

Year 2000 will meet on November 2, 1990, at the Naval Air Station, Miramar, San Diego, California. Sessions of the meeting will commence at 8 a.m. and terminate at 4:30 p.m. All sessions of the meeting will be closed to the public. The purpose of the meeting is to review and participate in Project Oxbow, which are simulated wargames comparing various tactical defense suppression systems. The agenda will be comprised of briefings and discussions concerning the planned approach and overall project objectives, a review of test results, and analysis which emphasizes qualitative results in a tactical and operational context, and will include discussions on current and projected capabilities and requirements related to tactical defense suppression systems. These discussions will contain classified information that is specifically authorized under criteria established by Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense and is in fact properly classified pursuant to such Executive order. The classified and non-classified matters to be discussed are so inextricably intertwined as to preclude opening any portion of the meeting. Accordingly, the Secretary of the Navy has determined in writing that the public interest requires that all sessions of the meeting be closed to the public because they will be concerned with matters listed in section 552b(c)(1) of title 5, United States Code.

This notice is being published late because of administrative delays which constitutes an exceptional circumstance, not allowing Notice to be published in the *Federal Register* at least 15 days before the date of this meeting.

For further information concerning this meeting contact: Commander John Hrenko, U.S. Navy, Office of Naval Research, 800 North Quincy Street, Arlington, VA 22217-5000. Telephone Number: (703) 696-4488.

Dated: October 17, 1990.

Wayne T. Baucino,

*LT, Jgoc, USNR, Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

[FR Doc. 90-24975 Filed 10-19-90; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3810-AE-M

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### Advisory Council on Education Statistics; Meeting

**AGENCY:** Advisory Council on Education Statistics, Education.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** This notice sets forth the schedule and proposed agenda of a forthcoming meeting of the Advisory Council on Education Statistics. This

notice also describes the functions of the Council. Notice of this meeting is required under section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act. This document is intended to notify the general public of their opportunity to attend.

**DATES AND TIMES:** December 13, 1990, 9 a.m.-4:45 p.m. and December 14, 1990, 9 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** 555 New Jersey Avenue, NW., Room 326, Washington, DC.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Carrol B. Kindel, Executive Director, Advisory Council on Education Statistics, 555 New Jersey Avenue, Room 400e, Washington, DC 20208-5574, telephone: (202) 357-6329 before October 26, 1990 and (202) 219-1496 after October 26, 1990.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Advisory Council on Education Statistics is established under Section 406(c)(1) of the Education Amendments of 1974, Public Law 93-380. The Council is established to review general policies for the operation of the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) in the Office of Education Research and Improvement and is responsible for advising on standards to insure that statistics and analyses disseminated by NCES are of high quality and are not subject to political influence. The meeting of the Council is open to the public.

The proposed agenda includes the following:

- Orientation for New Council Members
- NCES Statistical Standards—the Standards Program and the Cooperative Education Data Collection and Reporting Standards
- Update on Resources for 1991 and Current Performance Indicators
- 1991 Dissemination Plans
- Update on National Goals Panel
- Work in Progress: NAEP and Confidentiality

Records are kept of all Council proceedings and are available for public inspection at the Office of the Executive Director, Advisory Council on Education Statistics, 555 New Jersey Avenue, NW., Room 400e, Washington, DC 20208-5574.

Dated: October 16, 1990.

Christopher T. Cross,

*Assistant Secretary for Educational Research and Improvement.*

[FR Doc. 90-24833 Filed 10-19-90; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-M

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Intent To Prepare a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement on the Department of Energy's Proposed Integrated Environmental Restoration and Waste Management Program, and To Conduct Public Scoping Meetings

**AGENCY:** U.S. Department of Energy (DOE).

**ACTION:** Notice of intent (NOI) to prepare a programmatic environmental impact statement (PEIS).

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Energy announces its intent to prepare a PEIS pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321, *et seq.*), as amended, and to conduct a series of public scoping meetings nationwide. The PEIS will assess the potential environmental consequences of alternatives for implementing an integrated environmental restoration and waste management program.

The purpose of DOE's proposed integrated environmental restoration and waste management program is to provide a broad, systematic approach to addressing cleanup activities and waste management practices. The Department is committed to ensuring that potential risks to human health and the environment from the cleanup of contamination resulting from past operations and from future waste management activities are at safe levels. DOE is further committed to full compliance with environmental regulations and to a goal of completing environmental restoration by 2019.

