

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**Notice of Public Scoping Meetings for the FutureGen Project Environmental Impact Statement**

AGENCY: National Energy Technology Laboratory, Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of public scoping meetings and opportunity for comment.

SUMMARY: On Friday, July 28, 2006, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) issued a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed action of providing up to \$700 million of Federal funding for the FutureGen Project (71 FR 42840). The FutureGen Project would comprise the planning, design, construction and operation by a private sector organization of a coal-fired electric power and hydrogen gas production plant integrated with carbon dioxide capture and geologic sequestration of the captured gas. DOE's National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL) is hosting public scoping meetings near each of the four proposed FutureGen Project sites. Dates, locations, and information about the public scoping meetings are contained under **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**, below.

DATES: DOE invites comments on the proposed scope and content of the EIS from all interested parties. Comments must be received by September 13, 2006, to ensure consideration. Late comments will be considered to the extent practicable. DOE also invites members of the public to participate in public scoping meetings (see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**) to learn more about the proposed FutureGen Project and provide oral comments on the alternatives and environmental issues to be considered.

ADDRESSES: Comments on the proposed scope of the EIS and requests for copies of the Draft EIS may be submitted by fax (304-285-4403), e-mail (FutureGen.EIS@netl.doe.gov), or a letter addressed to the NEPA Document Manager for the FutureGen Project: Mr. Mark L. McKoy, National Energy Technology Laboratory, U.S. Department of Energy, P.O. Box 880, Morgantown, WV 26507-0880, Attn: FutureGen Project EIS.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Comments or requests to participate in the public scoping process also can be submitted by contacting Mr. Mark L. McKoy directly at telephone 304-285-4426; toll free number 1-800-432-8330 (extension 4426); fax 304-285-4403; or e-mail FutureGen.EIS@netl.doe.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NETL is hosting four public scoping meetings to

present an overview of the proposed project and to provide the public with an opportunity to comment and ask questions. An informal session of the public scoping meetings will begin at approximately 4 p.m., followed by a formal session beginning at approximately 7 p.m. Members of the public who wish to speak at a public scoping meeting should contact Mr. Mark L. McKoy, either by phone, fax, e-mail, or in writing (see **ADDRESSES** in this Notice). Those who do not arrange in advance to speak may register at a meeting (preferably at the beginning of the meeting) and may speak after previously scheduled speakers. Speakers will be given approximately five minutes to present their comments. Those speakers who want more than five minutes should indicate the length of time desired in their request. Depending on the number of speakers, DOE may need to limit all speakers to five minutes initially and provide second opportunities as time permits. Speakers may also provide written materials to supplement their presentations. Oral and written comments will be given equal consideration. State and local elected officials and tribal leaders may be given priority in the order of those making oral comments.

DOE will begin each meeting with an overview of the proposed FutureGen Project. The meeting will not be conducted as an evidentiary hearing, and speakers will not be cross-examined. However, speakers may be asked questions to help ensure that DOE fully understands the comments or suggestions. A presiding officer will establish the order of speakers and provide any additional procedures necessary to conduct the meeting.

Meeting Schedule*Texas—Jewett*

Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2006.

Time: 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Place: City of Fairfield's Green Barn (Fairgrounds Exhibits Bldg.) 839 E. Commerce, Fairfield, Texas 75840. This site is 2.5 miles East of I-45 on Hwy 84 (aka Commerce Street).

Texas—Odessa

Date: Thursday, August 24, 2006.

Time: 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Place: The CEED (Center for Energy and Economic Diversification) Building is located at 1400 North FM 1788 in Midland, Texas 79707.

Illinois—Tuscola

Date: Thursday, August 29, 2006.

Time: 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Place: Tuscola Community Building, 122 W. Central Avenue, Tuscola, IL 61953. (From Interstate 57, take exit 212 to U.S. Highway 36. The Tuscola Community Building is at the intersection of North Central Avenue and South Main Street.)

Illinois—Mattoon

Date: Thursday, August 31, 2006.

Time: 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Place: Riddle Elementary School, 4201 Western Avenue, Mattoon, IL. (Located at the corner of Western Avenue and 43rd Street (CR 300E).)

All meetings are accessible to people with disabilities. Any individual with a disability who requires special assistance, such as a sign language interpreter, or a translator, please contact Mr. Mark McKoy, U.S. DOE-NETL, toll free (800) 432-8330 ext. 4426, fax (304) 285-4403, or via e-mail at FutureGen.EIS@netl.doe.gov at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting so that arrangements can be made.

Additional information about FutureGen can be found at these Web sites: <http://www.doe.gov>; <http://fossil.energy.gov/programs/powersystems/futuregen/>; <http://www.futuregenalliance.org>.

Dated: August 1, 2006.

Mark J. Matarrese,

Director, Office of Environment, Security, Safety and Health.

