

Notices

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Oregon Coast Provincial Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of Meeting.

SUMMARY: The Oregon Coast Province Advisory Committee will meet at Siuslaw National Forest Headquarters, Siuslaw River Room. The theme of the meeting is 2008 overview. The agenda includes: Brief WOPR Public involvement, Recreation Facility Assessment, WOPR Progress, Monitoring Field Trip and Public comments.

DATES: The meeting will be held January 17, 2008, beginning at 9 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at 4077 SW Research Way, Corvallis Oregon 97333.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joni Quarnstrom, Public Affairs Specialist, Siuslaw National Forest, 541-750-7075, or write to Siuslaw National Forest Supervisor, 4077 SW Research Way, Corvallis, OR 97339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The meeting is open to the public. Council Discussion is limited to Forest Service/BLM staff and Council Members. Lunch will be on your own. A public input session will be at 11 a.m. for fifteen minutes. The meeting is expected to adjourn around 3:30 p.m.

Dated: January 4, 2008.

Joni Quarnstrom,

Public Affairs Specialist.

[FR Doc. 08-60 Filed 1-9-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Southeast Supply Header Project; Southeast Supply Header, LLC; Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), Docket Nos. CP07-44-000, CP07-45-000, PF06-28-000, FERC EIS 0211; August 2007

AGENCY: Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of Availability of the Record of Decision.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969; the Council on Environmental Quality Guidelines (40 CFR Part 1500); and the Natural Resources Conservation Service Guidelines (7 CFR Part 650); the Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, has decided to subordinate its rights, acquired under the Wetland Reserve Program (WRP), to allow the Southeast Supply Header, LLC to cross NRCS held conservations easements associated with the Southeast Supply Header Project in Madison Parish, LA.

On December 18, 2006, SESH filed, in Docket No. CP07-446-000, an application with the Commission pursuant to section 7(c) of the *Natural Gas Act* and Part 157 of the Commission's regulations for a Certificate to construct, operate, and maintain an interstate natural gas pipeline and associated ancillary and aboveground facilities.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) has prepared a final environmental impact statement (EIS) to fulfill requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The purpose of this document was to make public the analysis of the environmental impacts that would likely result from the construction and operation of the proposed Project. The NRCS participated as a cooperating agency in the preparation of the EIS.

The project will affect approximately 7 NRCS held Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) easements by creating a 50 ft. permanent right of way (within a 100 ft. construction right-of-way) that extends for approximately 269 miles of which 6.7 miles is over lands encumbered under WRP easements located in

Madison Parish, Louisiana. Of the 34,584 acres encumbered by WRP easements in Madison Parish, Louisiana 73.93 acres will be affected.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kevin D. Norton, State Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service, 3737 Government Street, Alexandria, Louisiana 71302; telephone (318) 473-7751.

A limited number of copies of the ROD are available to fill single copy requests at the above address. Basic data evaluated for the ROD are on file and may be reviewed by contacting Kevin D. Norton.

Dated: January 3, 2008.

Kevin D. Norton,

State Conservationist.

[FR Doc. E8-298 Filed 1-9-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-16-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[Docket No. 0612242708-7825-01]

Ernest F. Hollings Undergraduate Scholarship Program

AGENCY: Office of Education (OEd), Office of the Undersecretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere (USEC), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of Scholarship Opportunity.

SUMMARY: NOAA announces the Ernest F. Hollings Scholarship Program for FY 2008, and sets forth eligibility criteria and selection guidelines for the program. The Ernest F. Hollings Scholarship Program was established through the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005 (Pub. L. 108-447). This Scholarship Program will provide approximately 100 undergraduate applicants selected for the program with scholarships to participate in oceanic and atmospheric science, research, technology, and education. There is no guarantee that funds will be available to make awards to all qualified applicants.

DATES: Completed applications must be received by February 8, 2008, at 5 p.m. eastern daylight time.

ADDRESSES: Applications for the Ernest F. Hollings Scholarship Program will be available through NOAA at http://www.oesd.noaa.gov/Hollings_info.html. If an applicant does not have Internet access, hardcopy applications may be requested by contacting NOAA Office of Education, Hollings Scholarship Program, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 10703, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: NOAA Hollings Scholarship at StudentScholarshipPrograms@noaa.gov or call 301-713-9437 x150.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Ernest F. Hollings Scholarship Program was established through the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005 (Pub. L. 108-447). The purposes of the program include: (1) To increase undergraduate training in oceanic and atmospheric sciences, research, technology, and education and to foster multidisciplinary training opportunities; (2) to increase public understanding and support for stewardship of the ocean and atmosphere and to improve environmental literacy; (3) to recruit and prepare students for public service careers with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and other natural resource and science agencies at the Federal, state and local and tribal levels of government; and, (4) to recruit and prepare students for careers as teachers and educators in oceanic and atmospheric sciences and to improve scientific and environmental education in the United States.

