

Boulevard, Yucaipa, California 92399 from 6 pm to 9 pm on January 14, 2004.

Comments: Written comments concerning the Draft EIS/EIR should be submitted by February 12, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments to District Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District, ATTN: CESPL-PD-RL (L. Goodman), P.O. Box 532711, Los Angeles, CA 90053-2325.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Lois Goodman, Environmental Coordinator, telephone (213)-452-3869, or Mr. Robert Stuart, Study Manager, telephone (213)-452-3811. The cooperating entity, the County of San Bernardino Flood Control District, requests that inquiries be addressed to Mr. Jim Borcuk, at (909)-387-7962.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: 1. Authorization. Congress has authorized the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to conduct a Feasibility Study to investigate flood damage prevention and related opportunities along the Wilson Creek and Oak Glen Creek confluence area in Yucaipa, California, pursuant to House Resolution of the Committee on Public Works, dated May 8, 1964. Section 105 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 (Pub. L. 99-662, as amended) specifies the cost sharing requirements applicable to this study.

2. Background. The proposed study will investigate the feasibility of providing improved flood protection for the City of Yucaipa in San Bernardino County, California. The city of Yucaipa is located approximately 20 miles southeast of the city of San Bernardino. Wilson and Oak Glen Creeks originate in the San Bernardino Mountains and flow in a southerly direction through the city of Yucaipa, where they join.

Wilson Creek is an earth-bottomed channel from Yucaipa Boulevard, downstream to Interstate 10. A system of rail, cable, wire fencing, and corrugated steel protects the toe of the banks. The channel width averages about 50 feet, and the channel depth is about 10 feet. At Yucaipa Boulevard, the low bridge clearance severely restricts the channel depth. This constriction would likely divert major flood overflows to the southeast, away from the channel, where they could inundate a large portion of the developed area of Yucaipa before returning to the channel near the freeway. Based on Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM), the 100-year floodplain is up to one half mile wide along one and one half miles of the north bank of Wilson Creek. The FIRM also indicates a significantly wide floodplain from 2nd street downstream to Oak Glen Boulevard, a distance of

about two miles. Proposed new development along both sides of the creek may increase runoff in the near future. Overflows from Oak Glen Creek could inundate existing structures located along about one mile of the south overbank. The County of San Bernardino Flood Control District owns and operates a series of five large, interconnected, off-line water conservation basins along the south overbank of Wilson Creek, between Fremont Street and Bryant Street.

3. Proposed Action/Preliminary Alternatives. Two preliminary alternatives, in addition to the No Action alternative, were identified in the Reconnaissance Study. Preliminary Alternative 1 involves converting the off-line water conservation basins on the south overbank of Wilson Creek to flood detention basins. These basins appear to have the potential to contain substantial flood storage volume. Preliminary Alternative 2 involves deepening and widening sections of the channel in order to control the 100-year flood event, possibly in combination with additional detention basins upstream from the flooding problem. Subsequent to completion of the Reconnaissance Study, the City of Yucaipa developed a preliminary plan that includes a series of six interconnected in-stream detention basins at the confluence of Wilson Creek and Oak Glen Creek and immediately upstream on both Creeks. This preliminary plan also includes a nature trail and interpretive features.

4. Scoping Process. All interested Federal, State, County and local resource agencies, as well as Native American peoples, groups with environmental interests, and all interested individuals are encouraged to participate in the scoping process. Benefits of public involvement include: identification of pertinent environmental issues that need to be addressed; identification of issues that are not significant that may be eliminated from detailed study; contribution of useful information, such as published or unpublished data, direct personal experience, or knowledge which may support the decision-making process; assistance in defining the scope of appropriate plans and alternatives to be considered; and recommendations for suitable measures to mitigate potential adverse impacts of implementing plans or alternatives.

A public scoping meeting is scheduled on January 14, 2004 (*see DATES*). The purpose of the scoping meeting will be to gather information from the general public and interested organizations about issues and concerns that they would like to see addressed in

the EIS/EIR. Comments may be delivered verbally at the meeting or sent in writing to the Los Angeles District. (*See DATES and ADDRESSES above.*)

5. Availability of the Draft EIS/EIR. The Draft EIS/EIR is expected to be available to the public for review and comment beginning in late 2005.

Dated: December 16, 2003.

Richard G. Thompson,

Colonel, US Army, District Engineer.

[FR Doc. 03-31894 Filed 12-24-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests

AGENCY: Department of Education.

SUMMARY: The Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, invites comments on the proposed information collection requests as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before February 27, 2004.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 35) requires that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. OMB may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, publishes that notice containing proposed information collection requests prior to submission of these requests to OMB. Each proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, *e.g.* new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) Title; (3) Summary of the collection; (4) Description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) Respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) Reporting and/or Recordkeeping burden. OMB invites public comment.

The Department of Education is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) Is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will

this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology.

Dated: December 19, 2004.

Angela C. Arrington,

Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

Institute of Education Sciences

Type of Review: New Collection.

Title: Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) Minimum Data Set (MDS) (KA).