**INVITATION TO COMMENT:** To ensure that the full range of issues related to this proposal are addressed, comments on the proposed scope of the PEIS are invited from all interested parties. Written comments to assist DOE in identifying significant environmental issues and defining the appropriate scope of the PEIS should be directed to Mr. Wisenbaker at the address indicated below. Agencies, organizations, and the general public also are invited to present oral comments pertinent to the preparation of the PEIS at the public scoping meetings to be held nationwide, as described below. Written and oral comments will be given equal weight.

Following the completion of the public scoping process, a PEIS Implementation Plan will be issued for public comment. The Implementation Plan will record the results of the scoping process and define the alternatives and issues to be evaluated in the PEIS. DOE intends to

complete the draft PEIS in early 1992. Its availability will be announced in the **Federal Register**, and public comments again will be solicited. Comments on the draft PEIS will be considered in preparing the final PEIS, scheduled for 1993.

**DATES:** The public scoping period will continue until February 19, 1991. Written comments should be postmarked by February 19, 1991 to assure consideration. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practicable. The public scoping meetings will begin in December 1990. The dates and locations of the meetings will be announced in a subsequent **Federal Register** notice and in local public notices in advance of the planned meetings.

**ADDRESSES AND FURTHER INFORMATION:** Written comments on the scope of the PEIS, questions concerning the program, and requests for copies of the draft PEIS should be directed to: Mr. W. E. Wisenbaker, Acting Director, Division of Program Support, Office of Environmental Restoration (EM-43), U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20585, (202) 353-2950.

For further information on the DOE NEPA process please contact: Ms. Carol M. Borgstrom, Director, Office of NEPA Oversight (EH-25), U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20585, (202) 586-4600.

**PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS:** Public scoping meetings will be held in the following cities beginning in December 1990. The dates and locations of these meetings will be published in a subsequent **Federal Register** notice. This information will also be announced in local public notices before the planned meetings.

Oakland, California  
 Denver, Colorado  
 Washington, DC  
 Tampa, Florida  
 Atlanta, Georgia  
 Boise, Idaho  
 Idaho Falls, Idaho  
 Chicago, Illinois  
 Paducah, Kentucky  
 St. Louis, Missouri  
 Las Vegas, Nevada  
 Princeton, New Jersey  
 Albuquerque, New Mexico  
 Newburgh, New York  
 Cincinnati, Ohio  
 Columbus, Ohio  
 Portland, Oregon  
 Columbia, South Carolina  
 Oak Ridge, Tennessee  
 Amarillo, Texas  
 Richland, Washington  
 Seattle, Washington  
 Spokane, Washington

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Background.** In November 1989, the Secretary of Energy established the DOE Office of Environmental Restoration and Waste Management (EM) for the purpose of consolidating the Department's environmental restoration and waste management activities. In January 1990, the Secretary determined that DOE will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement on a newly proposed integrated environmental restoration and waste management program.

Some of the waste management practices that DOE and its predecessor agencies once considered safe and prudent under then existing requirements and guidelines have resulted in the need for remediation under applicable current Federal and state requirements and guidelines. DOE's environmental restoration activities include the assessment and physical cleanup of contamination at DOE installations and other properties. Environmental restoration activities also include the decontamination and decommissioning (D&D) of DOE's surplus facilities. These facilities and properties may have contamination from radioactive, hazardous, or mixed (radioactive and hazardous) waste. As decisions are made for the handling of contamination at various sites and facilities, new wastes will be generated that will require management.

DOE's waste management operations include the treatment, storage, transportation, and disposal of wastes generated by ongoing nuclear energy, energy research, and defense activities; by environmental restoration activities; and by other sources. These wastes include: high-level radioactive waste (HLW); low-level radioactive waste (LLW); transuranic waste (TRU); mixed waste (MW); greater-than-Class C waste (GTCC) waste; and hazardous waste.

**The Affected Installations.** DOE's environmental restoration and waste management activities occur throughout the U.S. The largest number of facilities that require environmental restoration or that generate or store the largest volumes of radioactive, hazardous, and mixed waste are located at these installations: Hanford Reservation (Washington); Savannah River Site (South Carolina); Oak Ridge Reservation (Tennessee); Rocky Flats Plant (Colorado); Feed Materials Production Center, Mound Plant and Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant (Ohio); Idaho National Engineering Laboratory (Idaho); Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (California); Argonne National Laboratory (Illinois); Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant (Kentucky); Nevada Test Site (Nevada); Los Alamos

National Laboratory and Sandia National Laboratory (New Mexico); and Pantex Plant (Texas). The Appendix contains a listing of DOE locations where current environmental restoration and waste management activities occur that DOE believes are within the scope of this PEIS. Additional sites may be added in the course of the development of the PEIS.