The Hollings Scholarship Program will provide successful undergraduate applicants with awards that include academic assistance (up to \$8,000 per year) for full-time study during the 9-month academic year; a 10-week, full-time internship position (\$650/week) during the summer at a NOAA facility; and, if reappointed, academic assistance (up to \$8,000) for full-time study during a second 9-month academic year. The internship between the first and second years of the award provides the scholars with "hands-on" practical educational training experience in NOAA-related scientific, research, technology, policy, management, and education activities. Awards will also include travel expenses to attend a mandatory Hollings Scholarship Program orientation, approved conferences where students present a paper or poster, and a housing subsidy for scholars who do not reside at home during the summer internship.

Authority

The Ernest F. Hollings Undergraduate Scholarship Program is established by the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration under authority of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005 (Pub. L. 108-447).

Funding Availability

Approximately \$3.5 million may be available for the award of two-year scholarships, subject to the availability of appropriations. There is no guarantee that funds will be available to provide scholarships for all qualified students.

Eligibility

Any undergraduate student who is a U.S. citizen; enrolled as a full-time student in the Fall 2008 as a junior, at an accredited college or university within the United States or U.S. Territories; possesses at least a 3.0 grade point average per semester/quarter and cumulative on a 4.0 scale (or equivalent on other identified scale) in all completed undergraduate courses and in their major field of study; and has declared a major in a NOAA-related discipline, including, but not limited to, oceanic, environmental, and atmospheric sciences, mathematics, engineering, remote sensing technology, marine policy, physical and social sciences including, geography, physics, hydrology, meteorology, oceanography or teacher education that support NOAA's programs and mission may apply to this notification.

The Hollings Scholarship Program will consider applications from all students that meet the above eligibility requirements.

Evaluation Criteria

Application will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. Relevant coursework (30%).
2. Education plan and statement of career interest (40%).
3. Recommendations and/or endorsements (reference forms) (20%).
4. Additional relevant experience related to diversity of education; extracurricular activities; honors and awards; non-academic and volunteer work; written and oral communications skills (10%).

Selection Process

An initial administrative review of applications is conducted to determine compliance with requirements and completeness of applications. Only complete applications in compliance with the requirements will be considered for review. Applications identified as incomplete or not in

compliance with the requirements will not be reviewed and will be destroyed. All applications that meet the requirements and are complete will be evaluated and scored individually in accordance with the assigned weights of the evaluation criteria by an independent peer review panel, comprised of Federal and nonfederal employees. No consensus advice or recommendations will be given. A numerical ranking will be assigned to each application based on the average of the panelist's ratings. The Program Officer will conduct a review of the rank order and make recommendations to the Selecting Official based on the panel ratings and the selection factors listed below. The Selecting Official, the Director of NOAA Education, will consider merit reviews and recommendations and award in rank order unless the application is justified to be selected out of rank order based on one or more of the following selection factors:

Selection Factors

In determining final awards, the selecting official reserves the right to consider the following selection factors:

1. Availability of funds.
2. Balance/distribution of funds:
 - a. Geographically.
 - b. By type of institutions.
 - c. Across academic disciplines.
3. Program-specific objectives.
4. Degree in scientific area and type of degree sought.

Repayment Requirement

A Hollings Scholarship recipient shall be required to repay the full amount of the scholarship to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration if it is determined that the individual, in obtaining or using the scholarship, engaged in fraudulent conduct or failed to comply with any term or condition of the scholarship.

Cost Sharing Requirements

There are no cost-sharing requirements.

Intergovernmental Review

Applications under this program are not subject to Executive Order 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs."

Limitation of Liability

In no event will NOAA or the Department of Commerce be responsible for proposal preparation costs if this program is cancelled because of other agency priorities. Publication of this notice does not oblige NOAA to award any specific project or to obligate any

available funds. Applicants are hereby given notice that funding for the Fiscal Year 2008 program is contingent upon the availability of Fiscal Year 2008 appropriations.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

As defined in sections 5.05 and Administrative or Programmatic Functions of NAO 216–6, 6.03.c.3, this is an undergraduate scholarship and internship program for which there are no cumulative effects. Thus, it has been categorically excluded from the need to prepare an Environmental Assessment.

