

Dated: October 24, 1997.

Richard E. Newsome,

Acting Deputy Assistance Secretary of the Army (Environmental, Safety and Occupational Health) OASA, (I, L&E).

[FR Doc. 97-28673 Filed 10-28-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-08-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Renewal of the McGregor Range, New Mexico, Military Land Withdrawal

AGENCY: U.S. Army Air Defense Artillery Center and Fort Bliss, Fort Bliss, Texas and New Mexico, Department of the Army, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of Intent.

SUMMARY: The United States Army will prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) to assess the potential environmental impacts of renewal of the McGregor Range, New Mexico, military land withdrawal. McGregor Range, New Mexico, is an integral part of the U.S. Army Air Defense Artillery Center and For Bliss (USAADACENFB). The current land withdrawal and reservation of the McGregor Range was established by the Military Lands Withdrawal Act of 1986 (Pub. L. 99-606) for the period ending November 6, 2001. The Act provides that the Army may seek renewal of the McGregor Range withdrawal, in connection with which the Secretary of the Army will publish a Draft EIS consistent with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969. In preparing the DEIS, the Army and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) have mutually agreed to use the legislative environmental impact statement (LEIS) process pursuant to 40 CFR 1506.8 to comply with the requirements of P.L. 99-606. This LEIS will be prepared in cooperation with BLM and will be completed by November 6, 1998, in accordance with P.L. 99-606. Therefore, pursuant to the LEIS process, a Final LEIS (FLEIS) will be prepared and a Notice of Availability of the FLEIS will be published in the **Federal Register**; however, there will not be a Record of Decision.

The purpose of the proposed McGregor Range renewal is to retain a military training and testing range essential to near and long-term preparedness of the U.S. Army and other military services. Renewing the land withdrawal will provide for the continuation of on-going training and

testing missions for air defense artillery systems while maintaining the flexibility to adapt to the training needs of new technologies and doctrine as they develop. McGregor Range provides a combination of attributes that serve this training requirement, including favorable location and weather; sufficient land and airspace; diverse terrain; and developed training support facilities. McGregor Range includes approximately 608,385 acres of withdrawn public domain land in Otero County, New Mexico, containing a complex of facilities, ranges, and safety areas to support training and test activities of the U.S. Army and other organizations.

As a result of the Military Lands Withdrawal Act of 1986, the Army and BLM co-manage McGregor Range with military requirements having priority over non-military uses. This management arrangement is defined in a Memorandum of Understanding between Fort Bliss and the BLM which define agency responsibilities related to energy and mineral resources, wildlife habitat management, grazing, recreation, hunting, visual and cultural resources, fire management, wilderness study areas and areas of environmental concern.

The LEIS will consider reasonable alternatives including renewal of the current public domain land withdrawal for military use. Without limiting the priority military use, non-military co-use activities would continue to be managed in part by the BLM. The No Action (allowing the current withdrawal to expire) alternative required by NEPA will be evaluated. Other reasonable alternatives will also be considered.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before January 9, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Please direct written comments concerning the scope of the McGregor Range, New Mexico, Military Land Withdrawal Renewal LEIS to: Dr. A. Vliet, Program Manager, McGregor Range Withdrawal, U.S. Army Air Defense Artillery Center and Fort Bliss, ATTN: ATZC-CSA, PO Box 6020, Fort Bliss, Texas 79906; telephone (915) 568-6708.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES: Continuance of military and non-military multiple use of McGregor Range, in particular the area known as Otero Mesa will be addressed.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Public scoping meetings in connection with this LEIS will be held in three communities: Las Cruces and Alamogordo, New Mexico, and El Paso, Texas. Meeting times and locations will be published in local newspapers. These

meetings will provide the opportunity for the public to become aware of the LEIS and for the Army to gather public input regarding the scope of the study and reasonable alternatives. Those unable to attend the scheduled scoping meetings may submit written comments regarding the scope of the LEIS through January 9, 1998, to the address above.

A mailing list has been prepared for public scoping and review throughout the process of preparation of this LEIS. This list includes local, state and federal agencies with jurisdiction of other interests in the project. In addition, the mailing list includes adjacent property owners, affected municipalities and other interested parties such as conservation organizations. Anyone wishing to be added to the mailing list may request to be added by contacting the person identified below.

Dated: October 24, 1997.

Richard E. Newsome,

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Environment, Safety and Occupational Health) OASA (I, L&E).

[FR Doc. 97-28637 Filed 10-28-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-38-M

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Federal Interagency Coordinating Council Meeting (FICC)

AGENCY: Federal Interagency Coordinating Council, Education.

ACTION: Notice of a public meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice describes the schedule and agenda of a forthcoming meeting of the Federal Interagency Coordinating Council. Notice of this meeting is required under section 685(c) of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, as amended, and is intended to notify the general public of their opportunity to attend the meeting. The meeting will be accessible to individuals with disabilities.

