

• **Mitigation.** Can negative environmental impacts of the action be reasonably mitigated, and what is the likelihood that mitigation measures will be successfully implemented? CEQ regulations (40 CFR 1508.20) indicate that mitigation to be considered in the scope of a NEPA document can include actions or decisions that avoid, minimize, reduce, rectify, or compensate for the adverse impacts identified. The EIS will consider the stewardship plan outlined in section VII. E. of the petition, which is designed to minimize inadvertent gene flow as well as to monitor and mitigate the potential development of glyphosate-resistant weeds. The EIS will also consider other actions, *e.g.*, deployment (release) strategies or management practices, including those that may be outside APHIS' jurisdiction, that might mitigate any adverse impacts identified, so as to alert those who may be in a position to implement them.

Comments that provide information relevant to the scope identified above or that identify other potentially significant environmental issues or alternatives that should be examined in the context of the EIS process would be especially helpful. All comments that we received in response to the January 2004 notice will be included as part of this scoping process; there is no need to resubmit those comments. We will fully consider all the comments received in response to the January 2004 notice and this current notice in developing a final scope of study and in preparing the draft EIS. When the draft EIS is completed, we will publish a notice in the **Federal Register** announcing its availability and inviting the public to comment on it. Following our consideration of the comments received, APHIS will prepare a final EIS; its availability will also be announced in the **Federal Register** along with a 30-day public comment period, after which the Record of Decision will be issued.

Done in Washington, DC, this 21st day of September 2004.

W. Ron DeHaven,

Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. E4-2372 Filed 9-23-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Stemple Creek Watershed Project, Marin and Sonoma Counties, CA

AGENCY: Natural Resources Conservation Service.

ACTION: Notice of a Finding of No Significant Impact.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR Part 1500) and the Natural Resources Conservation Service regulations (7 CFR Part 650), the Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, gives notice that an environmental impact statement is not being prepared for the Stemple Creek Watershed Project, Marin and Sonoma Counties, California.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Luana E. Kiger, Special Assistant to the State Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service, 430 G Street, Davis, California, 95616-4164, telephone (530) 792-5661.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The environmental assessment of this federally assisted action indicates that the modifications to the project will not cause significant local, regional, or national impacts on the environment. As a result of these findings, Charles W. Bell, State Conservationist, has determined that the preparation and review of an environmental impact statement are not needed for this action.

The project purpose is watershed protection for water quality improvement. The planned project includes improved waste management systems on about 16 dairies, approximately 29 miles of riparian stream habitat restoration, and land treatment on about 11,000 acres of rangeland. The work will be installed through long-term contracts with individual land users. Participation by land users is voluntary.

The Finding of No Significant Impact has been forwarded to the Environmental Protection Agency and to various Federal, State, and local agencies and interested parties. Basic data developed during the environmental assessment is on file and its review may be arranged by contacting Luana E. Kiger, Special Assistant to the State Conservationist.

No administrative action on implementation of the proposal will be taken until 30 days after the date of this publication in the **Federal Register**.

(This activity is listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance under No. 10.904, Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention, and is subject to the provisions of Executive Order 12372, which requires intergovernmental consultation with State and local officials)

Dated: September 13, 2004.

Charles W. Bell,

State Conservationist.

[FR Doc. 04-21421 Filed 9-23-04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Utilities Service

Southern Montana Electric Cooperative, Inc.; Notice of Intent To Hold a Public Scoping Meeting and Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent to hold a public scoping meeting and prepare an environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY: The Rural Utilities Service (RUS) intends to hold a public scoping meeting and prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) in connection with possible impacts related to a project being proposed by Southern Montana Electric Cooperative, Inc. (SME), of Billings, Montana. The proposal consists of the construction and operation of a coal-fired electric generation facility, consisting of a single 250 Megawatt (MW) unit, at a site near Great Falls, Montana.

DATES: RUS will conduct the public scoping meetings in an open-house format on October 13, 2004, from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m., at the Civic Center in Great Falls, Montana.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nurul Islam, Environmental Protection Specialist, RUS, Engineering and Environmental Staff, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Stop 1571, Washington, DC 20250-1571, telephone: (202) 720-1414 or email: nurul.islam@usda.gov, or Tim R. Gregori, General Manager, Southern Montana Electric Cooperative, Inc., 3521 Gabel Road, Suite 5, Billings, MT 59102, telephone: (406) 294-9527, or email: gregori@mcn.net.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: SME proposes to construct and operate a 250 MW coal-fired electric generation facility at one of two sites near Great Falls, Montana. The Salem Industrial site is located east of Highway 87 in the Great Falls Industrial Park. The Salem site is located near the intersection of Salem Road and the abandon

Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific railroad bed. Construction of the project at either site will require the construction of new electric transmission lines that will interconnect with the Great Falls Substation and the Great Falls to Broadview 230 kilovolt electric transmission line. The schedule developed by SME would place the facility in commercial operation by the spring of 2009. Alternatives to be considered by RUS include no action, purchased power, renewable energy sources, distributed generation, and alternative site locations. Comments regarding the proposed project may be submitted (orally or in writing) at the public scoping meeting or in writing within 30 days after the October 13, 2004 meeting to RUS at the address provided in this notice.

