

Resources reside in the Water Quality Management Division's Surveillance and Enforcement Sections. The Surveillance Section is headed by an Environmental Quality Program Manager and along with its administrative support is headquartered in Baton Rouge. It has field staff in each of the eight regional offices strategically located throughout the state (listed with addresses in this notice). Each Regional Surveillance Office is supervised by an Environmental Quality Coordinator.

The Surveillance Section is responsible for inspecting all permitted and unpermitted facilities which have or are believed to have a surface water discharge. The Surveillance Section is also responsible for the investigation of all citizen complaints involving waters of the State.

At this time LDEQ does not have a civil penalty policy for deriving administrative penalty amounts or reaching compromises. However, the State has committed to the development and implementation of a penalty policy. LDEQ will propose their policy by October 31, 1996, with finalization targeted for April 1, 1997. While the adoption of a penalty policy is highly recommended, it is not mandatory [40 CFR 123.27(c)], and is therefore not required prior to EPA authorization of the LPDES program. LDEQ is adopting a penalty policy to ensure the consistent assessment and collection of administrative penalties in their state.

In contrast to the compliance orders EPA issues under CWA § 309(a)(3), LDEQ's Compliance Orders (COs) are subject to appeal, a factor which has the potential to delay compliance.

IV. Attorney General's Statement

An Attorney General's Statement is required and described in regulations found at 40 CFR 123.23. Legal counsel representing the State must certify that the State has lawfully adopted statutes and regulations which provide the State agency with the legal authority to administer a permitting program in compliance with 40 CFR Part 123. The Attorney General's Statement from Louisiana certifies the State does indeed have the legal authority to administer the LPDES program in accordance with the regulations in 40 CFR 123; and correlates the State regulations and statutes to corresponding federal requirements.

Comments on the Described Program

The program submitted by the State of Louisiana has been determined to be complete in accordance with the regulations found at 40 CFR 123. EPA and LDEQ want to encourage public

participation in this authorization process so that the citizens of Louisiana will understand the program in their state. Therefore, EPA requests that the public review the program that LDEQ has submitted and provide any comments they feel are appropriate. EPA and the State want the public to be able to effectively coordinate with LDEQ on LPDES permitting and enforcement actions. EPA will consider all comments on the LPDES program and/or its authorization in its decision.

Other Federal Statutes

A. National Historic Preservation Act

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) requires that all federal agencies must consult with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) on all federal undertakings which may affect historic properties or sites listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Regulations outlining the requirements of a Section 106 consultation on a federal undertaking are found at 36 CFR Part 800. Approval of the State permitting program under section 402 of the Clean Water Act is a federal undertaking subject to this requirement, but the State's subsequent issuance of LPDES permits is not. EPA has thus consulted in accordance with Section 106 of the NHPA to assure equivalent protection of eligible properties will be provided in connection with State permit actions. In that consultation, EPA, the SHPO and LDEQ outlined procedures by which LDEQ and the SHPO would confer on permit actions likely to affect historic properties. These processes are reflected in a Memorandum of Understanding between those two State agencies. In addition, an agreement was signed by EPA and the SHPO on EPA's oversight role and objection procedures when the two state agencies could not agree on the protection of antiquities in Louisiana. A statement in the EPA/LDEQ MOA for program approval provides EPA an additional opportunity to object to the issuance of a permit which would adversely affect a site on which the SHPO and LDEQ disagree. These consultation documents are available with the program package for public review and comment.

B. Endangered Species Act

Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) requires that all federal agencies consult on federal actions which may affect federally listed species to insure they are unlikely to jeopardize the continued existence of those species

or adversely modify their critical habitat. Regulations controlling consultation under ESA Section 7 are codified at 50 CFR Part 402. The approval of the State permitting program under section 402 of the Clean Water Act is a federal action subject to this requirement, but the State's subsequent LPDES permit actions are not. EPA is in the process of informal consultation with both the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS or the Service) and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS or the Service). In the course of consultation, EPA, the Services, and LDEQ have outlined procedures by which LDEQ and FWS, and/or NMFS will confer on permits which are likely to affect listed species. These processes are reflected in draft Memoranda of Understanding between the State and those federal agencies. In addition, an agreement between EPA and both Services has been drafted on EPA's oversight role and objection procedures when LDEQ and FWS and/or NMFS cannot agree on the protection of species in an individual State permit action. A statement in the EPA/LDEQ MOA for program approval provides EPA an additional opportunity to object to the issuance of a permit which would adversely affect a protected species or critical habitat when Services and LDEQ disagree. These draft documents are available with the program package for public review and comment.

C. Regulatory Flexibility Act

After review of the facts presented in this document, I hereby certify, pursuant to the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 605(b), that this proposal will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The approval of the Louisiana NPDES permit program would merely transfer responsibilities for administration of the NPDES permit program from Federal to State government.

I hereby propose to authorize the LPDES program in accordance with 40 CFR part 123.

Dated: April 1, 1996.

Jane N. Saginaw,

Regional Administrator.

[FR Doc. 96-8458 Filed 4-4-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

[FRL-5454-7]

Reopening of the Public Comment Period for Proposed General NPDES Permit for Placer Mining in Alaska

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10.

ACTION: Reopening of the Public Comment Period.