**The Regulatory Framework.** Federal laws of major importance to DOE's environmental restoration and waste management activities include, among others, the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2011, *et seq.*), as amended; the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA) (42 U.S.C. 9601, *et seq.*), as amended; and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) (42 U.S.C. 6901, *et seq.*), as amended. The Atomic Energy Act requires the management, processing, and utilization of radioactive materials in a manner that protects the public health and the environment. CERCLA requires responses to releases or threatened releases of hazardous substances into the environment and establishes a process to clean up abandoned or uncontrolled hazardous waste sites which may endanger public health or the environment. RCRA requires management of waste currently being generated, including the treatment, storage, transportation, and disposal of hazardous waste, and cleanup of hazardous waste releases from past and present operations that pose a threat to human health and the environment. It is DOE's policy to apply NEPA to its waste management and cleanup activities. To minimize delay and duplication of effort in meeting these responsibilities, DOE is supplementing, where necessary, and integrating the procedural documentation and public participation requirements for CERCLA and RCRA to facilitate compliance with NEPA requirements (DOE Order 5400.4, Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act Requirements).

DOE environmental restoration and waste management activities are subject to other applicable Federal and state requirements and to enforceable agreements. Additionally, certain Federal statutes require DOE to undertake specific environmental restoration and waste management activities. For example, under Title I of the Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act, DOE must remediate inactive uranium milling sites in accordance with Environmental

Protection Agency standards (40 CFR part 192) established for that purpose.

Wastes are categorized in accordance with Federal statutes and regulations and DOE Orders. High-level waste is defined in the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 (42 U.S.C. 10101(12)). Low-level, transuranic, and radioactive mixed wastes are defined in DOE Order 5820.2A (Radioactive Waste Management). Hazardous wastes are those wastes that are defined as hazardous by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regulations implementing RCRA (40 CFR Part 261) and by applicable state regulations.

*Current Practices for Waste Management.* To date, DOE's waste management operations have focused on site-by-site treatment, storage, transportation, and disposal of waste. Transuranic, low-level, hazardous, and radioactive mixed waste are generated at many DOE installations; only a few installations generate high-level waste.

DOE generates or stores high-level waste at four installations: the Savannah River Site, the Hanford Reservation, the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory, and the West Valley Demonstration Project. To date, high-level waste has undergone only limited treatment. DOE intends to immobilize the waste in a stable, solid form acceptable for disposal in a geologic repository. Under current law, only one potential repository site (at Yucca Mountain, Nevada) for this waste is currently being characterized.

Most TRU waste has been generated at DOE's Rocky Flats Plant in Golden, Colorado. Transuranic waste is currently stored at several facilities including the Rocky Flats Plant, the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory, the Hanford Reservation, the Oak Ridge Reservation, the Nevada Test Site, Los Alamos National Laboratory, and the Savannah River Site. The Idaho National Engineering Laboratory has the largest management program for this waste. The Department is currently evaluating the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant in Carlsbad, New Mexico, as a potential disposal site for TRU waste.

Low-level waste requires relatively minimal treatment. Although in some instances other methods may be used, DOE currently disposes of the majority of its LLW in near-surface facilities, including installations at the Savannah River Site, the Oak Ridge Reservation, the Nevada Test Site, the Hanford Reservation, Los Alamos National Laboratory, and the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory.

DOE Order 5820.2A (Radioactive Waste Management) requires that the DOE waste equivalent to commercially

generated Greater-than-Class C (GTCC) waste be handled as a special case by each site. The Department is also responsible for disposal of commercially generated GTCC waste. DOE has developed a three-part strategy for managing this waste. The first phase would provide a storage facility for those generators that cannot continue to store the waste. The second phase would provide a central storage facility for all commercially generated GTCC waste.

The final phase would transfer the stored waste to a high-level waste repository or provide for the development of a separate GTCC disposal facility.

For hazardous waste, DOE's near-term objective is to treat the waste as it is generated, thereby minimizing the need for storage capacity. DOE disposes of treated hazardous waste in permitted DOE or commercial facilities.

