

identifying water quality limited segments and associated pollutants in Arkansas to be listed pursuant to Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 303(d), and request for public comment. Section 303(d) requires that states submit and EPA approve or disapprove lists of waters for which existing technology-based pollution controls are not stringent enough to attain or maintain state water quality standards and for which total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) must be prepared.

On October 16, 2006, EPA partially approved and partially disapproved Arkansas' 2004 303(d) submittal. Specifically, EPA approved Arkansas' listing of 271 water body-pollutant combinations, and associated priority rankings and deferred its action on 129 water body pollutant combinations until the State submits its formal 2006 303(d) list. EPA disapproved Arkansas' decisions not to list 5 water body-pollutant combinations. EPA identified these additional water body pollutant-combinations along with priority rankings for inclusion on the 2004 Section 303(d) List.

EPA is providing the public the opportunity to review its final decisions to add water body pollutant-combinations to Arkansas' 2004 Section 303(d) List, as required by EPA's Public Participation regulations (40 CFR Part 25). EPA will consider public comments and if necessary amend its final action on the additional water body pollutant-combinations identified for inclusion on Arkansas' Final 2004 Section 303(d) List.

DATES: Comments must be submitted in writing to EPA on or before November 30, 2006.

ADDRESSES: Comments on the decisions should be sent to Diane Smith, Environmental Protection Specialist, Water Quality Protection Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 6, 1445 Ross Ave., Dallas, TX 75202-2733, telephone (214) 665-2145, facsimile (214) 665-7373, or e-mail: smith.diane@epa.gov. Oral comments will not be considered. Copies of the documents which explain the rationale for EPA's decisions and a list of the 5 water quality limited segments for which EPA disapproved Arkansas' decision not to list can be obtained at EPA Region 6's Web site at www.epa.gov/earth1r6/6wq/tmdl.htm, or by writing or calling Ms. Smith at the above address. Underlying documents from the administrative record for these decisions are available for public inspection at the above address. Please contact Ms. Smith to schedule an inspection.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Diane Smith at (214) 665-2145.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 303(d) of the CWA requires that each state identify those waters for which existing technology-based pollution controls are not stringent enough to attain or maintain state water quality standards. For those waters, states are required to establish TMDLs according to a priority ranking.

EPA's Water Quality Planning and Management regulations include requirements related to the implementation of Section 303(d) of the CWA (40 CFR 130.7). The regulations require states to identify water quality limited waters still requiring TMDLs every two years. The list of waters still needing TMDLs must also include priority rankings and must identify the waters targeted for TMDL development during the next two years (40 CFR 130.7).

Consistent with EPA's regulations, Arkansas submitted to EPA its listing decisions under Section 303(d) on May 20, 2004 with subsequent revisions submitted on August 17, 2004, November 12, 2004, July 20, 2005, and October 11, 2005. On October 16, 2006, EPA approved Arkansas' listing of 271 water body-pollutant combinations and associated priority rankings and deferred action on 129 water body-pollutant combinations. EPA disapproved Arkansas' decision not to list 5 water body-pollutant combinations and associated priority rankings. EPA identified these additional water body-pollutant combinations along with priority rankings for inclusion on the 2004 Section 303(d) List. EPA solicits public comment on its identification of 5 additional water body-pollutant combinations for inclusion on Arkansas' 2004 Section 303(d) List.

Dated: October 20, 2006.

Miguel I. Flores,

Director, Water Quality Protection Division, Region 6.

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FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

Sunshine Act Meeting Notice

Pursuant to the provisions of the "Government in the Sunshine Act" (5 U.S.C. 552b), notice is hereby given that the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation's Board of Directors will meet in open session at 10 a.m. on

Thursday, November 2, 2006, to consider the following matters:

Summary Agenda

No substantive discussion of the following items is anticipated. These matters will be resolved with a single vote unless a member of the board of Directors requests that an item be moved to the discussion agenda.

Disposition of minutes of previous Board of Directors' meetings.

Summary reports, status reports, and reports of actions taken pursuant to authority delegated by the Board of Directors.

Memorandum and resolution re: Amendment to Part 308 Increasing Fees for Late Assessment Penalties.
Memorandum re: Economic Conditions and Emerging Risks in banking.

Discussion Agenda

Memorandum and resolution re: Final Rule Setting the designated Reserve Ratio.

Memorandum and resolution re: Final Part 327—Operational Processes Governing the FDIC's Deposit Insurance Assessment System.

Memorandum and resolution re: Final Rule on Risk-Based Assessments.

Memorandum and resolution re: Final Rule Regarding the Official FDIC Sign and Advertising of FDIC Membership.

Memorandum and resolution re: Establishment of FDIC Advisory Committee on economic Inclusion.

The meeting will be held in the Board Room on the sixth floor of the FDIC Building located at 550 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC.

The FDIC will provide attendees with auxiliary aids (e.g., sign language interpretation) required for this meeting. Those attendees needing such assistance should call (703) 562-6067 (Voice or TTY), to make necessary arrangements.

Requests for further information concerning the meeting may be directed to Mr. Robert E. Feldman, Executive Secretary of the Corporation, at (202) 898-7122.

Dated: October 26, 2006.

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Valerie Best,

Assistant Executive Secretary.

