Dated: May 5, 2003.

John C. Speedy III,

SES, Designated Federal Officer, WHINSEC BoV.

[FR Doc. 03–12154 Filed 5–14–03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers

Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Royal D'Iberville Hotel and Casino Development, City of D'Iberville, Harrison County, MS

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

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: This notice of availability announces the public release of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Proposed Royal D'Iberville Hotel and Casino Development, City of D'Iberville, Harrison County, MS. On February 23, 1998, Royal D'Iberville, Inc. submitted a Joint Permit Application and Notification to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), Mobile District, the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Pollution Control and the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources for the D'Iberville project. The proposed action involves the construction of a dockside casino adjacent to the west side of the I–110 bridge over the Back Bay of Biloxi in D'Iberville, Harrison County, Mississippi. Based on a review of the level of impacts associated with the proposed action, the Mobile District published in **Federal Register**, November 21, 2001 (66 FR 58459), a notice of intent to prepare a DEIS for the proposed Royal D'Iberville Casino and Hotel, located in D'Iberville, Harrison County, MS. This DEIS has been developed by the Corps (lead agency) and 10 cooperating Federal and state agencies. The DEIS provides a comprehensive environmental analysis to aid in the decision-making process to deny or approve the Department of the Army permit for the proposed D'Iberville Hotel and Casino Project.

DATES: The public comment period for the DEIS will extend through June 30, 2003.

ADDRESSES: To receive a copy of the DEIS, or to submit comments, contact U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District, Coastal Environment Team, Post Office Box 2288, Mobile, AL 36628–0001. A copy of the full document may also be viewed in the Gulfport Public Library, Gulfport, the Margaret Sherry Memorial Library in Biloxi, the D'Iberville Public Library in D'Iberville, or in the Mobile District.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Susan Ivester Rees, Ph.D., EIS Manager, (334) 694–4141, facsimile number (334) 690–2727 or e-mail address (*susan.i.rees@sam.usace.army.mil*).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Public comments can be submitted through a variety of methods. Written comments may be submitted to the Corps by mail, facsimile, or electronic methods, comments (written or oral) may be presented at a public meeting to be scheduled during the month of June in D'Iberville, MS. Additional information on these meetings will be mailed in a public notice to the agencies and public and announced in news releases.

Dated: May 5, 2003.

Ronald A. Krizman,

Chief, Regulatory Branch.

[FR Doc. 03–12156 Filed 5–14–03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers

Intent to Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the Proposed Section 227 National Shoreline Erosion Control Demonstration Project, 63rd Street, ''Hotspot'' Miami Beach, Dade County, FL

AGENCY: Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers, DOD.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The Jacksonville District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) intends to prepare a Technical Report and 100% Plans and Specifications with a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the placement of an innovative breakwater design to help control erosion along the upcoming Test Fill at North Miami Beach using a domestic upland sand source. The proposed project is to be constructed from NE. 63rd Street to NE. 65th Street, Miami Beach, Dade County, FL. The Secretary of the Army is responsible for report approval. a collaborative effort between the Jacksonville District and Waterways Experiment Station, Vicksburg, MS.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul C. Stevenson, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Planning Division, Plan Formulation Branch, 701 San Marco Blvd, Jacksonville, FL, 32207, *paul.c.stevenson@usace.army.mil* by e-mail, or phone 904–232–3747.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

a. *Authorization.* Authority and funds for the project are provided by section 227, of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1996, as amended. The proposed section 227, National Shoreline Erosion Control Demonstration Project, 63rd Street, ''Hotspot'', Miami Beach, Dade County, Florida, has awarded a contract to URS Group to complete 100% plans and specifications for an innovative breakwater to help control erosion along the Dade County Beach Erosion Control and Hurricane Protection (BEC&HP) Project in the same location. The BEC&HP for Dade County, Florida was authorized by the Flood Control Act of 1968 (with supplemental Appropriation Act of 1985 and WRDA 1986) to protect, reduce the loss of public beachfront and to prevent or reduce periodic damages and potential risk life, health and property in the developed lands adjacent to the beach.

b. *Study Area:* The project area begins at NE. 63rd Street and continues north to NE. 65th Street, Miami Beach, FL, an erosion hot spot.

c. *Project Scope:* The proposed project area is very specific to the erosion hot spot area of Miami Beach, between NE. 63rd Street and NE. 65th Street. The proposed project footprint will cover approximately 1,800 linear foot by 40-foot wide and 4.5 to 6-foot high, covered by at least one foot of water at Mean Low Water (MLW), 150-foot from the toe of fill.

d. *Preliminary Alternatives:* The DEIS will evaluate the No Action Plan and the nearshore Submerged Artificial Reef Training (SMART) structure. SMART is proposed approximately 150-foot from the toe of fill for the Test Beach Renourishment at Miami Beach, in the vicinity of 63rd Street, ''Hotspot'', Miami Beach, FL. The SMART design consists of groupings of reef modules in 200-foot by 40-foot segments, attached to an articulated armor concrete mat, parallel to the shoreline for a total length of 1,800-foot. The artificial reef modules would vary in size from 2,400 (4.5-foot high) pounds to 9,800 (6-foot high) pounds and be covered by a minimum of 1-foot of water at MLW. The reef modules would be anchored to the mats to prevent ''rolling''. Mat ends would be free of reefs modules to help prevent scouring. The SMART design breakwater is proposed to help control erosion along the renourished and provide environmental benefits (*see* ftp site *ftp://ftp.saj.usace.army.mil/pub/uploads/k3cdstjv/*