SUMMARY: On January 31, 1996, EPA provided notice of the proposed modified general National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit No. AKG-37-0000 for Placer Mining in Alaska. 61 FR 3403. The public comment period schedule, proposed permit and fact sheet were published in the notice. At the request of interested parties, EPA is today providing notice that the public comment period has been reopened.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: Comments must be submitted by April 18, 1996.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Interested persons may submit written comments on the draft general NPDES permit to: Environmental Protection Agency, Attn: Robert Robichaud (WD-137), 1200 Sixth Avenue, Seattle, Washington 98101. All comments should include the name, address, and telephone number of the commenter and a concise statement of comment and the relevant facts upon which it is based. Comments of either support or concern which are directed at specific, cited permit requirements are appreciated. Comments must be submitted to EPA on or before the extended expiration date of the public notice.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD: Copies of the proposed general NPDES permit and fact sheet are available for public review at the EPA Seattle address listed above; at the U.S. EPA, Anchorage Operations Office, Room 537, Federal Building, 222 West Seventh Avenue, #19, Anchorage, Alaska 99513 and are available upon request from the Region 10 Public Information Center at 1-800-424-4EPA (4372).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tim Hamlin, EPA Region 10, at the EPA Seattle address listed above or telephone (206) 553-8311.

Dated: March 28, 1996.

David H. Teeter,

Acting Director, Office of Water.

[FR Doc. 96-8653 Filed 4-4-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF THE UNITED STATES

Notice of Open Special Meeting of the Advisory Committee of the Export-Import Bank of the United States

SUMMARY: The Advisory Committee was established by P.L. 98-181, November 30, 1983, to advise the Export-Import Bank on its programs and to provide comments for inclusion in the reports of the Export-Import Bank to the United States Congress.

TIME AND PLACE: Thursday, April 18, 1996, at 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon. The meeting will be held at EX-IM Bank in Room 1143, 811 Vermont Avenue NW., Washington, D.C. 20571.

AGENDA: The meeting agenda will include a discussion of the following topics: Advisory Committee Statutory Requirements, Export-Import Bank's Charter Renewal and other topics.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: The meeting will be open to public participation; and the last 10 minutes will be set aside for oral questions or comments. Members of the public may also file written statement(s) before or after the meeting. In order to permit the Export-Import Bank to arrange suitable accommodations, members of the public who plan to attend the meeting should notify Joyce Herron, Room 1220, 811 Vermont Avenue NW., Washington, D.C. 20571, (202) 565-3503, not later than April 15, 1996. If any person wishes auxiliary aids (such as a sign language interpreter) or other special accommodations, please contact, prior to April 15, 1996, Joyce Herron, Room 1220, 811 Vermont Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20571, Voice: (202) 565-3955 or TDD: (202) 565-3377.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

For further information, contact Joyce Herron, Room 1220, 811 Vermont Avenue NW., Washington, D.C. 20571, (202) 565-3503.

Kenneth Hansen,
General Counsel.

[FR Doc. 96-8490 Filed 4-4-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6690-01-M

FEDERAL HOUSING FINANCE BOARD

Sunshine Act Meeting

ANNOUNCING AN OPEN MEETING OF THE BOARD

TIME AND DATE: 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, April 10, 1996.

PLACE: Board Room, Second Floor, Federal Housing Finance Board, 1777 F Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

STATUS: The entire meeting will be open to the public.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED DURING PORTIONS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

- Interim Final Rule on Federal Home Loan Bank System's Directors Fees
- Discussion of Federal Home Loan Bank System Legislation.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Elaine L. Baker, Secretary to the Board, (202) 408-2837.

Rita I. Fair,

Managing Director.

[FR Doc. 96-8675 Filed 4-3-96; 2:17 pm]

BILLING CODE 6725-01-P

FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

Security for the Protection of the Public Indemnification of Passengers for Nonperformance of Transportation; Notice of Issuance of Certificate (Performance)

Notice is hereby given that the following have been issued a Certificate of Financial Responsibility for Indemnification of Passengers for Nonperformance of Transportation pursuant to the provisions of Section 3, Public Law 89-777 (46 U.S.C. § 817(e)) and the Federal Maritime Commission's implementing regulations at 46 CFR Part 540, as amended:

Norwegian Cruise Line Limited (d/b/a Norwegian Cruise Line), 95 Merrick Way, Coral Gables, Florida 33134

Vessels: DREAMWARD, LEEWARD, NORWAY, NORWEGIAN CROWN, SEAWARD and WINDWARD

Royal Seas Cruise Line, Inc., Odessa America Cruise Company, Firm Globus, Maddock Trading 5, Inc. and Black Sea Shipping Company, 170 Old Country Road, Suite 608, Mineola, New York 11501

Vessel: UKRAINA.

Dated: April 1, 1996.

Joseph C. Polking,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96-8375 Filed 4-4-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6730-01-M

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Notice of Proposals To Engage in Permissible Nonbanking Activities or To Acquire Companies That Are Engaged in Permissible Nonbanking Activities

The company listed in this notice has given notice under section 4 of the Bank Holding Company Act (12 U.S.C. 1843) (BHC Act) and Regulation Y, (12 CFR part 225) to engage *de novo*, or to acquire or control voting securities or assets of a company that engages either directly or through a subsidiary or other company, in a nonbanking activity that is listed in § 225.25 of Regulation Y (12 CFR 225.25) or that the Board has determined by Order to be closely