[FR Doc. E6-12742 Filed 8-3-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy****State Energy Advisory Board**

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of open teleconference.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a teleconference of the State Energy Advisory Board (STEAB). The Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463; 86 Stat. 770) requires that public notice of these teleconferences be announced in the **Federal Register**.

DATES: August 17, 2006, from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. EDT.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Gary Burch, STEAB Designated Federal Officer, Assistant Manager, Intergovernmental Projects & Outreach, Golden Field Office, U.S. Department of Energy, 1617 Cole Boulevard, Golden, CO 80401, Telephone 303/275-4801.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose of the Board: To make recommendations to the Assistant

Secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy regarding goals and objectives, programmatic and administrative policies, and to otherwise carry out the Board's responsibilities as designated in the State Energy Efficiency Programs Improvement Act of 1990 (Pub. L. 101-440).

Tentative Agenda: Update members on routine business matters, discuss and finalize a resolution that will update and elaborate on the continued STEAB support for DOE's maintaining funding and oversight of the Weatherization Assistance Program, and adopt the resolution.

Public Participation: The teleconference is open to the public. Written statements may be filed with the Board either before or after the meeting. Members of the public who wish to make oral statements pertaining to agenda items should contact Gary Burch at the address or telephone number listed above. Requests to make oral comments must be received five days prior to the conference call; reasonable provision will be made to include requested topic(s) on the agenda. The Chair of the Board is empowered to conduct the call in a fashion that will facilitate the orderly conduct of business. This notice is being published less than 15 days before the date of the meeting due to programmatic issues.

Notes: The notes of the teleconference will be available for public review and copying within 60 days at the Freedom of Information Public Reading Room, 1E-190, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Issued at Washington, DC, on August 1, 2006.

Rachel Samuel,

Deputy Advisory Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. E6-12629 Filed 8-3-06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

State Energy Advisory Board

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose of the Board: To make recommendations to the Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy regarding goals and objectives, programmatic and administrative policies, and to otherwise carry out the Board's responsibilities as designated in the State Energy Efficiency Programs Improvement Act of 1990 (Pub. L. 101-440).

Tentative Agenda: Update members on routine business matters, discuss and finalize several Board resolutions, and adopt the same resolutions.

Public Participation: The teleconference is open to the public. Written statements may be filed with the Board either before or after the meeting. Members of the public who wish to make oral statements pertaining to agenda items should contact Gary Burch at the address or telephone number listed above. Requests to make oral comments must be received five days prior to the conference call; reasonable provision will be made to include requested topic(s) on the agenda. The Chair of the Board is empowered to conduct the call in a fashion that will facilitate the orderly conduct of business.

Notes: The notes of the teleconference will be available for public review and copying within 60 days at the Freedom of Information Public Reading Room, 1E-190, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Issued at Washington, DC, on August 1, 2006.

Rachel Samuel,

Deputy Advisory Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. E6-12631 Filed 8-3-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Western Area Power Administration

Consideration of Certain Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act Standards Set Forth in the Energy Policy Act of 2005

AGENCY: Western Area Power Administration, DOE.

ACTION: Notice of Public Hearing.

SUMMARY: As a nonregulated electric utility, the Western Area Power Administration (Western) must consider and determine whether to implement certain standards under the Energy Policy Act of 2005, which amended the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (PURPA). Standards that Western intends to consider include net metering, fuel source diversity, fossil fuel generation efficiency, smart metering, and consumer interconnections. A brochure entitled "Preconsideration of Sections 1251, 1252, and 1254 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005" will be prepared and will be available for public review by September 25, 2006.

DATES: A public hearing will be held on October 26, 2006, beginning at 10 a.m., at Western's Corporate Service Office. Written comments on whether Western should adopt the standards must be received by November 10, 2006, to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: The public hearing location is at 12155 West Alameda Parkway, Lakewood, CO. Western will post information about this process, including an electronic copy of the preconsideration brochure, at <http://www.wapa.gov/dsw/pwrmkt/PURPA/>. For further information concerning the public hearing or to request a hard copy of the brochure, contact Ms. Sylvia Macfarlane, Desert Southwest Region, Western Area Power Administration, P.O. Box 6457, Phoenix, AZ 85005-6457; (602) 605-2575, e-mail macfarl@wapa.gov. Written comments may be submitted to this address, submitted electronically to DSW_PURPA@wapa.gov or faxed to (602) 605-2828, attention: Deborah Emmler, Project Manager.

As access to Western facilities is controlled, any U.S. citizen wishing to attend any meeting held at Western must present an official form of picture identification, such as a U.S. driver's license, U.S. passport, U.S. Government ID, or U.S. Military ID, at the time of the meeting. Foreign nationals should contact Western at least 45 days in advance of the meeting to obtain the necessary form to be admitted to Western's offices.