RUS will use input provided by government agencies, private organizations, and the public, in the preparation of a Draft EIS. The Draft EIS will be available for review and comment for 45 days. A Final EIS will then be prepared that considers all comments received. The Final EIS will be available for review and comment for 30 days. Following the 30-day comment period, RUS will prepare a Record of Decision (ROD). Notices announcing the availability of the Draft and Final EIS and the ROD will be published in the **Federal Register** and in local newspapers.

Any final action by RUS related to the proposed project will be subject to, and contingent upon, compliance with all relevant Federal, State and local environmental laws and regulations and completion of the environmental review requirements as prescribed in the RUS Environmental Policies and Procedures (7 CFR Part 1794).

Dated: September 20, 2004.

Mark S. Plank,

Acting Director, Engineering and Environmental Staff.

[FR Doc. 04-21511 Filed 9-23-04; 8:45 am]

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COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

Procurement List; Proposed Additions and Deletions

AGENCY: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

ACTION: Proposed additions to and deletions from Procurement List.

SUMMARY: The Committee is proposing to add to the Procurement List products

to be furnished by nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities, and to delete products and services previously furnished by such agencies.

Comments Must Be Received on or Before: October 24, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, Jefferson Plaza 2, Suite 10800, 1421 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia, 22202-3259.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sheryl D. Kennerly, (703) 603-7740.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice is published pursuant to 41 U.S.C. 47(a)(2) and 41 CFR 51-2.3. Its purpose is to provide interested persons an opportunity to submit comments on the proposed actions.

Additions

If the Committee approves the proposed additions, the entities of the Federal Government identified in this notice for each product or service will be required to procure the products listed below from nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities.

Regulatory Flexibility Act Certification

I certify that the following action will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The major factors considered for this certification were:

1. If approved, the action will not result in any additional reporting, recordkeeping or other compliance requirements for small entities.

2. If approved, the action will result in authorizing small entities to furnish the products to the Government.

3. There are no known regulatory alternatives which would accomplish the objectives of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act (41 U.S.C. 46-48c) in connection with the products proposed for addition to the Procurement List.

End of Certification

The following products are proposed for addition to Procurement List for production by the nonprofit agencies listed:

Products

Product/NSN: Tea Light Candles, Strawberry/M.R. 488, Unscented/M.R. 487, Vanilla/M.R. 486.

NPA: South Texas Lighthouse for the Blind, Corpus Christi, Texas.

Contract Activity: Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA), Ft. Lee, VA, Fort Lee, Virginia.

Deletions

Regulatory Flexibility Act Certification

I certify that the following action will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The major factors considered for this certification were:

1. If approved, the action may result in additional reporting, recordkeeping or other compliance requirements for small entities.

2. If approved, the action may result in authorizing small entities to furnish the products and services to the Government.

3. There are no known regulatory alternatives which would accomplish the objectives of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act (41 U.S.C. 46-48c) in connection with the products and services proposed for deletion from the Procurement List.

End of Certification

The following products and services are proposed for deletion from the Procurement List:

Products

Product/NSN: Enamel, Lacquer, 8010-00-935-7085.

NPA: None currently authorized.

Contract Activity: GSA, Hardware & Appliances Center, Kansas City, Missouri.

Product/NSN: Germicidal Cleaner/Degreaser, 7930-01-393-6756.

NPA: Lighthouse for the Blind, St. Louis, Missouri.

Contract Activity: None currently authorized.

Product/NSN: Portfolio, Plastic Envelope, 7510-00-995-4852, 7510-00-995-4856, 7510-00-NIB-0267, 7510-00-NIB-0268.

NPA: Bestwork Industries for the Blind, Inc., Runnemede, New Jersey.

Contract Activity: Office Supplies & Paper Products Acquisition Center, New York, New York.

Product/NSN: Solvent, Correction Fluid, 7510-01-013-9215.

NPA: Lighthouse for the Blind, St. Louis, Missouri.

Contract Activity: Office Supplies & Paper Products Acquisition Center, New York, New York.

Product/NSN: Standard Bus Equipment, 5999-00-NSH-0001.

NPA: Sheltered Workshop for the Disabled, Inc., Binghamton, New York.

Contract Activity: U.S. Coast Guard, Dept. of Transportation, Washington, DC.

Product/NSN: Tape, Postage Meter, 7530-00-912-3925.

NPA: Cincinnati Association for the Blind, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Contract Activity: Office Supplies & Paper Products Acquisition Center, New York, New York.