

can be found at <https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/management/bac/>.

Matters to be discussed: The meeting will include updates from Capitol Hill Ocean Week, member updates, and voting on amendments to the council's charter. For a complete agenda, including times and topics, please visit <http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/management/bac/meetings.html>.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1431, *et seq.*

John Armor,

Director, Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

[FR Doc. 2024-12699 Filed 6-10-24; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Notice of Availability of Draft Guidance on Designation of New Regional Ocean Partnerships

AGENCY: Office for Coastal Management, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of availability of draft guidance regarding the designation of new regional ocean partnerships; request for comments.

SUMMARY: Under the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 (NDAA), Coastal States (including Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Trust Territories of the Pacific Islands, and American Samoa), federally-recognized Indian Tribes (including Alaska native villages), and other entities may form new partnerships and apply to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) (as delegated) for designation as a regional ocean partnership. Regional ocean partnerships coordinate the management of ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes resources. NOAA invites public comment on draft guidance on designating new regional ocean partnerships under the NDAA.

DATES: Comments are due by July 11, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the draft designation guidance document may be found on www.regulations.gov (search for NOAA-NOS-2024-0066) and NOAA's Office for Coastal Management website at <https://coast.noaa.gov/data/>

coasthome/funding/_pdf/bil-rop-designation-guidance.pdf. Comments may be submitted by:

- **Electronic Submission:** Submit all electronic public comments via the Federal eRulemaking Portal. Go to www.regulations.gov and enter NOAA-NOS-2024-0066 in the search box, then click the "comment" icon, complete the required fields, and enter or attach your comments.

- **Mail:** Submit written comments to Joshua Lott, Office for Coastal Management, NOS, NOAA, 1305 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910; ATTN: Regional Ocean Partnership Designation Guidance.

Instructions: All comments received are a part of the public record and generally will be posted for public viewing on www.regulations.gov without change. All personally identifiable information (name, address, etc.), confidential business information, or otherwise sensitive information submitted voluntarily by the commenter will be publicly accessible. The Federal agencies will accept anonymous comments (enter "N/A" in the required fields you wish to remain anonymous). Multimedia submissions (audio, video, etc.) must be accompanied by a written comment. The written comment is considered the official comment and should include discussion of all points you wish to make. The Federal agencies will generally not consider comments or comment contents located outside of the primary submission (*i.e.*, on the web, cloud, or other file sharing system). Comments that are not responsive or contain profanity, vulgarity, threats, or other inappropriate language will not be considered.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Joshua Lott, Office for Coastal Management, NOS, NOAA, 1305 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910; ATTN: Regional Ocean Partnership Designation Guidance. Phone: (202) 670-3826; or Email: rop.iija@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Regional ocean partnerships are regional organizations, voluntarily convened by coastal States and Indian Tribes and designated by NOAA (as delegated, per the NDAA) to coordinate the management of ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes resources. These partnerships work in collaboration with other governments (including Tribal, Federal, and local) and stakeholders to address ocean and coastal issues of common concern in that region.

There are four existing regional ocean partnerships: the Gulf of Mexico Alliance, the Northeast Regional Ocean

Council, the Mid-Atlantic Regional Council on the Ocean, and the West Coast Ocean Alliance. Section 10102(b)(3) of the NDAA, codified at 16 U.S.C. 1468(b)(3), designates these four entities as regional ocean partnerships; as such, this draft designation guidance and application process for new partnerships does not apply to them.

This draft designation guidance has been developed to address the membership, organization, and required elements of new partnerships. NOAA proposes to include the following information in the guidance: introduction and background; instructions on submitting a new partnership application to NOAA; requirements for new regional ocean partnerships; and eligibility for funding as a partnership. Applications to NOAA for new regional ocean partnerships must identify: the members of the new partnership, the governing body of the new partnership, and the purposes and functions of the new partnership.

The draft designation guidance document may be found on www.regulations.gov (search for NOAA-NOS-2024-0066) and NOAA's Office for Coastal Management website at https://coast.noaa.gov/data/coasthome/funding/_pdf/bil-rop-designation-guidance.pdf.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1468

Jeffrey L. Payne,

Director, Office for Coastal Management, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

[FR Doc. 2024-12670 Filed 6-10-24; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

Listening Sessions on Draft Environmental Justice Strategy Approach

AGENCY: Office of the Undersecretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment, Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: Notice; listening sessions and notice of availability.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to an Executive order (E.O.), the DoD is updating its EJ Strategy. DoD is soliciting feedback on its draft goals and overall approach to addressing EJ. This draft information is included in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section.

DATES: Interested individuals are invited to provide verbal and written feedback on DoD's draft goals and overall

approach to addressing EJ throughout the Department.

DoD is offering the following two public, virtual listening sessions:

Tuesday, June 25, 2024 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST), Virtual, Registration link: <https://bahmeet.webex.com/webink/register/r2f51bca3daf05861f65172223990d09>

Thursday, June 27, 2024 4:00 p.m.–6:00 p.m. EST Virtual, Registration link: <https://bahmeet.webex.com/webink/register/r14abbe7c9b79eed68e43d6baa288ab07>

Individuals in the United States who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunications relay services.

