

for further information regarding the comment due date, and to submit comments. Finally, you may hand-deliver comments to the Project Manager at 1100 Old Santa Fe Trail, Santa Fe, New Mexico. Our practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their home address from the record, which we will honor to the extent allowable by law. There also may be circumstances in which we would withhold from the record a respondent's identity, as allowable by law. If you wish us to withhold your name and/or address, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. However, we will not consider anonymous comments. We will make all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety.

Dated: November 12, 2004.

John T. Crowley,

*Acting Director, Intermountain Region,
National Park Service.*

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Reclamation

Rocky Boy's/North Central Montana Regional Water System, Water Conservation Plan

AGENCY: Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of finding.

SUMMARY: The Rocky Boy's/North Central Montana Regional Water System Act of 2002 (Pub. L. 107-331) authorized construction of the Rocky Boy's/North Central Montana Regional Water System in north-central Montana. To meet the requirements of the Act, the Chippewa Cree Tribe and the North Central Montana Regional Water Authority developed and submitted a water conservation plan to Reclamation.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Doug Oellermann, Bureau of Reclamation, Montana Area Office, PO Box 30107, Billings, Montana 59107-0137, or at (406) 247-7333 or by e-mail at doellermann@gp.usbr.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Finding

The Chippewa Cree Tribe and the North Central Montana Regional Water Authority submitted the "Water Conservation Plan, Rocky Boy's/North Central Montana Regional Water System" dated September 2004, that includes prudent and reasonable water conservation measures for the operation of the Rocky Boy's/North Central Montana Regional Water System that have been shown to be economically and financially feasible.

In addition to authorizing construction of the Rocky Boy's/North Central Montana Regional Water System, the Act authorizes appropriations of \$202,880,000 to Reclamation. The Act states under section 906(3) that "The Secretary shall not obligate funds for construction of the core system or the noncore system until the Secretary publishes a written finding that the water conservation plan developed under section 911(a) includes prudent and reasonable water conservation measures for the operation of the Rocky Boy's/North Central Montana Regional Water System that have been shown to be economically and financially feasible."

The requirements for the conservation plan are described under section 911 of the Act that states:

"(a) In General—The Tribe and the Authority shall develop and incorporate into the final engineering report a water conservation plan that contains—

"(1) a description of water conservation objectives;

"(2) a description of appropriate water conservation measures; and

"(3) a time schedule for implementing the water conservation measures to meet the water conservation objectives.

"(b) Purpose—The water conservation plan under subsection (a) shall be designed to ensure that users of water from the core system, on-reservation water distribution systems, and the noncore system will use the best practicable technology and management techniques to conserve water."

To fulfill the requirements of section 911, the Chippewa Cree Tribe and the North Central Montana Regional Water Authority transmitted a water conservation plan (Plan) to Reclamation, dated September 2004. The Plan fulfills all the requirements of the Act as discussed below.

In fulfillment of section 911(a)(1), the Plan contains six reasonable and prudent water conservation objectives appropriate for the pre-construction phase of this multi-phase project:

1. Keep system per capita water use below 196 gallons per capita per day.

2. Keep variable operation and maintenance costs under Final Engineering Report (FER) levels.

3. Develop drought/emergency preparedness plans to deal with a 12-hour project shutdown.

4. Initiate education/outreach and public involvement efforts.

5. Limit Tiber Reservoir withdrawals to FER levels.

6. Extend the life of the project by conserving water.

To accomplish these objectives, and in fulfillment of section 911(a)(2) of the Act, the Plan identifies 15 water conservation measures (Table 1-1 of the Plan) to be implemented starting in Year 1 of construction with full implementation scheduled by Year 5, the second year that treated water will be delivered to non-core users.

Pre-Water Delivery

1. Meter all water deliveries.

2. Adopt water-conserving rate structure for off-reservation systems.

3. Initiate education/outreach and public involvement efforts.

4. Secure supplies of educational materials.

5. Develop drought/emergency preparedness plans.

6. Work with wholesale water purchasers to develop individual water conservation plans.

7. Develop strategies and any necessary ordinances, regulations, contracts or similar arrangements/documents.

8. Develop design criteria to reflect water conservation considerations.

First Year of Water Delivery

1. Maintain pro-active education/outreach efforts, including public meetings, news articles, etc.

2. Prepare annual report highlighting conservation program problems, successes, cost-benefit comparisons, etc. and make this information available and responsive to the public.

3. Continue to work with wholesale water purchasers and the Rocky Boy Reservation.

Long-Term Water Conservation Program

1. An annual review to identify problems, suggest improvements, and solicit input from concerned parties.

2. Continued outreach/education efforts.

3. Targeted public relations activities.

4. Continued enforcement of applicable rules and regulations.

Reclamation Manual Directives and Standards (WTR 01-01), published in December 1996, identify "Fundamental Water Conservation Measures" that are

considered economically and financially feasible and applicable to all water conservation programs. The fundamental measures include a water measurement and accounting system, water pricing structure, and an information and education program. All but one of the water conservation measures included in the Plan are considered by Reclamation as fundamental. The conservation measure which is to develop drought/emergency preparedness plans, while not considered fundamental, is an additional water conservation measure under WTR 01-01 and will not result in increased project cost.

