

system, fuels treatment, and reforestation), and road construction necessary to provide access and to achieve other resource objectives, and appropriate mitigation measures.

- Whether or not soil and water resource improvement projects (including road reconstruction and decommissioning) should be implemented and, if so, to what extent.
- Whether or not wildlife enhancement projects (including prescribed burning) should be implemented and, if so, to what extent.
- Whether road access restrictions or other actions are necessary to meet big game wildlife security needs.
- Whether or not programmatic and project-specific Forest Plan amendments are necessary to meet the specific purpose and need of this project, and whether those amendments are significant under the National Forest Management Act.
- What, if any, specific-project monitoring requirements would be needed to assure mitigation measures are implemented and effective.

Public Involvement and Scoping: In November 2000, preliminary efforts were made to involve the public in looking at management opportunities within the Gold/Boulder/Sullivan Decision Area. Comments received prior to this notice will be included in the documentation for the EIS. The public is encouraged to take part in the process and is encouraged to visit with Forest Service officials at any time during the analysis, and prior to the decision. The Forest Service will be seeking information, comments, and assistance from Federal, State and local agencies, Indian tribes, individuals, and organizations that may be interested in, or affected by, the proposed action. This input will be used in preparation of the draft and final EIS'. The scoping process will assist in identifying potential issues, identifying major issues to be analyzed in depth, identifying alternatives to the proposed action, and identifying potential environmental effects of this project and alternatives (i.e., direct, indirect, and cumulative effects and connected actions).

Estimated Dates for Filing: While public participation in this analysis is welcome at any time, comments received within 30 days of the publication of this notice will be especially useful in the preparation of the Draft EIS. It is expected to be filed with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and to be available for public review by May 2001. At that time EPA will publish a Notice of Availability of the draft EIS in the **Federal Register**. The comment period

on the draft EIS will be 45 days from the date the EPA publishes the Notice Availability in the **Federal Register**. It is very important that those interested in the management of this area participate at that time.

The final EIS is scheduled to be completed by August 2001. In the final EIS, the Forest Service is required to respond to comments and responses received during the comment period that pertain to the environmental consequences discussed in the draft EIS, and applicable laws, regulations, and policies considered in making a decision regarding the proposal.

Reviewer's Obligations: The Forest Service believes, at this early stage, it is important to give reviewers notice of several court rulings related to public participation in the environmental review process. First, reviewers of draft environmental impact statements must structure their participation in the environmental review of the proposal so that it is meaningful and alerts an agency to the reviewer's position and contentions. *Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corp. v. NRDC*, 435 U.S. 519, 553 (1978). Also, environmental objections that could be raised at the draft environmental impact statement stage may be waived or dismissed by the courts. *City of Angoon v. Hodel*, 803, F.2d 1016, 1022 (9th Cir. 1986) and *Wisconsin Heritages, Inc. v. Harris*, 490 F. Supp. 1334, 1338 (E.D. Wis. 1980). Because of these court rulings, it is very important that those interested in this proposed action participate by the close of the 30 day comment period so that substantive comments and objections are made available to the Forest Service at a time when it can meaningfully consider and respond to them in the final EIS.

To be most helpful, comments on the draft EIS should be as specific as possible, and may address the adequacy of the statement or the merit of the alternatives discussed. Reviewers may wish to refer to the Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR 1503.3) for implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act.

Responsible Official: As the Forest Supervisor of the Kootenai National Forest, 1101 U.S. Highway 2 West, Libby, MT 59923, I am the Responsible Official. As the Responsible Official, I will decide if the proposed project will be implemented. I will document the decision and reasons for the decision in the Record of Decision. I have delegated the responsibility for preparing the draft and final EIS' to Glen M. McNitt, District Ranger, Rexford Ranger District.

Dated: December 8, 2000.

Bob Castaneda,

Forest Supervisor, Kootenai National Forest.

[FR Doc. 00-32437 Filed 12-20-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Utilities Service

East Kentucky Power Cooperative; Notice of Availability of an Environmental Assessment

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of availability of an environmental assessment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) is issuing an Environmental Assessment with respect to the potential environmental impacts related to the construction and operation of an 80 megawatt combustion turbine by East Kentucky Power Cooperative. RUS may provide financing assistance for the project.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bob Quigel, Environmental Protection Specialist, RUS, Engineering and Environmental Staff, Stop 1571, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-1571, telephone: (202) 720-0468. Bob's e-mail address is bquigel@rus.usda.gov. Information is also available from Jeff Hohman, Manager of Natural Resources, East Kentucky Power Cooperative, P.O. Box 707, Winchester, Kentucky 40392-0707, telephone (800) 238-3443.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The project consists of the construction and operation of 80 megawatt, simple cycle, combustion turbine at East Kentucky Power Cooperative's J.K. Smith Combustion Turbine Site. The J.K. Smith Combustion Turbine Site is located in Clark County, Kentucky, approximately 9 miles southeast of Winchester, Kentucky, on Kentucky Highway 89. There are currently three 80 megawatt, simple cycle, combustion turbines located at the site. A fourth unit will soon be under construction. This project will be the fifth combustion turbine to be constructed and operated at the site. There are adequate natural gas transmission facilities at the site to power this additional unit. A 12-mile, 138 kV electric transmission line will need to be constructed as part of the project to feed the electric power generated by the Unit 5 to East Kentucky Power Cooperative's existing transmission grid.

East Kentucky Power Cooperative prepared an environmental report

which describes the project further and discusses the environmental impacts of the proposed project. RUS has conducted an independent evaluation of the environmental report and believes that it accurately assesses the impacts of the proposed project. No adverse impacts are expected with the construction of the project. RUS has accepted the document as its Environmental Assessment and is making it available for public review.

The Environmental Assessment can be reviewed at the Clark County Public Library, 370 South Burns Avenue, Winchester, Kentucky, telephone (606) 744-5661, the headquarters of East Kentucky Power Cooperative, 4775 Lexington Road, Winchester, Kentucky, or the headquarters of RUS, at the address provided above.

Questions and comments should be sent to RUS at the address provided. RUS will accept questions and comments on the environmental assessment for at least 30 days from the date of publication of this notice.

Any final action by RUS related to the proposed project will be subject to, and contingent upon, compliance with all relevant Federal environmental laws and regulations and completion of environmental review procedures as prescribed by the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations and RUS Environmental Policies and Procedures (7 CFR part 1794).

Dated: December 14, 2000.

Lawrence R. Wolfe,

Acting Director, Engineering and Environmental Staff.

[FR Doc. 00-32493 Filed 12-20-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-15-P

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Amended Notice of Public Meeting of the Arkansas Advisory Committee

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, that a meeting of the Arkansas Advisory Committee to the Commission which was to have convened at 6 p.m. and adjourned at 8 p.m. on November 15, 2000, has been rescheduled. The meeting will convene at 6 p.m. and adjourn at 8 p.m. on January 18, 2001, at the Doubletree Hotel, 424 West Markham, Little Rock, Arkansas 72201. The purpose of the meeting is to plan future projects. The notice published in the **Federal Register** on October 26, 2000, FR Doc. 00-27458, Vol. 65, No. 208, p. 64202.

Persons desiring additional information, or planning a presentation

to the Committee, should contact Melvin L. Jenkins, Director of the Central Regional Office, 913-551-1400 (TDD 913-551-1414). Hearing-impaired persons who will attend the meeting and require the services of a sign language interpreter should contact the Regional Office at least ten (10) working days before the scheduled date of the meeting.

The meeting will be conducted pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the Commission.

Dated at Washington, DC, December 14, 2000.

Edward A. Hailes, Jr.,

Acting General Counsel.

[FR Doc. 00-32470 Filed 12-20-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6335-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of the Census

[Docket No. 001207345-0345-01]

Service Annual Survey

AGENCY: Bureau of the Census, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of determination

SUMMARY: In accordance with title 13, United States Code (U.S.C.), sections 182, 224, and 225, the Bureau of the Census (U.S. Census Bureau) has determined that limited financial data (revenue, expenses, and the like) for selected service industries are needed to provide a sound statistical basis for the formation of policy by various governmental agencies, and that these data also apply to a variety of public and business needs. Selected service industries include professional, scientific, and technical services; administrative and support services; healthcare and social assistance; telecommunications, publishing, broadcasting, and other information service industries; transportation services; financial services; arts, entertainment, and recreation; and so forth. These data are not publicly available from nongovernment or other governmental sources.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ruth A. Bramblett, Chief, Current Services Branch, Service Sector Statistics Division, on (301) 457-2766.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The U.S. Census Bureau conducts surveys necessary to furnish current data on subjects covered by the major censuses authorized by title 13, U.S.C. The Service Annual Survey provides continuing and timely national

statistical data for a period between the economic censuses. The next economic census is for the year 2002. Data collected in this survey are within the general scope, type, and character of those inquiries covered in the economic census.

The U.S. Census Bureau needs reports only from a limited sample of service sector firms in the United States. The probability of a firm's selection is based on its revenue size (estimated from payroll). We are mailing report forms to the firms covered by this survey and require their submission within thirty days after receipt.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall a 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 of information displays a current valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. In accordance with the PRA, 44 U.S.C., Chapter 35, the OMB approved the survey under OMB Control Number 0607-0422. Copies of the proposed forms are available upon written request to the Director, U.S. Census Bureau, Washington, DC 20233.

Based upon the foregoing, I have directed that the Service Annual Survey be conducted for the purpose of collecting these data.

Dated: December 12, 2000.

Kenneth Prewitt,

Director, Bureau of the Census.

[FR Doc. 00-32448 Filed 12-20-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-07-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

National Sea Grant Review Panel; Meeting

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice sets forth the schedule and proposed agenda of a forthcoming meeting of the Sea Grant Review Panel. The meeting will have several purposes. Panel members will discuss and provide advice on the National Sea Grant College Program in the areas of program evaluation, education and extension, science and technology programs, and other matters as described below:

DATES: The announced meeting is schedule during two days: Thursday, January 11, 8:30 a.m. to 5:15 p.m.;