DoD will consider all comments received during the public listening sessions. Please clarify whether feedback is intended for the Department's draft EJ goals or overall approach to addressing EJ. DoD also plans to record these listening sessions to accurately capture inputs on the draft EJ goals and implementation approach. DoD plans to only use the recordings for this purpose. All feedback, including personal information, provided during the listening sessions may be made public. The Department cautions commenters from including personal or other identifying information they do not want made publicly available when submitting their feedback.

ADDRESSES: Individuals may also provide written feedback. DoD will consider all comments postmarked by 07/09/2024. Please clarify whether feedback is intended for the Department's draft EJ goals or overall approach to addressing EJ.

Submitting Comments: Individuals may submit written comments via one of the following methods:

- Email to: terry.l.bowers14.civ@mail.mil; osd.ejstrategy@mail.mil or
- Mail hard copy to: Terry Bowers, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Energy, Installations, and Environment, 3400 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301–3400.

Written comments must include the commenter's name and reference the Department's EJ Strategy. All feedback, including personal information, provided via written comment may be made public. The Department cautions commenters from including personal or other identifying information they do not want made publicly available when submitting their feedback.

Accessing Documents and Additional Information: Individuals may access additional information on the

Department's EJ efforts through the following link: <https://www.denix.osd.mil/ej/>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Terry Bowers, 571–232–2482, terry.l.bowers14.civ@mail.mil and osd.ejstrategy@mail.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background: E.O. 14096 directs Federal agencies to develop an EJ Strategy that will “set forth the agency’s vision, goals, priority actions, and metrics to address and advance environmental justice and to fulfill the directives of the E.O., including through the identification of new staffing, policies, regulations, or guidance documents”, as well as “identify and address opportunities through regulations, policies, permits, or other means to improve accountability and compliance with any statute the agency administers that affects the health and environment of communities with environmental justice concerns.”

To advance its EJ efforts, the Department is updating its EJ Strategy in accordance with E.O. 14096. DoD will evaluate all verbal and written feedback received on the draft goals and overall approach to advancing EJ across the Department.

Listening Session Format: The listening sessions listed above will be two hours. Each session will start with an overview and then participants will have an opportunity to provide feedback through a variety of engagement tools. If you require a reasonable accommodation to attend one of the listening sessions, please email: terry.l.bowers14.civ@mail.mil, orosd.ejstrategy@mail.mil.

Draft Goals and Overall Approach to Addressing EJ: DoD would appreciate feedback on the following questions:

1. Do the drafted EJ goals and overall implementation approach address your concerns regarding the advancement of EJ throughout the Department? Why or why not? Note: the drafted items are included below.
2. Are there any concerns with the Department's drafted overall approach to addressing EJ?
3. Are there any concerns not currently reflected in the drafted materials included below?

DoD drafted the following Goals in response to E.O. 14096:

- Regularly assess EJ-related plans, policies, programs, and actions across all DoD programs after first educating and expanding EJ awareness of actions disproportionately impacting low income, minority, Tribal, disabled, and/or descendant populations across all DoD programs.

- Identify, characterize, and assess effects of DoD plans, programs, policies, and activities disproportionately impacting communities and stakeholders, including whether effects are chronic or acute.

- Investigate methods to mitigate impacts of DoD plans, programs, policies, and activities after first identifying potentially affected communities and stakeholders.

- Provide tools to improve DoD's capacity to conduct meaningful and effective work supporting EJ.

- Strengthen outreach to communities and stakeholders that may be disproportionately affected by high and adverse environmental, human health, or cultural impacts from DoD programs, policies, and activities through appropriate public engagement.

DoD also drafted the following overall approach to addressing EJ:

DoD anticipates that it will need to execute a considerable amount of work to effectively integrate EJ across the enterprise to meet E.O. 14096. Historically, DoD has used compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act, National Historic Preservation Act, and Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act processes to address EJ. The Department may take a more proactive approach by incorporating EJ into Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD), Military Department (MILDEP), and installation-level planning processes. These plans may include or discuss installation master planning, climate change, cultural and natural resources conservation, integrated installation resilience, and others. Integrating EJ into the Department's policies and programs will require consistent coordination across OSD, the MILDEPs, individual installations, and other DoD equities.

The Department may investigate methods to streamline EJ implementation, including:

- Issuing a Secretary of Defense or Deputy Secretary of Defense message, discussing the importance of EJ and explaining CEQ's EJ guidance;
- Designating a Chief EJ Officer for each MILDEP;
- Coordinating with the MILDEPs and DoD Components on the best methods to integrate EJ into existing programming, planning, acquisition, and other actions;
- Issuing a DoD Directive, Instruction, and/or Manual, describing consistent EJ implementation across all programs and services and identifying actions better managed at the OSD-level versus the MILDEP- and installation-levels;

- Developing EJ training and communication materials for DoD leadership; and
- Beginning integration of available EJ tools into planning documents.

