

revised instruction in ITEM 10, unless a carrier wishes to do so.]

Gregory D. Showalter,

Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.

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Transloading Shipments of Arms, Ammunition, and Explosives

AGENCY: Military Traffic Management Command, DOD.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rule change.

SUMMARY: The Military Traffic Management Command is proposing to change Item 48 in the Military Traffic Management Command Freight Traffic Rules Publication 1A (MFTRP 1A) to read as follows:

“Transloading shipments of Division 1.1, 1.2, and 1.3 ammunition and explosives will be conducted as follows:
a. Truckload shipments will not be off-loaded or transferred to another vehicle enroute, except in emergencies (as defined in 49 CFR 390.5).

b. Loading and unloading of less-than-truckload (LTL) shipments of Division 1.1, 1.2, and 1.3 ammunition and explosives will be accomplished only in a carrier terminal. For the purposes of this rule, a carrier terminal is defined as one which is equipped to safely handle the loading and unloading of Division 1.1, 1.2, and 1.3 ammunition and explosives from a commercial motor vehicle. In addition, when the transloading of Division 1.1, 1.2, and 1.3 ammunition and explosives occurs at a carrier terminal other than that of the carrier of record, as indicated on the Government Bill of Lading, prior written approval must be received from a company official or the carrier terminal manager. All Federal, State, and local guidelines for handling Division 1.1, 1.2, and 1.3 ammunition and explosives will apply when transloading occurs. The carrier accepts liability for the integrity of the shipments, to include proper blocking and bracing.

c. Transloading of ammunition and explosives on a military installation must be approved by the installation commander.”

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before December 26, 1995.

ADDRESSES: All comments concerning the proposed rule change should be addressed to Headquarters, Military Traffic Management Command, ATTN: MTOP-QEC, 5611 Columbia Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041-5050.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. David Foreman, (703) 681-6293, Headquarters, Military Traffic Management Command, ATTN: MTOP-

QEC, 5611 Columbia Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041-5050.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This proposed rule changes the existing rule to clarify where and under what circumstances transloading of shipments of Division 1.1, 1.2, and 1.3 ammunition and explosives is permitted. Clarification of this rule responds to concerns by munition motor carriers that the existing rule is too vague and thus difficult to follow and enforce. The objective of the proposed rule is to ensure that the handling of ammunition and explosives occurs *only* in locations where the proper equipment and facilities are available to protect the public safety. Compliance with the proposed rule will be a matter of review by MTMC safety inspection. Violation of the rule may result in administrative sanctions, to include non-use or disqualification. If approved as a final rule, the proposed rule will be published in a future revision of MFTRP 1A.

Gregory D. Showalter,

Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.

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Availability of Non-Exclusive, Exclusive, or Partially Exclusive Licensing of Infrared Flare Composition Technology

AGENCY: Picatinny Arsenal, New Jersey.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Army announces the general availability of exclusive, partially exclusive, or non-exclusive licenses under the above technology. In addition, the following related patent application is available for licensing: Serial Number 08/530,403, sent for filing on 9/12/95, Docket #

DAR-42-94, by Paul Ase, Alan Snelson and Ezra Shoua. Licenses shall comply with 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Edward Goldberg, Chief, Intellectual Property Law Division, AMSTA-AR-GCL, U.S. Army ARDEC, Picatinny Arsenal, NJ 07806-5000, Telephone Number (201) 724-6950.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Written objections must be filed within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice in the Federal Register.

Gregory D. Showalter,

Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.

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Corps of Engineers

Intent To Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for a Permit for Proposed Offshore Oil and Gas Development for the Northstar Unit in the Alaskan Beaufort Sea

AGENCY: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Alaska District.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The Corps is evaluating issuance of a permit to BP Exploration (Alaska), Inc. for activities to develop an off-shore oil and gas facility in State waters of the Beaufort Sea north of the Prudhoe Bay oilfields through an Environmental Impact Statement.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Ms. Terry Carpenter, Regulatory Branch, Corps of Engineers, Alaska District, Post Office Box 898, Anchorage, Alaska 99506; telephone (907) 753-2712, or in Alaska 1-(800)-478-2712.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

BP Exploration proposes to develop the Northstar reservoir from an off-shore structure in about 40 feet of water, 2-7 miles north of the Kuparuk River Delta, and a pipeline to the shore. An on-shore pipeline would connect to existing facilities for further transportation. Placement of structures and/or fill material would require issuance of a permit under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbor Act and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Other permits and authorizations may be required from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Minerals Management Service (MMS), the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), State agencies, and the North Slope Borough. BP Exploration proposes a start-up date of 1997 for construction.