[FR Doc. 06-9005 Filed 10-27-06; 12:51 pm]

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FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

Sunshine Act Meeting

Pursuant to the provisions of the "Government in the Sunshine Act" (5 U.S.C. 552b), notice is hereby given that

at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, November 2, 2006, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation's Board of Directors will meet in closed session, pursuant to section 552b(c)(2), (c)(4), (c)(6), (c)(8), and (c)(9)(A)(ii), Title 5, United States Code, to consider matters relating to the Corporation's supervisory and corporate activities.

The meeting will be held in the Board Room on the sixth floor of the FDIC Building located at 550-17th Street, NW., Washington, DC.

Requests for further information concerning the meeting may be directed to Mr. Robert E. Feldman, Assistant Executive Secretary of the Corporation, at (202) 898-7122.

Dated: October 26, 2006.

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Valerie Best,

Assistant Executive Secretary.

[FR Doc. 06-9006 Filed 10-27-06; 12:51 pm]

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FEDERAL HOUSING FINANCE BOARD

[No. 2006-N-09]

No FEAR Act Notice

AGENCY: Federal Housing Finance Board.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Under the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002, which is now known as the No FEAR Act, each agency must inform employees, former employees, and applicants for employment of the rights and protections available under Federal antidiscrimination and whistleblower protection laws.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Gwen R. Grogan, Equal Employment Opportunity Director, grogang@fhfb.gov; 202-408-2892, or Federal Housing Finance Board, 1625 Eye Street NW., Washington, DC 20006.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On May 15, 2002, Congress enacted the "Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002," which is now known as the No FEAR Act. See Pub. L. 107-174, 116 Stat. 566 (May 15, 2002), codified at 5 U.S.C. 2301 note. One purpose of the No FEAR Act is "to require that Federal agencies be accountable for violations of antidiscrimination and whistleblower protection laws." Pub. L. 107-174, Summary. In support of this purpose, Congress found that "agencies cannot be run effectively if those agencies practice or tolerate discrimination." Pub. L. 107-

174, Title I, General Provisions, sec. 101(1). The No FEAR Act requires each agency to inform its employees, former employees, and applicants for employment of the rights and protections available to them under Federal antidiscrimination and whistleblower protection laws.

Antidiscrimination Laws

A Federal agency cannot discriminate against an employee or applicant with respect to the terms, conditions, or privileges of employment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, marital status, or political affiliation. Discrimination on these bases is prohibited by one or more of the following statutes: 5 U.S.C. 2302(b)(1), 29 U.S.C. 206(d), 29 U.S.C. 631, 29 U.S.C. 633a, 29 U.S.C. 791 and 42 U.S.C. 2000e-16.

If you believe that you have been the victim of unlawful discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, or disability, you must contact an Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) counselor within 45 calendar days of the alleged discriminatory action, or, in the case of a personnel action, within 45 calendar days of the effective date of the action, before you can file a formal complaint of discrimination with your agency. See, e.g. 29 CFR part 1614. If you believe that you have been the victim of unlawful discrimination on the basis of age, you either must contact an EEO counselor as noted above or give notice of intent to sue to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission within 180 calendar days of the alleged discriminatory action. If you are alleging discrimination based on marital status or political affiliation, you may file a written complaint with the U.S. Office of Special Counsel (see contact information below). In the alternative (or in some cases, in addition), you may pursue a discrimination complaint by filing a grievance through your agency's administrative or negotiated grievance procedures, if such procedures apply and are available.

Whistleblower Protection Laws

A Federal employee with authority to take, direct others to take, recommend, or approve any personnel action must not use that authority to take or fail to take, or threaten to take or fail to take, a personnel action against an employee or applicant because of disclosure of information by that individual that is reasonably believed to evidence violations of law, rule, or regulation; gross mismanagement; gross waste of funds; an abuse of authority; or a substantial and specific danger to public

health or safety, unless disclosure of such information is specifically prohibited by law and such information is specifically required by Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or the conduct of foreign affairs.

Retaliation against an employee or applicant for making a protected disclosure is prohibited by 5 U.S.C. 2302(b)(8). If you believe that you have been the victim of whistleblower retaliation, you may file a written complaint (Form OSC-11) with the U.S. Office of Special Counsel at 1730 M Street NW., Suite 218, Washington, DC 20036-4505, or online through the U.S. Office of Special Counsel Web site at <http://www.osc.gov>.

Retaliation for Engaging in Protected Activity

A Federal agency cannot retaliate against an employee or applicant because that individual exercises his or her rights under any of the Federal antidiscrimination or whistleblower protection laws listed above. If you believe that you are the victim of retaliation for engaging in protected activity, you must follow, as appropriate, the procedures described in the Antidiscrimination Laws and Whistleblower Protection Laws sections or, if applicable, the administrative or negotiated grievance procedures in order to pursue any legal remedy.

Disciplinary Actions

Under the existing laws, each agency retains the right, where appropriate, to discipline a Federal employee for conduct that is inconsistent with Federal antidiscrimination and whistleblower protection laws up to and including removal. If the U.S. Office of Special Counsel has initiated an investigation under 5 U.S.C. 1214, however, according to 5 U.S.C. 1214(f), agencies must seek approval from the Special Counsel to discipline employees for, among other activities, engaging in prohibited retaliation. Nothing in the No FEAR Act alters existing laws or permits an agency to take unfounded disciplinary action against a Federal employee or to violate the procedural rights of a Federal employee who has been accused of discrimination.

Additional Information

For further information regarding the No FEAR Act regulations, refer to 5 CFR part 724, as well as the appropriate offices within your agency (e.g., EEO office, human resources office, or Office of General Counsel). Additional information regarding Federal antidiscrimination, whistleblower