Paperwork Reduction Act

Notwithstanding any other provision of the law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA), unless that collection displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. The Hollings Undergraduate Scholarship application form has been approved under OMB Control No. 0648–0568.

Executive Order 12866

This notice has been determined to be not significant for purposes of Executive Order 12866.

Executive Order 13132 (Federalism)

It has been determined that this notice does not contain policies with Federalism implications as that term is defined in Executive Order 13132.

Administrative Procedure Act/Regulatory Flexibility Act

Prior notice and an opportunity for public comment are not required by the Administrative Procedure Act or any other law for rules concerning public property, loans, grants, benefits, and contracts (5 U.S.C. 553(a)(2)). Because notice and opportunity for comment are not required pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553 or any other law, the analytical requirements for the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*) are inapplicable. Therefore, a regulatory flexibility analysis has not been prepared.

Dated: January 7, 2008.

Louisa Koch,

Director, NOAA Education, U.S. Department of Commerce.

[FR Doc. E8–272 Filed 1–9–08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–12–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Telecommunications and Information Administration

[Docket No. 071214850–7851–01]

Public Telecommunications Facilities Program: Closing Date

AGENCY: National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of Availability of Funds.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2008, Public Law 110–161, 121 Stat. 1844 (2007), the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), U.S. Department of Commerce, announces the solicitation of applications for planning and construction grants for public telecommunications facilities under the Public Telecommunications Facilities Program (PTFP). The PTFP assists, through matching grants, in the planning and construction of public telecommunications facilities in order to: (1) Extend delivery of services to as many citizens as possible by the most cost-effective means, including use of broadcast and non-broadcast technologies; (2) increase public telecommunications services and facilities available to, operated by, and controlled by minorities and women; (3) strengthen the capability of existing public television and radio stations to provide public telecommunications services to the public.

DATES: Applications must be received prior to 5 p.m. Eastern Time (Closing Time), February 22, 2008, (Closing Date). Applications submitted by facsimile are not acceptable. If an application is received after the Closing Date due to (1) carrier error, when the carrier accepted the package with a guarantee for delivery by the Closing Date and Closing Time, (2) significant weather delays or natural disasters, or (3) delays due to national security issues, NTIA will, upon receipt of proper documentation, consider the application as having been received by the deadline. NTIA will not accept applications posted on the Closing Date or later and received after this deadline.

ADDRESSES: To obtain a printed application package, submit completed applications, or send any other correspondence, write to PTFP at the following address (please note the new room number): NTIA/PTFP, Room H–4812, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230. Application

materials may be obtained electronically via the Internet at <http://www.ntia.doc.gov/ptfp> or <http://www.Grants.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

William Cooperman, Director, Public Broadcasting Division, telephone: (202) 482–5802; fax: (202) 482–2156.

Information about the PTFP can also be obtained electronically via the Internet at <http://www.ntia.doc.gov/ptfp>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Electronic Access

The full funding opportunity announcement for the PTFP fiscal year (FY) 2008 grant cycle is available through <http://www.Grants.gov> or by contacting the PTFP office at the address noted above.

Funding Availability

The Congress has appropriated \$16.8 million for FY 2008 PTFP awards. For FY 2007, NTIA awarded \$22 million in PTFP funds to 117 projects, including 57 radio awards, 56 television awards and 4 nonbroadcast awards. The radio awards ranged from \$6,787 to \$393,099. The television awards ranged from \$24,091 to \$1,189,250. The nonbroadcast awards ranged from \$60,560 to \$86,079.

Statutory and Regulatory Authority

The Public Telecommunications Facilities Program is authorized by the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. 390–393, 397–399(b). The PTFP operates pursuant to rules (1996 Rules) which were published on November 8, 1996 (61 FR 57966). Copies of the 1996 Rules (15 CFR Part 2301) are posted on the NTIA internet site at <http://www.ntia.doc.gov/Rules/currentrules.htm> and NTIA will make printed copies available to applicants upon request.

Supplemental Policies

The following supplemental policies will also be in effect:

A) Applicants may file emergency applications at any time.

B) Applicants may file requests for Federal Communications Commission (FCC) authorizations with the FCC after the PTFP Closing Date. Grant applicants for Ku-band satellite uplinks may submit FCC applications after a PTFP award is made. NTIA may accept FCC authorizations that are in the name of an organization other than the PTFP applicant.

C) PTFP applicants are not required to submit copies of their PTFP applications to the FCC, nor are they required to submit copies of the FCC