DATES AND TIMES: November 20, 1997, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: Hubert Humphrey Building, Room 305A, 200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20202.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Libby Doggett or Kim Lawrence, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 3080, Switzer Building, Washington, DC 20202-2644. Telephone: (202) 205-5507 or 205-9068. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call (202) 205-0754.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Federal Interagency Coordinating Council (FICC) is established under

section 685 of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, as amended (20 U.S.C. 1484a). The Council is established to: (1) Minimize duplication across Federal, State and local agencies of programs and activities relating to early intervention services for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families and preschool services for children with disabilities; (2) ensure effective coordination of Federal early intervention and preschool programs, including Federal technical assistance and support activities; and (3) identify gaps in Federal agency programs and services and barriers to Federal interagency cooperation. To meet these purposes, the FICC seeks to: (1) Identify areas of conflict, overlap, and omissions in interagency policies related to the provision of services to infants, toddlers, and preschoolers with disabilities; (2) develop and implement joint policy interpretations on issues related to infants, toddlers, and preschoolers that cut across Federal agencies, including modifications of regulations to eliminate barriers to interagency programs and activities; and (3) coordinate the provision of technical assistance and dissemination of best practice information. The FICC is chaired by the Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

At this meeting the FICC plans to discuss issues related to pediatric aids and intervention options for young children; and to assess FICC functioning and changes dictated by the 1997 amendments to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

The meeting of the FICC is open to the public. Written public comment will be accepted at the conclusion of the meeting. These comments will be included in the summary minutes of the meeting. The meeting will be physically accessible with meeting materials provided in both braille and large print. Interpreters for persons who are hearing impaired will be available. Individuals with disabilities who plan to attend and need other reasonable accommodations should contact Kim Lawrence at (202) 205-8428 one week in advance of the meeting.

Summary minutes of the FICC meetings will be maintained and available for public inspection at the U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 3080, Switzer Building, Washington, DC 20202-2644, from the hours of 9:00 a.m.

to 5:00 p.m., weekdays except Federal Holidays.

Judith E. Heumann,

Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

[FR Doc. 97-28600 Filed 10-28-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

[Docket No. EA-58-F]

Application to Amend Export Authorization; The Detroit Edison Company

AGENCY: Office of Fossil Energy, DOE.

ACTION: Notice of application.

SUMMARY: The Detroit Edison Company has filed, on behalf of itself and Consumers Energy Company, an application for removal of the annual limitation on the existing authorization permitting Detroit Edison and Consumers Energy to export electric energy to Ontario Hydro.

DATES: Comments, protests, or requests to intervene must be submitted on or before November 28, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Comments, protests, or requests to intervene should be addressed as follows: Office of Coal and Power Systems (FE-27), Office of Fossil Energy, Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ellen Russell (Program Office) 202-586-9624 or Michael Skinker (Program Attorney) 202-586-6667.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Exports of electricity from the United States to a foreign country are regulated and require authorization under section 202(e) of the Federal Power Act (FPA) (16 U.S.C. 824a(e)).

On October 16, 1997, The Detroit Edison Company ("Detroit Edison") applied on behalf of itself and Consumers Energy Company ("Consumers") for removal of the annual limitation on their existing authorization (FE Docket EA-58-E) to export electricity to Ontario Hydro, a Canadian Provincial utility. The existing authorization, issued by the Federal Power Commission on October 20, 1972, allows Detroit Edison and Consumers (together "Michigan Companies") to export to Ontario Hydro up to 4,000,000,000 kilowatt hours (kWhr) of electric energy annually at a maximum rate of 2,200,000,000 volt-amperes (2,200 MVA). Based on emergency situations or other unusual circumstances, the Department of

Energy ("DOE") has granted several temporary waivers of this limit. By this application, the Michigan Companies request that DOE remove the annual energy export limitation on a permanent basis.

In their application, the Michigan Companies assert that reliability will not be adversely affected by the removal of the annual energy export limitation, coordination among the Michigan Companies and Ontario Hydro can be increased, and that there will be no adverse impacts from removing the 4,000,000,000 kWhr limitation. The Michigan Companies do not propose to modify the 2,200,000 kVA limitation on the rate of export, and they represent that they will apply that limitation on a scheduled basis to mitigate loopflow on other systems as a result of increased energy exports to Canada.

The electrical systems of the Michigan Companies and Ontario Hydro presently are interconnected at four points on the U.S.-Canada border. Each interconnection has been authorized by a Presidential permit issued under Executive Order 10485.

Procedural Matters

Any persons desiring to become a party to these proceedings or to be heard by filing comments or protests to this application should file a petition to intervene, comment or protest at the address provided above in accordance with §§ 385.211 or 385.214 of the FERC's Rules of Practice and Procedures (18 CFR 385.211, 385.214). Fifteen copies of such petitions and protests should be filed with the DOE on or before the date listed above. Additional copies are to be filed directly with John D. McGrane, Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP, 1800 M Street, NW., Washington, DC 20036-5869; Raymond O. Sturdy, Jr., The Detroit Edison Company, 2000 Second Avenue-688WCB, Detroit, Michigan, 48226-1279; William M. Lange, Consumers Energy Company, 1016 16th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20036; and Wayne A. Kirkby, Consumers Energy Company, 212 West Michigan Avenue, Jackson, Michigan 49201.

A final decision will be made on this application after the environmental impacts have been evaluated pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), and a determination is made by the DOE that the proposed action will not adversely impact on the reliability of the U.S. electric power supply system.

Copies of this application will be made available, upon request, for public inspection and copying at the address provided above.