

ACTION: Notice of Advisory Committee Meeting Cancellations.

SUMMARY: On Thursday, September 11, 2003 (68 FR 53597) the Department of Defense announced closed meetings of the Defense Science Board Task Force on Patriot Systems Performance. The meetings scheduled for January 7–8, 2004, were cancelled.

Dated: January 5, 2004.

Patricia L. Toppings,
*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison
Officer, Department of Defense.*

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program, Scientific Advisory Board

AGENCY: Department of Defense.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92–463), announcement is made of the following Committee meeting:

DATES: March 30, 2004 from 0800 a.m. to 12:10 p.m.; March 31, 2004 from 0800 a.m. to 15:30 p.m. and April 1, 2004 from 0800 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The Shelter Pointe Hotel and Marina, 1551 Shelter Island Drive, San Diego, CA 92106.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Veronica Rice, SERDP Program Office, 901 North Stuart Street, Suite 303, Arlington, VA or by telephone at (703) 696–2119.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Matters To Be Considered

Research and Development proposals and continuing projects requesting Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program funds in excess of \$1M will be reviewed.

The meeting is open to the public. Any interested person may attend, appear before, or file statements with the Scientific Advisory Board at the time and in the manner permitted by the Board.

Dated: January 5, 2004.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers

Intent To Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for a Proposed Water Treatment Residuals Management Process for the Washington Aqueduct, Washington, DC

AGENCY: Department of the Army, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DOD.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The Washington Aqueduct seeks to plan and create a water treatment residuals management process that will comply with the standards established in National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit DC0000019 and will allow for continued safe, reliable, and cost effective production of drinking water. Washington Aqueduct generates residual solids, a byproduct of producing drinking water, and currently periodically discharges this material to the Potomac River. The residuals consist of river sediment and solid materials generated by adding coagulant as part of the drinking water treatment process. NPDES Permit DC0000019 includes effluent standards for the discharge of the water treatment residuals that cannot be achieved by the current Washington Aqueduct residual management process.

This notice advises the public that pursuant to Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, Washington Aqueduct, which operates the Dalecarlia and McMillan Water Treatment Plants, will prepare a combined Feasibility Study/Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The combined studies will identify, analyze, and evaluate alternatives for reducing or eliminating the discharge of water treatment residuals from the Dalecarlia Water Treatment Plant and Georgetown Reservoir to the Potomac River in order to comply with NPDES Permit DC0000019, effective April 15, 2003, and a Federal Facility Compliance Agreement, signed June 12, 2003. In addition, Washington Aqueduct will consider alternate methods of managing the Potomac River sediment that accumulates in the Dalecarlia Reservoir. **DATES:** A public scoping meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 28, 2004 between 7 and 9 p.m. at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church and Day School, 4700 Whitehaven Parkway, NW., Washington, DC 20007–1586. Directions are available at <http://>

washingtonaqueduct.nab.usace.army.mil.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Questions about the proposed action and the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) can be addressed to: Michael C. Peterson, (202) 764–0025, michael.c.peterson@usace.army.mil, Environmental Engineer, Washington Aqueduct Division, Baltimore District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 5900 MacArthur Boulevard, Washington, DC 20016.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. Background

Washington Aqueduct operates the Dalecarlia and McMillan Water Treatment Plants in Washington, DC, which provide potable water to over one million persons in the District of Columbia and Northern Virginia. Raw water diverted from the Potomac River is collected in the Dalecarlia Reservoir, where river sediment settles naturally. The sediment periodically dredged from the Dalecarlia Reservoir is not returned to the Potomac River.

Raw water flows from the Dalecarlia Reservoir to the Dalecarlia Water Treatment Plant and also via the Georgetown Reservoir to the McMillan Water Treatment Plant. Aluminum sulfate, the chemical used for coagulation, is added from the Dalecarlia Plant to the raw water for both the Dalecarlia and McMillan Water Treatment Plants. Chemically included sedimentation takes place in four basins at the Dalecarlia Water Treatment Plant and two basins at the Georgetown Reservoir. The Dalecarlia facility employs 36 rapid dual media filters and the McMillan facility is equipped with 12 rapid dual media filters. Except for the filter backwash water at the McMillan Water Treatment Plant, which is recycled to the McMillan Reservoir, and the filter backwash water at the Dalecarlia Water Treatment Plant, which is recycled to the Dalecarlia Reservoir, all sedimentation residuals are currently returned to the Potomac River.

2. Regulatory Mandate

In the recently issued NPDES permit, the Environmental Protection Agency has significantly reduced the allowable concentration of residuals that Washington Aqueduct can discharge to the Potomac. This change in the permit requires Washington Aqueduct to evaluate alternate methods of residuals collection, processing, conveyance, and disposal. Washington Aqueduct and Environmental Protection Agency Region III entered into a Federal Facility