Mixed wastes are generated at many DOE installations. Mixed waste may include high-level waste, transuranic waste, and low-level waste. DOE stores these wastes until they can be treated and disposed of in permitted facilities. The Department currently treats a small amount of MW by thermal destruction to eliminate some hazardous components. In addition, DOE treats some low-level MW by solidification.

The PEIS will address these practices and any reasonable alternatives that are amenable to environmental analysis. (See Scope of PEIS, below)

*Current Practices for Environmental Restoration.* DOE will continue to seek, to the extent possible, to negotiate a comprehensive Federal Facilities Agreement with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the involved state to cover its remediation activities at an installation. Such agreements establish technical requirements and schedules for characterization, feasibility assessment and cleanup at each of the affected sites, and delineate the roles and responsibilities of each party to the agreement, to comply with the requirements of Section 120 of CERCLA. DOE is in the early stages of site assessment and characterization at many facilities. These initial activities are being reviewed in compliance with NEPA. DOE has determined that these early remediation activities are normally categorically excluded under its NEPA guidelines (55 FR 37174, September 7, 1990).

Decontamination and decommissioning activities have several objectives: (1) To maintain facilities awaiting additional D&D activities in a manner that protects workers, the

public, and the environment; (2) to decontaminate facilities intended for reuse; and (3) decommission other facilities in accordance with requirements set forth in an approved environmental compliance plan. Currently, D&D activities are planned and executed on a site-by-site basis.

The PEIS will address these practices and any reasonable alternatives amenable to environmental analysis.

*Need for an Integrated Environmental Restoration and Waste Management Program.* The fundamental goal of DOE's Office of Environmental Restoration and Waste Management is to ensure that potential risks to human health and to the environment posed by wastes under its jurisdiction are at safe levels. To help achieve this goal, DOE proposes to conduct an integrated environmental restoration and waste management program.

Historically, DOE environmental restoration and waste management operations have been conducted on a site-by-site basis. This practice has led to differing approaches to cleanup and waste management among DOE sites. DOE's recent consolidation of waste program responsibilities (environmental restoration and waste management) provides the opportunity to establish a systematic approach to programmatic requirements and practices.

Remediation and D & D activities result in large amounts of waste that will require management, in addition to the wastes generated from production, research, and other activities. Because environmental restoration activities will be a significant source of waste, cleanup and waste management activities are closely related. The resolution of certain key issues, such as future land-usability objectives, will determine the amount, type, and timing of environmental restoration waste being introduced into the waste management part of the system. Land-usability policy relates to cleanup standards and the degree of reliance on institutional controls for long-term health and environmental protection.

**PROGRAMMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT:** On January 12, 1990, the Secretary of Energy determined that a PEIS should be prepared for DOE's newly proposed integrated environmental restoration and waste management program. The Secretary stated that preparation of this PEIS will ensure that a comprehensive and cumulative environmental analysis of waste management proposals and alternatives will be available to DOE decisionmakers and the public.

The PEIS will assess broad programmatic issues and integrated approaches to DOE's environmental restoration and waste management activities. DOE aims, to the extent this is feasible, for the PEIS to provide the primary environmental basis for selecting waste management methods and technologies and the locations at which they would be implemented. However, DOE does not intend the PEIS to assess impacts related to alternative choices of locations within a site. Such detailed decisions would be based on site-specific NEPA documents tiered to this PEIS.

#### PRELIMINARY DESCRIPTION OF

**ALTERNATIVES:** *Scope of PEIS.* DOE solicits public input on all aspects of the proposed program described in this notice. DOE plans to structure this PEIS in two sections to facilitate public review and comments. One section of the PEIS will focus on key environmental restoration issues. The second section will analyze reasonably foreseeable potential impacts associated with various waste management alternatives within the integrated program.

As discussed previously, current environmental restoration and waste management practices for which reasonable alternatives that are amenable to environmental analysis can be identified are within the scope of the PEIS. Under the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 (42 U.S.C. 10101, *et seq.*), as amended, DOE currently plans to dispose of high-level waste resulting from Departmental activities in a repository to be developed for spent fuel from commercial nuclear utilities. In addition, under section 213(a) of the Department of Energy National Security and Military Applications of Nuclear Energy Authorization Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 7272, *et seq.*), as amended, the Department plans to demonstrate the disposal of defense transuranic waste at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant in Carlsbad, New Mexico. These decisions will not be revisited in the programmatic EIS. In addition, there is a national program, under Congressional direction, to address the management of commercial nuclear reactor spent fuel. The activities associated with that program will be considered in separate NEPA documentation and not in this PEIS. Commercial LLW is not the Department's responsibility and therefore is outside the scope of the PEIS. Uranium Mill Tailings Remedial Action Program (UMTRAP) tailings cleanup and disposal activities are within DOE's purview, but are expected to be close to completion prior to the

issuance of the Record of Decision and will not be considered in the PEIS. The groundwater remediation activities associated with UMTRAP are just beginning, however, and therefore are within the scope of this PEIS.