A preferred alternative has not been proposed by BP Exploration. Alternatives will be identified and evaluated throughout the EIS process with a preferred alternative identified in the Draft EIS. Some options that will be considered include (1) whether produced fluids will be processed at the off-shore facility with only oil transported to shore, partially processed, or transported in 3-phase (oil, gas, water) to on-shore facilities for processing, (2) the means of transporting produced fluids (buried or drilled subsea pipeline, raised pipeline, tankering), (3) the route of a pipeline to shore, and (4) the spill-detection system to be employed. It is estimated that the DEIS will be available to the public by July 1996.

The Corps began early scoping with federal and state agencies in June 1995. EPA, the FWS, the NMFS, and MMS will be cooperating federal agencies for the EIS. State agencies, the North Slope Borough, Borough residents, and the general public will be contacted during the scoping process. A third-party contractor will prepare the EIS under direction by the Corps; the contractor is expected to be identified by December 1, 1995.

Significant issues that have been identified for the DEIS include oil spill risk and spill response plans, effects on bowhead whale migration and subsistence hunting of whales and other marine mammals, effects on denning polar bears and human interactions with polar bears, discharge of wastes from the facility that may affect air and water quality and marine food chains, navigation, and bird strikes on structures. The Corps is inviting comments from the public, agencies (Federal, State and local), Native interests, and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of the proposed activities.

Scoping meetings are tentatively planned for the following dates and locations:

Barrow, Alaska—late-January or February 1996

Nuiqsut, Alaska—late-January or February 1996

Anchorage, Alaska—late-January or February 1996

Fairbanks, Alaska—late-January or February 1996

Further information about these public meetings will be published locally and can be obtained by contracting the Corps as described above.

Gregory D. Showalter,

Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.

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Intent To Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Mississippi River Sediment Nutrient and Freshwater Redistribution Feasibility Study; Louisiana

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

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare a DEIS.

SUMMARY: This study will investigate the Federal involvement in the redistribution of Mississippi River flows at various locations between the Old River Control Structure and Head of Passes. River water will provide

sediments, nutrients, and freshwater to offset wetlands loss resulting from subsidence and saltwater intrusion.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions concerning the proposed study can be answered by Mr. Tim Axtman, (504) 862-1921, and questions concerning the DEIS can be answered by Mr. Michael Saucier, (504) 862-2525, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Planning Division (CELMN-PD), P.O. Box 60267, New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. Authority

This study is being funded as specified in the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act (CWPPRA, PL 101-646). At the direction of the CWPPRA Task Force, the study is being led and managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Members of the Task Force are the Secretary of the Army who serves as chairman, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Commerce, Secretary of the Interior, and the Governor of Louisiana. The other members of the Task Force will provide input to the proposed study.

2. Proposed Action

The objective of this study is the maximization of the available resources of the Mississippi River for use in creation, restoration, protection, and enhancement of coastal wetlands in Louisiana.

3. Alternatives

Alternatives for addressing wetland loss will include, but are not limited to, freshwater diversion through siphons over the river levee, freshwater diversion through structures built in the river levee, sediment diversion through structures built in the river levee, and freshwater and sediment diversion through crevasse construction in the natural river bank. These alternatives will be compared to the No-Action alternative.

4. Public Involvement and Scoping

a. Three scoping meetings will be held within the study area to identify the desires of the public. Members of the CWPPRA Task Force Environmental Work Group will participate as facilitators in the scoping meetings, organized by the Corps of Engineers. Participants in the scoping meetings will be requested to make comments on alternatives, significant issues, or impacts of alternatives for inclusion in the DEIS. Comments received as a result of this process will be compiled and

analyzed, and a Scoping Document summarizing the results will be made available to all participants.

b. Significant issues to be addressed in the DEIS currently include: extent of wetland loss under current conditions and if no remedial action is taken, environmental benefits of proposed alternatives, relocations required, and effects on fish and wildlife, endangered species, cultural resources, recreation, and socio-economic concerns.

c. The U.S. Department of the Interior will provide a Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act Report to accompany the DEIS. Coordination will be maintained with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service concerning endangered and threatened species. We will prepare a Section 404(b)(1) evaluation for review by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and other interested parties. Coordination will be maintained with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the State Historic Preservation Officer. The Louisiana Department of Natural Resources will be consulted regarding consistency with the State's Coastal Resources Program. Application for a State Water Quality Certificate will be made with the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality.

d. A 45-day public review period will be allowed so that all interested agencies, groups, and individuals will have an opportunity to review and comment on the DEIS.

5. Meeting Schedule

The public will be informed of the dates and locations of the scoping meetings when scheduled. A public meeting will be held during the review period to receive comments on the DEIS.

6. Availability

The DEIS is scheduled to be available to the public in November 1997.

Dated: October 30, 1995.

Kenneth H. Clow,

Colonel, U.S. Army, District Engineer.

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Department of the Navy

Notice of Public Hearing for Draft Environmental Impact Statement on Realignment to Marine Corps Air Station Camp Pendleton, CA

Pursuant to Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508) implementing procedural provisions of the National