

Federal programs. Applicants (other than Federally-recognized Indian tribal governments) should contact their State Single Point of Contact (SPOC), a list of which is included in the application Kit, along with further instructions on proposed projects serving more than one State.

The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance number is: 16.603

Dated: May 5, 2000.

Morris L. Thigpen,

Director, National Institute of Corrections.

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Bureau of Prisons

Notice of Cancellation of the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for Housing the Criminal Alien Population in Non-Federal Low-Security Correctional Facilities

AGENCY: U.S. Department of Justice Bureau of Prisons.

ACTION: Notice of cancellation of the programmatic environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY:

Proposed Action

The mission of the Federal Bureau of Prisons (Bureau) is to protect society by confining offenders in the controlled environments of prison and community-based facilities that are safe, humane, cost-efficient, and appropriately secure, and that provide work and other self-improvement opportunities to assist offenders in becoming law-abiding citizens. In addition, the Bureau supports the U.S. Marshals Service in its efforts to house the growing number of unsentenced Federal detainees, and the Immigration and Naturalization Service in the rapidly increasing requirements for the detention of sentenced and unsentenced aliens awaiting hearings and/or release or repatriation to their country of origination. The Bureau accomplishes its mission through the appropriate use of community correction, detention, and correctional facilities that are either: Federally-owned and operated; Federally-owned and non-Federally operated; and non-Federally owned and operated.

The Bureau is facing a period of unprecedented growth in its inmate population. Projections show the federal inmate population increasing from approximately 120,000 inmates to 205,000 inmates by 2007. As such, the demand for bed space within the federal

prison system will continue to grow at a significant rate. A portion of this growth is the result of programs implemented by the Immigration and Naturalization Service regarding sentenced and unsentenced aliens. Correctional institutions at the low security level will be impacted immediately because sentenced and unsentenced aliens are typically housed at the low security level. Due to the current shortage of beds, especially at the low security level, the Bureau has been forced to manage its population by designating minimum and medium security level institutions as low security institutions which, in turn, creates a domino effect for all other security levels. The projected population of sentenced and unsentenced aliens will only exacerbate these population pressures.

Over the past several years, the Bureau has sought flexibility in managing the shortage of beds in the low security level as well as the anticipated sharp and/or short-term increases at this security level. Such management flexibility would have to meet population capacity needs in a timely fashion, comport with federal law, and maintain fiscal responsibility, all while successfully attaining the mission of the Bureau. Management flexibility includes the appropriate contracting of non-federal correctional facilities.

To ensure compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, 42 U.S.C. 4321 (NEPA) as amended, the Bureau initiated preparation of a Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement in April 1999. The Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement was intended to identify and analyze potential impacts to the natural and manmade environments resulting from use of non-federal correctional facilities to house the criminal alien population. Topics to be studied as part of the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement include: topography, geology/soils, hydrology, biological resources, utility services, transportation services, cultural resources, land uses, social and economic factors, hazardous materials, air and noise quality, among others. As part of that effort, the Bureau hosted Scoping Meetings to afford the public, regulatory agency representatives, and elected officials an opportunity to learn about and voice their interests and concerns regarding the use of private contract correctional facilities and the Draft Programmatic EIS effort. The Scoping Meetings were held on April 29, 1999 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; May 4, 1999 in Dallas, Texas; and May

6, 1999 in San Diego, California and were attended by interested members of the public.

While preparing the Draft Programmatic EIS, the Bureau reviewed its environmental compliance policies and procedures for the CAR program and has decided to pursue alternative arrangements for complying with NEPA. More specifically, the Bureau determined that evaluating the development of Federal and contract correctional facilities was best performed on a case-by-case basis. An individualized approach to project evaluation carries with it the advantages of site-specific evaluations, greater public participation, and tailored mitigation plans. As a result, the Bureau has decided to cancel the Programmatic EIS and instead concentrate its efforts and resources at preparing individual, site-specific Environmental Impact Statements for facilities proposed to house the criminal alien population.

ADDRESSES: Questions concerning this matter may be directed to: David J. Dorworth, Chief, Site Selection and Environmental Review Branch, U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Prisons, 320 First Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20534, Telephone: 202-514-6470, Facsimile: 202-616-6024, e-mail: siteselection@bop.gov.

Dated: May 5, 2000.

David J. Dorworth,

Chief, Site Selection & Environmental Review Branch.

[FR Doc. 00-11789 Filed 5-11-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Bureau of Prisons

Notice of Intent To Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for Development of a Medium-Security Federal Correctional Institution in Pennsylvania

AGENCY: Bureau of Prisons, U.S. Department of Justice.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS).