In fulfillment of section 911(a)(3), the plan contains a time schedule for implementing the measures to meet the water conservation objectives. This time scheduled is included with the above description of the objectives and measures.

In fulfillment of section 911(b), Reclamation has reviewed and determined that the water conservation plan has been designed to ensure that the water users will use the best practicable technology and management techniques to conserve water.

Dated: November 8, 2004.

Gerald W. Kelso,

Acting Regional Director, Great Plains Region.
[FR Doc. 04-27278 Filed 12-10-04; 8:45 am]

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INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Inv. Nos. TA-131-30 and TA-2104-16]

U.S.—Oman Free Trade Agreement: Advice Concerning the Probable Economic Effect of Providing Duty-Free Treatment for Imports

AGENCY: International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Institution of investigation and scheduling of public hearing.

EFFECTIVE DATE: December 6, 2004.

SUMMARY: Following receipt on December 1, 2004, of a request from the United States Trade Representative (USTR), the Commission instituted investigation Nos. TA-131-30 and TA-2104-16, U.S.—Oman Free Trade Agreement: Advice Concerning the Probable Economic Effect of Providing Duty-Free Treatment for Imports, under section 131 of the Trade Act of 1974 and section 2104(b)(2) of the Trade Act of 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Information specific to these

investigations may be obtained from Robert Carr, Project Leader (202-205-3402; robert.carr@usitc.gov), or Eric Land, Deputy Project Leader (202-205-3049; eric.land@usitc.gov), Office of Industries, United States International Trade Commission, Washington, DC 20436. For information on the legal aspects of these investigations, contact William Gearhart of the Office of the General Counsel (202-205-3091; william.gearhart@usitc.gov). Hearing impaired individuals are advised that information on this matter can be obtained by contacting the TDD terminal on (202) 205-1810. General information concerning the Commission may also be obtained by accessing its Internet server (<http://www.usitc.gov>). The public record for these investigations may be viewed on the Commission's electronic docket (EDIS) at <http://edis.usitc.gov>.

Background: On November 15, 2004, the USTR notified the Congress of the President's intent to initiate free trade agreement negotiations with the Sultanate of Oman (Oman). Accordingly, the USTR, pursuant to section 131 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2151), requested the Commission to provide a report including advice as to the probable economic effect of providing duty-free treatment for imports of products of Oman (i) on industries in the United States producing like or directly competitive products, and (ii) on consumers. In preparing the advice, the Commission's analysis will consider each article in chapters 1 through 97 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States for which U.S. tariffs will remain after the United States fully implements its Uruguay Round tariff commitments. The import advice will be based on the 2004 Harmonized Tariff System nomenclature and 2003 trade data. The advice with respect to the removal of U.S. duties on imports from Oman will assume that any known U.S. nontariff barrier will not be applicable to such imports. The Commission will note in its report any instance in which the continued application of a U.S. nontariff barrier to such imports would result in different advice with respect to the effect of the removal of the duty.

As also requested, pursuant to section 2104(b)(2) of the Trade Act of 2002 (19 U.S.C. 3804(b)(2)), the Commission will provide advice as to the probable economic effect of eliminating tariffs on imports of certain agricultural products of Oman on (i) industries in the United States producing the product concerned, and (ii) the U.S. economy as a whole.

USTR indicated that the Commission's report will be classified

and that USTR considered it to be an interagency memorandum containing pre-decisional advice and subject to the deliberative process privilege. The Commission expects to provide its report to USTR by February 28, 2005.

Public Hearing: A public hearing in connection with these investigations is scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m. on January 5, 2005, at the United States International Trade Commission Building, 500 E Street SW, Washington, DC. This hearing will be held sequentially with a separate Commission hearing on January 5, 2005, in connection with its investigation U.S.—UAE FTA: Advice Concerning the Probable Economic Effects of Providing Duty-Free Treatment for Imports (Inv. Nos. TA-131-31 and TA-2104-17). Requests to appear at the public hearing should be filed with the Secretary, not later than 5:15 p.m., December 17, 2004, in accordance with the requirements in the "Submissions" section below. In the event that, as of the close of business on December 17, 2004, no witnesses are scheduled to appear, the hearing will be canceled. Any person interested in attending the hearing as an observer or non-participant may call the Secretary (202-205-1806) after December 17, 2004 to determine whether the hearing will be held.

Written Submissions: In lieu of or in addition to participating in the hearing, interested parties are invited to submit written statements or briefs concerning these investigations. All written submissions, including requests to appear at the hearing, statements, and briefs, should be addressed to the Secretary, United States International Trade Commission, 500 E Street SW., Washington, DC 20436. Any prehearing statements or briefs should be filed not later than 5:15 p.m., December 21, 2004; the deadline for filing posthearing statements or briefs is 5:15 p.m., January 12, 2005. All written submissions must conform with the provisions of § 201.8 of the *Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure* (19 CFR 201.8). Section 201.8 of the rules requires that a signed original (or a copy designated as an original) and fourteen (14) copies of each document be filed. In the event that confidential treatment of the document is requested, at least four (4) additional copies must be filed, in which the confidential information must be deleted (see the following paragraph for further information regarding confidential business information). The Commission's rules do not authorize filing submissions with the Secretary by facsimile or electronic means, except to the extent permitted by § 201.8 of the rules (see Handbook for