Dated: June 6, 2024.
Patricia L. Toppings,
OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer,
Department of Defense.
[FR Doc. 2024–12775 Filed 6–10–24; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 6001–FR–P

DENALI COMMISSION

Denali Commission Fiscal Year 2025 Draft Work Plan

AGENCY: Denali Commission.
ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Denali Commission (Commission) is an independent Federal agency based on an innovative Federal-State partnership designed to provide critical utilities, infrastructure and support for economic development and training in Alaska by delivering federal services in the most cost-effective manner possible. The Commission is required to develop an annual work plan for future spending which will be published in the **Federal Register**, providing an opportunity for a 30-day period of public review and written comment. This **Federal Register** notice serves to announce the 30-day opportunity for public comment on the Denali Commission Draft Work Plan for Federal Fiscal Year 2025 (FY 2025).

DATES: Comments and related material to be received by, July 11, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments to the Denali Commission, Attention: Elinda Hetemi, 550 W 7th Avenue, Suite 1230, Anchorage, AK 99501.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Elinda Hetemi, Denali Commission, 550 W 7th Avenue, Suite 1230, Anchorage, AK 99501. Telephone: 907–271–3415. Email: ehetemi@denali.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background: The Denali Commission’s mission is to partner with Tribal, Federal, State, and local governments and collaborate with all Alaskans to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of government services, to build and ensure the operation and maintenance of Alaska’s basic infrastructure, and to develop a well-trained labor force employed in a diversified and sustainable economy.

By creating the Commission, Congress mandated that all parties involved partner together to find new and innovative solutions to the unique infrastructure and economic

development challenges in America’s most remote communities. Pursuant to the Denali Commission Act, the Commission determines its own basic operating principles and funding criteria on an annual federal fiscal year (October 1 to September 30) basis. The Commission outlines these priorities and funding recommendations in an annual work plan. The FY 2025 Work Plan was developed in the following manner.

- At a meeting of the Denali Commissioners the Commissioners voted to adopt the FY 2025 Workplan.
- The work plan was published on *Denali.gov* for review by the public in advance of public testimony.
- A public hearing was held to record public comments and recommendations on the preliminary draft work plan.
- No public comments were received.
- The Federal Co-Chair prepared the draft work plan for publication in the **Federal Register** providing a 30-day period for public review and written comment. During this time, the draft work plan will also be disseminated to Commission program partners including, but not limited to, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), the Economic Development Administration (EDA), Department of Agriculture—Rural Utilities Service (USDA/RUS), and the State of Alaska.
- At the conclusion of the **Federal Register** public comment period Commission staff will provide the Federal Co-Chair with a summary of public comments and recommendations, if any, on the draft work plan.
- If no revisions are made to the draft, the Federal Co-Chair will provide notice of approval of the work plan to the Commissioners, and forwards the work plan to the Secretary of Commerce for approval; or, if there are revisions the Federal Co-Chair provides notice of modifications to the Commissioners for their consideration and approval, and upon receipt of approval from Commissioners, forwards the work plan to the Secretary of Commerce for approval.
- The Secretary of Commerce approves the work plan.
- The Federal Co-Chair then approves grants and contracts based upon the approved work plan.

FY 2025 Appropriations Summary

The Commission has historically received federal funding from several sources. The two primary sources at this time include the Energy & Water Appropriation Bill (“base” or “discretionary” funds), Transportation Housing and Urban Development

(THUD) and an annual allocation from the Trans-Alaska Pipeline Liability (TAPL) fund. The proposed FY 2025 Work Plan assumes the Commission will receive \$15,000,000 of base funds, which is the amount referenced in the reauthorization of the Commission passed by Congress in 2016 (ref: Pub. L. 114–322), \$18,000,000 from THUD, less administrative expenses, and a \$2,917,000 TAPL allocation based on discussions with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Approximately \$4,000,000 of the base funds will be used for administrative expenses and non-project program support. The total base funding shown in the Work Plan also includes an amount typically available from project closeouts and other de-obligations that occur in any given year. Approximately \$117,000 of the TAPL funds will be utilized for administrative expenses and non-project program support, leaving \$2,800,000 available for program activities. Absent any new specific direction or limitations provided by Congress these funding sources are governed by the following general principles, either by statute or by language in the Work Plan itself:

- Funds from the Energy & Water Appropriation are eligible for use in all programs.
- TAPL funds can only be used for bulk fuel related projects and activities while THUD funds can only be used for Transportation.
- Appropriated funds may be reduced due to Congressional action, rescissions by OMB, and other federal agency actions.
- All investment amounts identified in the work plan, are “up to” amounts, and may be reassigned to other programs included in the current year work plan, if they are not fully expended in a program component area or a specific project.
- Funds set aside for administrative expenses that subsequently become available, may be used for program activities included in the current year work plan.

DENALI COMMISSION FY 2025 FUNDING SUMMARY

| Source | Available for program activities |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Energy and Water Funds | \$13,000,000 |
| TAPL Funds | 2,800,000 |
| THUD Funds | 17,800,000 |
| Grand Total | 33,600,000 |

Notes: