

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**Department of the Army****Corps of Engineers****Intent To Prepare A Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for Navigation Improvements at Unalaska, AK**

AGENCY: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Alaska District, intends to prepare a DEIS for navigation improvements at Unalaska, Alaska. The city of Unalaska, population 4,283, is on Unalaska and Amaknak Islands in the Aleutian Island chain, about 800 miles (1,300 kilometers) southwest of Anchorage, Alaska. Unalaska's economy is based on commercial fishing, fish processing, and fleet services including fuel, repairs and maintenance, trade and transportation. Unalaska has been ranked as the number one port in the nation for seafood volume and value for the past 11 years. The proposed navigation improvements are needed to provide adequate moorage for transient vessels and the Unalaska fleet. Additional moorage would reduce overcrowded conditions at the existing facilities by providing a safer and more efficient moorage area.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bill Abadie (907) 753-2736, Alaska District Corps of Engineers, Environmental Resources Section (CEPOA-EN-CW-ER), P.O. Box 898, Anchorage, AK 99506-0898. E-mail: william.d.abadie@poa02.usace.army.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: An environmental assessment (EA) was prepared titled "Navigation Improvements, Draft Feasibility Report, Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact" dated August 2001. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers subsequently concluded that the action would be a major Federal action that could significantly affect the quality of the human environment. The finding of no significant impact was not signed and a DEIS will be prepared. The DEIS will consider structural and non-structural alternatives including the construction of a breakwater, a dredged basin, and harbor related infrastructure. The August 2001 EA evaluated four alternatives in detail: Alternative 1—Dutch Harbor Site (Spit Site), Alternative 2A—Little South America Site (combination of floating and rubblemound breakwaters), Alternative

2B—Little South America (identical to Alternative 2A except a wave barrier was substituted for the north floating breakwater), and Alternative 3—Captains Bay site (Westward Seafoods Site). Other harbor locations and non-structural alternatives identified during the scoping process will be evaluated.

Issues

The DEIS will consider the needs of the community and commercial vessel operations, impacts to marine intertidal and subtidal communities, fish and wildlife, wetlands, threatened and endangered species, essential fish habitat, water quality, cultural resources, socio-economic resources, the need for practicable and justifiable mitigation, and other resources and concerns identified through scoping, public involvement, and interagency coordination.

Scoping

A copy of this notice and additional public information will be sent to interested parties to initiate scoping. All parties are invited to participate in the scoping process by identifying any additional concerns, issues, studies, and alternatives that should be considered. A scoping meeting will be held in Unalaska at the Grand Aleutian Hotel on Saturday, February 2, 2002, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Significant issues include potential adverse impacts to Steller's eiders, a threatened species, and the justification and identification of compensatory mitigation. The DEIS is tentatively scheduled for release in June 2003.

Luz D. Ortiz,

Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

[Docket No. EA-227-A]

Application To Export Electric Energy; New York Independent System Operator, Inc.

AGENCY: Office of Fossil Energy, DOE.

ACTION: Notice of application.

SUMMARY: The New York Independent System Operator, Inc. (NYISO) has applied to modify and renew its authority to transmit electric energy from the United States to Canada pursuant to section 202(e) of the Federal Power Act. In addition, NYISO is requesting expedited approval for their application.

DATES: Comments, protests or requests to intervene must be submitted on or before December 17, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Comments, protests or requests to intervene should be addressed as follows: Office of Coal & Power Im/Ex (FE-27), Office of Fossil Energy, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585-0350 (FAX 202-287-5736).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Ellen Russell (Program Office) 202-586-9624 or Michael Skinker (Program Attorney) 202-586-2793.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Exports of electricity from the United States to a foreign country are regulated and require authorization under section 202(e) of the Federal Power Act (FPA) (16 U.S.C. 824a(e)).

On October 16, 2001, the Office of Fossil Energy (FE) of the Department of Energy (DOE) received an application from NYISO to modify and renew the electricity export authorization issued in FE Order EA-227 on September 7, 2000. In that Order, FE authorized NYISO, the entity with operational control over generation and transmission facilities within New York State, to export emergency and inadvertent energy to Canada using the international transmission facilities owned and operated by Long Sault, Inc., New York Power Authority, and Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation. In Order EA-227, FE limited the NYISO's exports to Canada to an instantaneous rate of transmission of 1000 megawatts (MW). That two-year Order will expire on September 7, 2002.

FE had based this 1000-MW limit on data contained in Section IX of the document titled, "Load & Capacity Data, 1995 Report of the Member Electric Systems of the New York Power Pool." The updated version of that report for the year 2001 reflects a normal power transfer limit from New York to Ontario of 1675 MW, and an emergency transfer limit of 2150 MW for limited periods of time. In its application, the NYISO requests that FE Order EA-227 be amended to reflect these updated transfer limits and that the amended Order be issued for an additional 5-years.

In numerous electricity export authorizations in which third parties have been authorized to export over existing international transmission facilities that they do not own or operate, FE has indicated that any change to the export limits assigned to those existing facilities would apply to all entities authorized to export over those facilities. If FE ultimately