to conduct objective, nonpartisan, and independent analyses on important aspects of the student assistance programs under Title IV of the Higher Education Act. The Committee traditionally approaches its work from a set of fundamental goals: promoting program integrity, eliminating or avoiding program complexity, integrating delivery across the Title IV programs, and minimizing burden on students and institutions.

Reauthorization of the Higher Education Act has provided the Advisory Committee with a significantly expanded agenda in six major areas, such as, Performance-based Organization (PBO); Modernization; Technology; Simplification of Law and Regulation; Distance Education; and Early Information and Needs Assessment. In each of these areas, Congress has asked the Committee to: monitor progress toward implementing the Amendments of 1998; conduct independent, objective assessments; and make recommendations for improvement to the Congress and the Secretary. Each of these responsibilities flows logically from and effectively implements one or more of the Committee's original statutory functions and purposes.

The proposed agenda includes: (a) discussion sessions on implementing the provisions of the Higher Education Amendments of 1998 and their impact of all Title IV programs in the 21st century, in particular, college cost and student aid, need-based aid vs. merit-based aid; and (b) the impact of distance education on access and new initiatives in early intervention. In addition, the Committee will discuss its plans for the remainder of fiscal year 1999 and address other Committee business. Space is limited and you are encouraged to register early if you plan to attend. You may register through Internet at ADV_COMSFA@ED.gov or Tracy_Deanna_Jones@ED.gov. Please include your name, title, affiliation, complete address (including Internet and e-mail—if available), and telephone and fax numbers. If you are unable to

register through Internet, you may mail or fax your registration information to the Advisory Committee staff office at (202) 401-3467. Also, you may contact the Advisory Committee staff at (202) 708-7439. The registration deadline is Friday, April 16, 1999.

The Advisory Committee will meet in Washington, DC on April 27, 1999, from 8:30 a.m. until approximately 5 p.m., and on April 28, from 8:30 a.m. until approximately 2 p.m.

Records are kept of all Committee proceedings, and are available for public inspection at the Office of the Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance, Portals Building, 1280 Maryland Avenue, SW., Suite 601, Washington, DC from the hours of 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., weekdays, except Federal holidays.

Dated: March 30, 1999.

Dr. Brian K. Fitzgerald,
Staff Director, Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance.

[FR Doc. 99-8214 Filed 4-2-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

[FE Docket Nos. 50849-1613-07-82 and 50849-1613-08-82]

Application for Rescission of a Prohibition Order Issued Pursuant to the Powerplant and Industrial Fuel Use Act of 1978 Montaup Electric Company and Somerset Power LLC

AGENCY: Office of Fossil Energy, DOE.

ACTION: Notice of Application.

SUMMARY: Montaup Electric Company (Montaup) and Somerset Power LLC (Somerset) have requested that DOE rescind a prohibition order issued for Boiler Nos. 7 and 8 (Unit's 5 and 6, respectively) at Montaup's Somerset Generating Station pursuant to the Powerplant and Industrial Fuel Use Act of 1978 (FUA).

DATES: Comments, protests or requests to intervene must be submitted on or before April 20, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Comments, protests or requests to intervene should be addressed as follows: Office of Coal & Power Import and Export (FE-27), Office of Fossil Energy, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20585-0350.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Xavier Puslowski (Program Office) 202-586-4708 or Michael T. Skinker (Program Attorney) 202-586-6667.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On March 25, 1999, Montaup and Somerset filed a

joint application with the Office of Fossil Energy (FE) of the Department of Energy for rescission of a Prohibition Order issued in Docket Nos. 50849-1613-07-82 and 50849-1613-08-82 on January 27, 1986 (51 FR 4421, February 4, 1986), pursuant to section 301(c) of FUA and 10 CFR 504.8. The order took effect on April 7, 1986 and prohibited the use of petroleum or natural gas as a primary energy source in Boiler Nos. 7 and 8 (Unit Nos. 5 and 6, respectively) at Montaup's Somerset Generating Station located in Somerset, Massachusetts, in excess of the amounts equivalent to operation of each of the boilers using petroleum or natural gas for thirty (30) percent of their respective annual operating hours.

On October 15, 1998, Montaup and NRG Energy, Inc. (NRG) signed an Asset Purchase Agreement to sell the Somerset Generating Station to NRG. NRG has assigned its rights under that agreement to Somerset Power LLC, which will acquire the Somerset Generating Station and associated property. Transfer of ownership of the station is scheduled to occur by April 1, 1999. Therefore, Montaup and Somerset Power LLC have filed this application jointly.