*Proposed action.* The proposed action is to formulate and implement an integrated Environmental Restoration and Waste Management Program in a safe and environmentally sound manner, and in compliance with applicable laws, regulations and standards. Alternative approaches are discussed below.

*Environmental Restoration Analysis:* NEPA requires DOE to analyze reasonable alternatives to its proposed actions. DOE realizes that in the current environmental restoration decisionmaking framework for remediation activities there are statutory and regulatory requirements that must be fulfilled. DOE will continue to follow established processes in conducting ongoing environmental restoration activities.

For example, the framework Congress established under CERCLA for remedial actions imposes a strong preference for permanent remedies that comply with all applicable and appropriate requirements established under environmental laws. Consequently, DOE's overall environmental restoration efforts have focused on cleaning up sites adequately for unrestricted future use. The framework also requires that cleanup requirements and remedies be selected site-specifically. This produces final decisions made both discretely and diversely.

DOE believes, however, that there are important national issues that it should analyze in carrying out its responsibilities. These issues include, but are not limited to, (1) the degree to which DOE should rely on proven technologies in contrast to making strong resource commitments to developing innovative technologies; (2) the manner in which DOE should manage wastes until adequate treatment and disposal capacity is available; (3) whether DOE's installations should invariably be cleaned up for unrestricted use; and (4) the environmental basis for deciding cleanup priorities.

DOE seeks to develop and analyze programmatic alternatives that bear on these issues. DOE believes that important information on the costs and benefits of alternative program management strategies could thereby be obtained. DOE is especially interested in receiving public comments on these issues.

Decontamination and decommissioning activities are not subject to the decisionmaking framework that governs remediation activities. DOE proposes, therefore, to approach all D&D activities in an integrated, systematic fashion.

*Waste Management Analysis:* Waste treatment, storage, transportation, and disposal alternatives primarily depend on the waste category (such as radioactive, hazardous, or radioactive mixed waste). Alternatives will reflect centralized, regional, or installation-specific strategies. The analysis would provide environmental information for deciding which waste management capabilities should be established centrally, regionally, or at each site. Transportation of waste and the potential associated impacts will also be evaluated.

*No Action.* This alternative would continue present practices. DOE would not adopt and integrated environmental restoration and waste management program. DOE would continue to operate its environmental restoration activities and its waste operations as discrete site-specific actions. If site requirements dictate the need for offsite or new facilities, management decisions would be made on a project specific basis.

DOE would maintain existing facilities for waste management operations. New waste management activities, projects, and technological development would be considered case-by-case.

#### IDENTIFICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL

**ISSUES:** The following environmental issues have been identified for analysis in the PEIS. This list is presented to facilitate discussion on the scope of the PEIS and is not intended to be all-inclusive or to predetermine the scope. Therefore, DOE invites comments on these and additional issues relevant to this PEIS.

(1) The potential impacts (both beneficial and adverse) to worker health, public health, and the environment under various alternatives for environmental restoration and waste management.

(2) The potential impacts to workers, public health, and the environment under various alternatives from routine transportation of wastes and potential transportation accidents.

(3) The development of needed technologies and methods for environmental restoration and waste management and the potential impacts (both beneficial and adverse) from their implementation.

(4) Any obstacles to achieving full compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local environmental statutes, regulations, and requirements.

(5) The socioeconomic impacts of alternatives for dispersed, regional, and centralized waste management.

(6) The potential impacts of applying various land-usability strategies to the cleanup of DOE installations and sites.

**RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER ACTIONS: Five-Year Plan.** DOE issued a Five-Year Plan for Environmental Restoration and Waste Management (DOE/S-0070) in August 1989 that was subsequently revised, updated, and reissued (DOE/S-0078P) in June 1990. The Plan summarizes current DOE practices and identifies short- and long-term goals. The activities described are for the near-term (e.g., remediation of seepage basins at the Savannah River Site, and radioactive storage upgrades at the Kansas City Plant). Only general objectives, criteria, and guidance, in addition to those set in applicable environmental regulations and statutes, are specified for implementing environmental restoration and waste management activities on a long-term basis. For example, the Plan states that the majority of solid low-level waste generally will continue to be disposed of using shallow land burial, but recognizes that this may not be suitable for all locations. The Plan also states DOE's general intent that facilities and sites be returned to a condition suitable for unrestricted use, but recognizes that in-place remedies may sometimes be preferred.

The Five-Year Plan is not a proposal within the context of NEPA. Rather, it is preliminary to the Environmental Restoration and Waste Management PEIS in which DOE will evaluate integrating its long-term environmental restoration and waste management activities. The PEIS will specifically address the long-term goals and issues generally summarized in the Five-Year Plan.

As the Plan states, completion of the PEIS process may result in changes in specific programs, which would be reflected in future editions of the Plan.

**Environmental Restoration and Waste Management Configuration Study.** The Environmental Restoration and Waste Management Configuration Study is a strategic planning study for the long-term (the next 25 years). The study will support the definition of waste system configuration alternatives in this PEIS. DOE intends to issue the draft configuration study concurrently with the draft PEIS for public information and use in reviewing the draft PEIS.

Many factors influence the configuration and updating of DOE's waste management operations, including: (1) Increasingly strict

environmental, safety, and health standards and requirements; (2) facilities dating from the late 1940s to the middle 1960s becoming obsolete; (3) increasing costs to maintain and upgrade these facilities; (4) difficulties in managing widely dispersed waste storage facilities in different environmental settings; (5) potential changes in the locations, volumes, and types of waste to be managed, after consideration of a PEIS on reconfiguring (modernizing) the nuclear weapons complex; (6) availability of improved technologies; (7) population growth near once-remote facilities such as areas near Rocky Flats, Colorado, Fernald, Ohio, Oak Ridge, Tennessee, and Livermore, California, which has led to local demands for restricting DOE operations; and (8) transition from waste accumulation and storage to waste treatment and disposal.

**PEIS for the Nuclear Weapons Complex (NWC).** In concert with the decision to prepare this PEIS, the Secretary decided that a separate PEIS on DOE's proposal to modernize (reconfigure) the nuclear weapons complex will also be prepared. The reconfiguration of the nuclear weapons complex would affect DOE's program for environmental restoration and waste management because it would change the locations, volumes, and types of waste to be managed. The environmental restoration and waste management PEIS, therefore, will take into account, to the extent practical, the materials generated in the preparation of the NWC PEIS. Separate statements are being prepared, however, because the programs are driven by distinct missions, requirements, and schedules. If the PEIS on the NWC is not issued first, DOE will prepare a supplement to the Environmental Restoration and waste management PEIS, if appropriate.

**PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS AND INVITATION TO COMMENT:** DOE is committed to providing opportunities for the involvement of interested individuals and groups in this and other DOE planning activities.

DOE will conduct a series of public scoping meetings nationwide and invites all interested people to attend and to present oral comments concerning: (1) the scope of the PEIS, (2) the issues that should be addressed, and (3) the alternative integrated approaches to be analyzed in the PEIS. DOE also invites written comments.

Oral and written comments will be given equal consideration. Instructions for submitting written comments are given above. People desiring to speak at the public scoping meetings should submit their requests to do so to the

contact persons to be designated in a subsequent Federal Register notice. Oral presentation requests for each meeting should be received by DOE at least two days before the meeting.

The meetings will be chaired by a presiding officer. They will not be conducted as evidentiary hearings. Speakers will not be cross-examined, although the DOE representatives present may ask them clarifying questions.

To ensure everyone an adequate opportunity to speak, five minutes will be allotted for each speaker. Depending on the number of persons requesting to speak, the presiding officer may allow more time for speakers representing multiple parties or organizations. Persons wishing to speak on behalf of organizations should identify the organization in their request. Persons who have not submitted a timely request to speak may register at the meetings, and will be called on to speak if time permits. Written comments also will be accepted at the meetings, and speakers are encouraged to provide written versions of their oral comments for the record.

The public scoping meetings will begin in December 1990. Detailed information on the meetings will be provided in a subsequent Federal Register notice. This information will also be announced in local public notices before the planned meetings.