SUMMARY:

Proposed Action

The mission of the United States Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Prisons is to protect society by confining offenders in the controlled environments of prison and community-based facilities that are safe, humane, cost-efficient, and appropriately secure, and that provide work and other self-

improvement opportunities to assist offenders in becoming law-abiding citizens. The Bureau accomplishes its mission through the appropriate use of community correction, detention, and correctional facilities that are either: Federally-owned and operated; Federally-owned and non-Federally operated; and non-Federally owned and operated.

The Bureau is facing a period of unprecedented growth in its inmate population. Projections show the federal inmate population increasing from approximately 120,000 inmates to 205,000 inmates by 2007. As such, the demand for bedspace within the federal prison system will continue to grow at a significant rate. To accommodate a portion of the growing inmate population, the Bureau of Prisons has determined that an additional medium-security Federal Correctional Institution (FCI) is needed in its system. Therefore, the Bureau of Prisons is proposes to build and operate a medium-security federal correctional facility, with an adjacent minimum-security satellite camp, in Pennsylvania. The main medium-security facility would provide habitation for approximately 1,200 inmates, with an additional 150–300 inmates to be housed at the minimum-security satellite camp.

Several sites in Northumberland County, Pennsylvania have been offered to the Bureau for consideration in developing the medium-security FCI and satellite camp. The Bureau of Prisons has preliminarily evaluated these sites and determined that the prospective sites appear to be of sufficient size to provide space for housing, programs, administrative services and other support facilities associated with the correctional facility. The DEIS to be prepared by the Bureau will analyzed the potential impacts of correctional facility construction and operation at these sites.

The Process

In the process of evaluating the sites, several aspects will receive detailed examination including, but are not limited to: topography, geology/soils, hydrology, biological resources, utility services, transportation services, cultural resources, land uses, socio-economics, hazardous materials, air and noise quality, among others.

Alternatives

In developing the DEIS, the options of “no action” and “alternative sites” for the proposed facility will be fully and thoroughly examined.

Scoping Process

During the preparation of the DEIS, there will be opportunities for public involvement in order to determine the issues to be examined. A public Scoping Meeting will be held at 7 P.M., May 31, 2000 at the Northumberland County Career & Arts Center located at 2 East Arch Street, Shamokin, Pennsylvania. The meeting location, date, and time will be well publicized and has been arranged to allow for the public as well as interested agencies and organizations to attend. The meeting is being held to allow interested persons to formally express their views on the scope and significant issues to be studied as part of the DEIS process. The Scoping Meeting is being held to provide for timely public comments and understanding of federal plans and programs with possible environmental consequences as required by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, and the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. In addition, public information meetings have been held in Northumberland County by representatives of the Bureau of Prisons with interested citizens, elected officials, and community leaders.

DEIS Preparation

Public notice will be given concerning the availability of the DEIS for public review and comment.

Addresses

Questions concerning the proposed action and the DEIS may be directed to: David J. Dorworth, Chief, Site Selection and Environmental Review Branch, Federal Bureau of Prisons, 320 First Street, NW., Washington, D.C. 20534, Telephone (202) 514-6470, Telefacsimile (202) 616-6024, E-Mail: siteselection@bop.gov.

Dated: May 5, 2000.

David J. Dorworth,

Chief, Site Selection and Environmental Review Branch.

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

Notice of Availability of Funds and Solicitation for Grant Applications (SGAs) for the Purpose of Training Child Care Providers

SUMMARY: *This notice contains all of the necessary information and forms*

needed to apply for grant funding. The Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training, invites proposals for approximately ten (10) awards for the implementation of the Quality Child Care Initiative. It will assist with the initiation of building a national system for the education and training of professional child care providers and expand the National Apprenticeship System by incorporating diversification of occupational entities through development of new and innovative strategies for increasing the participation among the child care industry.

DATES: Applications will be accepted commencing on the date of publication. The closing date for receipt of applications is July 12, 2000, at 4 P.M., (Eastern Time) at the address below. *Telefacsimile (FAX)*, *Ttelegraphed*, or Electronic Applications will not be honored.

ADDRESSES: Applications shall be mailed to the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, Division of Federal Assistance, Attention: Reda Harrison, Reference: SGA/DFA 00-106, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Room S-4203, Washington, DC 20210.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Questions should be faxed to Reda Harrison, Grants Management Specialist, Division of Federal Assistance, Fax 202-219-8739. This is not a toll-free number. All inquiries should include the SGA number (DFA 00-106) a contact name, fax and phone numbers. This solicitation will also be published on the Internet on the Employment and Training Administration's Home Page at <http://www.doleta.gov>. Award notifications will also be published on this Home Page.

Quality Child Care Initiative Solicitation

I. Purpose

To invite proposals for providing a credentialed career path for development of professional child care providers through the utilization of the National Registered Apprenticeship System; which will reduce turnover, increase wages for providers, provide a more stable environment for children and lower the concern of parents.

II. Background

The Child Care Industry is in trouble. A 1989 study by the National Center of Early Childhood Workforce found that the quality of services provided by most day care centers was rated as “barely