Frequency: Other: one time.

Affected Public: Businesses or other for-profit (primary); Not-for-profit institutions.

Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Responses: 13,000.

Burden Hours: 1,827.

Abstract: IPEDS is a system of surveys designed to collect basic data from postsecondary institutions in the U.S. To date, the main focus of IPEDS has been Title IV institutions, but institutions that do not participate in these federal student financial aid programs are becoming an increasingly important source of educational opportunity in the country. But their scope and nature are not well known. This survey is designed to arrive at a statistical estimate of the number of non-Title IV institutions.

Requests for copies of the proposed information collection request may be accessed from <http://edicsweb.ed.gov>, by selecting the "Browse Pending Collections" link and by clicking on link number 2432. When you access the information collection, click on "Download Attachments" to view. Written requests for information should be addressed to Vivian Reese, Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Room 4050, Regional Office Building 3, Washington, DC 20202-4651 or to the e-mail address vivian_reese@ed.gov. Requests may also be electronically mailed to the Internet address OCIO_RIMG@ed.gov or faxed to 202-708-9346. Please specify the complete title of the information collection when making your request.

Comments regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements should be directed to Kathy Axt at her e-mail address, Kathy.Axt@ed.gov. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf

(TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

[FR Doc. 03-31817 Filed 12-24-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Notice of Preferred Nevada Rail Corridor

AGENCY: Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management, U.S. Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of the Preferred Nevada Rail Corridor.

SUMMARY: On July 23, 2002, the President signed into law (Pub. L. 107-200) a joint resolution of the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate designating the Yucca Mountain site in Nye County, Nevada, for development as a geologic repository for the disposal of spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste. The Department of Energy (DOE or Department) is now responsible for planning and implementing a transportation program for the shipment of spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste, in the event the Nuclear Regulatory Commission authorizes receipt and possession of spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste at Yucca Mountain.

In the Final Environmental Impact Statement for a Geologic Repository for the Disposal of Spent Nuclear Fuel and High-Level Radioactive Waste at Yucca Mountain, Nye County, Nevada (DOE/EIS-0250F) (Final EIS), the Department evaluated various modes of transportation including mostly rail, mostly legal-weight truck and mostly heavy-haul truck. The Department identified the mostly rail alternative as its preferred mode of transportation in the Final EIS.

In the event that DOE selects the mostly rail alternative, a rail line would need to be constructed to connect the repository site at Yucca Mountain to an existing rail line in the State of Nevada. Accordingly, the Final EIS evaluated five rail corridors¹—Caliente, Carlin, Caliente-Chalk Mountain, Jean, and Valley Modified. The Department, however, did not identify a preferred rail corridor in the Final EIS, but indicated it would do so at least 30 days

before making any decisions on the selection of a corridor.

The Department is now announcing the Caliente rail corridor as its preferred corridor in which to construct a rail line in Nevada, and Carlin as a secondary preference. If the Department adopts the mostly rail mode in Nevada, DOE will issue a Record of Decision selecting a rail corridor no sooner than 30 days after publication of this preference announcement. If the Department selects a rail corridor, DOE will issue a Notice of Intent in the **Federal Register** to initiate the preparation of a rail alignment EIS under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to consider alternative alignments within the selected corridor for construction of a rail line. Under this scenario, the Department would anticipate holding public scoping meetings in early-to-mid February, 2004. The exact date, time and locations of the meetings would be announced in the Notice of Intent.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

To obtain a copy of the Final EIS or for further information contact: Ms. Robin Sweeney, Office of National Transportation, Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management, U.S. Department of Energy, 1551 Hillshire Drive, M/S 011, Las Vegas, NV 89134, Telephone 1-800-967-3477. The Final EIS is available on the Internet at ocrwm.doe.gov.

For further information regarding the DOE NEPA process contact: Ms. Carol M. Borgstrom, Director, Office of NEPA Policy and Compliance (EH-42), U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20585, Telephone (202) 586-4600, or leave a message at 1-800-472-2756.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

In the Final EIS, DOE analyzed a Proposed Action to construct, operate and monitor, and eventually close a geologic repository at Yucca Mountain. As part of the Proposed Action, DOE analyzed the potential impacts of transporting spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste from 72 commercial and 5 DOE sites to the Yucca Mountain site.² Transportation

² Additional sites (primarily research reactors) will ship spent nuclear fuel to DOE for disposal at the repository. Shipment from these sites to DOE is covered under a separate Environmental Impact Statement, *Programmatic Spent Nuclear Fuel Management and Idaho National Engineering Laboratory Environment Restoration and Waste Management Programs Environmental Impact Statement* (DOE/EIS-0203; April 1995), and associated Record of Decision (June 1, 1995; 60 FR 28680)). Two of these research reactors were recently closed and the spent fuel removed. Adding

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¹ A corridor is a strip of land, approximately 400 meters (0.25 mile) wide, that encompasses one of several possible routes through which DOE could build a branch rail line. An alignment is the specific location of a rail line in a corridor.