DOE will make a transcript of each meeting. Copies will be made available for inspection at the DOE Freedom of Information Reading Room (Room 1E-190), Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20585, during business hours, Monday through Friday and in local DOE reading rooms. Locations of local reading rooms will be provided in the subsequent Federal Register notice regarding the scoping meetings.

**RELATED NEPA DOCUMENTATION:** DOE expects to prepare additional NEPA documents for implementing programmatic and facility-specific decisions based upon this PEIS. These generally site-specific documents will analyze future technology and siting alternatives for implementing DOE's environmental restoration and waste management activities. Their analyses will address such local concerns as floodplains and wetlands, historic and archaeological sites, land use, and threatened and endangered species. The PEIS will examine these issues only to the degree necessary for selection of an integrated program.

**Interim Actions.** DOE may need to conduct many diverse and discrete site-

specific environmental restoration and waste management activities while the PEIS is being prepared. Many of these activities are required by Federal and state regulatory agencies under environmental compliance agreements and some are required by court decrees. DOE will have to determine case-by-case whether site-specific actions may proceed before the PEIS is completed. This will be done in accordance with all applicable requirements, including the test for interim actions found in Council on Environmental Quality's NEPA Regulations (40 CFR 1506.1(c)).

*Other.* DOE has prepared, or is currently preparing, NEPA documents for many of DOE's site-specific actions. Examples of some major relevant waste management NEPA documents are listed below:

1. Final Environmental Impact Statement, Disposal of Hanford Defense High-level, Transuranic and Tank Wastes, Hanford Site, Richland, Washington. DOE/EIS-0113, December 1987. U.S. Department of Energy, Washington, DC.

2. Final Environmental Impact Statement, Waste Management Activities for Groundwater Protection, Savannah River Plant, Aiken, South Carolina. DOE/EIS-0120, December 1987. U.S. Department of Energy, Washington, DC.

3. Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement, Waste Isolation Pilot Plant, DOE/EIS-0026-FS, January 1990. U.S. Department of Energy, Washington, DC.

4. Draft Environmental Impact Statement, Decommissioning of Eight Surplus Production Reactors at the Hanford Site, Richland, Washington. DOE/EIS-0119d, March 1989. U.S. Department of Energy, Washington, DC.

These documents, the Five-Year Plan (DOE/S-0078P), transcripts from the public scoping meetings (when they become available), and other related documents will be available for inspection at DOE Freedom of Information Reading Rooms.

Issued in Washington, DC, this 15th day of October 1990.

**Peter N. Brush,**

*Acting Assistant Secretary, Environment, Safety and Health.*

**Appendix: Locations of Activities Embraced by the PEIS**

Name	Location
Amchitka Island.....	Amchitka Island, AK.
Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory.....	Berkeley, CA.
University of California.....	Berkeley, CA.
Atomics International.....	Canoga Park, CA.
Laboratory for Energy-Related Health Research.....	Davis, CA.
Sandia National Laboratory-Livermore.....	Livermore, CA.
Lawrence Livermore Laboratory.....	Livermore, CA.