Pursuant to 10 CFR 501.102(b), Montaup and Somerset filed this application based on a substantial change in the circumstances upon which the Prohibition Order was originally issued. The applicants note a provision of the existing order which states:

"* * * changes in the * * * relative economics of coal * * * as a fuel source * * * will be deemed to constitute 'significantly changed circumstances' pursuant to 10 CFR 501.102(b) sufficient to provide a basis for rescission or modification of the specific prohibitions contained in this Order."

Montaup and Somerset claim that the price of oil is now significantly below the price of coal currently used in the Somerset Generating Station and that the continued use of coal would impair the facility's competitive position within the electric power market. The applicants also state that the deregulation of natural gas prices since the issuance of the original Prohibition Order and the prominence gained by natural gas as a viable alternative fuel source make the continued prohibition or limitation on the use of natural gas serve no just purpose. The applicants also note that the use of natural gas can offer significant environmental benefits over the burning of coal in the Somerset facility. For these reasons, Montaup and Somerset request that DOE rescind the

Prohibition Order issued for the Somerset Generating Station.

Procedural Matters

Any party or person desiring to be heard or to protest this application for rescission should file five copies of any comments, protests or petitions to intervene at the address provided above. Filings should be clearly marked with the above docket numbers. Any request for a public hearing must be made within the public comment period. In making its decision regarding the requested rescission action, DOE will consider all relevant information submitted or otherwise available to it.

The public file containing a copy of this rescission application is available, upon request, at the address above.

DOE has granted the applicant's request for an expedited notice and comment period of fifteen (15) days due to the absence of any comments, protests or requests for a hearing having been filed in the original proceeding.

Issued in Washington, DC, on March 30, 1999.

Anthony J. Como,

Manager, Electric Power Regulation, Office of Coal & Power Im/Ex, Office of Fossil Energy.

[FR Doc. 99-8287 Filed 4-2-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Notice of Floodplain Involvement for the Constructed Wetlands Treatment of the A-01 Outfall Effluent at the Savannah River Site (SRS), Aiken, South Carolina

AGENCY: Savannah River Operations Office, Department of Energy (DOE).

ACTION: Notice of floodplain involvement.

SUMMARY: The process water effluent from the A-01 outfall located on SRS has consistently not met proposed South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit limits which will become effective on October 1, 1999. DOE needs to reduce the copper and chronic toxicity levels in this effluent to ensure compliance when these proposed outfall limits go into effect. Based on extensive existing research in the use of wetlands to treat wastewater, DOE proposes to build and operate an artificial wetland facility to treat the effluent to meet the new discharge limits. This proposed treatment facility would be constructed within the 100-year floodplain of Tims

Branch drainage corridor. In accordance with 10 CFR 1022, DOE will prepare a floodplain assessment and will perform this proposed action in a manner so as to avoid or minimize potential harm to or within the affected floodplain.

DATES: Comments on the proposed action are due on or before April 20, 1999.

ADDRESSES: For further information, including a site map and/or copy of the floodplain assessment, or to submit comments regarding this notice, contact Andrew R. Grainger, National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Compliance Officer, Savannah River Operations Office, Building 742-A, Room 183, Aiken, South Carolina 29808. The fax/phone number is (800) 881-7292. The e-mail address is nepa@srs.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON GENERAL FLOODPLAIN/WETLANDS ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW REQUIREMENTS, CONTACT: Ms. Carol M. Borgstrom, Director, Office of NEPA Policy and Assistance (EH-42), U. S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585. Telephone (202) 586-4600 or (800) 472-2756.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In 1996, SCDHEC issued a new NPDES permit for SRS. This permit, which will go into effect no later than October 1, 1999, established new limits for copper, lead, mercury, and chronic toxicity. Subsequent to SCDHEC issuing the new permit, samples taken at the relocated A-01 outfall have shown that the effluent consistently does not meet the new outfall limits for both copper and chronic toxicity. DOE needs to implement actions to reduce these concentrations prior to that time when the new outfall limits are scheduled to go into effect. Extensive research has indicated that an artificial wetland can be used to treat these constituents and reduce the concentrations below the new permit limits before the effluent reaches the NPDES compliance sampling point. Based on this, DOE proposes to build and operate artificial wetlands to treat the effluent to meet the new discharge limits.

The proposed action entails the following: (1) Relocating the compliance point from the current location to a new site approximately 0.92 kilometers (0.57 miles) below the present outfall (already approved by SCDHEC), and (2) creating a flow management basin and an artificial wetland facility within the drainage channel of Tims Branch into which the A-01 outfall effluent is currently being discharged. These activities would necessitate temporary heavy equipment access and