

Environmental Protection Agency, Region I, One Congress Street, Suite 1100, Mailcode SES, Boston, Massachusetts 02214, (617) 918-1886. Comments should reference the Picillo Farm Superfund Site, Coventry, Rhode Island, and EPA Docket No. 01-2003-0007 and should be addressed to the Docket Clerk, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region I, One Congress Street, Suite 1100, Mailcode RCG, Boston, Massachusetts 02214.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

RuthAnn Sherman, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region I, One Congress Street, Suite 1100, Mailcode SES, Boston, Massachusetts 02214, (617) 918-1886.

Dated: December 5, 2002.

**Stanley D. Chin,**

*Acting Director, Office of Site Remediation and Restoration.*

[FR Doc. 02-31979 Filed 12-18-02; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6560-50-P**

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

[FRL-7424-8]

**Proposed Administrative Penalty Assessment and Opportunity To Comment**

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency.

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed assessment of clean water act class II administrative penalty and opportunity to comment.

**SUMMARY:** EPA is providing notice of a proposed administrative penalty for alleged violations of the Clean Water Act. EPA is also providing notice of opportunity to comment on the proposed penalty.

EPA is authorized under section 309(g) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. 1319(g), to assess a civil penalty after providing the person subject to the penalty notice of the proposed penalty and the opportunity for a hearing, and after providing interested persons notice of the proposed penalty and a reasonable opportunity to comment on its issuance. Under section 309(g), any person who has violated the conditions of a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit may be assessed a penalty in a "Class II" administrative penalty proceeding. Class II proceedings under section 309(g) are conducted in accordance with consolidated rules of practice governing the administrative assessment of civil penalties, 40 CFR part 22.

EPA is providing notice of the following Class II penalty proceeding:

In the Matter of Phelps Dodge Corp., Christmas Facility, Docket No. CWA-9-2002-0011; Complainant, Alexis Strauss, Director, Water Division (WTR-1), U.S. EPA, Region 9, 75 Hawthorne St., San Francisco, CA 94105; Respondent, Phelps Dodge Corp.; filed September 30, 2002; seeking a penalty of up to \$137,500 for various discharges from an inactive copper mine and copper ore processing facility, known as the Christmas Facility, located near Winkelman, AZ, to Dripping Springs Wash, in violation of NPDES Permit No. AZ0020516, and for various violations of reporting requirements of that permit.

Procedures by which the public may comment on a proposed Class II penalty or participate in a Class II penalty proceeding are set forth in the consolidated rules. A commenter may present written comments for the record at any time prior to the close of the record.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Persons wishing to receive a copy of the consolidated rules, review the complaint or other documents filed in the proceedings, or comment or participate in the proceedings, should contact Danielle Carr, Regional Hearing Clerk, U.S. EPA, Region 9, 75 Hawthorne St., San Francisco, CA 94105, (415) 972-3871. Documents filed as part of the public record in the proceedings are available for inspection during business hours at the office of the Regional Hearing Clerk.

Dated: December 12, 2002.

**Kathi Moore,**

*Chief, Clean Water Act Compliance Office, Water Division.*

[FR Doc. 02-31980 Filed 12-18-02; 8:45 am]

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**FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM**

[Docket No. R-1138]

**Proposal to Expand the Operating Hours for the On-Line Fedwire® Funds Service**

**AGENCY:** Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

**ACTION:** Notice; Request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** The Board requests comment on a proposal to expand the operating hours for the Fedwire Funds Service.<sup>1</sup> Under this proposal, Fedwire would open three and one-half hours earlier than the current opening time of 12:30

<sup>1</sup> All references to Fedwire apply to the on-line Fedwire Funds Service unless otherwise noted. Fedwire is a registered servicemark of the Federal Reserve Banks.

a.m. eastern time, and depository institutions would participate in the earlier operating hours on a voluntary basis.<sup>2</sup> The new opening time would be 9 p.m. for on-line funds transfers with a business date of the following calendar day.<sup>3</sup> An earlier Fedwire opening time would further the smooth functioning and continued development of the payments system, as well as improve efficiency and reduce risk in making payments and settlements. The closing time for the service would remain unchanged at 6:30 p.m., thereby expanding the service's operating hours from eighteen hours to twenty-one and one-half hours each business day. The proposal would not affect the operating hours for the origination and telephone advice of credit for off-line funds transfers and would not affect the operating hours for the Fedwire Securities Service.<sup>4</sup>

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted on or before March 4, 2003.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should refer to Docket No. R-1138 and should be submitted to Ms. Jennifer J. Johnson, Secretary, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, 20th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20551, or mailed electronically to [regs.comments@federalreserve.gov](mailto:regs.comments@federalreserve.gov). Comments addressed to Ms. Johnson may also be delivered to the Board's visitors center in the east courtyard of the Eccles Building, located on 20th Street between Constitution Avenue and C Street, NW., between 8 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Members of the public may inspect comments in room MP-500 of the Martin Building between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. on weekdays, pursuant to §261.12, except as provided in §261.14 of the Board's Rules Regarding Availability of Information, 12 CFR 261.12 and 261.14.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jack K. Walton II, Assistant Director (202/452-2660), or Lorna R. Prosper-Harley, Senior Financial Services Analyst (202/452-2690), Division of Reserve Bank Operations and Payment Systems, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System; for users of Telecommunication Devices for the Deaf (TDD) only, contact (202/263-4869).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

<sup>2</sup> All references are to eastern time unless otherwise noted.

<sup>3</sup> For example, if today were Thursday, November 14, 2002, Fedwire would open at 9 p.m., with the business (cycle) date of Friday, November 15, 2002.

<sup>4</sup> The operating hours for off-line funds transfers and securities transfers are outlined in the Federal Reserve Banks' Operating Circulars 6 and 7, respectively.