Name	Location	Name	Location
Bayo Canyon.....	Los Alamos, CA.	Linde Air Products.....	Tonawanda, NY.
Stanford Linear Accelerator Center.....	Palo Alto, CA.	Seaway Industrial Park.....	Tonawanda, NY.
General Atomics.....	San Diego, CA.	Ashland Oil Co. #1.....	Tonawanda, NY.
Energy Technology Engineering Center.....	Santa Susana, CA.	Brookhaven National Laboratory.....	Upton, Long Island, NY.
General Electric Vallecitos Nuclear Center.....	Vallecitos, CA.	West Valley Demonstration Project.....	West Valley, NY.
Rocky Flats Plant.....	Golden, CO.	Reactive Metals Inc.....	Ashtabula, OH.
Grand Junction Project Office.....	Grand Junction, CO.	Battelle Columbus Laboratories.....	Columbus, OH.
Project Rutison Site.....	Grand Valley, CO.	Feed Materials Production Center.....	Fernald, OH.
Project RioBlanco Site.....	Rifle, CO.	Mound Laboratory.....	Miamisburg, OH.
Seymour Speciality Wire.....	Seymour, CT.	Piqua Nuclear Power Facility.....	Piqua, OH.
Pinellas Plant.....	St. Petersburg, FL.	Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant.....	Portsmouth, OH.
Kauai Test Facility.....	Kauai, HI.	Albany Metallurgical Research Center.....	Albany, OR.
Ames Laboratory.....	Ames, IA.	Universal Cyclops.....	Aliquippa, PA.
Idaho National Engineering Laboratory.....	Idaho Falls, ID.	Center for Energy and Environmental Research.....	Mayaguez, PR.
Argonne National Laboratory—West.....	Idaho Falls, ID.	Savannah River Site.....	Aiken, SC.
Argonne National Laboratory—East.....	Chicago, IL.	Oak Ridge National Laboratory.....	Oak Ridge, TN.
National Guard Armory.....	Chicago, IL.	Oak Ridge Gaseous Diffusion Plant.....	Oak Ridge, TN.
Palos Forest.....	Chicago, IL.	Y-12 Plant.....	Oak Ridge, TN.
Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory.....	Batavia, IL.	Pantex Plant.....	Amarillo, TX.
University of Chicago.....	Chicago, IL.	Hanford Reservation.....	Richland, WA.
Johnston Atoll.....	Johnston Atoll.	24 Site Covered under Title I of the Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act.....	Various Locations.
Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant.....	Paducah, KY.		
Ventron, Beverly.....	Beverly, MA.		
Shpack Landfill.....	Norton, MA.		
W.R. Grace & Co.....	Curtis Bay, MD.		
General Motors.....	Adrian, MI.		
Hazelwood (Latty Avenue).....	Hazelwood, MO.		
Kansas City Plant.....	Kansas City, MO.		
St. Louis Airport Storage Site.....	St. Louis, MO.		
Mallinckrodt, Inc.....	St. Louis, MO.		
St. Louis Airport Storage Site Vicinity Properties.....	St. Louis, MO.		
Weldon Spring Site Remedial Action Project.....	St. Charles, MO.		
Tatum Dome.....	Tatum Dome, MS.		
Component Development & Integration Facility.....	Butte, MT.		
Hallam Nuclear Power Facility.....	Lincoln, NE.		
Du Pont & Company.....	Deepwater, NJ.		
Kellex/Pierpont.....	Jersey City, NJ.		
Maywood.....	Maywood, NJ.		
Middlesex Landfill.....	Middlesex, NJ.		
Middlesex Sampling Plant.....	Middlesex, NJ.		
New Brunswick Laboratory.....	New Brunswick, NJ.		
Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory.....	Princeton, NJ.		
Wayne/Pequannock.....	Wayne/Pequannock, NJ.		
Inhalation Toxicology Research Institute.....	Albuquerque, NM.		
Sandia National Laboratory—Albuquerque.....	Albuquerque, NM.		
Ross Aviation.....	Albuquerque, NM.		
Project GNOME Site.....	Carlsbad, NM.		
Waste Isolation Pilot Plant.....	Carlsbad, NM.		
Project GASSBUGGY Site.....	Farmington, NM.		
Los Alamos National Laboratory.....	Los Alamos, NM.		
Acid/Pueblo Canyon.....	Los Alamos, NM.		
Chupadera Mesa.....	White Sands Missile Range, NM.		
Central Nevada Test Area.....	Central Nevada Test Area, NV.		
Project Shoal Site.....	Fallon, NV.		
Nevada Test Site.....	Los Vegas, NV.		
Tonopah Test Range.....	Nellis Air Force Base, NV.		
Colonie.....	Colonie, NY.		
Niagara Falls Storage Site Vicinity Properties.....	Lewiston, NY.		
Niagara Falls Storage Site.....	Niagara Falls, NY.		
Ashland Oil Co. #2.....	Tonawanda, NY.		

**Bonneville Power Administration**

**Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for a Proposed Long-Term Sale of 1400 Megawatts of Capacity to the Pacific Power and Light Company; and Public Scoping Meeting**

**AGENCY:** Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), DOE.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and conduct a public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** BPA intends to prepare and consider an EIS on a proposed 20-year sale of electrical capacity to the Pacific Power and Light Company (PP&L) for service to its Northwest loads. BPA has 2600 megawatts of surplus electrical capacity available on its system, i.e., capacity which it projects will not be required to meet its obligations incurred pursuant to subsections 5(b), 5(c), and 5(d) of the Pacific Northwest Electric Power Planning and Conservation Act (Northwest Power Act) and previously committed capacity contracts. PP&L currently has a Power Sales Contract with BPA providing for the purchase of 1127.3 MW of capacity. This contract expires at midnight on August 31, 1991. A proposed contract to replace the expiring PP&L capacity contract, which is to be the subject of the EIS, has been negotiated. A rate-setting process for